

PRIME MINISTER

PRESIDENT MUBARAK'S VISIT - MEDIA

We have received through the Egyptian Ambassador a request that you should give Egyptian television an in-depth interview after the President's visit. We understand that the interviewer has recorded interviews with President Mitterand and Chancellor Schmidt.

Quite apart from your existing commitments next week which would make an interview difficult to schedule, there are dangers that an in-depth interview for the Egyptians would expose you to considerable Jewish criticism in this country as well as Israel.

I have discussed this with John Coles and we are agreed that the request should be turned down. However, the Ambassador will be very disappointed and it would help, in turning down the request, if we left open the possibility that you might be prepared to consider an extremely short (1 - 1½ minute) news interview in the grounds of Chequers immediately after the President's departure.

Content?

JK

IAN KYDD

4 February 1982

Yes no

Mr Coles r-a M 5/2

You wanted to have the attached letter back.
I have told FCO News Dept & NEWS the
outcome and I am in touch with the
Egyptian Embassy. I have not spoken
to Sir Ian Hand

I. Kydd
5/2

MR INGHAM

cc: Mr Whitmore ✓
Mr Kydd

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President Mubarak's Visit
Press Facilities at Chequers

I was asked to speak to the Chequers Trustees about the possibility of an interview at Chequers tomorrow, after the Prime Minister's meeting with President Mubarak, for an Egyptian journalist and TV camera, either outside the house or, if wet, in the Hawtrey Room.

Lord Campbell is greatly dismayed by this proposal. He says that he has been a Trustee of Chequers for many years, and the Trustees have consistently striven to protect the privacy of the Prime Minister from the Press at Chequers. If foreign journalists are to have a facility of this kind, Lord Campbell does not see how anything can be done to stop this being invariably demanded and granted.

He offers this view through no wish to restrict the freedom of action of the Prime Minister, but from his long-standing concern for privacy at Chequers.

I have not yet been able to contact Sir Ralph Verney, who I would expect to take a somewhat more relaxed view.

Lord Campbell will certainly want to bring the general question up at the next meeting of the Trustees.

CV?

5 February 1982



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 February 1982

A J Coles Esq
Private Secretary
No 10 Downing Street

Dear John,

EGYPTIAN TELEVISION : REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW WITH THE PRIME MINISTER

1. The Egyptian Ambassador has asked if the Prime Minister would give an interview to Egyptian television, who are preparing a round-up of President Mubarak's visit to the United States and Europe. I understand that President Mitterand and Prime Minister Spadolini have already given interviews in this connection.

2. It would put us in a bad light if the Prime Minister were the only one of President Mubarak's hosts to refuse. I therefore recommend that the Prime Minister should agree to give a short interview to Egyptian television as soon as possible after President Mubarak's visit, confining herself to a few brief remarks about its successful outcome.

Yours ever,

S M J Lamport
Private Secretary to
Mr Hurd

FEB 1982





Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

29 January 1982

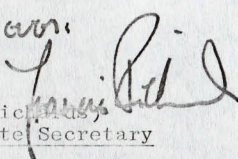
Dear John,

President Mubarak's Visit:

Interview with the Prime Minister

Mr Hosny Emam, London Bureau Chief of the Middle East News Agency (the official Egyptian agency) asked for an exclusive interview with the Secretary of State on the occasion of Mr Mubarak's visit.

As Lord Carrington will be away at the time, I understand that the Prime Minister has agreed to give a written interview to MENA. I enclose the list of questions provided by the agency. We shall submit draft answers by close of play on Tuesday 2 February.

Yours ever,

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

QUESTIONS FOR AN INTERVIEW TO BE GIVEN BY BRITISH SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS LORD CARRINGTON TO THE MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY CHIEF CORRESPONDENT IN LONDON HOSNY EMAM ON THE OCCASION OF THE VISIT TO BRITAIN NEXT MONTH BY EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT HOSNY MUBARAK.

Q: ON THE EVE OF THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO THE UK NEXT MONTH I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU IN THIS CONNECTION HOW YOU LOOK AT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AT THE MOMENT.

A: YOU MAY RECALL THAT DURING YOUR PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY YOU MENTIONED THAT THE EEC WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO SUPPORT AND HELP EGYPT FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT SADAT. WHAT STEPS YOU ARE CONTEMPLATING IN THIS DIRECTION.

Q: THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY HAS BEEN TRYING DURING THE LAST SIX MONTHS TO HELP THE 'PEACE PROCESS' IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WOULD YOU SAY THAT ANY NOTABLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED UNDER YOUR PRESIDENCY?

A: WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT POSSIBLE EEC FUTURE INITIATIVES IN THIS REGARD IN THE LIGHT OF THE STATEMENTS BY SEVERAL EUROPEAN LEADERS THAT WE HAVE ALREADY BYPASSED THE VENICE DECLARATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST.

Q: HOW DO YOU ASSESS THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST FOLLOWING THE LAST PHASE OF THE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI AND WHAT POSSIBLE MOVES COULD BE TAKEN TO HELP SETTLE THE PALESTINIAN AND THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTIONS?

A: DO YOU SEE ANY DIFFERENCES IN THE PERCEPTION OF

THE MIDDLE EAST ISSUE BY THE TEN?

Q: WHEN YOU ANNOUNCED BRITAIN'S INTENTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MFO YOU UNDERLINED YOUR INTENTION TO HELP THE RETURN OF SINAI TO EGYPT. HOW DO YOU QUALIFY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE MFO?

A: ISRAEL HAS ANNOUNCED ITS DECISION TO ANNEX THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. DO YOU THINK THAT THIS IS A SETBACK TO THE PEACE EFFORTS THAT HAVE BEEN IN PROGRESS SO FAR? WHAT IS YOUR OPINION TAKING INTO ACCOUNT SOME OF THE RECENT STATEMENTS BY ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BEGIN IN THIS REGARD?

A: HOW DO YOU VIEW THE PROSPECTS OF A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION TO THE PALESTINIAN AUTONOMY TALKS?

A: WHAT DO YOU ADVISE THE PALESTINIANS TO DO NOW AND DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS TO MEET PLO LEADER YASSER ARAFAT?

A: BRITAIN HOLDS THE VIEW THAT THE SAUDI PEACE PLAN COULD REPRESENT A SOLID BASIS FOR ACHIEVING A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. DO YOU THINK THAT THE TIME HAS COME FOR GIVING SHAPE TO THIS PLAN THROUGH A RESOLUTION AT THE UN?

MEKA LONDON BUREAU CHIEF CORRESPONDENT

Hosny EMM
HOSNY EMM