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From
J D F Barnes CBE

ICI Group Headquarters

9 Millbank
London SW1P 3JF
Telephone 01-834 4444
Telex 21324 ICIHQ G
Fax 01-834 2042

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP,
10 Downing Street,
London SW1.

6th October 1989

Dear Prime Minister,

ICI Farm Consultancy Projects : USSR

During your visit to ICI on Wednesday, 27th September, you showed particular interest in having further details of the ICI Farm Consultancy Projects in the USSR. If I remember correctly, you specifically asked whether there was any such project within reasonable distance of Kiev: there is such a project.

Between 1984 and 1987, ICI has acted as a consultant demonstrating to the Russians modern agricultural techniques for increasing crop yields. In total, these consultancy projects covered 2,000 hectares of winter wheat in six farms (State, Collective and Experimental) in three distinct climatic zones (Krasnodar, Lipetsk and Kiev). Overall, we have been able to demonstrate to the Russians that yields can be increased by between 50 - 100%. The best results have been achieved in the Kiev district.

During the period 1988 and 1990, we shall be operating a similar project on a total of 2,000 hectares of fodder peas on eight farms in six different climatic zones (Krasnodar, Voronezh, Tula, Kiev and Ternopol Districts plus the Tatarian ASSR).

In view of the specific interest which you have shown in the possibility of visiting such a project, provided that it was relatively close to Kiev, I am attaching to this letter details of one of the most productive projects which is relatively close to Kiev and which has the advantage of being easily reached by road.

I hope that these were the details that you were seeking. If there is any further information that you require, I would be pleased to provide it.

*Yours sincerely,
David Barnes.*

Proposed Farm Visit

Name of farm: Kolkhoz "40 LET OKTIABRIA"
("40 Years of October" Collective Farm),

Location: Vasilkovskii Raion (Area), Kiev Oblast (District)
(Approximately 80 km south of Kiev).
Chairman: Mr N P Sobchuk

Type of farm: "40 Years of October" is a collective farm of approximately 5000 ha, in a mixed farming area. The farm comprises a number of brigades specialising in crop production for grain and forage (wheat, barley, rye, maize, peas, sugar beet, buckwheat, grass and lucerne) and animal production (milk, beef cattle and pigs).

ICI's Involvement: 1984-87 - wheat project
1988-90 - fodder peas project

Wheat - Farm average yield rose from 4.4 to 5.8 te/ha during the project (the average for the District was around 3 te/ha).

Best yield achieved in the project : 7.2 te/ha.
It is reported that above 9 te/ha has since been achieved.

Peas - Pre-project yield 3.3 te/ha.
1988 average yield on project plots 4 te/ha
(5 te/ha on the best plot).
1989 average yield on project plots 5.4 te/ha
(5.7 te/ha on the best plot)

General: This farm is one of the best in the Soviet Union, managed by a very progressive chairman who is constantly striving to increase production, and to diversify his activities within the constraints of Soviet agriculture. This is reflected in the rapid adoption of crop intensification technologies across the whole farm within 1-2 years of a project's initiation. Yields are now consistently well above average both for the region and for the Soviet Union as a whole.

As such the farm is perhaps unrepresentative of average conditions in Soviet agriculture, but it is a model which other State and Collective Farms should be encouraged to emulate. It also has the advantage of easy accessibility compared to any of the other farms on which ICI has worked.



FILE

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BARNES. MEM

cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

6 May 1990

Dear Mr. Barnes,

Thank you for your letter of 4 May about the possibility of the Prime Minister visiting the ICI Farm Consultancy Project near Kiev in June. We are still hoping very much to be able to fit this in. The Prime Minister's programme is under discussion at present with the Soviet authorities and I hope to let you have a firm reply as soon as possible.

*Yours sincerely,
Charles Powell*

CHARLES POWELL

J. D. F. Barnes, Esq., C.B.E.

MEM



RSIS

From

J D F Barnes CBE

ICI Group Headquarters

9 Millbank
London SW1P 3JF

Telephone 01-834 4444

Telex 21324 ICIHQ G

Fax 01-834 2042

C.D. Powell, Esq.,
Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
London SW1A 2AA.

4th May 1990

Dear Mr. Powell,

Further to our correspondence towards the end of last year,
I wonder if it is yet clear whether the Prime Minister will
have the opportunity to see the ICI Farm Consultancy Project
near Kiev when she visits the Soviet Union in June? If
so, is there any briefing that you would wish to have to
prepare for the Prime Minister?

Yours sincerely,

David Barnes

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PM TOURS: VISIT TO USSR JUNE 1990
OCT 89.



PA excorrupt file



R 15/11

cc. FCO
EOR

15-11-89

From

JDF Barnes CBE

ICI Group Headquarters

9 Millbank
London SW1P 3JF
Telephone 01-834 4444
Telex 21324 ICIHQ G
Fax 01-834 2042

C.D. Powell, Esq.,
Private Secretary,
10 Downing Street,
London SW1A 2AA.

14th November 1989

Dear Mr Powell,

I was very pleased to receive your letter of 9th November and to learn that the Prime Minister has expressed an interest in seeing the ICI Farm Consultancy Project near Kiev when she visits the exhibition, 'Britain in Kiev', next June.

Both I and my colleagues in the International Agrochemicals Business will be very pleased to work with you and your staff in formulating plans as they develop.

yours sincerely,
David Barnes



C: Foreign/Barnes. STM

cc FCO

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

9 November 1989

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 6 October about ICI's Farm Consultancy Projects in the Soviet Union, with information about one in the Kiev area. The Prime Minister would like to be able to see the project near Kiev when she visits the exhibition, 'Britain in Kiev', next June. It is too early to know whether her programme will permit this, but we shall have the idea high on our list of priorities as we begin to formulate our plans and shall hope it will be possible to include it.

CHARLES POWELL

J. D. F. Barnes Esq., C.B.E.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JDF'.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 November 1989

CF PPS

~~Pse scan~~

Dear Charles,

Thank you for your letter of 6 October enclosing one from Mr Barnes of ICI about Farm Consultancy Projects in the Soviet Union.

Our Embassy in Moscow believe it would be an imaginative idea to include a visit to the Project near Kiev in the Prime Minister's programme, provided her schedule will allow it.

/ I enclose a draft reply reflecting this advice.

Yours ever

Richard Gozney

(R H T Gozney)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street

SCANNED

Draft Reply from the PS

C: R. D. Barnes, Esq.

The PM has asked me to

Thank you for your letter of 6 October to the Prime Minister about ICI's Farm Consultancy Projects in the Soviet Union, with information about one in the Kiev area. I have been asked to reply.

The Prime Minister would like to be able to see the project near Kiev when she visits the exhibition, 'Britain in Kiev', next June. It is too early to know whether her ^{programme} schedule will permit a visit to the project. We hope that something can be arranged nearer the time.

Handwritten notes:
~~fact is~~ ^{this} but we shall
 on our list ^{have the idea high}
 begin to ^{formulate} our plans,
 & shall hope ^{it will be possible}
 to include it.

J D F Barnes Esq CBE
 ICI Group Headquarters
 9 Millbank
 London
 SW1P 3JF

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Am TALKS: VISIT to USSR

June 90

Oct 89



FILE
DA

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

6 October 1989

I enclose a copy of a letter to the Prime Minister from Mr. Barnes of ICI about ICI Farm Consultancy Projects in the Soviet Union. The Prime Minister has expressed interest in visiting one of the projects when she goes to Kiev next June. You will want to consider with HM Ambassador Moscow whether this is feasible.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to Andy Lebrecht (MAFF).

(CHARLES POWELL)

Richard Gozney, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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