

Mr Powell

*We spoke. I have
told Mr Marshall that
the answer is yes.*

Private Secretary to the Prime Minister

Robert Lynd.

INVITATION TO MEET UKRAINIAN SUPREME SOVIET

1. Mr Marshall in Kiev has spoken this morning to a Ukrainian Deputy Foreign Minister on the lines we agreed. I have spoken in parallel to the Soviet MFA. The upshot is as follows:

- a) The invitation to the Prime Minister to meet Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Deputies clearly has the full support of her hosts in the Ukrainian Government. It does not appear to be a request inspired by any one political group, but reflects the broad desire of the Deputies to meet the Prime Minister.
- b) Through the MFA, the Soviet Government has been aware of the proposal since last night, and aware since this morning that the Prime Minister was minded to accept. They have had ample opportunity to try to steer us away from this idea. Unless something has been said to you or the Prime Minister this morning, they have not done so.
- c) The nature of the invitation is such that we could not easily ask the Deputies to send a small group for a brief chat with the Prime Minister. The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Session officially ends this afternoon. Yesterday 163 Deputies indicated by pressing their voting buttons that they would like to stay on for an out-of-Session meeting with the Prime Minister on Saturday. The 163 Deputies do not represent any particular tendency in local political opinion.
- d) Organisationally, the Ukrainian proposal now is that the meeting should take place in the Supreme Soviet Chamber from approximately 1700 - 1730. The Prime Minister's existing programme incorporates a rest period from 1700 to about 1845. The meeting with the Supreme Soviet would reduce this. She would have from approximately 1740 - 1845 or 1850 to change and rest in the Kiev Hotel.
- e) The newly elected Chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, Ivashko, would meet the Prime Minister at the door. The Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Masol (her official host), would also be present. Ivashko would open the meeting with a short greeting to the Prime Minister. He would then invite her to make some remarks to the Deputies, to be followed by questions and answers.



2. Given the absence of any objection so far from the Central Soviet Government, plus the participation of Ivashko and Masol, I see no political reason why the Prime Minister should not accept this invitation, as she wishes. But in practical terms, you will wish to weigh the merits of adding this engagement to a long and tightly-packed day. Although the Prime Minister would not be delivering a formal speech, she would presumably wish to have some speaking notes prepared in advance.

3. So that a reply can be given to the Deputies before their Session ends later this afternoon, we have been asked if we can confirm the Prime Minister's agreement as soon as possible. Would you be able to give a decision to the bearer of this message?

Roderic Lyne

R M J Lyne

8 June 1990

cc: Ambassador
Mr Turnbull

cc Mr Turnbull
 Mr Powell (x2)
 Mr Ingham

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M. Hyne
 HMA

PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH DEPUTIES OF THE UKRAINIAN SUPREME SOVIET

1. The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet has been in session for 4 weeks. On 4 June they elected Ukrainian Communist Party First Secretary, Ivashko, as chairman. Ivashko's First Deputy Chairman has also been elected - Ivan Stepanovich Plyusch the 49 year old chairman of the Kiev oblast soviet. Plyusch is said to be in the mould of former Ukrainian Party First Secretary, Scherbitaky. The latest word from Kiev is that a second deputy, a Russian speaking Democratic Communist, Grined, has been confirmed. The next tasks to be tackled by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet are the formation of the Government and a declaration of Ukrainian sovereignty.
2. The Democratic Bloc who hold about 25% of the seats in the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet refused to participate in the elections for chairman because they objected to the possibility of Ivashko holding this post whilst remaining Party First Secretary. Ivashko offered to include names from the Democratic Bloc on his list of proposed deputy chairman but the Democrats declined and have said that they will not accept posts in the Government either. The Democratic Bloc has decided to establish an alternative body, the "People's Council" or shadow parliament. Igor Yukhnovsky (see below) has been elected leader of the People's Council. The Council will continue to work within the Supreme Soviet and plans to present alternative versions of draft laws. The Council has been described by Izvestiya as a Parliamentary opposition.
3. As yet Chancery has few contacts in the new Ukrainian Supreme Soviet and are not well placed to provide detailed briefing on individual personalities. I hope that the following skeletal notes on some of the prominent deputies will be of use.

Leonid Kravchuk

Ideology Secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party. Reckoned to be flexible and clever, responsible for past successful rapprochement between Party and democrats

Stanislav Gurenko

Second Secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party. Quick-witted and competent traditionalist communist. Likely to succeed Ivashko as head of Party in two weeks' time if the latter resigns to concentrate on his Supreme Soviet chairmanship.

/Ivan



I R Yukhnovsky

Academician, physicist and CPSU member, seen as a possible compromise candidate for the post of chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet. Yukhnovsky has been named as head of the Democratic Bloc's 'shadow parliament'. One of the organisers of the Peasants' Party.

Ivan Drach

Poet and leader of Narodny Rukh. Met Mr Waldegrave in January. Involved in the Democratic Party.

Mikhail Horyn

Chairman of the Rukh secretariat and former political prisoner.

Vladimir Yavorivsky

USSR People's Deputy, writer and Rukh founder member. Interviewed in Sobesednik no. 21 criticised apparat obstruction of progressive candidates in elections to Ukrainian Supreme Soviet.

Levko Lukyanenko

Chairman of the newly founded Ukrainian Republican Party. One of the Democratic Bloc's preferred candidates for the post of chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet (partly because of his 'record' 26 years as a political prisoner). Lukyanenko and other democrats withdrew from the running before voting took place.

Vyacheslav Chornovil

Former political prisoner under Brezhnev, now chairman of Lvov Regional Council. Nominated for the post of Ukrainian Supreme Soviet chairmanship but withdrew. His book 'The Chornovil Papers' was smuggled out to the West and published in 1968. The book recounts 'secret trials' of Ukrainian intellectuals in the mid '60s and reproduces writings collected from other political prisoners.

Dmitro Pavlichko

Poet from Western Ukraine. Head of organising committee of Democratic Party.

Sian MacLeod

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