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cc: P.C.

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

11 October, 1984

VISIT BY THE PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER: 20-23 NOVEMBER

The Prime Minister particularly wants a success to be made of Dr. Soares' visit to Britain next month. She has already gone to some lengths herself to ensure this, for instance by re-arranging her programme in order to give a dinner for Dr. Soares instead of a planned lunch, a change to which the Portuguese attached great importance. In addition the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary will entertain Dr. Soares on 22 November.

The Prime Minister is not herself able to attend the Portuguese Ambassador's dinner for Dr. Soares nor would it be a desirable precedent for her to do so. But she is very anxious that senior colleagues should do so if at all possible. Since defence and trade are two of the main themes of our relations with Portugal she has asked me to say that she hopes very much that Mr. Heseltine and Mr. Tebbit will go to the Portuguese dinner on 20 November. She would also be extremely grateful if the Home Secretary were able to meet Dr. Soares on her behalf on his arrival on 20 November.

The Prime Minister is sorry to impose additional burdens on what she knows to be the extremely full programmes of her colleagues, but she attaches particular importance to this visit.

I am copying this letter to Callum McCarthy (Department of Trade and Industry), Hugh Taylor (Home Office) and to Colin Budd (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

(C.D. Powell)

Richard Mottram, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence.

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From the Minister for Trade

CDP
31/x

C D Powell Esq
Private Secretary to
The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

29 October 1984

Dear Mr Powell

VISIT BY THE PORTUGUESE PRIME MINISTER: 20-23 NOVEMBER

Thank you for your letter of *11* October, copied to Callum McCarthy.

With the uncertainty of the date of The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry's return to the Department Mr Channon in Mr Tebbit's absence will be happy to attend the Portuguese Ambassador's dinner on 20 November.

I am copying this letter to Richard Mottram (Ministry of Defence), Hugh Taylor (Home Office) and to Colin Budd (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

Yours sincerely
Simon Carter

SIMON CARTER
Assistant Private Secretary to the
Minister for Trade (PAUL CHANNON)

Portugal : Visita de Bottegare LM 3/80



30 OCT 1984



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



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.