



10 DOWNING STREET

27 February, 1985

From the Private Secretary

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO SOUTH EAST ASIA: BRIEFING

Thank you for your letter of 22 February enclosing a list of proposed briefs for the Prime Minister's visit to South East Asia.

The briefs for Washington were not as successful as we hoped, first because there was no guide to them and second because the new format was not followed consistently; instead a number of single subject briefs crept in to supplement, and sometimes duplicate, the general brief. The result was that the reader had to dodge from one document to another.

Applying the lessons to the briefs for this visit, I suggest first that the General Brief in Annex 2 to your letter be drastically slimmed. Items B(i) - (iii) are clearly necessary, but I do not think the Prime Minister needs to be briefed on B(iv) - (vii) or B(viii) a,b,c, or B(ix) for the sort of discussions which are likely to take place on this visit. Further, I doubt whether B(viii) d-h are really appropriate subjects for discussion at Prime Ministerial level. So I think we can dispense with a good deal of the General Brief.

The single country briefs write themselves. The key is to ensure that the layout is clear, with the individual subjects easily distinguishable within the general layout of the brief. I am inclined to think that a press line is impossible to lay down usefully in advance on a series of visits of this sort and can be omitted. On a point of detail, the fact sheet and personality notes should be at the back.

(C D Powell)

P.F. Ricketts, Esq,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



10 DOWNING STREET

Charles,

Agree the following should have a set of briefs for PM's trip to Asia?

- 1) PM ✓
- 2) CDP ✓
- 3) FEELB ✓
- 4) Sir P.C. ✓
- 5) BI ✓
- 6) Press ✓
- 7) Duty Clerks (Trip) ✓
- 8) Duty Clerk (Desk) ✓

Is it necessary for Iain Murray or the Policy Unit to have copies? NO NO

SUG
7/3/85.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 February, 1985

Dear Charles,

Prime Minister's Visit to Asia: Briefing

We discussed on the telephone the format for the briefing for the Prime Minister's visit to Asia. I enclose a list of proposed briefs, on which we have consulted Posts. Any comments in the light of your experience with the new format in Washington would obviously be useful in helping to achieve the most useful organisation of the material, which will inevitably be voluminous.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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ANNEX 2

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO ASIA, 4-13 APRIL 1985

<u>General Brief for Prime Minister</u>		<u>Lead Dept</u>	<u>Other Depts</u>	<u>Comment</u>
A	<u>Programme</u>	FCO (SEAD and SAD)		
B	<u>Subjects</u>			
i)	ASEAN (and EC/ASEAN relations)	FCO (SEAD)	FCO (ECD(E))	To include Philip-pines
ii)	Indo-China	FCO (SEAD)	FCO (HKD)	
iii)	Communist Policy : South and South East Asia	FCO (Soviet Dept/FED)		To include Sino-Soviet relations
iv)	Hong Kong	FCO (HKD)		
v)	East/West Relations	FCO (Soviet Dept)		
vi)	Arms Control Discussions	FCO (ACDD)		
vii)	Terrorism	FCO (SCU)		
viii)	International Political Issues (general)			
	a) Afghanistan	FCO (SAD)		
	b) Middle East	FCO (MED/NENAD)		
	c) Falkland Islands	FCO (FID)		
	d) Antarctica at UNGA	FCO (SAMD)		
	e) Law of the Sea	FCO (UND)		
	f) Security of Small States	FCO (Planning Staff)		
	g) Namibia	FCO (SAfD)		
	h) CHOGM	FCO (CCD)		
ix)	International Economic Issues	FCO (ERD)	Treasury	To include oil, protectionism, IDA

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ANNEX 3

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO ASIA, 4-13 APRIL 1985
Country Briefs for Prime Minister

A - MALAYSIA (Single brief)

<u>Covering:</u>	<u>Lead Dept</u>	<u>Other Depts</u>	<u>Comment</u>
a) Personality Notes, Fact Sheet	FCO (SEAD)		
b) i) UK-Malaysia Political Relations	FCO (SEAD)		To include min- isterial, State visits
ii) UK-Malaysian Trade and Economic Relations	DTI (OT2, PEP)	FCO (TRED ERD) Treasury	To include invest- ment relations, commodity issues
iii) UK-Malaysia Air Services	FCO (MAED)	DTP, DTI	MAED to consult SEAD
iv) Malaysia: Aid/ Studentships	ODA	DTI, FCO (CRD)	Focus on students and ATP
v) UK-Malaysia: Defence	FCO (Defence Department)	MOD Sec(O)(C) and Defence Sales	

B - SINGAPORE (Single brief)

