

FROM : KENNETH WARREN, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

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CSP

CONFIDENTIAL

3 March 1989

*My dear Charles,*

President Gorbachev's visit

As I am just off overseas for a few days, I wanted to bring to your attention one idea and a comment.

The idea is a suggestion from the British-Soviet Parliamentary Group that as Mr Gorbachev is a Head of State he should be invited to address both Houses of Parliament.

The comment is that a clear rivalry amongst the Soviets is developing in that their Diplomatic Service is trying to gain position as an integral part of his political programme. Heretofore I have found that he has used his diplomatic staff as a means of putting his ideas on our political network and there is a tussle with the MFA seeking to put forward their own bids to become equal participants in the generation of international policy.

I am getting several manifestations of this. It is no surprise, bearing in mind that they are finding that policy can be generated at various levels rather than handed down, as before, from autocratic leadership. I do not think it affects our own position, but it might provide us, over the coming weeks, with some confused signals. None of these will imply, in my opinion, any lessening of the great importance the Soviets are attaching to the meeting with the Prime Minister.

I anticipate having some 'shopping list' inputs in about two weeks time from the Soviets.

*Yours  
Ken*

Charles Powell Esq  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1

cde  
mw

10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

*From the Private Secretary*

7 March 1989

**MR. GORBACHEV'S VISIT**

Thank you for your letter about President Gorbachev's visit.

On your suggestion about a speech, it is now agreed that Mr. Gorbachev will deliver a major speech in the Guildhall on the morning of Friday 7 April. This will follow the pattern of President Reagan's visit last summer on his way back from the summit in Moscow.

I was interested to read what you had to say about the Soviet foreign affairs machinery. It will clearly be important to avoid any confusion or crossed-wires and I am most grateful for your offer to keep in touch on this.

(C. D. POWELL)

Kenneth Warren, Esq., M.P.

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