

CONFIDENTIAL
FM MOSCOW
TO DESKBY 031730Z FCO
TELNO 407
OF 031513Z MARCH 89

MOSCOW TELNO 403: VISIT OF MR AND MRS GORBACHEV

1. FOLLOWING OUR FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS, SECOND EUROPEAN DEPARTMENT GAVE US ON THE EVENING OF 3 MARCH A SOVIET DRAFT FOR THE GORBACHEVS' PROGRAMME, AS FOLLOWS:

WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL

2300 (LOCAL): ARRIVAL FROM HAVANA.

THURSDAY 6 APRIL

1000 (RESTRICTED) TALKS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AT 10 DOWNING STREET.

1000-1200 SIGHT-SEEING BY MRS GORBACHEVA: PARLIAMENT SQUARE, WHITEHALL, THAMES EMBANKMENT, THE CITY, VISIT TO ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL. ONE OR TWO STOPS TO BE MADE ON THIS ROUTE.

1300-1400 WORKING LUNCH AT 10 DOWNING STREET.

LUNCH PRECEDED BY SIGNING CEREMONY OF JOINT DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING THE DOCUMENT ABOUT A SCHOOL IN ARMENIA.

1410-1430 WREATH LAYING AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

1430-1630 VISIT TO AN INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISE IN THE ENVIRONS OF LONDON. MEETING WITH ITS EMPLOYEES.

1700 MEETING BETWEEN MR GORBACHEV AND MR KINNOCK AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY.

1700-1800 VISIT BY MRS GORBACHEV TO THE MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF LONDON.

1805 RECEPTION FOR A SMALL GROUP OF LEADING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CBI AT LANCASTER HOUSE.

1920 DEPARTURE OF MR AND MRS GORBACHEV FROM THE SOVIET EMBASSY FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S RESIDENCE.

1930 OFFICIAL DINNER GIVEN BY MRS THATCHER FOR MR AND MRS GORBACHEV
FRIDAY 7 APRIL

1100-1200 SPEECH BY MR GORBACHEV AT THE GUILDHALL.

1300 AUDIENCE OF THE QUEEN: TOUR OF WINDSOR CASTLE.

1330-1430 LUNCH GIVEN BY THE QUEEN IN HONOUR OF MR AND MRS GORBACHEV.

1500 DEPARTURE FROM LONDON FOR MOSCOW.

COMMENT

2. THIS DOCUMENT WAS GIVEN TO US WITHOUT ANY ANCILLARY EXPLANATION. AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF OUR PREVIOUS APPROACHES, WE MUST ASSUME THAT IT NOW REPRESENTS THE FIRM WISHES OF MR AND MRS GORBACHEV. THIS MAY NOT BE THE MOST TACTFUL WAY OF RESPONDING TO OUR ENQUIRIES (IT IS MORE THAN A LITTLE UNCONVENTIONAL FOR A VISITOR TO PRESCRIBE HIS PROGRAMME IN THIS DETAIL): BUT WE DO NOW HAVE CLEAR ANSWERS TO OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS.

3. WE DO NOT KNOW TO WHAT EXTENT THE SOVIET DRAFT MESHES WITH THE DRAFTS YOU HAVE PUT TO THE SOVIET EMBASSY, BUT IT IS HELPFUL NOW TO KNOW THAT THERE IS NO FURTHER FUSS OVER THE TIMING OR THE VENUE OF THE QUEEN'S LUNCH: AND THAT GORBACHEV WISHES TO DELIVER A PUBLIC SPEECH AT THE GUILDHALL. HOWEVER THE TIME ALLOTTED FOR AN INDUSTRIAL VISIT ON THE AFTERNOON OF 6 APRIL SEEMS TIGHT.

4. MRS GORBACHEV SEEMS NOT TO HAVE CHOSEN THE MORE IMAGINATIVE SUGGESTIONS OFFERED TO HER. YOU MAY WISH US TO EXPLORE FURTHER (AMONG OTHER POINTS) WHETHER, AND IF SO WHEN, A MEETING WITH CHILDREN IS TO BE INTEGRATED INTO THE PROGRAMME.

5. NO NEWS YET ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE PARTY.

BRAITHWAITE

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GORBACHEV'S VISIT

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