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cc Mr Powell, No 10

CSFC

- we spoke. This
 may be overtaken by
 Gertych's appointment
 at No 10 in early October.

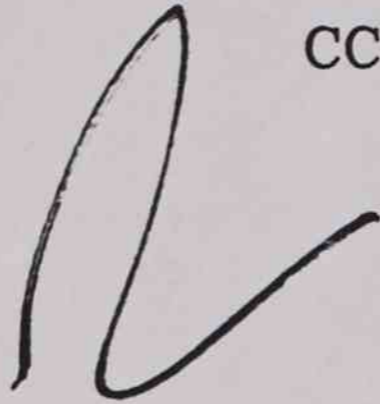
FROM: C Hulse
 Eastern European Dept

DATE: 20 September 1988

CC: Mr Ratford

Mr Parker

by Parker
 26/9



PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO POLAND

1. I should be grateful for your advice on the following. Last week Mr Ratford received a letter from Mr Andrew Ciechanowiecki, a wealthy Pole who runs an art gallery in Jermyn Street. (Ciechanowiecki supplied us with a picture for the Secretary of State to take as a present when he visited Poland in 1985). He asked whether his fellow Director, John Pomian, could call to deliver a "highly confidential" message about the Prime Minister's visit.
2. In Mr Ratford's absence I saw Mr Pomian this afternoon. The message was that the Polish Ambassador (a close friend) wished to call on the Prime Minister before she set off for Poland. Mr Gertych also wished to know whether the Foreign Office could supply an interpreter, since he did not wish to bring another member of the Embassy with him.
3. You may wish to have a word about this with Mr Powell when he returns. The Polish Ambassador would be enormously appreciative if he could have a few minutes of the Prime Minister's time. We do not know whether he has any particular message to convey. However, he is very close to Jaruzelski and will be returning to Warsaw for the visit.
4. The request for an interpreter is very unusual and suggests that Gertych does not trust his staff (he himself is not a career diplomat but a politician - and was Deputy Prime Minister in fact). If Mr Powell thinks that we should agree to this, the interpretation could be done by Mr Jenkins of Research Department, whose Polish is excellent. If Mr Powell thinks this unnecessary the Ambassador will presumably come with his No 2, Matuszewski, as he does for calls on the FCO. Gertych's English is unfortunately very poor.
5. I should be grateful to know in due course how I should reply to Pomian.

C Hulse

C Hulse

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10 DOWNING STREET
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From the Private Secretary

26 September 1988

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO POLAND

Thank you for sending me a copy of Mr. Hulse's minute of 20 September about the wish of the Polish Ambassador to call on the Prime Minister before her visit to Poland. I found this slightly odd. I have discussed the call on a number of occasions with the Ambassador, left him in no doubt that it would be arranged, and gave him a time on 7 October at least two weeks ago. I do not much mind who interprets for the Ambassador when he comes: may I leave it to you to sort it out.

(C. D. POWELL)

Lyn Parker, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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