



Mr. Barclay.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Would you handle pl.

A.F.C. $\frac{26}{1}$

25 January 1984

Perhaps we can let Mrs. B-S know. not

Prime Minister.

Johnathan

A.F.C. $\frac{25}{1}$

Mrs Bonner-Sakharov

In your letter of 18 January reporting the call on the Prime Minister by Mr and Mrs Yankelevich you said that the Prime Minister would wish to know the result of the action on behalf of Mrs Bonner-Sakharov taken by the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary at his meeting with Mr Gromyko in Stockholm on 19 January.

Sir G Howe told Gromyko that the Soviet Union's fulfillment of its human rights commitments was one of a number of important factors affecting public perceptions and international confidence. Both would be given a considerable boost if the Soviet Union would respond favourably, particularly in cases where the individual's health was in jeopardy. Mrs Bonner and Shcharansky were two examples among many of the sort of cases Sir G Howe had in mind. Gromyko responded, typically, that to mention the subject of human rights had lowered the level of the meeting. He refused to discuss it.

Handwritten signature

(R B Bone)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

SOVIET UNION : SAKHAROV : JAN 80 :



25 JAN 1984

