



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

File Xho
L06AEB
also
PC

From the Private Secretary

24 March 1987

Thank you for your letters of 10 and 17 March concerning the Prime Minister's forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union. The Prime Minister was very interested to learn of the Soviet Union's interest in the Langmuir Trough and well remembers her own research work into monomolecular thin films.

The Prime Minister would be happy to hand over to the Institute of Chemical Physics the Trough which I understand they have just purchased from your company. The British Embassy in Moscow are currently making the necessary arrangements and I would be grateful if you would continue to liaise direct with Mr. Stuart Thom, First Secretary Commercial.

CHARLES POWELL

S. J. Keat, Esq.



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

24 March 1987

Thank you for your letter of 23 March about the possibility of the Prime Minister presenting a Langmuir Mini-Trough to the Soviet Institute of Chemistry during her visit to Moscow.

I have no doubt the Prime Minister would be perfectly ready to do this provided it could be done in the course of one of her existing engagements, perhaps during her visit to the Institute of Crystallography. I do not think there is any room in her programme for an additional engagement. You subsequently confirmed to me that the presentation could indeed take place at the Institute of Crystallography. On this basis, I have written to Mr. Keat in the terms of the draft enclosed with your letter.

I am copying this letter to Lyn Parker (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

CHARLES POWELL

Paul Steeples, Esq.,
Department of Trade and Industry.

file KPo
L06A EA
cc to
PC

SPW

INSTITUTE OF CRYSTALLOGRAPHY LENINSKY SQ

- 1430 Pm accompanied by Interpreter, Wicks, Powell, Ingham, HMA, Garden Room Girl, Detective, Horne, arrives. Met in entrance hall by Academician Marchuk, President of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Academician Skryabin, Academic Secretary of USSR Academy of Sciences, Academician Vainshteyn, Director of Institute.
- 1435 To 5th floor by lift (capacity 6 persons) for general discussion on Science in the USSR in Director's office with Academician Marchuk and other members of the reception committee.
- 1505 Descend by stairs to ground floor halting in various laboratories en route to observe experiments. Presentation of a crystal (inexpensive modest) by Institute Director.
- Walk through to Annexe to view laser and crystal growing laboratories.
- 1540 Rejoin cars (which have moved to position outside Annexe)
- Drive to MFA Press Centre Zubovsky Boulevard (7 minute Journey Duration 11 minutes in heavy traffic).

Press Arrangements

Because of the cramped nature of the building a pooling arrangement will operate with 2 photographers and 2 TV crew, from each side allowed beyond the entrance hall. They will be called in for photocalls at various stages during the visit.

MFA PRESS CENTRE

1530 Amanda Ponsonby to arrive
(accompanied by member of the Embassy?)

1600 PM to arrive at main entrance. Proceed
to ante room for make up.

TV Recording } Mr Horne and The Mac-
Press Conference) Laren know detailed
arrangements.

Action for Soviet Side

Kryukov, MFA Information Dept, to
ensure make up facilities available
and check whether interviewers will be
wearing make up in order to avoid
any obvious televisual contrast between
their colouring and that of the PM.



DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY
1-19 VICTORIA STREET
LONDON SW1H 0ET

Telephone (Direct dialling) 01-215 5422
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(Switchboard) 01-215 7877

PS/ Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

23 March 1987

Charles Powell Esq
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

Dear Charles,

Thank you for your letter of 12 March concerning the enclosed letter and attachments to the Prime Minister from Mr S J Keat, Managing Director of Joyce-Loebl. Mr Keat suggests that the Prime Minister might present one of their Langmuir Mini-Troughs to the Soviet Institute of Chemistry (properly called the Institute of Chemical Physics) while she is in Moscow. The function of the Trough is apparently to produce consistent films of organic compounds and to deposit a one molecule layer onto a substrate. The company believes that the Prime Minister would be interested in the equipment in view of her research work into monomolecular thin films, on which she published a paper in 1951.

Mr Keat has been in direct contact with both this Department and the Commercial Department of our Embassy in Moscow to inform us that, in the last few days, the company has sold a Trough to the Institute of Chemical Physics for £35,000. Consequently, Mr Keat no longer wants the Prime Minister to present the equipment as a gift, but would like her to hand over the purchased Trough to the Institute. Clearly the company are interested in the publicity which they would get from the Prime Minister's involvement. Both this Department and the Post in Moscow consider that such publicity for a British manufacturer of world class advanced technological equipment could give welcome encouragement to other British companies tackling this difficult market, and are therefore supportive of the proposal.

