

GRS 535
RESTRICTED
FM BRUNEI 080824Z APR 85
TO IMMEDIATE SINGAPORE
LNO 3 OF 8 APRIL
INFO FCO

MR POWELL

FOR PRIME MINISTER'S PARTY: PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO BRUNEI:

LATE DETAILS

1. ON ARRIVAL, PRIME MINISTER WILL BE MET BY SIR OMAR. PRINCE MOHAMED (FOREIGN MINISTER), PRINCE SUFRI AND PRINCE JEFRI (MINISTER OF CULTURE YOUTH AND SPORTS) WILL ALSO BE AT AIRPORT.

2. THROUGHOUT VISIT PRIME MINISTER WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY PENGIRAN BAHRIN (MINISTER OF LAW AND OF COMMUNICATIONS) ACTING AS MINISTER IN ATTENDANCE. BY FAR THE BEST CHOICE.

3. THERE WILL ALSO BE AN HONORARY ADC - MAJOR ISBAH, A FLYING INSTRUCTOR IN THE ROYAL BRUNEI ARMED FORCES AIR WING. HE WAS ON SANDHURST COURSE IN 1972 AND HAS SINCE TRAINED AT OXFORD AIR TRAINING SCHOOL AND WITH 150 SQUADRON RAF.

4. ON ARRIVAL AT HOSPITAL PRIME MINISTER WILL BE INVITED TO PLANT TREE TO COMMEMORATE VISIT, BEFORE GOING INTO MAIN BUILDING. INSIDE SHE WILL MEET BRIEFLY MEDICAL STAFF TRAINED IN BRITAIN AND WILL THEN BE TAKEN AROUND RENAL UNIT, SPECIAL BABY CARE UNIT AND LABORATORY (OR AS MANY OF THESE AS TIME PERMITS).

5. ON ARRIVAL AT ISTANA PRIME MINISTER WILL BE MET ON THE STEPS BY SULTAN AND SIR OMAR. (FOR THIS REASON WE HAVE ARRANGED FOR HER TO FRESHEN UP, IF NECESSARY, AT PALACE SPORTS PAVILION - A SEPARATE BUILDING BETWEEN LANDING QUAY AND MAIN ISTANA).

6. BEFORE AUDIENCE SULTAN WILL INTRODUCE PRIME MINISTER TO THE RAJA ISTERI AND CHILDREN. (IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE PENGIRAN ISTERI AND HER CHILDREN WILL BE THERE ALSO/INSTEAD.) PRIME MINISTER WILL MEET REMAINDER OF FAMILY BEFORE LUNCH.

7. AT AUDIENCE THERE IS NOW STRONG RISK THAT ANY BRITISH OFFICIALS PRESENT WILL BE MATCHED ONE FOR ONE BY BRUNEIAN OFFICIALS. PRESENCE OF LATTER WOULD CLAM UP THE SULTAN, SO WE HAD BETTER BE PREPARED TO EXCLUDE OUR OFFICIALS. *? see him alone ? or plus note-taker?*

8. AT LUNCH PRIME MINISTER WILL BE SEATED BETWEEN SULTAN AND SIR OMAR. MR THATCHER WILL PROBABLY BE SEATED BETWEEN SIR OMAR AND PRINCE MOHAMED. LUNCH IS FOR 36: ROYAL FAMILY, MINISTERS, A FEW OF THE CHETERIA (ADVISORY BODY OF ELDERS), RBAF AND POLICE COMMANDERS MD OF BRUNEI SHELL, HEADS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS.

PRIME MINISTER, MR THATCHER, ACLAND, BUTLER, POWELL, INGHAM, BENJAMIN, VEREKER.

NO BRUNEI SPOUSES.

9. THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF SPEECHES.

10. AFTER LUNCH SULTAN WILL PROBABLY TAKE HIS LEAVE, AND PRIME MINISTER WILL PROBABLY BE TAKEN TO FAREWELL CEREMONY BY SIR OMAR.

11. MR THATCHER'S PROGRAMME: BRUNEI SHELL HAS NOW OPTED, WITH OUR AGREEMENT, FOR OVERFLYING MAJOR OFFSHORE INSTALLATION, LNG PLANT AND OIL REFINERY BEFORE BRIEFING ETC AT HEADQUARTERS. THERE WILL NOT BE TIME TO LAND AT OFFSHORE INSTALLATION.

CORNISH

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FM CABINET OFFICE

TO AIRBORNE 004 IMMEDIATE DESKBY 090215Z

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FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM BRUNEI

FOR PM'S PARTY

FOR PRIME MINISTER'S PARTY : TELECON POWELL/CORNISH

1. SULTAN'S GENERAL ADVISER HAS TOLD ME THAT THE SULTAN DECIDED THAT IT WAS TOO LATE TO GO ALONG WITH MR LEE KUAN YEW'S SUGGESTION TO HIM LAST NIGHT. ISA'S EXPLANATION WAS THAT THE SULTAN DID NOT WISH TO DISRUPT ARRANGEMENTS ALREADY MADE.

2. ALL BEING WELL, THE PRIME MINISTER WILL STOP BRIEFLY AT A NEW OPEN AIR VEGETABLE MARKET ON THE WAY FROM HOSPITAL TO CUSTOMS WHARF. IF CROWD JUSTIFIES IT, PRIME MINISTER WILL OF COURSE BE ABLE TO GET OUT AND MEET PEOPLE THERE.

CORNISH

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