



10 DOWNING STREET

Prime Minister

President Reagan's visit

Content

Yes -!
ask him the machine is not handed
to press or not? not

(a) will programme in attached letter?

(b) that ^{Mrs.} Mrs. Reagan should it will you
in the Royal Gallery?

(c) that there should be no statements by
the President and yourself when he arrives
at the airport

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A.F.C. $\frac{5}{4}$



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

7 April 1982

Dear John,

Visit of President Reagan

Thank you for your letter of 1 April.

We have now succeeded in working out a programme, outlined below, with the American Embassy which they have put to the White House for consideration before Mr Deaver returns on 14 April. We would then hope to be able to produce an agreed programme as follows:

Monday 7 June

1730 Arrive at Heathrow Airport
Met by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh
Helicopter to Windsor Castle
Met by The Queen
Private Dinner

Tuesday 8 June

0900 or Riding with The Queen in Windsor Great Park
0930
1125 Depart Windsor
1155 Arrive Palace of Westminster, Norman Porch
1200 Address to assembled Peers and Members of Parliament
in the Royal Gallery
1245 Depart for No 10 Downing Street
1300 Luncheon
1420 President and Mrs Reagan depart for Buckingham
Palace
Return to Windsor
Private afternoon
2000 Banquet at Windsor Castle

/Wednesday 9 June



Wednesday 9 June

0830 President departs Windsor Castle
0850 Arrive Buckingham Palace
0900 Talks with the Prime Minister at No 10
1030 Depart for Buckingham Palace
1035 ?The Queen bids farewell
1040 Leave for Heathrow
1100 Depart for Bonn

We have discussed the question of a Speaker's reception with the Embassy in the light of your letter and also of remarks by the Speaker's secretary at a meeting with Black Rod on 2 April that the Speaker would like to give a reception. The Americans are not enthusiastic about this. Nevertheless we examined various possibilities bearing in mind that to catch prime American TV time the ceremony of the Address should begin at 1200. They expect the President to speak for 20-25 minutes. With a welcoming address by the Lord Chancellor, a reply by the Speaker and the signing of a Scroll by the President, the ceremony would last not less than 30-35 minutes. If this were to be followed by a reception which could not reasonably last less than half an hour, the President would be unlikely to be able to leave for No 10 before 1330, since it would take some ten to fifteen minutes for the guests to move from the Royal Gallery and reassemble in the Speaker's House. On the assumption that Parliament is sitting we do not think this leaves adequate time for the Prime Minister's luncheon. Of course, if Parliament has not resumed, this could be reconsidered.

We also looked further at the possibility of arranging a small preliminary reception in the Royal Robing Room before the President enters the Royal Gallery. But on advice from Black Rod we have concluded that this arrangement would be unsatisfactory and would detract from the arrival ceremonial in the Royal Gallery. Reluctantly therefore it does not seem possible to work this in to the programme.

You will wish to know that at the meeting with Black Rod it emerged that because of the limitations of space in the Royal Gallery wives would not be able to attend. It was suggested however that Mrs Reagan might sit with the Prime Minister who would be a member of the audience. Murdo Maclean said that he would find out whether this would be acceptable to the Prime Minister.

/The



The Americans here have again raised the question of a statement by the President on arrival at Heathrow. You will recall that we mentioned this in sub paragraph (a) of John Holmes' letter of 22 March. It would be helpful to know the Prime Minister's views so that this question can be settled during Mr Deaver's visit.

I am sending a copy of this letter to David Wright and to Murdo Maclean.

Yours ever,

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F N Richards', written over the typed name.

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing St