

PRIME MINISTER

CHOGM

The attached letter deals with three subjects:

(a) The Literary Award Ceremony at which you have agreed to make a speech. Could you indicate your decisions on the various points I have noted in the margin?

(b) Some suggestions from Robert Wade-Gery as to other engagements which you might undertake in Delhi. I think you will need to bear in mind that, following Grenada, CHOGM is going to be a livelier and more demanding Meeting than it would otherwise have been. If you want to take up any of Robert's four suggestions, perhaps you would again indicate in the margin.

(c) A message from you to the Indian press to be published on the eve of the Meeting. A text is attached. Are you content with it?

A.J.C.

Yes

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(but in view of the Dick visit - doesn't seem presumption to say the interest indicated)

28 October 1983

DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE RETURNING TO INDIA ONCE MORE, THIS TIME FOR THE MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT. IT IS MY FOURTH VISIT TO A COUNTRY WHICH HAS ALWAYS DEEPLY INTERESTED ME.

WE IN BRITAIN CHERISH GREATLY OUR MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMONWEALTH, THAT UNIQUE FAMILY OF NATIONS BOUND TOGETHER BY SHARED VALUES AND LINKS OF FRIENDSHIP. OUR REGULAR MEETINGS, WHETHER OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, OR OF THE MANY OTHER COMMONWEALTH BODIES NOW FLOURISHING, SYMBOLISE THE WARMTH OF THE ASSOCIATION. SUCH MEETINGS ADVANCE CO-OPERATION IN MANY FIELDS, BETWEEN NATIONS, BETWEEN ORGANISATIONS, AND BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS. THIS IS ONE OF THE MAIN STRENGTHS OF THE COMMONWEALTH RELATIONSHIP. I AM CONFIDENT THAT UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF YOUR PRIME MINISTER, MRS. INDIRA GANDHI, THE COMMONWEALTH MEETING IN NEW DELHI WILL MAKE A STRONG CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMONWEALTH IDEAL.

I ALSO HOPE THAT MY VISIT WILL HELP STRENGTHEN THE CLOSE TIES BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND INDIA. IN PARTICULAR I LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSIONS WITH MRS. GANDHI, WHO BRINGS TO HER CONSIDERATION OF AFFAIRS SUCH EXPERIENCE AND VISION.

TODAY, INDIA IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING INDUSTRIAL NATIONS. HER RESOURCES, BOTH MATERIAL AND HUMAN, REPRESENT AN ENORMOUS POTENTIAL FOR THE FUTURE. INDIA HAS ALSO PIONEERED WORK AT THE FRONTIERS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. IN THESE AND OTHER AREAS THERE IS GREAT SCOPE FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. SUCH COLLABORATION BENEFITS US BOTH, AND PROMOTES OUR SHARED OBJECTIVES OF ECONOMIC GROWTH. TODAY, BRITAIN IS ONE OF INDIA'S LARGEST TRADING PARTNERS AND FOR MANY YEARS WE HAVE MADE THE LARGEST NET BILATERAL AID CONTRIBUTION TO INDIA'S DEVELOPMENT. IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF BOTH COUNTRIES TO STRENGTHEN FURTHER THIS ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH FRAMEWORK.

I SEND THROUGH YOUR PAGES MY WARM WISHES TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF INDIA.

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PRIME MINISTER

CHOGM

When you saw the attached letter from the FCO over the weekend, you did not indicate whether you wanted to take up the engagements which Sir Robert Wade-Gery suggests on the last page (they are highlighted). My own view is that, since the Commonwealth Conference will now be very busy, it might be wise to avoid any extra commitments. But are you interested in a, b, c or d?

