

cc/p.



SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY
THAMES HOUSE SOUTH
MILLBANK LONDON SW1P 4QJ
01 238 2149

Charles Powell Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1A 2AA

18th May 1989

Dear Charles,

My Secretary of State has seen your letter of ^{17th} 4 May to Richard Gozney about the visit of Mr Lukonin to the UK in July.

Mr Lukonin is one of a number of Ministers responsible for various parts of the energy sector. Although ranked in the Soviet system as a Minister, he is essentially a technician and manager reporting to Scherbina, one of the Deputy Prime Ministers. He is not a political figure of weight. He is, however, responsible for a substantial civil nuclear programme and is a pleasant and affable man.

Mr Parkinson met Lukonin in Moscow recently and will be seeing him again during his visit to the UK. The Secretary of State feels that if the Prime Minister sees him this might open the door to the number of Soviet Ministers of similar standing from the energy industries alone. If the Prime Minister decides not to see Lukonin, Mr Parkinson will of course, ensure that he is well received.

I should be most grateful if you would let me know what decision the Prime Minister reaches. A copy of this letter goes to Richard Gozney.

*Yours ever,
Stephen.*

S HADDRILL
Principal Private Secretary

SOVIET UNION. Relations 1912



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

file W's
CO3 BHT
cc fro
S/LC

From the Private Secretary

23 May 1989

Thank you for your letter of 18 May about the visit of Mr. Lukonin, on which Richard Gozney has also written. In the light of this advice, the Prime Minister has agreed that it would not be appropriate to see Mr. Lukonin.

CHARLES POWELL

Stephen Haddrill, Esq.,
Department of Energy.

2



SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY
THAMES HOUSE SOUTH
MILLBANK LONDON SW1P 4JQ
01 238 2290

Charles Powell Esq
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

3 pp's

22 May 1989

Dear Charles,

VISIT BY MR LUKONIN

below
I wrote to you last week about Lord Marshall's suggestion that the Prime Minister should meet the Soviet Minister for Nuclear Power.

Lord Marshall has just returned from the Soviet Union and has asked me to forward the enclosed letter to the Prime Minister. You will see that he remains of the view that the meeting with Lukonin should take place. He is particularly concerned that the Soviets might lose sight of the WANO initiative if a proposed reorganisation of the energy sector takes place. He feels that the support of the Prime Minister for WANO at a meeting with Lukonin would help to ensure the Soviets remained committed.

There was some suggestion during my Secretary of State's recent visit to Moscow that the energy sector would be re-organised. However, the Soviets are very conscious of the need to restore public confidence in nuclear power. If President Gorbachev makes changes we would expect his objective to be to enhance the effectiveness with which the problem is being tackled and to encourage further initiatives such as WANO. We would not, therefore, change our earlier advice to the Prime Minister but you should certainly take full account of Lord Marshall's letter.

Lord Marshall suggests that the Prime Minister might wish to write to President Gorbachev and encloses a draft. We would not object to this but I would recommend that the Prime Minister also includes a brief reference to the useful contacts that have been developed between the NII and their opposite numbers, the State Committee for the Supervision of Atomic Energy Plants.

*You see,
Stephen*

STEPHEN HADDRILL
Private Secretary

PRIME MINISTER

SOVIET MINISTER FOR NUCLEAR POWER

Lord Marshall suggested that you ought to see Mr. Lukonin, Soviet Minister for Nuclear Power, when he visits the United Kingdom in July.

Both the Foreign Secretary and the Secretary of State for Energy disagree with this advice. They say Lukonin is only a senior official, not the man in charge: he carries no political weight: Mr. Parkinson will be seeing him anyway: and if we let in Soviet Ministers at this level, we shall be opening a floodgate.

Agree not to see Mr. Lukonin?

ESP

C.D . POWELL
22 MAY 1989

MG.

RESTRICTED

ca/c



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

22 May 1989

Dear Charles,

Soviet Minister of Nuclear Power

Thank you for your letter of ¹⁷4 May about a possible call on the Prime Minister by Lukonin. I have seen Stephen Haddrill's letter to you of 18 May giving the Energy Secretary's view.

There is certainly no objection to the Prime Minister receiving Lukonin if she feels committed to Lord Marshall. But the Foreign Secretary does not consider that Lukonin has any real claim on her time. Far from being a major political figure, he is the equivalent, in broad terms, of a senior official in the Department of Energy and would not normally merit a call on the Prime Minister. Receiving Lukonin might also create something of a precedent.

Yours ever,

Richard Gozney

(R H T Gozney)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/No 10 Downing Street

RESTRICTED

SOVIET UNION - Leningrad PRC

224
M09



RESTRICTED



T6
M. G. M.

cc PC

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

4 May 1989

From the Private Secretary

See Liked.

SOVIET MINISTER OF NUCLEAR POWER

The Prime Minister has given Lord Marshall of Goring a commitment that she would see the Soviet Minister of Nuclear Power when he visits the United Kingdom in early July.

I understand that Mr. Lukonin will be here from 8-16 July. The Prime Minister could see him at 15.30 on 10 July. But before confirming this, I should be grateful to know that you and the Department of Energy are content.

I am copying this letter to Stephen Haddrill, (Department of Energy).

you directly
C. D. Powell

C. D. POWELL

Richard Gozney, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

RESTRICTED

Q

Charles

1530 on
Monday 10
July AP 4/5

~~Amended~~
Oh dear! Can you
repose a line
please
WR

CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD

Sudbury House, 15 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AU. Telephone 01-634 5111

From the Chairman
The Lord Marshall of Goring Kt, CBE, FRS

28 April 1989

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP,
Prime Minister,
Cabinet Office,
10 Downing Street,
London,
SW1

STRICTLY PERSONAL

R315

Dear Prime Minister,

In our conversation at lunch on Wednesday you generously volunteered to meet the Minister of nuclear power from the USSR, Minister Lukonin.

He will be with us from Saturday, 8 July to Sunday, 16 July. He will be visiting my home in Oxfordshire both weekends and will spend the week travelling the country looking at nuclear facilities, and spending some time here in London. If you could meet him for a few minutes either here in London, or at Chequers, he would go home a very proud and happy man. But I shall say nothing whatever to him in advance for fear your diary is too crowded or the appointment is cancelled at the last minute.

For your background information, Minister Lukonin was appointed to his present post by President Gorbachev after the Chernobyl accident. He reports to the Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Minister Shcherbina, who is the senior man at the Kremlin in charge of energy in general.

I believe Lukonin and Shcherbina to be pro-Gorbachev men. I am certain that the people immediately under Lukonin are extremely pro-Gorbachev.

I am copying this letter to no-one.

Yours sincerely,

Walter Marshall

Marshall of Goring