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CCPC
CC 10/2/88



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

2 February 1987

Dear Charles,

Prime Minister's Visit to the Soviet Union: Gifts

You wrote on ^{at 10/2} 2, 5 and 12 January about gifts for the Gorbachevs.

In addition to the Gorbachevs, the Prime Minister will need to bring substantial gifts for Mr and Mrs Ryzhkov. She will also need gifts in an intermediate category for senior officials and heads of any institutes/industrial enterprises included in the visit. The current Soviet practice for exchanging gifts is for the MFA Protocol Department to deliver the gifts to the Embassy and take back those of the visiting Prime Minister. There is not usually a personal exchange.

Mr Gorbachev

The problem with Mr Gorbachev is that we know virtually nothing about his tastes. Our recommendation is a water colour, drawing or etching by William Walcot. Walcot was a British architect born in Russia, who designed the Hotel Metropol in Moscow. An exhibition of his life and work has recently been held at the Building Centre, Store Street, WC1. I enclose a copy of the catalogue and a list of the unsold pictures. The cost of the unframed water colours/drawings ranges from £50 to £3,800. Possibilities would be No 9 (framed watercolour of Piccadilly Circus at £700) or No 58 (black and white unframed etching of the National Gallery and St Martins in the Fields at £160). The latter is an attractive work and is illustrated on page 31 of the catalogue. Or we could search for a better Walcot in London.

Walcot's Russian origins, we think, would give this present the stamp of originality. He is also a very good artist. His work is not wholly unknown to the Russians, since his daughter some years ago presented some of his drawings to the Pushkin Museum in Moscow. She also incidentally presented an etching of Westminster to the British Embassy. If the Prime Minister wishes to follow up the idea of a Walcot, the daughter would be another source for us to approach.

/As a

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As a less original alternative a print of a place associated with Gorbachev's 1984 visit might be suitable: eg Chequers, Hampton Court, or No 10 Downing Street (which I understand much interested him). The Houses of Parliament, where he had a rough time, would not be suitable; he was in any case presented with a print there.

A further possibility would be an example of British manufacturing excellence, such as a home computer. Apricot is a British company which produces such computers with cyrillic keyboards and software. They are represented in Moscow by Quest Automation which has established a Technical Centre in Moscow for demonstrations, servicing and training. (Quest have actually enquired whether the Prime Minister would be able to open the Centre, but we doubt whether there will be time for this.) Moreover, Apricot have already offered to present a computer to the Prime Minister (Robin Butler's letter of 30 April 1986 attached). Problems of technology transfer would not arise, since Apricot is already selling in the Soviet market.

Although the idea has some attractions, Sir Bryan Cartledge has advised against it on the grounds that the Russians might find it patronising; the Soviet Union has its own computer industry. The Prime Minister may nevertheless wish to consider the idea.

We see problems in the suggestion of your academic contact that rare books in Russian (or English) would be well received. Research Department have looked at the catalogues. A gift of books about the Soviet Union or even pre-Revolutionary Russia, could all too easily be misunderstood. The Russians would be tempted to read some political inuendo into a number of the works highlighted in the Anthony Hall Catalogue. Virtually all the memoirs of Ambassadors to the Tsarist court and travelogues are likely to contain disparaging remarks about the Russian character. The Gorbachevs are proud of being Russian as well as Soviet.

Mrs Gorbachev

We know that Mrs Gorbachev is well acquainted with English classic literature. She said during the 1984 visit that Thackeray's *Vanity Fair* was one of her favourite novels. (She also referred to England as the country not only of Shakespeare, Dickens and Thackeray, but also of Locke, Home, Francis Bacon. She also recalled the plot of one of Iris Murdoch's novels.) Our recommendation is accordingly either a first edition of *Vanity Fair* or a finely bound collected edition of Thackeray's works.

Mrs Gorbachev speaks some English and understands more.

/I understand



I understand that the cost of either of these alternatives would be in the £400 to £600 range. Some details have been sent separately by Mrs Edwards of Protocol Department to Caroline Ryder.

Another possibility suggested would be a selection of nicely bound modern British books, eg recent winners of the Booker Prize. But on balance we prefer Thackeray since he is known to be a favourite.