A. J. COLES

31 October 1983

sy



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Telephone 01- 273 3632

A J Coles Esq
No 10 Downing Street

Your reference

Our reference

Date 21 October 1983

Dear John,

CHGM: MR THATCHER'S PROGRAMME

- / 1. I enclose a copy of New Delhi telegram 728 of 18 October which was sent in response to my telegram on programmes of 13 October (FCO tel 558). A copy of this is also enclosed. I included the paragraph about a programme for Mr Thatcher because I was unaware that you had already sent a personal telegram to the High Commissioner on the same subject.
2. I am a little concerned that the High Commission, by informing the Indians of Mr Thatcher's interests (para 4 of the Delhi telegram) might have given them the impression that the GOI will be primarily responsible for Mr Thatcher's programme, ^{which} could result in a programme which is both onerous and wide of the mark. For example, the Indians might include visits which will demonstrate Indian industrial achievement rather than British activity on the Indian industrial scene, although a little of the former may be of interest to Mr Thatcher. Therefore, if you agree, I propose to ask the High Commission to ensure that they, rather than the GOI, remain in control of Mr Thatcher's programme outside the official CHGM programme.
3. Turning to specific programme suggestions in Delhi telegrams 706 and 728 (the former being in answer to your telegram to the High Commissioner), my personal view is that a day visit on 28 November to Calcutta would be very tiring for Mr Thatcher. He will have spent the weekend in Goa (which one hopes would be reasonably restful) but the journey from Goa to Bombay, thence to Calcutta and from there back to Delhi, all in one day, would be very taxing. One also has to bear in mind that Mr Thatcher will

/have

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have an overnight flight back to the UK on 29 November.
Regarding the visits to industrial firms proposed in Delhi telegram 706, the geographical department's recommendation would be the first two ie the Modi Group and Escorts, the former having the advantage of possibly being able to provide helicopter transport.

*Yours ever,
Mike.*

M M Hall
Overseas Conferences and Visits Section
Protocol Department

cc Mr Byrne - CCD
Mr Cleghorn - SAD

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FM NEW DELHI 190440Z OCT 83

TO PRIORITY FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 728 OF 18 OCTOBER.YOUR TELNO 588
CHGM PROGRAMMES
FOR CONFERENCE SECTION.

1. HEAD OF CHANCERY CALLED YESTERDAY ON LAMBAH, JOINT SECRETARY IN CHARGE OF CHGM IN THE MEA TO DISCUSS THE PROGRAMME AND OTHER DETAILS. LAMBAH STRESSED REPEATEDLY THAT MANY POINTS HAD NOT YET BEEN DECIDED. HE EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO GIVE US FIRM INFORMATION IN ANOTHER FOUR DAYS.

PRIME MINISTER'S PROGRAMME

2. WILLIAMS TOLD LAMBAH THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE HOSTING LUNCHES FOR OTHER HEADS OF DELEGATION ON 28 AND 29 NOVEMBER AT MY RESIDENCE. LAMBAH SAID THAT THESE WOULD NOT BE MENTIONED IN THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF THE MEETING.

3. LAMBAH CONFIRMED THAT THE GOA RETREAT WOULD END ON P.M. SUNDAY 27 NOVEMBER, NOT A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE DINNER GIVEN BY MR YUNAS AT THE TRADE FAIR ON 28 NOVEMBER WOULD NOT BE FOR HEADS OF DELEGATION (AS WE HAD PREVIOUSLY UNDERSTOOD). THE PRESIDENT MIGHT BE GIVING A RECEPTION ON THE EVENING OF 23 NOVEMBER, PROBABLY FOR HEADS OF DELEGATION AND SPOUSES ONLY, BEFORE THE QUEEN'S BANQUET.

MR THATCHER'S PROGRAMME

4. AS NATWAR SINGH HAD ON MRS GANDHI'S INSTRUCTIONS ASKED ME ABOUT THIS WITH SOME SOLICITUDE ON 15 OCTOBER, WILLIAMS INFORMED LAMBAH OF MR THATCHER'S INTERESTS AS IN YOUR TELNO 588, AND ALSO OF THE IDEAS WE HAD SUGGESTED IN MY TELNO 706. THE ONLY POSSIBLE DAY FOR A VISIT TO CALCUTTA SEEMED TO BE 28 NOVEMBER, ESPECIALLY SINCE HE WAS NOT EXPECTED AT THE YUNUS DINNER THAT EVENING. LAMBAH SUGGESTED THAT HE CONSIDER FLYING DIRECT FROM BOMBAY TO CALCUTTA AFTER THE GOA RETREAT, RATHER THAN RETURNING TO DELHI. THIS WOULD BE COMPLICATED, SINCE GOA AIRPORT WOULD BE GIVEN OVER TO VIP MOVEMENTS, BUT HE WAS SURE IT COULD BE ARRANGED IF THAT WAS WHAT MR THATCHER WANTED. WILLIAMS AGREED TO LET LAMBAH KNOW MR THATCHER'S PREFERENCES, BOTH FOR THE SUGGESTIONS IN MY TELNO 706 AND FOR THE POSSIBLE CALCUTTA VISIT.

