

PRIME MINISTER

CSCE INFORMATION FORUM

You are to open this meeting tomorrow morning. The revised programme is as follows:

- 1015 depart No 10
- 1025 meeting at the QEII Conference Centre with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Petrovsky
- 1040 proceed to Nightingale Room to join other members of the platform party:
Lord Rees Mogg
Sir Geoffrey Howe
Mr Hurd
Mr Waldegrave
Mr Eggar
- 1045 proceed to podium in Churchill Auditorium.
Chairman's introduction
- 1050 your speech
- 1115 meet Heads of Delegations in Sanctuary Foyer
- 1125 (must not be later) depart for Chelsea Barracks
- 1130 helicopter to Northolt
- 1200 depart for Luxembourg.

*Not possible to
subscribe in
5 minutes*

C.D.P.

CHARLES POWELL

17 April 1989

EAMASS

etc

CSCE

LONDON INFORMATION FORUM

London is host to a CSCE Information Forum from 18 April to 12 May 1989. This is the first Helsinki-type meeting devoted to information, and the first CSCE meeting to be held in London.


PURPOSE OF THE INFORMATION FORUM

The Forum is being billed as a chance for frank and constructive debate on flows of information between East and West. We are presenting it in this country as an opportunity to put glasnost and new thinking in the Soviet Union and parts of Eastern Europe to the test. Most Western governments also take the view that there is scope for improving the existing Helsinki commitments in the field of information. We will seek to lead Western delegations in the search for common ground with the Russians and the more liberal East European delegations. The aim will be to work together to produce a document with new commitments in the information field. If this proves unattainable, we will take credit for having made the attempt, and settle for a more general communiqué. Signs are that the Russians, though wanting a positive outcome (e.g. positive reference to the Forum in Gorbachev's Guildhall speech), will be reluctant to negotiate new commitments so soon after Vienna.

LOCATION

The venue for the Forum will be The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre at Westminster.

The Prime Minister will deliver the inaugural speech.



Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Home Secretary, Mr Waldegrave and Mr Eggar will await the Prime Minister, with Lord Rees-Mogg (Chairman of the Opening Session) in the Nightingale Room. The Prime Minister is scheduled to arrive at 10.30 am and to meet the Ministers. She and the others would then leave the Nightingale Room for the Churchill Auditorium at 10.35 or 10.40 am. After brief introductory remarks by Lord Rees-Mogg, the Prime Minister can begin her speech at 10.45 or 10.50 am. This would be followed at 11.05 or 11.10 am by brief administrative announcements to the Conference by the Executive Secretary (Mr Summerscale). The Prime Minister and her party then leave the rostrum for the Sanctuary Foyer where a photo-call can take place with all Heads of Delegation. The Prime Minister is then scheduled to leave at 11.25 am. Her departure is followed by the customary vin d'honneur at which Mr Waldegrave is host.

UK DELEGATION

Lord Rees-Mogg leads the United Kingdom delegation. His appointment is being presented as indicative of the Government's concern that, as envisaged in the mandate for the Forum, a major role should be given to leading personalities in the field of information and communication. Ours is, in fact, the only delegation to be led by an independent personality. Government officials will lead in negotiations towards a concluding document, and in general keep a tight control of tactics, but the major input in the Working Bodies will come from a UK delegation composed mainly of journalists and media specialists, information technology and communications practitioners and people who closely follow East/West relations.

BACKGROUND

Britain took the initiative at the start of the Vienna CSCE meeting in 1986 in proposing London as the venue for the first specialised CSCE meeting on information. Ministers considered that it was right for Britain to take its turn in playing host to the Helsinki process; and information was regarded as an important subject in its own right. Since 1986, major changes have been taking place at an accelerating pace in the Soviet Union and in certain other countries of Eastern Europe. We are making the point that these changes have confirmed the need for - and the timeliness of - a meeting devoted to this subject.

Western ideas for the meeting were worked out in consultation with our partners and allies in the Twelve and NATO. The actual mandate and agenda were the subject of protracted negotiation at Vienna with the UK for the West and the Soviet Union playing the leading roles in the negotiation.

The Information Theme in the Helsinki Process

The role of information in promoting confidence, understanding and better relations among the CSCE participants, as well as the effective exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms, was recognised at the outset in the Helsinki process. Participants declared it their aim to improve the circulation of, access to and exchange of information, to encourage co-operation in the field of information and to work for improvements in the working conditions of journalists. These provisions were elaborated and firmed-up in the Concluding Document to the Madrid CSCE Conference. And at the Vienna Conference, the Information theme was given further emphasis both in the enunciation of more detailed undertakings on behalf of signatories and in



the decision to convene this special Information Forum in London to discuss further improvements.

