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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

2 October 1986

The joint report
what the President
said in advance of
the PM. NBM

Dear Charles,

US/Soviet Relations: Pre-Summit Meeting

COB
7/11

The United States Embassy have passed on to us the attached letter and message from Mr Shultz to the Foreign Secretary.

Yours ever,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

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September 30, 1986

Dear Geoffrey:

As you know from the announcement made in Washington on September 30, the President and General Secretary Gorbachev have agreed to meet in Reykjavik on October 11 and 12. This meeting will allow the two leaders a chance to discuss, in a private and informal setting, the agenda for the General Secretary's trip to the United States.

Mr. Gorbachev proposed this meeting to make concrete preparations for his trip to the United States, and not as a substitute for that visit, which was agreed at the Geneva Summit last year.

President Reagan believes this meeting provides an important opportunity to make clear to General Secretary Gorbachev that we believe progress in U.S.-Soviet relations is possible, and we remain committed to achieving it. The President also considers it important that the General Secretary suggested holding the meeting on the soil of a member of the NATO Alliance.

As in the past -- as exemplified most recently in his meeting with you last week in New York -- the President will be seeking the counsel of your Government on the substantive issues which may arise in the Reykjavik and any subsequent meetings.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

/s/

George P. Shultz

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF REAGAN/GORBACHEV MEETING

OCTOBER 11-12, 1986

AT 10:00 A.M. WASHINGTON TIME ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, THE PRESIDENT MADE THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT (NOTE: PRESIDENT USED FIRST PERSON IN ACTUAL ANNOUNCEMENT):

BEGIN TEXT:

IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT PRESIDENT REAGAN AND GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV WILL MEET OCTOBER 11-12, 1986, IN REYKJAVIK, ICELAND. THE MEETING WAS PROPOSED BY GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV AND ACCEPTED BY PRESIDENT REAGAN. IT WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE CONTEXT OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES, WHICH WAS AGREED TO AT GENEVA IN NOVEMBER, 1985. THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION APPRECIATE THE WILLINGNESS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ICELAND TO MAKE THIS MEETING IN REYKJAVIK POSSIBLE. END TEXT.

TALKING POINTS

-- THE MEETING WILL BE A PRIVATE AND INFORMAL SESSION TO REVIEW THE AGENDA FOR GENERAL SECRETARY GORBACHEV'S TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES.

-- MR. GORBACHEV PROPOSED THE MEETING, MAKING IT CLEAR THAT IT IS NOT TO TAKE THE PLACE OF HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES, BUT IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING CONCRETE PREPARATIONS FOR HIS MEETINGS IN THE UNITED STATES.

-- THE PRESIDENT ACCEPTED MR. GORBACHEV'S PROPOSAL SINCE HE WISHED TO STRESS HIS COMMITMENT TO REAL PROGRESS IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS.

-- WE CONSIDER IT SYMBOLICALLY IMPORTANT THAT MR. GORBACHEV SUGGESTED HOLDING THE MEETING ON THE SOIL OF A MEMBER OF THE NATO ALLIANCE. WE ARE MOST APPRECIATIVE OF THE WILLINGNESS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ICELAND TO MAKE THEIR FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR THE MEETING.

-- THE UPCOMING MEETING DOES NOT IMPLY ANY CHANGE IN U.S. SUBSTANTIVE POSITIONS PREVIOUSLY CONVEYED TO OUR FRIENDS AND ALLIES.

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-- THE PRESIDENT WILL, OF COURSE, ADDRESS THE KEY ISSUES ACROSS THE RANGE OF THE U.S.-SOVIET AGENDA: REGIONAL CONFLICTS, ARMS CONTROL, HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE EXPANSION OF CONTACTS.

-- SINCE THIS WILL BE A PREPARATORY MEETING, NO AGREEMENTS ARE EXPECTED.

-- WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP YOU INFORMED AS WE PREPARE FOR THE MEETING, AND WILL CONTINUE TO CONSULT ON THE ISSUES WHICH MAY ARISE.

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