

no

WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN FOR SOVIET JEWRY

Co-Chairmen: RITA EKER, MARGARET RIGAL

564 Finchley Road, London NW11
Temporary Address from 7.12.83:
35's (Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry),
c/o Mrs. R. Eker, 96 Kingsley Way, London, N.2.
Telephone number is still: 01-458 7147.

BY HAND.

RE (100) P

Mrs. M. Thatcher,
The Prime Minister,
10, Downing Street,
London S.W.1.

13th February 1984.

Dear Mrs. Thatcher,

Avital Shcharansky has asked us to write to you before your visit to Moscow. We are confident that you will not forget the appalling situation that Anatoly is still facing or the increasing persecutions suffered by Soviet christians and jews.

We would like to send you our best wishes and hope that there is an opportunity for you to discuss these and other matters with the new leaders in the Kremlin for the sake of peace throughout the world.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Eker Margaret Rigal

Rita Eker & Margaret Rigal r.n.
CO-Chairman Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry.



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

27 February 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you and Mrs. Rigal for your letter of 13 February.

I regret that I am not in a position to give you an account of the Prime Minister's exchanges with the new Soviet leadership as these must out of necessity remain confidential. But as you know, Mrs. Thatcher has repeatedly made clear her attitude to the question of human rights abuses in the Soviet Union and specifically to the case of Anatoly Shcharansky. She has asked me to assure you that she has no intention of forgetting his plight, or that of the many others facing similar hardship and injustice in the Soviet Union.

David Barclay

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Mrs. Rita Eker.

GR?

CONFIDENTIAL



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

27 February 1984

Handwritten initials/signature

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two pcc

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27/2

Dear David,

Thank you for your letter of 14 February enclosing a copy of a letter the Prime Minister had received from the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry.

As you know, the Prime Minister did not in fact raise the question of human rights during her meeting with Mr Chernenko. I understand that the public line on this subject was discussed with Mr Ingham on the return flight from Moscow, and that the draft reply reflects the line agreed then.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL



DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despach/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM PS/Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

TO: Rita Eker and Margaret Rigal
 Co Chairman Women's Campaign
 for Soviet Jewry
 96 Kingsley Way
 LONDON N2

Your Reference

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

SUBJECT:

The PM has asked me to

Thank you for your letter of 13 February, ~~to Prime Minister.~~

I regret that I am not in a position to give you an account of the Prime Minister's exchanges with the new Soviet leadership as these must out of necessity remain confidential, *But* as you know, Mrs Thatcher has repeatedly made clear her attitude to the question of human rights abuses in the Soviet Union and specifically to the case of Anatoly Shcharansky. *She has asked me to* ~~I can~~ assure you that she has no intention of forgetting his plight, or that of the many others facing similar hardship and injustice in the Soviet Union.

Enclosures—flag(s).....



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Miss Rita EKER

28/2

14 February, 1984

I enclose a copy of a letter the Prime Minister has received from Miss Rita Eker of the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry.

I should be grateful if you could let me have a draft Private Secretary reply by Tuesday, 28 February.

(David Barclay)

R. Bone, Esq.,

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

8/14