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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

11 April 1986

VISIT OF THE AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER

Thank you for your letter of 10 April about the arrangements for Mr. Hawke's visit on 21 April.

The Prime Minister is content to extend the meeting with Mr. Hawke and make it a two-hour 'forum' as he proposes. It would suit her best if the start could be brought forward an hour, so that the meeting runs from 1530-1730 (though you might put it to Mr. Hawke that the first half hour should be tête-à-tête with note-takers only).

The Prime Minister would be grateful if the Foreign Secretary, the Trade and Industry Secretary and Minister for Agriculture could attend, each with one official together with Mr. Williamson, Cabinet Office. We could offer the Australians six places in addition to Mr. Hawke and the High Commissioner.

I should be grateful for briefs on the issues likely to be raised by 1600 on Friday 18 April.

I am copying this letter to John Mogg (Department of Trade and Industry), Ivor Llewelyn (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) and David Williamson (Cabinet Office).

CHARLES POWELL

Robert Culshaw, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Prime Minister
Agree to make this a two-hour "seminar" meeting, to leaven Mr. Hawke's disappointment at losing the working supper?
Yes
CDP 10/4

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

10 April 1986

Dear Charles,

Visit of the Australian Prime Minister

As requested in your letter of 8 April, we have sought Mr Hawke's views on what might replace the working supper, which has had to be cancelled.

Mr Hawke was disappointed at the cancellation. As he will be seeing The Queen earlier that day, Mr Hawke would prefer not to attend the gala performance. Nor does he wish to pursue the alternative proposal of a working supper given by the Foreign Secretary.

Mr Hawke has, however, asked if the meeting scheduled for 4pm could be extended until 6pm. Your letter suggested that some extension might be possible. Mr Hawke has also asked if the Secretary of State for Trade & Industry and the Minister of Agriculture could be brought in on the meeting, which Mr Hawke hopes might be more of a "forum type". In keeping with this the Australian High Commission were instructed to ask if the Australian party might consist of eight (sic) senior officials as well as Mr Hawke and the High Commissioner.

I am aware that this unusual request may well cause difficulties and that the Prime Minister would prefer a much more restricted session with Mr Hawke. However, given the unavoidable cancellation of the working supper, we should be grateful if his request could be considered sympathetically, with a view to making some concession to Australian wishes. Mr Hawke is clearly looking forward to a full and thorough discussion, particularly on international trade matters, in London before going on to Brussels.

Yours ever

(R N Culshaw)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street