



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

The telegram is
Oliver Wright arguing
for a February visit.

I know your mind
is moving the other
day.

Agree to postpone a
decision until you
can discuss with him on
11 December? Yes
CDP no

FM WASHINGTON 240336Z NOV 84

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 3904 OF 23 NOVEMBER

INFO SAYING LOS ANGELES, HOUSTON

YOUR TELNO 2010: PRIME MINISTER'S VISITS TO THE USA

1. ACTION TAKEN. THE NSC SEE NO DIFFICULTY ABOUT THE PLAN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS IN LONDON AND WASHINGTON ON 29 NOVEMBER, AND WILL TELEGRAPH THEIR PROPOSED TEXT TO LONDON FOR DISCUSSION WITH HOID ON 26 NOVEMBER. THEY NOW WANT PROCEEDINGS AT CAMP DAVID TO START AT 1030 REPEAT 1030.
2. NOW THAT THE DECEMBER PLANS ARE FIRM, AND WHILE THE PRIME MINISTER IS STILL REFLECTING ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A MORE SUBSTANTIVE VISIT IN LATE FEBRUARY, IT MAY BE USEFUL IF I SPELL OUT WHAT I SEE AS THE PURPOSES OF THE TWO OCCASIONS.
3. THE AMBIANCE AT CAMP DAVID ON 22 DECEMBER WILL BE INFORMAL, AND PARTICIPATION VERY RESTRICTED. THE MEETING WILL FULFILL A DUAL PURPOSE, IN PRIVATE, TO RENEW THE PERSONAL LINKS AND TAKE STOCK ON THE CENTRAL ISSUES OF CONCERN TO BOTH SIDES, AND IN PUBLIC, TO DEMONSTRATE AND REAFFIRM THE STRENGTH AND DEPTH OF ANGLO-AMERICAN CONSULTATIONS AND FRIENDSHIP. I SEE THIS AS THE RIGHT TIME FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO ENCOURAGE THE PRESIDENT IN PRIVATE TO BE AS FIRM AS IS POLITICALLY FEASIBLE ON DEFICIT-REDUCTION, AND AS FLEXIBLE AS HIS WISE IN THE SUPERPOWER RELATIONSHIP, IN ALL OUR INTERESTS. BY FEBRUARY, HE WILL HAVE GONE PUBLIC WITH HIS INITIAL BUDGETARY PROPOSALS FOR FY1986 AND SHULTZ WILL HAVE HAD HIS GENEVA MEETING WITH GROMYKO.
4. THE PURPOSE OF THE FEBRUARY VISIT GOES VERY MUCH WIDER. FEBRUARY WOULD BE THE RIGHT TIME FOR THE PROPOSED "SEMINAR" ON EAST/WEST RELATIONS AND ARMS CONTROL (SHULTZ TOO WILL NOT BE PRESENT AT CAMP DAVID NEXT MONTH). IT WOULD ALSO BE THE RIGHT TIME TO TRY TO INFLUENCE PUBLIC DEBATE HERE, BOTH ON ARMS CONTROL AND ON THE DEFICIT, EG BY A SPEECH TO A JOINT SESSION OF BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS. IF WE ARE ABLE TO ELICIT AN INVITATION, WHICH MAY BE DIFFICULT, REALISTICALLY, IT IS ON THE HILL THAT THE FATE OF THE DEFICIT-REDUCTION QUESTION WILL BE SETTLED. HOPEFULLY, THE SENATE WILL HAVE A DIFFERENT PATTERN OF LEADERSHIP, OF THE SENATE ITSELF, AND OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS AND ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEES. IT WILL BE GOOD FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO MEET THE NEW LEADERSHIP AND TAKE ITS MEASURE. IT IS THE SENATE WHICH HAS THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT AND DUTY TO ADVISE ON AND CONSENT TO ANY ARMS CONTROL TREATY. THIRDLY, WORKING MEETINGS WITH THE VICE-PRESIDENT, AND WITH SHULTZ AND/OR REGAN AND VOLCKER COULD BE VALUABLE, AND THE TRADITIONAL WHITE HOUSE CEREMONIES AND LUNCH, WHICH HAVE CONSIDERABLE IMPACT ON US PUBLIC OPINION, MIGHT ON THIS OCCASION BE COUPLED WITH SOME PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF US/UK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WHICH FALLS IN 1985.

