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Foreign and Commonwealth Office



London SW1A 2AH

30 January 1987

Dear Charles,

A delegation from the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR is to visit the UK from 1-7 February at the invitation of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons, in return for the visit of the FAC to the Soviet Union in 1985. It will be led by V V Zagladin, the Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Council of the Union of the Supreme Soviet. Zagladin is also First Deputy Head of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party and, as such, a senior figure in the foreign policy making apparatus. He is Dobrynin's deputy.

When this visit was under discussion last year, there was a possibility that the delegation would be led by Ligachev, Gorbachev's number two, or Dobrynin. On that basis, the Prime Minister agreed in principle to receive the leader of the delegation (your letter of 29 September 1986).

Since neither Ligachev nor Dobrynin is now involved there is no need for the Prime Minister to be. The Soviet Embassy have not asked for a call on the Prime Minister.

Zagladin himself is sufficiently senior however to be a worthwhile interlocutor, and may have interesting things to say about the recent Central Committee Plenum. The Foreign Secretary will therefore see him and Mr Eggar will offer appropriate hospitality. The delegation's programme includes a day and a half of meetings with the Foreign Affairs Committee, calls on Mr Jopling, Mr Rifkind, Mr Clark and Mr Buchanan-Smith; and a two day visit to Scotland.

Yours ever,

L. Parker

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

Office of the Secretary of State

Department of State





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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

30 January 1987

Dear Lyn,

Thank you for your letter about the visit of a delegation from the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Supreme Soviet. I agree it would not be appropriate for the Prime Minister to see Zagladin, but I am sure she would be interested to hear the outcome of his talks with the Foreign Secretary and others.

Yours sincerely,

(Charles Powell)

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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