

PRIME MINISTER

Visit of Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister

I suggest that the talks (at noon) are held in the Cabinet Room - though you will need to end Cabinet by 1150 in order that the room can be prepared.

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He will be accompanied by:

Mr. Hassan Ali	(Minister of Trade)
Mr. Ahmed Taqi	(Minister of Oil)
Mr. Qaraghuli	(Ambassador)
Mr. Sahhaf	(MFA official)

We shall have Mr. Luce, Mr. Channon, Mr. Moberly (our Ambassador) and Mr. Egerton (FCO).

The briefs are not easy to summarise and I hope you will have time to glance through them.

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The Foreign Secretary had an unproductive meeting with Ramadhan this afternoon. The latter spent a lot of time setting out his views on the world. When Sir Geoffrey raised the cases of Mr. Hagger and Mr. Smith he immediately linked them to the case of the convicted terrorist, Salim Hassan, and virtually implied that the latter's actions had the approval of the Iraqi Government. It will be necessary to make it plain that there can be no exchange of prisoners.

I attach a letter describing Mr. Channon's meeting with the Iraqi Trade Minister this afternoon. The Iraqis were, predictably, not very gracious about our offer of credit. But there is every prospect that the two sides will sign a satisfactory agreement at 11 o'clock tomorrow, before your talks. Mr. Channon will attend the talks.

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/As Mr. Ramadhan

8. R.  
As Mr. Ramadhan speaks no <sup>English</sup> ~~Arabic~~ there will have to be interpretation, which will cut down the time for talking.

You may think that the best way to handle the formal talks is to keep them fairly general. You may like to follow these headings:

- a) His view of the situation in the Gulf and the Iran/Iraq war.
- b) Oil - March OPEC agreement successful in restoring order but market remains fragile.
- c) Encouraged by improvement in bilateral relations. Have made effort on credit (see attached letter from DTI). Expect prompt payment to UK firms, some of whom are suffering badly.
- d) Hope Consular cases will not prevent further progress (mention specific cases of Hagger and Smith over lunch).
- e) Hope we can make progress with Nimrod and Hawk trainer sales.
- f) Hope Iraq will not support Argentine resolution on Falklands.

I attach some notes for an after lunch speech.

A.S.C.

5 October 1983