A more personal alternative for Mrs Gorbachev, or an addition, might be a matching set of accessories from Burberrys: scarf, bag and umbrella.

Mr and Mrs Ryzhkov

For Mr Ryzhkov we suggest an antique map of Russia or Muscovy. The Map House have early 16th Century examples for just under £500. For Mrs Ryzhkov a substantial piece of Wedgwood.

Senior Officials/Heads of Institutes etc

We suggest a selection of porcelain, ashtrays, paper weights, coffee table books about Britain (signed by the Prime Minister), small boxes, and in appropriate cases framed, signed photographs.

/ I am returning your rare book catalogues.

Yours ever,

(L. Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

PM TOURS : Souer Uman Sep '86



~~Mr. Powell~~
Gordon

BERNARD

Michael Jones 'phoned. He has been reading Callaghan's memoirs in which he recounts a story of when he was Foreign Secretary in 1975 and visited Moscow, there was a bit of horse-play with Brezhnev, who seized the Red Box, pretending to make off with it. Jim Callaghan said Brezhnev was obviously very taken with this Red Box, so when he became Prime Minister and visited Moscow again he had one especially made up for him with his name and office printed in gold letters on it.

Michael thought, if it was not too late, it might be quite a nice idea if the PM were to do the same for Gorbachev. He will send you a photocopy of the piece if you think it would be a good idea.

Mr. Lyke
CDP

Prime Minister

I don't know what you feel about this. It looks a bit copy-cut to me.
Agree no? CDP

Rose
18.3.87

No.
mb

File
Pm TOURS

PRIME MINISTER

Attached is a complete list of the gifts you will be taking to Russia with notes attached where relevant.

There is no formal exchange of gifts either in Moscow or Tbilisi.

The exception may be your personal gifts to the Gorbachevs, but Charles will have to find this out on arrival in Moscow.

There is also to be a presentation of the Wedgwood book to Mrs. Gorbachev (see attached note). Again, Charles will have to find out on arrival how and when this is to be done.

Finally, Bryan Cartledge has suggested that if you want to give a gift to Mr. Sakharov when you see him a telephone answering machine would be a good idea. The FCO are making enquiries about this, but if it is not compatible with the Russian telephone system Charles feels that it is not strictly necessary for you to give him anything.

Tessa

(TESSA GAISMAN)

26 March 1987

DCABVH

GIFTS FOR MOSCOW AND TBILISI

1. Personal gift for Mr. Gorbachev

Pair of silver-backed hairbrushes engraved with his initials

2. Personal gift for Mrs. Gorbachev

Black Cashmere shawl

3. Official gift for Mr. Gorbachev

Silver bowl with inscription:

"To His Excellency Mr. M.S. Gorbachev
on the occasion of my visit to the
USSR 28 March - 1 April 1987
Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister"

4. Official gift for Mrs. Gorbachev

First edition of Vanity Fair. Red leather bound volume by George Bayntun of London. This is one of some twenty copies displaying a plate of "The Marquis of Steyne" and a history of the plate will accompany the book.

5. Mr. Ryzhkov

Antique map of Muscovy. A letter of description about the map (in Russian) will accompany the map. I attach a copy in English for your interest.

6. Mrs. Ryzhkov

Tartan Cashmere travelling rug from Johnstons of Elgin.

You are taking four rugs to Russia and I attach samples of the Tartans, although these are in wool and not cashmere.

Other gifts for Moscow are for heads of departments. We have not been given specific details, but have been asked simply to take a selection of "middle-ranging presents", up to 15 in number. These are as follows:

- 1 Blind Earl Bowl
- 2 Royal Garden Round Scallop Bowls
- 6 Pairs of Crown Derby Ashtrays
- 3 8" Octagonal Bowls - Crown Derby
- 3 Small Crown Derby Ginger Jars

7. Mr. Cherkesha (Prime Minister of Georgia)

Royal Worcester Coffee Set

You will not be meeting Mrs. Cherkesha at all during your visit to Tbilisi.

