

PRESIDENT GISCARD'S VISIT 19/20 NOVEMBER

The following may be of use in answering queries about the visit.

Background:

This will be the fourth in the series of annual Anglo-French Summit Meetings foreseen in the joint declaration issued during President Giscard's State Visit to Britain (June 1976). Previous meetings:

Rambouillet - November 1976
 Paris - November 1976
 Chequers - December 1977

Programme as known at present:

Timings are subject to change: they should be given on an operational basis.

Monday 19 November

1205: President's special flight arrives Northolt

1225: President's helicopter lands at Kensington Palace Gardens. Prime Minister greets President.
 They then travel together to Horseguards

1237: Arrive Horseguards

1238-1245: National Anthem - theirs - and Inspection of Guard of Honour

1245: President and Prime Minister enter No 10 via Garden Door

[1245-1315: Possible pre-lunch tête-à-tête]

1315-1430: Lunch at No 10. Guest list not finalised yet

Afternoon:

- 1) tête-à-tête: 1430-1600
- 2) 1600-1700: Messrs Barre (Prime Minister), Francois-Poncet (Foreign Minister) and Lord Carrington (and Sir Geoffrey Howe?) join talks
- 3) 1700 onwards: other Ministers join for a Plenary Session

Evening: 2000 for 2015: Dinner in honour of President Giscard at No 10.

- 2 -

Tuesday 20 November

- 0945: President and Prime Minister have tete-a-tete at No 10
- 1020: Joined by other Ministers for Plenary Session
- 1100: Millbank Tower Cinema, SW1: Joint press conference
(Technical note: Denis Healey will be supplying an induction loop so that French journalists may have an instantaneous translation of the PM's remarks over headsets - and vice versa for the English press when/if Giscard speaks French)
- 1130: End of press conference and end of official part of visit

(The President will meet Jim Callaghan MP at 1200 at the Residence of the French Ambassador. He will then lunch with The Queen at Buckingham Palace. HMG is not responsible for these arrangements: queries should go to the French Embassy).

Photographic arrangements:

1. Arrival at Kensington Palace Gardens: open facility: names to Denis Healy or Ian Knight-Smith, FCC.
2. Inspection of Guard, Horseguards: open facility: names to Denis Healy or Ian Knight-Smith, FCC.
3. *Photocall - Garden of No 10: rota basis: names to Downing Street Press Office: up to six French representatives to be included (names to be provided by Guyot at French Embassy).
4. *"groupe de famille" photograph at 1555 before enlarged session of talks starts at 1600. Downing Street rota and French representatives.
5. *PM and President greet guests pre-dinner. Downing Street rota and French representatives.

*(NB: The Prime Minister has not yet been asked to approve these photocalls: until she does, please do not mention. Any Downing Street rota is, of course, mute and not for reporters or correspondents, however celebrated they may be.)

.../....

- 3 -

Participants:

UK	France
Prime Minister	President Giscard
Lord Carrington	M. Jean Francois-Poncet (Foreign Minister)
Sir Geoffrey Howe	M. Raymond Barre (Prime Minister and Finance Minister)
Sir Keith Joseph	
Francis Pym	M. Yvon Bourges (Minister of Defence)
David Howell	M. André Giraud (Minister of Industry)

In addition to the talks at No 10, the UK Ministers and their French counterparts will be having separate meetings in and around Whitehall. Details: best to check with individual Press Offices.

Briefing:

1. Combined Lobby and Diplomatic briefing by Bernard Ingham - 12 Downing Street - approx 1800 Monday 19 November.
2. Pre-visit briefing for UK press: to be considered/arranged.

Speeches:

We should send texts of the Prime Minister's remarks at the dinner (19 November) to:

- 1) The Lobby
- 2) FCC News Department
- 3) Government Press Centre, Old Bath Club, Little St James Street (principally for the visiting French press)
- 4) The front door for collection

Agenda for the talks:

Not yet finalised: I hope to put round a separate Press Office Bulletin next week.

.. /

PRESS OFFICE BULLETIN

date:

- 4 -

Useful telephone numbers:

French Embassy	235 8080 (Jean Pierre Guyot, Press Counsellor)
FCC Press Facilities Unit	233 8618/3191 (Denis Healy/ Ian Knight-Smith)
Millbank Tower	211 4319 (Tom Rickett, Press Officer)
Govt Press Centre Little St James Street	930 6776

AW