5. AS YOU KNOW, I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE VALUE TO THE NATIONAL INTEREST AND OF ABSORBING INTEREST TO THE PRIME MINISTER IF SHE COULD IN FEBRUARY SEE A LITTLE OF THE AMERICA OF TOMORROW - IE TEXAS AND CALIFORNIA. THIS COULD BE DONE IF NECESSARY WITHOUT USING THE FULL SIX DAYS PROVISIONALLY ALLOTTED FOR THE VISIT. IF THE PRIME MINISTER LEFT LONDON PM ON 19 FEBRUARY, SHE COULD COMPLETE HER WASHINGTON PROGRAMME ON 20 FEBRUARY, VISIT AUSTIN AND DALLAS ON 21/22 FEBRUARY, AND BE BACK IN LONDON EARLY ON 23 FEBRUARY. IDEALLY I SHOULD LIKE HER TO VISIT LOS ANGELES ALSO ON 22/23 FEBRUARY, AND RETURN TO LONDON OVERNIGHT ON 23/24 FEBRUARY, BUT I WOULD SETTLE FOR ONLY WASHINGTON AND TEXAS IF TIME IS THE CONSTRAINT.

6. IN AUSTIN I WOULD ENVISAGE LUNCH WITH THE GOVERNOR AND A VISIT TO THE LEGISLATURE, A VISIT TO THE IMPRESSIVE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS WHICH IS NOW IN ASSOCIATION WITH MCC, DIRECTED BY ADMIRAL INMAN A CONSORTIUM OF 19 HIGH TECH CORPORATIONS WORKING AT THE FRONTIERS OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND OTHER SIMILAR COMPUTER AND ELECTRONIC FIELDS. IT IS THE AMERICAN EQUIVALENT OF ALVCY AND WELL WORTH A VISIT. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS WOULD ALSO PROVIDE AN AUDIENCE OF SOME 3000 IN THE MAGNIFICENT NEW PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE FOR A MAYOR SPEECH. IN DALLAS THE PROGRAMME WOULD INCLUDE A DINNER WITH LEADERS OF THE TEXAS BUSINESS COMMUNITY, MANY OF WHOM WOULD COME FROM HOUSTON AND OTHER CENTRES. THE MORNING OF 22 FEBRUARY WOULD INCLUDE A VISIT TO REDIFUSION, A BRITISH COMPANY WHICH IS A WORLD LEADER IN FLIGHT SIMULATION AND TO INFOMART, A TRADE CENTRE FOR HIGH TECHNOLOGY, ARCHITECTURALLY BASED ON THE OLD CRYSTAL PALACE AND WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN OPENED A MONTH PREVIOUSLY. THE VISIT WOULD CONCLUDE WITH LUNCH WITH THE MAYOR AND A CROSS SECTION OF THE DALLAS BUSINESS AND CIVIC COMMUNITY. GIVEN THE EXTRA DAY, I WOULD ENVISAGE DISCUSSIONS IN LOS ANGELES ON UNITARY TAXATION, A VISIT TO HODDONWELL DOUGLAS (TO SEE THE HAWK AIRCRAFT PROGRAMME) AND A SPEECH TO ARMAND HAMMER'S WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL.

7. A VISIT OF THIS KIND WOULD MAKE ALL THE HEADLINES HERE, AND DO THE NATIONAL INTEREST A POWER OF GOOD. SPEECH THEMES MIGHT BE: FIRST, POLITICO-SECURITY, THE TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP, EAST/WEST RELATIONS AND THE ALLIANCE; AND SECONDLY, ECONOMICS, WITH EMPHASIS ON THE BRITISH ECONOMY AND THE THREATS TO WORLD RECOVERY OF DEFICIT-INDUCED PROTECTIONISM AND HIGH INTEREST RATES. IN LOS ANGELES, IT WOULD BE GOOD ALSO TO STRIKE A BLOW AGAINST UNITARY TAXATION.

8. I RECOGNISE THE MANY DEMANDS ON THE PRIME MINISTER'S TIME, BUT I DO NOT THINK THAT THE BRIEF DECEMBER VISIT, OR EVEN A POSSIBLE SEPTEMBER 1985 VISIT, COULD BE AN EFFECTIVE SUBSTITUTE FOR SUCH A FEBRUARY PROGRAMME. THE TIME TO INFLUENCE POLICY IN THE SECOND REAGAN TERM IS EARLY ON. WE KNOW THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD WELCOME IT IF WE COULD DO FIRM FOR THE FEBRUARY SLOT WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION ARE RESERVING FOR US (NOT WITHOUT DIFFICULTY, GIVEN THE QUEUE OF OTHER WORLD LEADERS NOW FORMING AT THEIR DOOR). I HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE SOON TO INSTRUCT ME TO WORK OUT FIRM PLANS FOR FEBRUARY. IN ANY CASE I WOULD HOPE TO DISCUSS BOTH VISITS IF, AS I ASSUME, I SHOULD BE IN LONDON FOR SHULTZ'S VISIT.

ME DAVID THOMAS

WRIGHT
LIMITED
NAB
PEACOCK
PLANNING STAFF

PS LADY Young
PL LIA KEMON
PL PUS
SIA IN MAKING
ME DEEEN THOMAS

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