

17/12  
Mr. Turnbulls, Rome  
Mr. Arbutnot, Paris  
CONF

Mr Mahony Planning Staff



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

15 December 1980

Mr Verelst  
Mr. Am...  
Mrs Col...  
Miss Saville...  
17/12

ECD(1) Mr Hannay  
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SED MED  
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PS (2)  
PS/LPS  
PS/Mr Harrod  
PS/Mr Marten  
PS/Mr Parley  
PS/Mr Laga  
PS/PUS  
Mr Day  
Sir J Graham  
Mr Burnard  
Mr Harding  
Mr Ferguson  
Sir L Atkinson

Dear Roderic,

attached

Prime Minister's Overseas Visits and Visitors 1981

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to me of 1 December on this subject. She is generally content with the proposals in it but has made the following comments:-

- (a) The Prime Minister wonders whether a visit by The Queen to Canada in July may not give rise to difficulties associated with the patriation of the Constitution;
- (b) The Prime Minister looks forward to seeing the draft telegrams about her visit to the Gulf in April;
- (c) The Prime Minister agrees that we should try to postpone the Anglo/Italian Summit due to take place in Rome next autumn;
- (d) The Prime Minister agrees that Sir S. Ramgoolam should be invited here in the second week of February.
- (e) The Prime Minister, as you know, does not wish to issue an invitation to Mr. Mugabe just now.
- (f) The Prime Minister does not wish to rush into the next Anglo/Irish Summit;
- (g) The Prime Minister has decided not to invite M. Barre to visit this country before the Presidential elections in France;
- (h) The Prime Minister has noted that she will be seeing Mr. Seaga in Melbourne;
- (i) One possible visit not mentioned in your letter is that to Strasbourg to report to the European Parliament at the end of the UK Presidency. The Prime Minister will not make up her mind as to whether or not she is prepared to do this until Mr. van Agt has made his decision.
- (j) The Prime Minister considered that the idea of a visit to Portugal should be dropped - at least for the time being.

to not at all

Yours ever

Roderic Lyne, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Michael Alexander

1 December 1980

Dear Michael,

Prime Minister's Overseas Visits and  
Visitors 1981

Lord Carrington has been considering possible programmes of visits and visitors for the Prime Minister and himself in 1981. I enclose a schedule of existing plans at Prime Ministerial level and of Lord Carrington's additional proposals, as well as a schedule of the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary's own plans. We assume of course that events are likely to necessitate additional visits, outward and inward, which cannot now be foreseen.

The Queen

As background, I should recall the plans for State Visits next year. The recommendations are likely to be that King Khalid of Saudi Arabia be invited in June and President Shagari of Nigeria in November. If there is a recommendation for a State Visit in March, it may be for President Marcos of the Philippines or President Banda of Malawi. The Queen will visit Norway in May, Australia for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHGM) in September/October, and New Zealand and Sri Lanka later in October. Canada is a possibility in July.

Outward Visits by the Prime Minister

In view of the UK Presidency in the second half of 1981, the Prime Minister may prefer to fit as many of her outward trips as possible into the first half of the year.

Lord Carrington welcomes the idea that the Prime Minister should visit the Gulf in early January or in connection with her Indian visit in April. He suggests that the best countries to visit would be Saudi Arabia, Oman and

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the United Arab Emirates. If the Prime Minister agrees, we shall submit draft telegrams to the Posts with instructions and detailed suggestions. (There will not be time to include visits to all six Arab states in the Persian Gulf, but the Prime Minister has met in the relatively recent past the Amir of Qatar, and the Prime Ministers of Bahrain and Kuwait. They will be borne in mind for another Ministerial visit in the not too distant future.)

The proposals in the schedule for visits to the US and to the North/South Summit in Mexico need little explanation. Lord Carrington will make specific suggestions in due course. We shall also make detailed suggestions about a visit to India in April. A visit to Spain would only be appropriate if the Lisbon Agreement on Gibraltar is implemented. If this condition was met, a visit during the UK Presidency would be particularly appropriate. A visit to Portugal (Paul Lever's letter of 7 November) could be extremely brief, but the Portuguese would wish it to be separate from any visit to Spain.

