

HUA'S VISIT TO BRITAINInvitation to visit China

At the return dinner at the Chinese Embassy on Friday evening, Premier Hua invited the Prime Minister to visit China and she readily accepted.

No dates were discussed but when the Prime Minister said goodbye to Premier Hua at Kensington Palace on 3 November, she was asked by PA when she would take up the invitation. Mrs. Thatcher said she hoped that it might be sometime next year during one of the recesses. We can, of course, confirm that she said this but should avoid drawing too much attention to this timing just in case it slips, as it may well do.

Presents

The Prime Minister gave Premier Hua two Crown Derby centrepiece bowls and a tartan rug. To the rest of the delegation she gave copies of "Science and Civilisation in China" (7 volumes) by Joseph Needham. Premier Hua gave Mrs. Thatcher a Chinese scroll painting and an ornamental vase with a red lacquer design. The Prime Minister is very pleased with these presents.

Speech at the Return Dinner, 2 November

The Prime Minister spoke as in the text issued on Friday afternoon departing from it only to emphasise how very popular Premier Hua's visit had been with the British people, who, she said, had good judgment in these matters.