

PRIME MINISTER

The Soviet Charge d'Affaires, Mr. Parchine, has a personal letter from Mr. Gorbachev for you. The Foreign Office have been told the letter is on a matter of major international importance, and that its content is urgent. The Soviet Embassy have not given any idea as to what it contains.

If you wish to receive the letter yourself, the first opportunity to do so would be Friday. But, as you know, this is a very difficult day indeed, even if the meeting needed to last only half an hour. One alternative would be for you to return from Scotney specially, perhaps coming back earlier on Thursday afternoon.

The Foreign Office see no difficulty in letting the Soviet Embassy know that your movements mean you could not receive the letter personally in the next day or two and to suggest that Mr. Rifkind takes receipt of it instead.

Do you wish to receive the letter from Mr. Parchine yourself? If so, would you prefer to try and slot this in on Friday (perhaps first thing in the morning) or to go for some time on Thursday afternoon?

Mark Addison

(MARK ADDISON)

27 August 1985

Will leave here at -

4p. - Thurs. afternoon.

Should be back to receive

letter by 6p. -

Fri - morning - need

have - sharp 10:00  
no