JG4ASY



I should be grateful if you would consult the Prime Minister on the proposal and let me know her view. It would be helpful if this could be done as soon as possible so that, if necessary, the Post can make the arrangements with the Institute. The Prime Minister will be visiting the Soviet Institute of Crystallography, which itself purchased a Trough some years ago and it is almost certain that a senior representative of the associated Institute of Chemical Physics could arrange to be present to take receipt of the Trough.

If the Prime Minister is content with the proposal you may wish to write to Mr Keat along the lines of the attached draft.

A copy of this letter goes to FCO, who are aware of the proposal.

Yours

Paul Steeples

PAUL STEEPLES
Private Secretary



DRAFT LETTER FOR THE PRIVATE SECRETARY'S SIGNATURE:

S J Keat Esq
Managing Director
Joyce-Loebl
Dukesway
Team Valley
Gateshead
Tyne & Wear
NE11 0PZ

Loeb A & B

Thank you for your letters of 10 March and 17 March concerning the Prime Minister's forthcoming visit to the Soviet union. The Prime Minister was very interested to learn of the Soviet Union's interest in the Langmuir Trough and well remembers her own research work into monomolecular thin films.

The Prime Minister would be happy to hand over to the Institute of Chemical Physics the Trough which I understand they have just purchased from your company. The British Embassy in Moscow are currently making the necessary arrangements and I would be grateful if you would continue to liaise direct with Mr Stuart Thom, First Secretary Commercial.

JG4ATA

S.J. KEAT
25/3



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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

AKJ

18 March 1987

I attach a copy of a further letter the Prime Minister has received from Mr. S. J. Keat, Managing Director of Joyce-Loebl (see my earlier letter of 12 March).

I should be grateful if you could provide an urgent draft reply for Private Secretary signature. It would be helpful if this could reach me by Wednesday 25 March.

I am copying this letter to Lyn Parker (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

(C. D. POWELL)

Michael Gilbertson, Esq.,
Department of Trade and Industry.

Joyce-Loebl

SJK/VN
17 March 1987



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A Vickers company

Mr Charles Powell
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

Dear *Mr. Powell*,

Langmuir Trough

Thank you for your letter of 12 March.

I understand from the D.T.I. that things have moved quickly in Moscow over the last few days. It is my understanding that, subject to the agreement of the Prime Minister, the alternate layer trough shown during the OPTIKA exhibition was sold to the Institute of Chemical Physics in Moscow. This would ideally be the Langmuir trough to be presented by the Prime Minister during her visit to the Institute of Crystallography. I understand the Academy of Sciences would welcome the extreme honour, particularly as they are aware of the Prime Minister's involvement in this technology.

This rather overtakes my previous suggestion of presenting a Mini-trough which would have to be sent out.

My haste to send this letter follows my understanding by telephone from Moscow as of today.

I hope this new suggestion meets with the agreement of the Prime Minister.

Once again our good wishes on the visit.

Yours sincerely,

S.J. KEAT
Managing Director

S. J. KEAT

enc sent to Dept 26/3
with request to
return



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

12 March 1987

I attach a copy of a letter the Prime Minister has received from Mr. S.J. Keat of Joyce-Loebl.

I should be grateful if you could provide a draft reply for Private Secretary signature. It would be helpful if this could reach me by Thursday 26 March.

I am copying this letter and enclosure to Lyn Parker (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

(CHARLES POWELL)

Paul Steeples, Esq.,
Department of Trade and Industry.

PA

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Joyce-Loebl

SJK/VN
10 March 1987



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A Vickers company

Secretary to :
The Rt Hon. Margaret Thatcher M.P.
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

Dear Sir,

We are sure we speak for all British Industry in saying we wish the Prime Minister well in her forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union.

We fully realise there are far wider topics for discussion during this important visit, but the purpose of this letter is to advise you of the suggestion we made to the British Embassy in Moscow (copy letter attached) to take advantage of the Prime Minister's contribution to science, particularly in the field of monomolecular thin films using the Langmuir Trough. On March 12, the Government will be announcing a new initiative via S.E.R.C. where £10M is being made available to stimulate research into "organic semi-conductors", "solar cells", "solid state gas detectors" and "large flat displays".

We hope that the P.R. machine may find it possible to make use of this information.

If it is practical Joyce-Loebl would be delighted if the Prime Minister could present a Mini-Trough to the Institute of Chemistry on behalf of Joyce-Loebl. If agreeable we would ship a unit immediately on instruction.

Yours faithfully,
JOYCE-LOEBL



S.J. KEAT
Managing Director