*This would be very
firing, assuming a
day trip is envisaged.*

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/S. LAMBAH

5. LAMBAH SAID THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE OPENING ON 23 NOVEMBER WOULD PROBABLY NOT INCLUDE SPOUSES. THE VISIT TO THE TRADE FAIR AND LUNCH BY THE VICE PRESIDENT ON 24 NOVEMBER WAS NOT INTENDED FOR WIVES, FOR WHOM MRS HIDAYATULLAH WOULD BE ARRANGING A SEPARATE PROGRAMME AND LUNCH. MR THATCHER WOULD PROBABLY BE MORE INTERESTED IN THE TRADE FAIR. WILLIAMS AGREED. GRATEFUL FOR ADVICE ON WHETHER MR THATCHER WOULD LIKE TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS.

SECRETARY OF STATE'S PROGRAMME

6. WILLIAMS CONFIRMED THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE WOULD LIKE TO HOST A LUNCH ON 25 NOVEMBER, FOR SOME BUT NOT ALL OF HIS COLLEAGUES. LAMBAH SAID THIS WOULD NOT BE PUT INTO THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME.

7. THE INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD PROBABLY BE OFFERING DINNER ON 23 NOVEMBER TO VISITING FOREIGN MINISTERS AND WIVES. THE PLACE FOR THE MINISTERIAL RETREAT WAS STILL NOT DEFINITELY FIXED. IT MIGHT BE JODHPUR (FOR A VISIT ONLY) THEN ON TO STAY OVERNIGHT AT UDAIPUR. UDAIPUR MIGHT NOT BE INCLUDED. THERE MIGHT BE NO OVERNIGHT STAY. THE HOST WOULD BE THE INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER. PROBABLY ALL VISITING MINISTERS WOULD BE INVITED, NOT JUST FOREIGN MINISTERS (SEMICOLON) BUT NO AIDES AT ALL.

8. ALTHOUGH UDAIPUR IS AS CLOSE TO BOMBAY AS TO DELHI, LAMBAH AGREED THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD PLAN ON TRAVELLING TO EUROPE FROM DELHI ON THE EVENING OF 27 NOVEMBER, AT LEAST UNTIL THE DETAILS OF THE MINISTERIAL RETREAT WERE FIXED.

9. IN ADDITION TO HIS OTHER ENGAGEMENTS, I RECOMMEND THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD VISIT THE BRITISH COUNCIL IN DELHI (INDIA, AS YOU WILL KNOW, IS THEIR LARGEST OVERSEAS OPERATION, AND THEY ARE ORGANISATIONALLY A DIVISION OF THE HIGH COMMISSION) (SEMICOLON) AND THAT HE SHOULD ALSO HAVE A MEETING WITH DIPLOMATIC SERVICE MEMBERS OF MY STAFF (INCLUDING SECONDEES).

LADY HOWE'S PROGRAMME

10. WILLIAMS PASSED ON THE INFORMATION IN YOUR TELNO 588 ABOUT LADY HOWE'S PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS. LAMBAH SAID IT HAD NOT YET BEEN DECIDED WHETHER WIVES OF MINISTERS WOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAMME FOR WIVES OF HEADS OF DELEGATION. IT DEPENDED IN PART ON HOW MANY OF THE FORMER ATTENDED. HE ACCEPTED THAT, IF GENERALLY INCLUDED, LADY HOWE MIGHT WISH TO ABSENT HERSELF FROM SOME ITEMS IN THE WIVES' PROGRAMME TO PURSUE PARTICULAR INTERESTS.

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/ 11.

11. I UNDERSTAND THAT LADY HOWE PLANS TO STAY ON IN DELHI AND RETURN WITH THE PRIME MINISTER'S PARTY. WE SHALL ARRANGE FOR HER TO SEE SOMETHING OF OUR ACCOMMODATION, IN WHICH SHE EXPRESSED AN INTEREST. WOULD SHE ALSO LIKE TO MEET REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DSWA E.G. AT LUNCH ON 28 OR 29 NOVEMBER? I AM SURE THIS WOULD BE WELCOMED.

To be
Classified.

SENIOR OFFICIALS' PROGRAMME

12. LAMBAH SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE ONE MEETING OF SENIOR OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS THE AGENDA ON THE AFTERNOON OF 22 NOVEMBER. THE INDIAN REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE THE FOREIGN SECRETARY (IE PUS), RASGOTRA, WHO WOULD ALSO HOST A DINNER THAT EVENING FOR THE SENIOR OFFICIALS INVOLVED.

13. THE VENUE AND EVEN THE DATE OF THE SENIOR OFFICIALS' RETREAT HAD NOT YET BEEN FIXED - BUT IT WOULD BE A DAY'S OUTING ONLY.

