

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library
Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: Press Secretary, White House Office of
the: Press Releases and Press Briefings
Folder Title: Press Briefings: #1623 11/21/1985
Box: 40

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Geneva, Switzerland)

PRESS BRIEFINGS
BY
LARRY SPEAKES

November 21, 1985

Hotel International
Geneva, Switzerland

11:15 A.M. (L)

MR. SPEAKES: That's the end of the Secretary's briefing.

Q -- 15 minutes.

MR. SPEAKES: Let me give you a bit of color here in the final session following the public appearance of the two leaders. They met from 10:25 to 10:38 in a one-on-one session to bid farewell. This was the 6th meeting -- private meeting between the two. That totals up to around 6 hours; we don't have an exact number.

They then were joined -- they then joined their negotiators, their partners, at the table during the summit. Secretary Gorbachev and President Reagan were served champagne. They toasted their colleagues, Secretary General Gorbachev saying, this gave a new start in the right direction in our relationship; President Reagan saying, "So many contributed so much to improving our relations."

Q Where was that, Larry?

Q -- this morning?

MR. SPEAKES: That was this morning in the session following the public session.

Q Where?

Q At the conference center?

MR. SPEAKES: At the conference center. In a private room, following the conference.

Q Would you repeat Gorbachev's --

Q Would you repeat that last quote, Larry?

MR. SPEAKES: Okay, let's tune up, now. Ready?

10:25 a.m. to 10:38 a.m. -- 13 minutes, the two of them met in their 6th private meeting.

Q 6th?

MR. SPEAKES: 6th private meeting, if you count last night, which was more or less a private meeting. And they toasted their colleagues with champagne. General Secretary Gorbachev said it gave a new start in the right direction in our relationship.

The President said, "So many contributed so much to improving our relationship."

Okay, with that, we'll discontinue our television

MORE

#1622-11/21

1623

coverage. Any housekeeping questions?

First of all, we have the as-delivered of the President's and the General Secretary's statement, which we will pass out shortly.

On the press plane from Brussels to Washington will be two officials who have been actively involved in the negotiations who will be available to you. They will speak on background as Senior Administration Officials on the aircraft. They are Jack Matlock, Special Assistant to the President of the NSC, who is the Soviet expert and has been totally involved in the preparation and the negotiation; Ken Adelman, the Director of Agency for Arms Control Disarmament.

Q What are they going to do --

Q Speech -- how about the speech --

Q -- they going to speak over the P.A. or something?

MR. SPEAKES: No, no. They will speak privately to you in various sessions. They would like to get a little sleep.

Q Any more detail on when we can get the speech which

--

MR. SPEAKES: Speech at 7:30 p.m at Andrews.

Let's move quickly, because we need to get Bud on.

Q In the press -- it will be available in the Press Center?

Q -- now.

MR. SPEAKES: In the press center at Andrews.

Q Did the two First Ladies say good-bye to each other?

MR. SPEAKES: They did not meet today.

Let me urge you, in this briefing, it's in your own interest to please ask precise questions and ask good questions and not frivolous questions to help your colleagues, because Bud needs to conclude, and you need to file.

This is on background, no TV, attributed to a Senior Administration Official.

END

11:19 A.M. (L)
#~~1622~~-11/21

1623