

COP  
①



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

29 August 1986

I think we are in a different position by virtue of the President's A. Little etc. could expect to see the President on his own - dual capacity not

Prime Minister if the Summit does materialise late this year or early next, it is crucial that you should see the President in advance.

Dear Charles,

Visit to the USA by the Prime Minister

Your letter of 3 July records that the Prime Minister is considering a visit to Washington immediately before the next US/Soviet Summit, if one takes place.

The Foreign Secretary will be meeting Mr Shultz on 9 September (and Vice-President Bush on 10 September). They will undoubtedly discuss the Summit. Sir Geoffrey mentioned to Mr Shultz when they met on 17 July the possibility of a visit by the Prime Minister. Shultz took note, and may now ask if the Prime Minister is still interested. Shultz said, incidentally, that the President did not envisage a repeat of the arrangements made to brief allies around the President's visit to Brussels in 1985 after the Geneva Summit. The US had not decided what form consultation might take.

Since then we have been told by the State Department that the President is likely to invite "Allied leaders" to meet him in New York in late September. The purpose of the meeting would be to report to the allies on the talks with Shevardnadze and also (perhaps) look ahead to the Summit. We are told that the "Allied leaders" will in practice probably mean Foreign Ministers. The Foreign Secretary will on present plans be in New York from 21-28 September, in connection with the United Nations General Assembly.

[This will be a media event]

Agree?  
COP  
29/8

/Depending

CONFIDENTIAL



Depending on the form it eventually takes, and if it materialises, that September meeting may weaken the case for a later visit by the Prime Minister. But at this stage it is by no means clear that it will. If you agree, the Foreign Secretary intends to tell Shultz that the Prime Minister remains interested in principle in a visit some time before the Summit.

*Yours ever,  
Colin Budd*

(C R Budd)  
Private Secretary

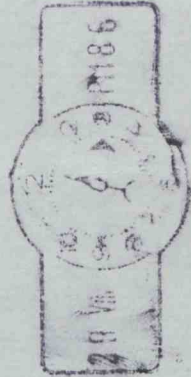
C D Powell Esq  
No 10 Downing St

CONFIDENTIAL

PM TOURS

USA

2/86



CONFIDENTIAL

file SM2A1N



bc PC

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

1 September 1986

VISIT TO THE USA BY THE PRIME MINISTER

Thank you for your letter of 29 August about a possible visit by the Prime Minister to Washington this autumn.

The Prime Minister agrees we should tell the Americans that she would in principle wish to visit Washington to see the President at some time before the Summit. The fact that we hold the Presidency of the European Community gives added weight to this. She would not regard the proposed meeting at the end of September as being an adequate opportunity on its own to put British and European views.

(C.D. POWELL)

C.R. Budd, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

CONFIDENTIAL

JB