8. Foreign Minister of Georgia

Pair of Crown Derby Goblets

9. Deputy Prime Minister

Copy of "Royal Heritage"

10. Head of Economic Directorate

Copy of "Royal Heritage"

11. Chief of Staff of Council of Ministers

Copy of "Royal Heritage"

12. Head of Protocol (Georgian Council of Ministers)

Crown Derby Goblet

13. Deputy Foreign Minister

Crown Derby Goblet

14. Head of Protocol MFA

Crown Derby Goblet

In addition you will also be taking a large selection of leather goods, House of Commons Wedgwood ashtrays, House of Commons pens and spare sets of Crown Derby ashtrays as well as the usual photographs.

THE IMPERIAL RUSSIAN DINNER SERVICE

This vast dinner and tea service was commissioned by the Empress Catherine the Great from Josiah Wedgwood. They represent a major example of Britain's cultural heritage. They are now in The Hermitage.

Only one pictorial record, published in 1909, has ever been produced of this magnificent work. A copy of this rare volume has been located. The Prime Minister presents it to General Secretary Gorbachev on the occasion of her visit to the Soviet Union.

The General Secretary will be interested to know that a new pictorial record of the collection is being assembled and will be published, as the result of a joint Anglo-Soviet venture. The Soviet participant in the venture is the Leningrad art publisher Aurora. The British participant is the company "Andrew Nurnberg Associates".

Abraham Ortelius - Map of Russia

'*Russiae Moscoviae et Tartariae Descriptio*'. An early copperplate map of the Russian Empire produced by Abraham Ortelius and published in a Latin edition of his '*Theatrum Orbis Terrarum*'.

Ortelius was the most important European mapmaker of his age. His '*Theatrum*' was the first truly modern atlas, containing a uniformly-sized, systematic collection of maps of the world. These were compiled from the most up-to-date and reliable sources, and the atlas went through 42 editions between 1570 and 1612.

One of the leading lights of the Northern Renaissance, Ortelius was a humanist, working in Antwerp at a time when the city was the acknowledged capital of the book trade, and a close friend of the artist, Pieter Bruegel. He did visit England - perhaps seeking temporary refuge from religious persecution - but he used the work of only two Britons in his survey.

One of these was Anthony Jenkinson (1525 - 1611), a notable merchant and cartographer. Jenkinson was a member of the Mercers Company and was appointed leader of an expedition sent to Russia in 1557, to open up the eastern trade routes for the Muscovy Company. His remarkable journey took him as far as Bokhara, in Asiatic Russia, and he recorded his findings in a celebrated map of the country. This original map has, unfortunately, not survived, but its material was used by both Ortelius and his rival, De Jode, and it remained the principal source for Western cartographers until the following century.

MOSCOW GIFTS

| <u>Number</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>To whom given</u> | <u>Price Guide</u> |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. | Silver bowl | Mr. Gorbachev (official gift) | |
| 2. | Black shawl | Mrs. Gorbachev (personal) | |
| 3. | Map of Muscovy | Mr. Ryzhkov | |
| 4. | Travel rug (dress Stuart) | Mrs. Ryzhkov | £109.00 |
| 5. | Travel rug (Lindsay) | | £109.00 |
| 6. | Travel rug (Black Watch) | | £109.00 |
| 7. | Travel rug (Black Stuart) | | £109.00 |
| 8. | First edition of Vanity Fair | Mrs. Gorbachev (Official gift) | |
| 9. | Royal Heritage | Deputy Prime Minister | £14.75 |
| 10. | Royal Heritage | Hd. Econ. Directorate (Mr. S. T. Rigvava) | £14.75 |
| 11. | Royal Heritage | Chief of Staff, Council of Ministers (Mr. Z. P. Makharadze) | £14.75 |
| 12. | Blind Earl Bowl | | £38.54 |
| 13. | Shoe cleaning kit for man | | * |

| <u>Number</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>To whom given</u> | <u>Price Guide</u> |
|---------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 14. | Shoe cleaning kit | | * |
| 15. | Shoe cleaning kit | | * |
| 16. | Shoe cleaning kit | | * |
| 17. | Stud box | | * |
| 18. | Stud box | | * |
| 19. | Stud box | | * |
| 20. | Stud box | | * |
| 21. | Stud box | | * |
| 22. | Stud box | | * |
| 23. | Leather cigarette box | | *** |
| 24. | Leather cigarette box | | *** |
| 25. | Leather cigarette box | | *** |
| 26. | Leather cigarette box | | *** |
| 27. | Leather desk set | | *** |
| 28. | Not allocated | | |
| 29. | Black Morroccan leather wallet | | * |
| 30. | Royal Garden Round Scallop Bowl | | £14.71 |

