

Sub JB re wte  
26/9 CD 25/9.

PRIME MINISTER

VISIT OF DR. SOARES

Thank you very much for agreeing to give a dinner instead of a lunch. You asked whether you could not attend the return dinner. I really do urge against this. Once you attend a return dinner we shall be inundated with requests for you to do this as a regular feature. It is much better to be able to rest on the position that you do not as a rule go to return dinners. Antony Acland agrees with this advice and thinks that Portuguese feelings will be fully assuaged by your offer to give a dinner and agreement to persuade sufficient of your senior colleagues to attend the return match.

CD.

25 September 1984



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

Can I not  
attend the  
return  
dinner  
as well?  
no

There are two points:

① are you prepared to give Soares a dinner rather than lunch? Your diary that evening has Young Conservatives for a drink & photograph from 6.15 - 7.15. Since the Portuguese seem to attach such importance

to a dinner, agree to move the YCs to another evening? Yes

② ensuring good Ministerial attendance at Soares' return dinner (you are not going). Agree that I should write round senior colleagues on your behalf asking for a special effort to get to the Portuguese dinner? C.D.P. 24/9.



see Ks  
advised Cadock

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

25 September 1984

VISIT BY THE PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER: 20-23  
NOVEMBER

---

Thank you for your letter of 24 September about the arrangements for the visit of Dr. Mario Soares.

I have consulted the Prime Minister who is perfectly willing to give a dinner in honour of Dr. Soares rather than a lunch. It will have to be on 21 November, which is when the Portuguese were planning their return dinner. I should be grateful if the Ambassador could be informed of this change of plan.

The Prime Minister would like the talks with Dr. Soares to be moved to 1900 on 21 November.

BF | The Prime Minister will urge a number of her senior colleagues to attend the return lunch or dinner. I should be grateful if you would let me know as soon as possible what date the Portuguese Ambassador selects for this and which Ministers you would like encouraged to attend.

CHARLES POWELL

Colin Budd, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CST

CONFIDENTIAL



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

10 October 1984

*Dear Charles,*

Visit by the Portuguese Prime Minister: 20-23 November

Thank you for your letter of 25 September about the arrangements for Dr Soares' visit. ✓

The Portuguese Ambassador is delighted that the Prime Minister is able to give a dinner for Dr Soares on 21 November. Should we assume that it will start at 2000? If so, this would allow barely an hour for the talks, which given the need for interpretation is not very long. Would there be any possibility of a start at 1830 instead of 1900?

The Ambassador will now have his dinner on 20 November (partly in order to make it possible for the Foreign Secretary to take Dr Soares to the Royal Opera House on 22 November). As the main themes of our relations with Portugal are defence and trade, we would like Mr Heseltine and Mr Tebbit to attend. We have checked that both are free and encouragement for them to be there would be very welcome.

We have also considered who is to meet Dr Soares, whom we expect to arrive on the Air Portugal flight at 1345 on 20 November. The most senior Cabinet Minister free is the Home Secretary, and encouragement for him to undertake this would also be most welcome.

*Yours ever,*

*Colin Budd*

(C R Budd)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

Portugal : Visit of Prime Minister March 1980.

FOR THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS





FILE

(6)

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

11 October, 1984

VISIT BY THE PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER

Thank you for your letter of 10 October.

The dinner for Dr. Soares will indeed begin at 2000 hrs. The talks can be brought forward a little to 1845 hrs but no earlier. I have written to encourage attendance at the Portuguese Ambassador's dinner.

(C.D. Powell)

C.R. Budd, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

CST