INDIAN DELEGATION

14. THE INDIAN DELEGATION HAD NOT YET BEEN DECIDED ON, EXCEPT FOR THE PRIME MINISTER, THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE FOREIGN SECRETARY (SEMICOLON) BUT DR ALEXANDER, THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER, WOULD OF COURSE ALSO BE INCLUDED. NOR HAD THEY YET DECIDED WHO WOULD BE LOOKING AFTER VISITING SPOUSES, EXCEPT FOR MRS HIDAYATULLAH'S LUNCH ON 24 NOVEMBER.

GOA RETREAT

15. LAMBAH DENIED A PRESS REPORT THAT TRANSPORT FROM GOA TO THE FORT AGUADA WOULD NOW BE BY ROAD (SEMICOLON) THIS WAS MERELY AN OPTION IF ANY HEADS OF DELEGATION DID NOT WISH TO GO BY HELICOPTER. ON PRESENT PLANS ANY OFFICIALS TO STAY AT THE CIDADE DE GOA WOULD HAVE TO TRAVEL SEPARATELY, NOT IN THE SPECIAL AIRCRAFT FOR HEADS OF DELEGATION, AND ON A DIFFERENT DAY. WILLIAMS OBSERVED THAT THIS WOULD BE MOST INCONVENIENT. LAMBAH RECOGNISED THAT THERE WAS A PROBLEM HERE, WHICH WAS BEING LOOKED INTO FOLLOWING EARLIER REPRESENTATIONS IN LONDON.

WADE-GERY

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THIS TELEGRAM
WAS NOT
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✓ PM Tours Euro Council
Athens
PM Tours: Anglo/German
Summit Bonn

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

24 October 1983

OVERSEAS TRAVEL BY THE PRIME MINISTER

The Prime Minister would propose to make the following overseas journeys in November and December:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8-9 November | Visit to the Federal Republic of Germany for the next Anglo/German Summit |
| 21-29 November | Attend Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, New Delhi |
| 4-6 December | Attend European Council meeting in Athens |

I should be grateful if you would seek The Queen's permission for the Prime Minister to be absent from the country on the days listed above.

A. J. COLES

Robert Fellowes, Esq., M.V.O.

cc PM TOURS 2/82
CHGM India

File PM July 79
Submission of papers
before trips abroad.



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

11 November 1983

Dear Private Secretary,

The Prime Minister will be abroad for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in India from Monday, 21 November until Wednesday 30 November.

It will, of course, be possible to communicate with the Prime Minister's party while she is abroad, but any routine papers which require her attention before her departure should reach this office by Friday, 18 November.

Yours sincerely,
Robin Butler

The Private Secretary.

JP

P R O G R A M M E

OUTLINE PROGRAMME FOR THE CHGM, NEW DELHI 1983

Monday 21 November

pm Prime Minister departs UK by RAF VC10

Tuesday 22 November

0800 approx Prime Minister arrives New Delhi
1500 Senior Officials Meeting
2000 High Commissioner's dinner for HM Queen
(Prime Minister invited)

Wednesday 23 November

1030 Formal opening of CHGM
1200 Reception by Commonwealth Secretary General
1500 First Executive Session
1730 Reception by the President of India for Heads
of Delegation
2000 Queen's CHGM Banquet

Thursday 24 November

0930 Executive Session
1200 Visit to International Trade Fair followed
by lunch for Heads of Delegation by the
Vice-President.
1500 Executive Session
evening Dinner by the Prime Minister of India for
Heads of Delegation.
Separate dinner for Foreign Ministers

Friday 25 November

0930 Executive Session

1200 Departure of Heads for Retreat in Goa

1300 Lunch for Fellow Foreign Ministers by Secretary of State

afternoon Foreign Ministers depart for Retreat in Jaipur

1800 Queen's Reception for CHGM. Ministers (?) and Officials

Saturday 26 November

Retreat in Goa/Retreat in Jaipur

Sunday 27 November

Retreat in Goa/Retreat in Jaipur

Prime Minister returns from Goa to Delhi.

Secretary of State departs Delhi for Europe.

Monday 28 November

0930 Executive Session

1300 Prime Minister's lunch for fellow Heads of Government

1500 Executive Session

1700 approx Prime Minister presents Literary Award

evening Dinner by Mr Yunus, Chairman of Trade Fair Authority of India

Tuesday 29 November

0930 Executive Session

1500 Executive Session

1700 Press Conference: Prime Minister of India and Commonwealth Secretary General

evening Prime Minister departs New Delhi for UK

Wednesday 30 November

Prime Minister arrives UK