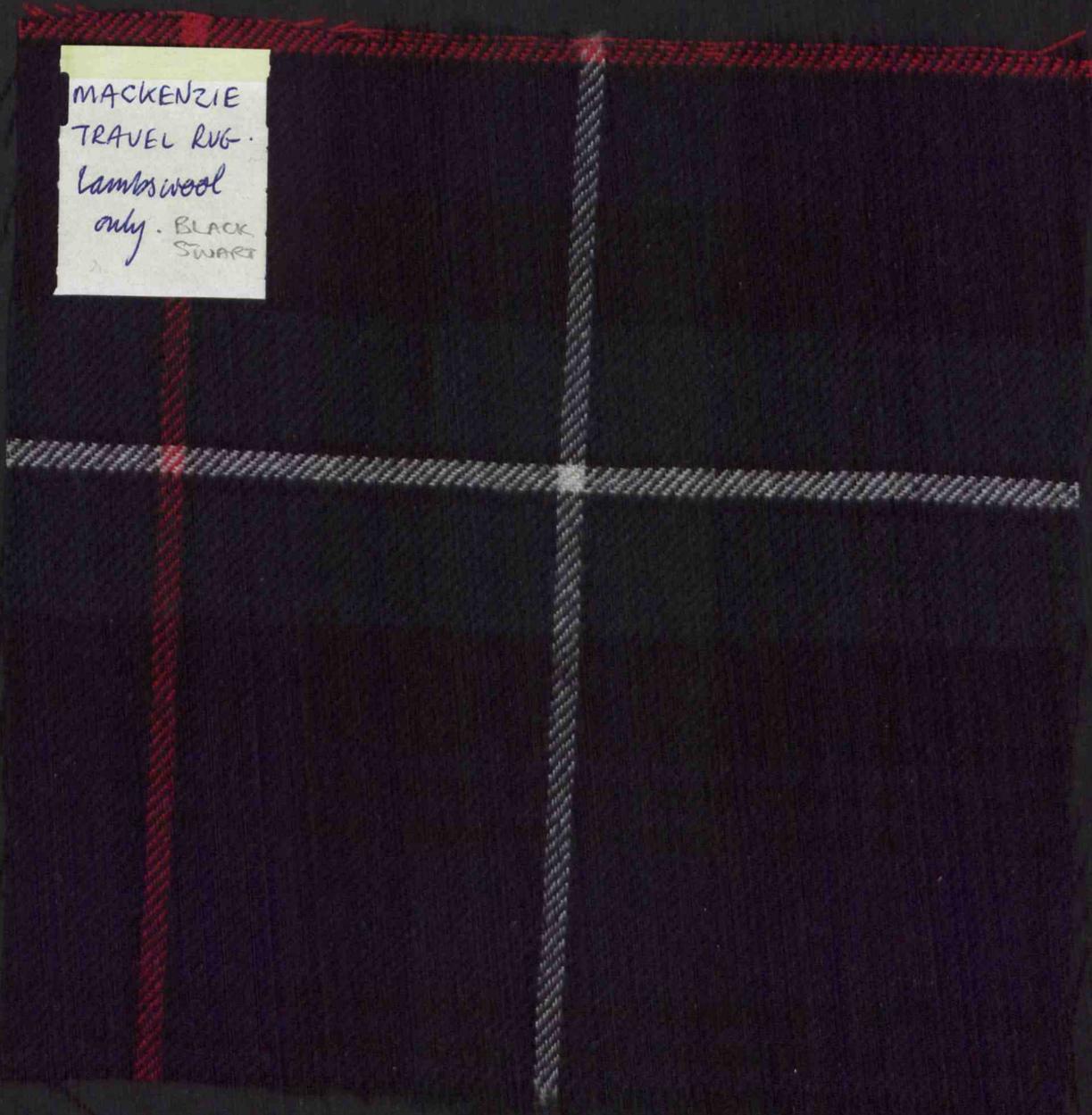
| <u>Number</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>To whom given</u> | <u>Price Guide</u> |
|---------------|------------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 31. | Royal Garden Round Scallop Bowl | | £14.71 |
| 32. | Royal Worcs. Coffee Set | Mr. O. E. Cherkesia (P.M. of Georgia) | £136 - (1981) |
| 33. | Pair Crown Derby Goblets | Foreign Minister of Georgia (Mr. G. D. Javakhishvili) | c£95.00 |
| 34. | Crown Derby Goblet | Hd. of Protocol - Georgian Council of Ministers (Mr. N. B. Roukhadze) | c£58.00 |
| 35. | Crown Derby Goblet | Deputy Foreign Minister (Mr. T. N. Gordeladze) | c£58.00 |
| 36. | Crown Derby Goblet | Hd. of Protocol MFA (Mr. G. L. Gordiladze) | c£58.00 |
| 37. | Crown Derby Goblet | | c£58.00 |
| 38. | Crown Derby Ginger Jar | | c£55.00 |
| 39. | Ginger Jar | | c£55.00 |
| 40. | Ginger Jar | | c£55.00 |
| 41. A-F | Crown Derby ashtrays | | £21.75 |
| 42. | H/C Pens | | £2.40 |
| 43. | H/C Wedgwood ashtrays | | £3.50 |

| <u>Number</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>To whom given</u> | <u>Price guide</u> |
|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 44. | Pair Crown Derby Goblets | Deputy Prime Min. Kamentsev | c£95.00 |
| 45. | Crown Derby cup & saucer | | £59.00 |
| 46. | Crown Derby cup & saucer | | £59.00 |
| 47. | Crown Derby cup & saucer | | £59.00 |
| 48. | Silver hairbrushes | Mr. Gorbachev (personal) | |

* = not priced but lower range gift

*** = not priced but medium range gift

MACKENZIE
TRAVEL RUG.
Lambswool
only. BLACK
SWART



LINDSAY
TRAVEL RVG
Lambswol
and 100%
Cashmere *

BLACK WATCH
TRAVEL RUG -
lambswool
and 100%
Cashmere -X

DRESS
STEWART
TRAVEL RUG
Lamb's wool
and 100%
Cashmere *





10 DOWNING STREET

CBP

We are checking
wise and
how does
Lesson

3/2

Cardinal

CB

I am consulting the
my about the
main gifts. Could
you very kindly
begin to organize
the small gifts
mentioned in the
last paragraph. Do we
have adequate stocks?
CBP 2/2.



10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

12 January 1987

From the Private Secretary

**PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO MOSCOW:
GIFTS**

I wrote to Colin Budd a week or so ago to suggest that we might look at the possibility of the Prime Minister presenting Mr. and Mrs. Gorbachev with books of particular interest about the Soviet Union during her visit. I have subsequently been sent by my academic friend the enclosed catalogues. I am not in a position to judge whether any of them are suitable or would be appreciated. But you might like to pass them on to Research Department for an opinion. Number 830 in the catalogue of books on Tsarist Russia looks a snip at £1,250!

Could I please have the catalogues back in due course.

CHARLES POWELL

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



MRS RYDER

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

2 January 1987

Dear Sir,

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

It will clearly be appropriate for the Prime Minister to take gifts to Mr. and Mrs. Gorbachev, and perhaps others, for her visit to Moscow. I should be grateful for suggestions for gifts, with a premium on originality.

Yours sincerely
Charles Powell

(C. D. POWELL)

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CF

Pl. blm in
good time for
me to remind
F.O. to get
a name on!
CF.

SR
leaving

MR. POWELL

GIFTS: MOSCOW

Will you be taking gifts to Moscow, and if so, will you write to the Foreign Office and ask them for suggestions?

C.P.

CR

31 December, 1986.