

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

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April 6, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JOHN O. MARSH OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

Subject: Appointment Request for the British Ambassador

The new British Ambassador, Sir Peter Ramsbotham, has requested an appointment to pay a courtesy call on the Vice President as soon after April 9 as the Vice President's schedule permits.

Biographic data on the Ambassador is attached.

Springsteen Executive Secretary

Attachment:

Biographic data.

BIOGRAPHY - Sir Peter Ramsbotham, K.C.M.G.

United Kingdom

Sir Peter was born October 8, 1919, the son of the first Viscount Soulbury, a former Governor General of Ceylon. He was married in 1941 to the former Frances Blomfield; there are three children from the marriage, two sons, born in 1943 and 1949, and a daughter born in 1945.

He was educated at Eton and Magdalen College, Oxford. Leaving the University in 1940, he served until 1946 in the intelligence branch of the Army where he made an outstanding record. He achieved the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, was "mentioned in despatches", and was awarded the Croix de Guerre in 1945. During 1946-47, he was chief security officer of the Military Government in Hamburg. In 1948, he joined the Diplomatic Service, serving as Second Secretary in the Political Division of the Allied Control Commission, Berlin, from November 1948 to late 1950, when he was transferred back to London as First Secretary in the Foreign Office, dealing with Middle Eastern financial and economic affairs.

In 1953, Sir Peter was assigned as Head of Chancery in the UK delegation to the United Nations and served there for four years. In 1957, he was again posted to London, where in 1961 he was made Counselor and Head of the Western Organizations and Planning Department. In 1962, he was assigned to Paris as Counselor and Head of Chancery, serving there until 1966. During 1967-68, Sir Peter was back in London on sabbatical leave at the Institute of Strategic Studies. From 1969-71, he was High Commissioner in Cyprus, and in 1971, went to Tehran as Ambassador where he has served until the present.

Sir Peter has been characterized as having a penetrating, flexible and open mind. He is well versed in the Middle East, international organizations, and from his Foreign Office tours, European organizations. He worked closely with Prime Minister Heath in the early 1960's when the latter was in charge of the UK negotiations re entry into the EEC. He is also reported to be warm and friendly toward Americans. N∩'Ċ

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Washington, D.C. 20520

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MEMOPANDUM FOR MR. JOHN O. MARSH OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

Subject: Call on the Vice President by the British Ambassador

The Vice President has agreed to receive the new British Ambassador, Sir Peter Ramsbotham, for a courtesy call on April 30 at 10:00 a.m.

Attached for the use of the Vice President are talking points which he might wish to raise during the meeting, along with some topics which the Ambassador might mention.

Hamilton

George S. Springsteen Executive Secretary

Attachment:

Talking Points

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Suggested Talking Points

Background

Sir Peter RAMSBOTHAM (Pronounced Ramsbottom)

The United Kingdom

Addressed as: Mr. Ambassador or Sir Peter

Sir Peter was born October 8, 1919, and was educated at Eton and Magdelen College, Oxford. Leaving the University in 1940, he served with distinction in the intelligence branch of the Army. In 1948 he joined the Diplomatic Service, and has served in Berlin, at the UN and in Paris. From 1969-71, he was High Commissioner in Cyprus and from 1971-74 was Ambassador in Tehran. He is well versed in the Middle East and international organizations. He worked closely with former Prime Minister Heath in the early 1960's when the latter was in charge of UK negotiations regarding entry into the EEC. Sir Peter was married in 1941 to the former Frances Blomfield, and they have three children.

Points Ambassador Ramsbotham May Raise:

- -- Sir Peter will probably stress the cordial and friendly reception which he and Lady Ramsbotham have received from the President and all members of his Administration.
- -- He can be expected to assure you that the Wilson government considers the maintenance of close and effective relations between our two countries as a cornerstone of Britain's foreign policy.
- -- He is also likely to emphasize that the UK not only wishes to see the Atlantic Alliance

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continue strong and effective but also to see equally close and firm ties between the United States and the European Community.

-- In view of his recent experience in Iran, Sir Peter might mention his assignment there.

Points the Vice President Might Raise:

- -- Our pleasure in having Sir Peter as Her Majesty's Ambassador to the United States and in having his great experience and wisdom to draw upon as we seek solutions to our common problems.
- -- The warm and friendly spirit which the Ramsbothams have shown since their arrival and which has so quickly established them in official and diplomatic circles in Washington.
- -- The fact that we see no contradiction between continuing and strengthening the unique relations which have for so long existed between our two countries while broadening our understanding and cooperation with the European Community, and other nations as well.
- -- Our hope to work together with all governments of good will to build a durable structure of peace and prosperity for us all.

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, D.C.

April 30, 1974

TO: THE VICE PRESIDENT

Attached are suggested talking points and background on Sir Peter Ramsbotham for use at your 10:00 am meeting.

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Suggested Talking Points

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The United Kingdom

Addressed as: Mr. Ambassador or Sir Peter

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