

DWF F 003/22

LKN 609/22

NRK 334/22

DD FCO (220900Z)

GRS 85

CONFIDENTIAL

DESKBY 220900Z

FM KUALA LUMPUR 220745Z MAR 85

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 166 OF 22 MARCH

IMMEDIATE  
ADVANCE COPY

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Dr Wilson

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MIPT: PROPOSED VISIT OF DR MAHATHIR

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REPLY FROM DR MAHATHIR'S PRIVATE SECRETARY DATED 21 MARCH:

QUOTE

MAY I REFER TO YOUR LETTER OF 11TH MARCH, 1985 REGARDING THE INVITATION FOR LUNCH BY THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER, MRS. MARGARET THATCHER TO Y.A.B. DATO SERI DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD AT CHEQUERS ON APRIL 20TH. THANKS TO MRS. THATCHER FOR THE INVITATION BUT HE REGRETS FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT HE HAS A VERY SHORT STAY IN LONDON.

UNQUOTE

GILLMORE

NNNN



NT

HERE A COUPLE OF DESK BYS

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P 56  
ps/whu  
Sivw...  
Dr Wilson

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ADVANCE COPY  
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DWF F 002/21

LKN 608/22  
NRK 333/22

DD FCO (220900Z)

GRS 120  
CONFIDENTIAL  
DESKBY 220900Z  
FM KUALA LUMPUR 220735Z MAR 85  
TO IMMEDIATE DESKBY FCO  
TELEGRAM NUMBER 165 OF 22 MARCH

YOUR TELNO 145: PROPOSED VISIT OF DR MAHATHIR  
1. I WAS INFORMED TODAY BY DR MAHATHIR'S PRIVATE SECRETARY THAT DR MAHATHIR MUCH REGRETS THAT HE WILL NOT (NOT) BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO LUNCH AT CHEQUERS ON 20 APRIL (TEXT OF REPLY IN MIFT).  
2. I AM NOT SURE WHETHER TO READ ANYTHING SIGNIFICANT INTO DR MAHATHIR'S REFUSAL, AND IF SO WHAT. ON THE FACE OF IT, THE EXCUSE IS LAME; MAHATHIR WILL BE IN THE UK FROM 18 TO 22 APRIL, A LONGER PERIOD THAN THE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO MALAYSIA. PERHAPS IT IS SIMPLY A QUESTION OF HIS NOT WISHING TO COMMIT HIMSELF TO AN EARLY FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH THE PM PENDING THE OUTCOME OF HER VISIT HERE. I AM STILL AWAITING A REPLY TO MY REQUEST FOR A CALL ON HIM AND MAY HAVE A CLEARER IMPRESSION IF AND WHEN I SEE HIM.

GILLMORE



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

1 March 1985

Malaysia: Proposed Visits by Dr. Mahathir to the UK

Thank you for your letter of 27 February about Dr. Mahathir's proposed visits to the UK.

*15/11*  
The Prime Minister agrees to give lunch for Dr. Mahathir on 20 April at Chequers. I should be grateful if the invitation could be conveyed to him and a guest list (maximum 22) submitted. *cancelled*

As regards Dr. Mahathir's suggestion that he might visit the UK in the second half of September, it is possible that the Prime Minister herself will be out of the country for at least part of that period. Our High Commissioner should therefore be cautious in discussion of the possibility with the Malaysians: indeed it could be that the Prime Minister will still not be in a position to offer dates when she visits Kuala Lumpur in April. This is something we shall have to look at nearer the time.

(C.D. Powell)

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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CST



PRIME MINISTER

DR MAHATHIR

The attached letter records:

(a) that Dr Mahathir will be on a private visit to the UK on 18-21 April and in London on Saturday 20 April. The Foreign Secretary recommends that you give him lunch that day. You will be at Chequers on 20 April and will have Elizabeth Dixon. You will in any case have seen Dr Mahathir in Kuala Lumpur less than a fortnight earlier. Agree to suggest that the Foreign Secretary himself - who won't have seen him - should give Dr Mahathir lunch on 20 April?

*I will entertain him to lunch*  
*mt*

(b) that Dr Mahathir has expressed an interest in paying an official visit to the UK in the second half of September. You may be away yourself during part of this period. Agree to invite Dr Mahathir subject to mutually convenient dates being found, with the possible difficulties explained?

*Yes mt*

*C.D.P.*  
*1 hour pm.*  
*will do.*  
*ca*

*C.D.P.*

C D POWELL

27 February 1985