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CCP



Tessa  
De [unclear] with  
to see R.A.  
Can we find  
him an hour  
in the period 12-20 Nov?

1045-1145  
Friday 20th November

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 September 1987

Dear Charles

Abel Aganbegyan

We have been pursuing with the Russians the suggestion that Academician Aganbegyan should visit the UK this autumn and brief the Prime Minister on the progress of economic reform in the Soviet Union. The Charge d'Affaires at our Embassy saw him the other day.

Aganbegyan plans to come to the UK from 18 to 28 November, following a visit to France. He has an invitation from the British Academy, who will arrange a suitable programme for him, including visits to universities, industry, meetings with economists and bankers etc. He has expressed interest in visiting some factories to discuss problems of management. This will be his first visit to England.

Aganbegyan said that he would be very happy to brief the Prime Minister on perestroika; he seemed keen to give the impression that he would be doing this as an individual rather than a government emissary.

We will send you before the visit a paper on the current state of the economic reform programme together with material on Aganbegyan and his work. If the Prime Minister wanted to discuss the reform programme in advance of seeing Aganbegyan, it would be easy to gather together some suitable people: for example one or more of Professors Alec Nove, Ronald Amman and Philip Hanson.

If you will let us know when the Prime Minister would like to see him, we will inform the British Academy so that they can start building their programme around that.

Yours ever

*(Handwritten signature)*

(R N Culshaw)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street



CF  
Do you want  
to keep these?  
VC 4/9



FILE  
DA  
PC

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

3 September 1987

**ABEL AGANBEGYAN**

Thank you for your letter of 3 September about the arrangements for a meeting between the Prime Minister and Academician Aganbegyan. The Prime Minister would indeed like to see him and we have pencilled in 1045 on Friday 20 November for one hour. It would be helpful to have the paper on the current state of the economic reform programme in the Soviet Union about a week ahead of the meeting. I rather doubt, because of other engagements, whether it will be possible to have a pre-meeting with academic experts but I will keep the idea in mind.

(C.D. POWELL)

R.N. Culshaw, Esq., M.V.O.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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