

CONFIDENTIAL

DeAOM
bc PE



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

16 April 1985

UK/Soviet Parliamentary Contacts: IPU Return Visit

The Prime Minister has considered the Foreign Secretary's minute of 15 April about the arrangements for a return visit by the IPU to the Soviet Union.

The Prime Minister agrees that it would be better to think in terms of a visit in 1986 rather than later this year.

The Prime Minister also agrees that we should try to arrange for the delegation to be led at a high level. Given that Mr. Gorbachev ranked as de facto number two in the Soviet hierarchy, she is inclined to think that the Lord President, as the second most senior member of the Government after her, would be the most appropriate person to lead the return delegation. This would be the clearest possible evidence of our wish to establish a pattern of high level contacts. The Foreign Secretary may wish to discuss this with the Prime Minister.

I am copying this letter to David Morris (Lord Privy Seal's Office).

(C.D. Powell)

CK

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL