

PRIME MINISTER

MEETING WITH THE GOVERNING MAYOR OF BERLIN

You are to pay a courtesy call on the Governing Mayor of Berlin immediately after your arrival. Herr Diepgen has called on you twice in London. You will be accompanied by Mr. Burton, Minister in the British Military Government.

You could begin by congratulating him on the successful celebrations of the 750th Anniversary of Berlin. There have been a large number of high-level visitors, including from Britain, with the Prince and Princess of Wales still to come. The effect should have been to give the Berliners considerable reassurance.

You could say how much you welcome the holding of the IDU Conference in Berlin. You might ask if there are any particular Berlin points which the Governing Mayor would like you to make at the Party Leaders' press conference and in your TV interviews.

You might enquire about the Berlin economy and its prospects. He gave you an upbeat account last time.

The main subject might be Honecker's visit to the Federal Republic. You might ask Herr Diepgen what expectations he has from the visit, both for Berliners and more widely, whether he foresees an end to the shoot to kill policy, and if we can expect any relaxation on the travel restrictions imposed on West Berliners wishing to visit the East. You might also ask his view on how extensive disaffection among the young in East Germany is: and what is the effect on East Germany of Gorbachev's reforms.

You will want to reassure the Governing Mayor of your full support for the Allied initiative on Berlin proposed by

President Reagan (text in folder). An approach to the Russians is being worked up.

In earlier meetings, you have discussed the problems of draft dodgers and asylum seekers. There is nothing very new to say on either, but you may like to show your continuing concern.

The note of your last meeting is in the folder. You will recall that you found Herr Diepgen rather over-addicted to the jargon of detente.

(C.D. POWELL)

21 September 1987

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1. Congratulate on success of 750th Anniversary celebrations.
2. Welcome holding of IDU Conference in Berlin.
3. Any Berlin points which he would like you to make at press conference or in TV interviews.
4. Prospects for Berlin economy.
5. Assessment of Honecker's visit and impact on Berliners.
6. Support for Allied initiative on Berlin.
7. Draft-dodgers and asylum-seekers.