

PRIME MINISTER

MEETING WITH MR. MEDVEDEV

You are to see Mr. Medvedev tomorrow afternoon. He is a member of the Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party and will have been intimately involved in the events of the past few days, and also with the problems of the Baltic States. He is leading a delegation from the Supreme Soviet, which is here for a week. They have a good programme, including three days in Wales and an overnight stay with Peter Walker.

Medvedev is in charge of ideology, a pretty thankless task at present. He is no great progressive (and the Soviet Ambassador, who has known him for some time, is rather disparaging about him). But he seems to be a close and loyal ally of Gorbachev.

You have a maximum of 75 minutes for the meeting, with the Amir of Qatar hard on Medvedev's heels. Given the time factor, you will want to concentrate on two points:

- his account of this week's Central Committee meeting and how the reform process will now be taken forward in the Soviet Union: both political and economic reform and the problems of the nationalities;
- the Soviet attitude to developments in Germany. You will want to refer to Gorbachev's recent message to you (in the folder) and give your views, about how we are to manage German reunification. You will want to mention the relationship of a united Germany to NATO (we do not think a neutral Germany would be in the Soviet Union's interests), the future of Four Power rights and the prospects for a CSCE Conference. You will want to enquire what Mr. Gorbachev expects to emerge from his meeting with Chancellor Kohl next weekend.

If there is any time left, you will want to touch briefly on bilateral relations, referring to your forthcoming visit to Kiev

bilateral relations, referring to your forthcoming visit to Kiev and our hope that Mr. Ryzhkov will come here later this year.

There is a (not very good) note by the FCO in the folder, together with a copy of Medvedev's programme, Mr. Gorbachev's recent message and the FCO's comments on it.

CDP

C.D. POWELL

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