

file

PRIME MINISTER

MR. GORBACHEV'S VISIT TO NO.10

This will be Mr. Gorbachev's first visit to No.10 and you will no doubt wish to show him around and bring out the history of the house, and especially that relevant to the Soviet Union. This is presumably very largely in connection with the last war.

The other important point is that in showing him around you will have an opportunity, through television, to show off the refurbishments to the public.

Consequently you need to decide:

- (i) whether to admit a small media pool (one TV crew, one still photographer and one PA reporter) to precede you both into No.10;
- (ii) how much to show Mr. Gorbachev on his entry, bearing in mind that Mrs. Gorbachev will not join you until lunch.

I would suggest two goes at it:

- (i) a pool preceding you down the corridor from the entrance hall, up the stairs and into the White Room; the staff applauding Mr. Gorbachev into the house will add to the sense of occasion;
- (ii) a similar pool preceding you, Mr. Thatcher and the Gorbachevs down the stairs after lunch and into the Cabinet Room, thereby showing the Cabinet Room to the Gorbachevs together. The pool could then precede you down the corridor to the doorstep. In the course of this you could explain particularly to Mrs. Gorbachev some of the refurbishments.

I assume that you will agree to larger pools for shots of:

- (i) pre-meeting;
- (ii) pre-lunch;
- (iii) dinner receiving line;
- (iv) pre-dinner dining room.

Content?

I think it would be very nice, if you agreed to this kind of media coverage, if the staff were not merely present to welcome Mr. Gorbachev into No.10 but also Mrs. Gorbachev when she arrives and as the Gorbachevs are leaving. It would certainly make ^{for} better TV pictures.

Agree?



(B. INGHAM)

1 December 1988

FILE

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MR. INGHAM

VISIT OF PRESIDENT GORBACHEV

The Prime Minister is giving thought to press and television coverage of President Gorbachev's visit, particularly while he is in No. 10. She has suggested that she will be willing for television cameras to cover her escorting President Gorbachev through the ground floor of No. 10 to the Cabinet Room, and possibly also up the stairs to the meeting in the White Room (and on the second day in the Study).

You are no doubt giving thought to all this. It might be a good idea to get an early note to her.

C. D. POWELL

1 December 1988

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MR. CATFORD

PRESIDENT GORBACHEV'S VISIT TO NO.10

The Prime Minister has agreed that members of the staff who wish to do so might line up in the lobby by the lift to greet and applaud President Gorbachev when he arrives at No.10 at 1000 on Tuesday 13 December. You may like to make appropriate arrangements for this. If demands exceeds the space available, there might be another opportunity as President and Mrs. Gorbachev leave at the end of the working lunch shortly before 1400 that day.

C.D.P.

(C. D. POWELL)

30 November 1988

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PRIME MINISTER

PRESIDENT GORBACHEV'S VISIT TO NO.10

The staff at No.10 would like very much to see President Gorbachev when he comes here.

Would you agree to their lining up in the hall opposite the lift on the first morning, to clap as he comes through?

C D?

Yes no

C. D. POWELL

29 November 1988

File

FROM: PETER MARTIN
Date: 1 December 1988

MR PERKS

cc Miss Buchan
Mr Morris
Mr Sharp

VISIT OF MR GORBACHEV

Thank you for your minute of 21 November 1988 about possible additional Press Office expenditure arising from Mr Gorbachev's visit from 12-14 December. I have discussed your 'shopping list' with Miss Buchan. Our view is that we should aim to bear these costs within existing resources. I suggest, therefore, that you authorise this expenditure to the Press Office cost centre and keep a record of the cumulative costs. If the additional expenditure causes you to overspend against your budget, we will arrange to increase the Press Office budget by a corresponding amount.

2. There are two further points to note. First, when we spoke you indicated that you would expect this additional expenditure to total some £10,000. I should be grateful if you could let me know if it seems likely that this ceiling will be exceeded. Second, I imagine hire of the QE2 Centre is expensive. Is this a real possibility and, if so, how much would this cost?

3. If you have any queries, please let me know.

Peter Martin

P MARTIN
Finance Division

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