<u>Covering:</u>	<u>Lead Dept</u>	<u>Other Depts</u>	<u>Comment</u>
a) Personality Notes, Fact Sheet	FCO (SEAD)		
b) i) UK-Singapore Political Relations	FCO (SEAD)		
ii) UK-Singapore Trade and Economic Relations	DTI (OT2) (PEP)	FCO (TRED, ERD, Treasury)	
iii) UK-Singapore Air Services	FCO (MAED)	DTP, DTI	MAED to consult SEAD
iv) UK-Singapore: Defence	FCO (Defence Department)	MOD Sec (O)(C) and Defence Sales)	
v) Brunei	FCO (SEAD)		

C - BRUNEI (Single brief)

<u>Covering:</u>	<u>Lead Dept</u>	<u>Other Depts</u>	<u>Comment</u>
a) Personality Notes, Fact Sheet	FCO (SEAD)		
b) i) UK-Brunei General and Economic Relations	FCO (SEAD)	DTI (OT2)	SEAD to consult Bank of England
ii) UK-Brunei Defence Relations	FCO (Defence Department)	MOD Sec (O)(C) and Defence Sales	Defence Dept to consult SEAD

D - INDONESIA (Single Brief)

<u>Covering:</u>	<u>Lead Dept</u>	<u>Other Depts</u>	<u>Comment</u>
a) Personality Notes, Fact Sheet	FCO (SEAD)		
b) i) UK-Indonesia Political Relations	FCO (SEAD)		
ii) UK-Indonesia Trade and Economic Relations	DTI (OT2) (PEP)	FCO (TRED ERD) Treasury	To include UK invest- ment policy
iii) UK-Indonesia : Defence	FCO (Defence Dept)	MOD (Defence Sales, Sec (O)(C))	
iv) UK-Indonesia : Aid	ODA	DTI (OT2) (PEP)	To include oppor- tunities in UK for training

E - SRI LANKA (Single brief)

<u>Covering:</u>	<u>Lead Dept</u>	<u>Other Depts</u>	<u>Comments</u>
a) Personality Notes, Fact Sheet	FCO (SAD)		
b) i) Sri Lankan Inter- communal problem	FCO (SAD)		
ii) Aid Programme/ Victoria Dam	ODA	FCO (SAD)	
iii) Bilateral Issues (including defence related issues)	FCO (SAD)	ODA/DTI/MOD	

F - INDIA (Single brief)

<u>Covering:</u>	<u>Lead Depts</u>	<u>Other Depts</u>	<u>Comments</u>
a) Personality Notes, Fact Sheet	FCO (SAD)		
b) i) Bilateral Issues (including Sikh extremism)	FCO (SAD)		
ii) Trade/Projects	DTI	ODA/FCO (SAD)	
iii) Defence Sales	MOD (RMD3)	FCO (SAD)	
iv) Regional Political issues (Sri Lanka, Indo-Pakistan relations)	FCO (SAD)		

ANNEX 4

BACKGROUND BRIEFS (for use by Officials)

<u>Brief No</u>	<u>List of Briefs</u>	<u>Lead Dept</u>	<u>Other Depts</u>	<u>Comment</u>
<u>General</u>				
01.	ASEAN	FCO (SEAD)		To include Philip-pines; Pacific Rim
02.	Indo-China	FCO (SEAD)		
03.	China	FCO (FED)		
04.	Non Aligned Involvement	FCO (UND)	Research Department	
05.	US and Japanese Policy in South and South East Asia	FCO (NAMD/FED)		
06.	British Council: Asia	FCO (CRD)	British Council	
<u>Malaysia</u>				
07.	History, Internal Political, foreign policy, economy	FCO (SEAD)	FCO (Economic Advisers, Research Dept)	
08.	Diplomatic Estate	FCO (OED)		
<u>Singapore</u>				
09.	(History, Internal Political, Foreign Policy, Economy)	FCO (SEAD)	FCO (Economic Advisers, Research Dept)	
<u>Brunei</u>				
010.	History, Internal Poltical, Foreign Policy, Economy	FCO (SEAD)	FCO (Economic Advisers, Research Dept)	

Indonesia

011.	History, Internal Political, Foreign Policy, Economy relations with OPEC	FCO (SEAD)	FCO (Economic Advisers, ESSD, Research Dept)
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Sri Lanka

012.	History, Internal Political, Foreign Policy, Economy)	FCO (SAD)	
013.	Defence related issues	FCO (SAD)	MOD

India

014.	Sikh extremism	FCO (SAD)	
015.	Other Issues	FCO (SAD)	