

PRIME MINISTER

Premier Hua's Visit, 30 October - 3 November

You will see from the FCO letter below and the attached draft programme that your involvement in Premier Hua's visit, if you accept Lord Carrington's recommendations, would be as follows:-

Monday, 29 October

Morning: Meet Premier Hua at helicopter pad near Kensington Palace Gardens.

Evening: Host reception for Premier Hua at Lancaster House.

Tuesday 30 October

1600-1800 Tête-à-tête meeting, followed by plenary session of talks, at No. 10 (this is now likely to be followed by the signing (by Lord Carrington) of a Cultural Agreement in the White Drawing Room if you agree).

2000-2015 Host dinner at No. 10

Wednesday 31 October

No involvement

Thursday 1 November

1600-1730 Second plenary session of talks

Friday 2 November

Premier Hua's return dinner (if we can persuade the Chinese to move this from Saturday)

Monday 5 November

See Premier Hua off from Kensington Palace Gardens' helicopter pad.

/This is

This is asking a lot of you but it is an exceptionally important visit, not least from the long term commercial point of view and, if you can agree to devote this amount of time to it, I am sure it would be a good investment. I have checked with Caroline that there is no clash with other commitments.

Can you agree to the above?

Ben.

Yes out

16 August 1979

China

MR CARTLEDGE

Visit by Premier Hua

I have now had a careful look at the draft programme for Premier Hua's visit. I must say the Foreign Office really are expecting an awful lot of the Prime Minister but I have tentatively pencilled in all the engagements she is requested to attend and the only point I would make is that Friday 2 November is now free in the diary and so if it suits the Chinese to give their return dinner on that evening rather than Saturday 3rd this would be just as convenient for Mrs. Thatcher.

EJ.

15 August 1979

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FIVE



cc: Miss Stephens.

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

22 August 1979

Visit to the UK by Premier Hua Guofeng, 30 October to 3 November

Thank you for your letter of 14 August about the programme for Premier Hua Guofeng's forthcoming visit to the UK.

The Prime Minister is content with the draft outline programme enclosed with your letter. Specifically, so far as her own involvement in the programme is concerned, the Prime Minister has agreed to meet Premier Hua at Kensington Palace Gardens on the morning of 29 October (if plans for Premier Hua's arrival are changed in a way which might require the Prime Minister to meet him at Heathrow or elsewhere, I shall of course wish to consult her again); to host a reception for Premier Hua at Lancaster House the same evening; to meet Premier Hua for a tête-à-tête discussion at No.10 on 30 October at 1600, and for a plenary session of talks immediately thereafter until 1800; to host the dinner for Premier Hua at No.10 on the evening of 30 October; to meet Premier Hua for a second plenary session of talks, at No.10, on 1 November at 1600; and to say farewell to Premier Hua at Kensington Palace Gardens on 5 November.

The Prime Minister has also agreed that the signing of the Cultural Agreement with the Chinese could take place in the White Drawing Room at No.10, immediately following the plenary session of talks on 30 October.

If it is possible to persuade the Chinese to hold their return dinner on Friday 2 November instead of on Saturday 3 November, the Prime Minister would greatly prefer this.

I am sending copies of this letter to Martin Hall (H.M. Treasury), Roger Facer (Ministry of Defence), Tom Harris (Department of Trade), Andrew Duguid (Department of Industry), Philip Hunter (Department of Education and Science), Bill Burroughs (Department of Energy), Garth Waters (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food), Jim Buckley (Lord President's Office) and Martin Vile (Cabinet Office).

Stc

J.S. Wall, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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