

CCP ②

CONFIDENTIAL



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

9 February 1987

Dear Charles,

ms Prime Minister
CDP 9/2.

Visit of the Supreme Soviet Delegation

You said in your letter of 30 ^{at 11ap} January that the Prime Minister would be interested to hear the outcome of Mr Zagladin's talks with the Foreign Secretary and others.

Zagladin and his delegation returned to the Soviet Union on 6 February, after a successful visit, well organised at very short notice by the COI. He repeatedly expressed satisfaction.

cont'd

Zagladin made quite clear in his discussion with Sir Geoffrey and elsewhere that he saw his visit as a part of the process leading up to the Prime Minister's visit to Moscow. He noted with satisfaction the increase in bilateral contacts since Gorbachev's visit here in 1984. He stressed the need for careful preparation of the Prime Minister's visit and for practical results from it. It was an important visit and should be a success both in form and in content. He agreed with Sir Geoffrey that the Prime Minister's rapport with Gorbachev offered an opportunity for frank and even philosophical discussion, but qualified that by saying that philosophy was not enough - there must be practical results. He suggested that the Prime Minister should use her prestige to bring the United States and the Soviet Union closer together - not acting as an intermediary, but helping along the process of arms control. Sir Geoffrey said that the UK was indeed not an intermediary, but that nevertheless we had our independent contribution to make.

In each of his meetings (with the Foreign Secretary, Tim Eggar and the Foreign Affairs Committee) Zagladin mentioned as a point of contact on which we should build the Prime Minister's statement in 1984 that the UK opposed the extension of the arms race into space, and her approval of the ABM Treaty and the SALT agreements. He proposed also that the UK and the Soviet Union should agree bilaterally to implement the CSCE document on human contacts which was vetoed by the Americans at Berne last year. We have told the Russians that we see no need for such a bilateral agreement. It is clear that they are picking out issues where they see the opportunity either to try to persuade the Prime Minister to use her influence helpfully with the Americans (ABM Treaty, SALT, etc) or where they see a chance to drive wedges (CSCE).

/In

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL



The Foreign Secretary welcomed the Soviet decision to stop jamming the BBC Russian Service. Zagladin indicated that the Russians would similarly stop jamming other foreign broadcasts with the exception of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, which they regard as beyond the pale.

The Foreign Secretary and Tim Eggar both stressed the importance of further movement in human rights and personal cases. Zagladin claimed that things were on the move. But the response he gave in detail to the list of human rights and personal cases which had been put to him by MPs was rather disappointing. He gave no assurances and suggested merely that progress might be possible in three of the personal cases. He did however agree to continue private contacts with Messrs Mikardo and Ivan Lawrence.

Zagladin also called on Michael Jopling, Alan Clark, and Lord Glenarthur; and on Mr Kinnock.

Zagladin clearly came here determined to present an open and constructive image. He told the FAC that each parliamentary visit had been better and franker than the last. British/Soviet parliamentarians could now address any subject despite their differences. He gave them what they regarded as a useful and frank account of the recent Plenum in the Soviet Union. All in all, he was an impressive figure. We hope that his visit will have helped to develop contacts with the International Department of the Central Committee and make easier for Bryan Cartledge to get in through that door.

Yours ever,

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

09 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 PM 187

