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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

2 December 1987

MR. GORBACHEV'S STOPOVER

Thank you for your letter of 1 December. I am replying immediately because of the shortage of time. The enclosures to your letter have not yet arrived and I may have further comments on them.

As regards the lunch, I think the size of the top table is getting out of hand and that those listed in paragraph (ii) of your letter should be on a separate table hosted perhaps by Mr. Mellor if he is to be present, or Sir John Fretwell.

I note the arrangements for the visit by Mrs. Gorbachev to the Edith Moorhouse primary school. The Russians evidently remain nervous about this and I would be grateful if the police could be encouraged to make very thorough arrangements indeed to protect Mrs. Gorbachev from too much attention by the press.

I also note what is proposed about bouquets. Surely it would be more appropriate for these to be given to Mrs. Gorbachev. The Prime Minister and Mr. Gorbachev will not wish to be standing holding flowers while the honour guard gives the general salute and the band plays the Soviet national anthem.

(C. D. POWELL)

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

1 December 1987

Dear Charles,

Mr Gorbachev's Stopover

You may find helpful the enclosed outline programme and car plan which show where arrangements currently stand. Both will need to be filled out considerably in the next day or two, in particular the car plan, to include other senior Soviet officials accompanying the Gorbachevs. A full programme of administrative arrangements will also be produced as soon as possible, including details of access to Brize Norton and the various passes required. We will be reviewing all this with the Soviet Embassy on the morning of 2 December.

It may also be helpful to bring you up to date with progress on other aspects of the programme:

i) we now understand that Yakovlev and the other senior members of the Soviet delegation may take part in the talks between Mr Shevardnadze and Sir Geoffrey Howe. The need to entertain them separately would therefore fall away. We have resisted Soviet suggestions for separate sessions of talks on trade and military matters, not least on logistic grounds; but some of them will be able to talk to their opposite members over lunch;

ii) the list of senior officials on the Soviet side for the Prime Minister's table at lunch should include, in addition to those listed in your letter of 30 November:

Mrs Zamyatin
Mr Bolin (Head of Central Committee General Department)
Mr Kruchina (Head of Central Committee Administrative Department)
Mr Gasenkov (aide to Mr Gorbachev)
(possibly)
Mr Karpov (arms control negotiator)
Mr Sukhodryev (Head of MFA American Dept and previously interpreter for Brezhnev/Gromyko)

We are arranging for a U-shaped table to be available to accommodate these extra numbers. Extra members on our side may include a Trade Minister, Mr Mellor, Sir John Fretwell, and possibly one or two more;

iii) Mrs Gorbachev will visit the Edith Moorhouse primary school in Brize Norton (just outside the base), accompanied

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by Mr Baker. This has been chosen by the DES as the most suitable of the local schools. Mrs Zamyatin and Mr Shilov (Soviet Embassy) will also go with her, as well as bodyguards and an interpreter from our side (Kate Horner) who was with Mrs Gorbachev in 1984. We are working on a detailed programme at the school itself, as well as the press arrangements;

vi) the Russians have said they would like two Soviet children (from the Embassy) to present bouquets on arrival to the Prime Minister and Mrs Gorbachev, with the British child presenting one to Mrs Gorbachev. We have told them that this would be over egging it and that in any case we are the welcoming side. A suitable compromise which the Russians would accept would be two bouquets for Mr Gorbachev, presented together by a British girl and a Russian boy.

two

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Parker'.

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/No 10 Downing Street

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01-

CDA
G.M.

Squadron Leader L Pyne RAF
MOV (OPS)
Room 5178
Ministry of Defence
Main Building
Whitehall, SW1

Your reference

Our reference

Date

30 November 1987

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO BRIZE NORTON: MONDAY 7 DECEMBER

I am writing to confirm our requirements for a helicopter to take the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs plus 8 Officials from Brize Norton to Wellington Barracks on Monday 7 December.

It is expected that the standby time at ~~Brize Norton~~ will be 1300 but I will confirm exact timings as soon as possible.

You have confirmed that the flying time for the helicopter is approximately 30 to 35 minutes. Costs will be borne by the Management and Personnel Office.

Anne Morrison (Mrs)
Protocol Department

cc: Duty Clerk, No 10 —
APS/Secretary of State