

FILE KATAUK



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From the Private Secretary

SIR ROBIN BUTLER

Thank you for your note about Mr. Soros whom I know quite well. Indeed, I am having dinner with him tonight. Besides his other qualities, he is extremely persistent. On his present visit to London he has seen the Economic Secretary at the Treasury and Sir Patrick Wright at the Foreign Office. I am in more or less constant communication with him and have in the past shown the Prime Minister, as well as Departments, some of his papers. Their quality is uneven. Not all his ideas are by any means practical. He has been pressing me very hard for an appointment with the Prime Minister. But she has access to a very wide range of sources on developments in eastern Europe at present, and I do not think that Mr. Soros would add enough to make it a worthwhile investment of her time.

C. D. POWELL
27 April 1989

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MR POWELL

Lord Lever telephoned me today about Mr George Soros, an American of Hungarian origin who is in London for two weeks. Lord Lever said that Mr Soros is a very intelligent and interesting man, who has made a great deal of money in America but retains a passionate interest in Eastern Europe and in promoting democracy there. He has used his money to found Trusts for this purpose in both Moscow and Hungary and is very well informed about what is going on in both places.

2. Lord Lever recommended Mr Soros as a man with whom the Prime Minister would find it interesting to talk about Eastern Europe. Would you let me know whether the Prime Minister would be interested in meeting Mr Soros during the next fortnight?

R.R.B.

ROBIN BUTLER

27 April 1989