CONFERENCE PROCEDURES

The first and last weeks are devoted to public Plenary Sessions. The intervening fortnight is for three working groups on printed information, broadcast information, and the implication of new communication techniques on information access.

CSCE Unit
Foreign & Commonwealth Office

12 April 1989



United Kingdom Delegation to the CSCE London Information Forum
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

Lord Rees-Mogg
Chairman
Broadcasting Standards Council
(Delegation Leader)

Sir Anthony Williams
formerly Ambassador to the Madrid CSCE Review Conference,
UK Delegation Leader, UN Human Rights Commission
(Deputy Leader)

Bruce Anderson
Sunday Telegraph

Neal Ascherson
The Observer

Jonathan Eyal
Royal United Services Institute

John Grant
EETPU

John Harper
Consultant in telecommunications/IT

Geoffrey Hosking
Professor of Russian History
School of Slavonic and East European Studies
University of London

Paul Johnson,
Author

Austen Kark
formerly Managing Director
BBC External Broadcasting

Mrs Helen Liddell
Maxwell Publications
Scotland

Edwina Moreton
The Economist

Dr Janet Morgan
Director, Cable and Wireless

David Nicholas
Chairman, ITN

PR4AAE



David Puttnam
Enigma Productions

Malcolm Rutherford
Assistant Editor, Financial Times

Adam Scott
Director, International Affairs, British Telecom

John Vincent
Professor of Modern History, University of Bristol

George Wedell
Professor of Communication Policy,
University of Manchester
and Director, European Institute for the Media

Andreas Whittam-Smith
The Independent

5 April 1989



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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH



Telephone 01-

270 2425

Ent 10.4.89

CC PC
PF
Please establish who needs to go for me

Your reference

Our reference

Date

in addition to PM

LF1AAP

31 March 1989

C P Stevens Esq
Home Office
50 Queen Anne's Gate
LONDON
SW1H 9AT

Can e Bl e obtain passes

Dear Stevens,

AM

CSCE: LONDON INFORMATION FORUM (18 APRIL-12 MAY):
OFFICIAL ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

*? Mike Bates wrb
PC wrb. + lan Beavin ent*

1. Government Departments who intend to nominate a representative to the United Kingdom Delegation to the London Information Forum, or whose Ministers may attend the Forum on 18 April, are invited to apply now for the appropriate security pass.

2. Access to the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre will be carefully controlled. Admittance will be by sealed pass, and those entering will also be subjected to electronic screening. Brief cases etc will also be screened. The only exceptions to this rule will be Ministers and their bodyguards. (We already know which Ministers propose attending.) Private Secretaries and other officials accompanying the Prime Minister or Ministers (on, for instance, the opening day) will need passes.

3. We have appointed Denis Smedley as FCO Security Officer for the Forum; he is located in Room 112, Downing Street West (Tel: 270 3164). If relevant, therefore, I would be grateful if you could arrange for him to receive, by 10 April at the latest, applications for passes on the attached form. Each application should be accompanied by two passport-sized photographs (one with the name of the applicant printed on the back). The relevant categories of pass are:

- (a) members of Ministers' personal staff;
- (b) members of British delegation.

4. Please note that for pass purposes there is no such category as "Observer", and any British official seeking entry will necessarily fall within categories (a) and (b) above, or need to seek a Visitor's (daily) pass. The latter, for which no photograph will be required, will restrict entry to a visit to a delegation office or member of the Executive Secretariat, or to an area set aside to allow the public to view the plenaries on CCTV. It would not grant access to the meeting room, and will therefore

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be of little use if officials are needed to monitor the debate, or to offer advice and briefing to other members of the delegation. It would therefore be prudent on the part of the Home Office, at least, to place contingency bids for delegation passes now.

Your sincerely

P J Roberts

P J Roberts
CSCE Unit

cc: C D Powell Esq, 10 Downing Street
M Davies, Radio Division, DTI
T Abraham, TPI Division, DTI
Mrs Lawrence, Int Relations Dept, DES
Mrs Darrell, OMGS, Cabinet Office
L P Wright, TI Division, Home Office
Miss C Newton, British Council
R Eickert, OAL

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