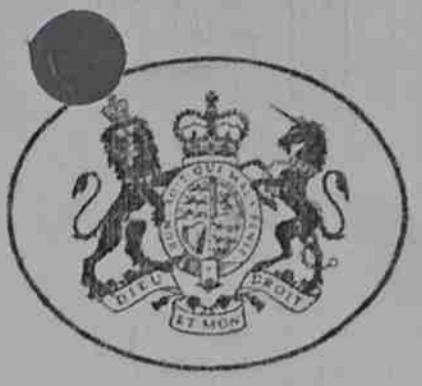


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Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Whitehall Place London SW1A 2HH

From the Minister's Private Office

Len Appleyard Esq
Private Secretary to the Foreign Secretary
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
London SW1

Pine Linnet
Fascinating evidence
of a new style!

2 August 1985

CDP
2/P.

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Dear Len

The Soviet Ambassador called on my Minister yesterday to deliver a letter from Mrs Gorbachev; he said that Mrs Gorbachev had asked him to hand the letter over personally. You may like to see a copy; it is about cooking potatoes, one of the topic of conversation between Mr Jopling and Mrs Gorbachev at the lunch at Chequers.

We have the book referred to in the letter, with its 500 ways of cooking potatoes; it is, naturally, in Russian. If you have anyone who reads Russian and has a fondness for potatoes, we would be happy to lend it.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to Anthony Carey and Charles Powell.

Yours ever

C I LLEWELYN
Private Secretary

Unofficial translation

Mr. Michael JOPLING,
Minister of Agriculture
of Great Britain

July 19, 1985

Esteemed Mr. Jopling,

When the Soviet parliamentary delegation headed by Mikhail S. Gorbachev was on a visit to your country, I told you at the luncheon at Chequers that in Byelorussia we have three hundred recipes to cook potatoes. It seemed to me that you were doubtful about it and I promised to send you a book containing information in this regard at a later date.

I am keeping my promise. My apologies for being somewhat inaccurate: in fact, there are five hundred, rather than three hundred, recipes to cook potatoes.

I avail myself of this opportunity to express once again appreciation for the attention and welcome accorded to us in Britain. We remember all the talks and meetings, and the atmosphere in which they were held. One would like to believe that all this will promote mutual understanding, confidence and co-operation between the peoples of our two countries.

With best wishes

Raisa GORBACHEVA

РРСМ 19/1647

МИНИСТРУ СЕЛЬСКОГО ХОЗЯЙСТВА ВЕЛИКОБРИТАНИИ

МАЙКЛУ ДЖОПЛИНГУ

Уважаемый господин М.Джоплинг!

В дни, когда в Вашей стране находилась советская парламентская делегация во главе с М.С.Горбачевым, в разговоре с Вами на ланче в Чекерсе я сказала, что у нас в Белоруссии из картофеля готовят триста блюд. Мне показалось, что у Вас это вызвало сомнение, и я пообещала при случае прислать Вам книгу со сведениями на этот счет.

Выполняю свое обещание. Извиняюсь за некоторую неточность: оказалось, что из картофеля можно приготовить не триста, а пятьсот блюд.

Пользуясь случаем, хочу еще раз выразить признательность за оказанные нам внимание и прием в Англии. Мы помним все беседы, встречи, атмосферу, в которой они проходили. Хочется верить, что все это послужит делу взаимопонимания, доверия, сотрудничества между народами наших стран.

С наилучшими пожеланиями

Р. Горбачева

Раиса Горбачева

19 июля 1985 года

