

PRIME MINISTER

SEMINAR ON THE SOVIET UNION

I have had some further exchanges with the FCO on participation in this seminar, and am now about to issue invitations. The list looks as follows (those who attended last time are marked with an asterisk):

Academics

- \* Dr. Ronald Amman (Soviet internal: industry technology)
- \* Mr. Archie Brown (Soviet internal: leadership structure)
- \* Mr. C.N. Donnelly (Soviet military and defence)
- \* Professor Alec ~~No~~ve (Soviet economy)  
Professor Michael Howard
- \* Mr. Michael Kaser (East European economics)  
Mr. Peter Frank (Soviet internal)  
Mr. Seweryn Bialer (main US expert)  
Mr. Robert Conquest

Government/official

Prime Minister

Foreign Secretary

Sir Percy Cradock

Sir Bryan Cartledge

Mr. Ratford (Under-Secretary FCO and former Minister in  
Moscow)

Dr. Nicholson (Head of Soviet Section of FCO Research  
Department)

Mr. Powell

This makes a total of 16.

The FCO lament the dropping of both journalists (Mark Frankland of the Observer and Edwina Moreton of the Economist) whom they believe have at least as much to offer as academics. Miss Moreton would be the better (and safer)

choice, if you were disposed to reinstate one. There is also the question whether to add Hugh Thomas, either as an addition or as a reserve.

I am bound to say that I do not think Michael Kaser is essential to this particular seminar. I believe that he would perfectly understand if he were not invited. If you were at least to relegate him to the reserves, we could add Miss Moreton and Hugh Thomas. Agree? No journalists

The FCO have also revised the agenda to take account of our comments. The new version is attached. Content?

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(C. D. POWELL)

6 January 1987