The schedule of outward visits does not include an Anglo/Italian Summit in Rome in November. The Prime Minister may feel that the frequency of these meetings could be eased by suggesting in due course to the Italians that the second Summit due in 1981 might be postponed because of the UK Presidency until early 1982.

#### Inward Visits

Sir S Ramgoolam, although Prime Minister of Mautitius since independence, has never paid an official visit to Britain. Despite his age he is not expected to retire soon. He is firmly pro-Western and his country is among the few which have preserved the Westminster model of Parliamentary democracy. Lord Carrington recommends that Sir S Ramgoolam should be invited here in the second week of February, when the Mauritian parliament (where the government have a slender majority) will be in recess and when The Queen should be able to receive him. Given the short time available, we would be grateful to know the Prime Minister's wishes as soon as possible.

An invitation to Mr Mugabe would be an excellent way of keeping up the momentum of our relations with Zimbabwe. One of the regular Anglo/Irish Summits will be due in mid-year and should probably be held after the Northern Ireland

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local government elections in June. We shall be writing shortly with detailed suggestions about inviting M. Barre. It would be a suitable gesture to invite the Belgian Prime Minister for a brief visit before we hand over the Presidency to Belgium at the end of the year.

An invitation to Mr Seaga would be an excellent goodwill gesture after the change of government in Jamaica.

We have tended to neglect Cameroon, a stable, moderate country which is one third Anglophone. The Cameroon market, with its sound agricultural base and significant oil reserves, is buoyant and attractive. President Ahidjo, in office since independence in 1960, has just started another 5 year term. Lord Carrington recommends an official invitation in 1981.

Peru has recently returned to democratic government. The economy is strong and offers opportunities for investment and exports. Dr Ulloa, the Prime Minister, is also Minister of the Economy and Commerce and the most important person after the President. An official visit could win us a valuable friend.

The new, moderate Dominican Government would welcome an invitation to the Prime Minister, Miss Charles. There is advantage in demonstrating support for governments favouring stability in the volatile Eastern Caribbean.

You will see that Lord Carrington's schedule of inward visits includes the possibility of inviting the Polish Foreign Minister. But, depending on how things go in Poland, we may later wish to sound the Poles about the possibility of a higher level contact instead.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the members of OD and David Wright in the Cabinet Office.

yours ever  
*R M J Lyne*

(R M J Lyne)  
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq  
10 Downing St

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2. Miss Savill - for  
act to No. 10 on page

D A S Gladstone Esq  
WED  
FCO

Your reference 3 pl, Conery also  
Our reference page 2.  
Date 31 December 1980

Dear David,

P.V.  
@

ANGLO-ITALIAN SUMMITS

Thank you for copying to us Michael Alexander's letter of 15 December from which we note that the Department has proposed, and the Prime Minister agreed, that we should try to postpone the Anglo-Italian summit due to take place in Rome next autumn.

2. I hope we are right to assume that you will not be instructing us to say anything to the Italians before the next summit in London: this would be likely to cause them some alarm and despondency. Better to wait until the two Prime Ministers are in London and come, at the end of their talks, to the item on "time and place of next meeting": it would then appear natural for Mrs Thatcher to refer to her already crowded programme for next autumn and ask the Italians to propose a later date for the next meeting in Rome.

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3. We also assume you are still working on the basis that the next London meeting should be next April, as the Prime Minister told the Ambassador while she was here (Sir R Arculus' minute of 26 November, copied to you), and that you will be asking us in good time to propose some definite dates to the Italians.

Yours ever  
Michael

Michael Simpson-Orlebar

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	SS

cc Mr. Ferguson

ANGLO-ITALIAN SUMMIT

1. The Prime Minister told me she thought April would be the time for Signor Forlani to visit London ie between the March and June European Councils.

26 November 1980

(R Arculus)

*Mr Verlees*  
*Miss Smith*  
*Pa. unob.*  
*1/2.*  
*27/11*

cc: Mr D A S Gladstone, WED