



je vk
cfo

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

24 December 1984

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 28 November about Dr. Sakharov and Mrs Bonner, and for letting her have your latest news about them.

She and the Foreign Secretary both raised their case with Mr. Gorbachev last week. The latter's reply was unsatisfactory; he merely referred to Soviet internal legislation, and avoided making any direct reference to the particular names that were raised. Nevertheless, the British Government's view remains that, however disappointing the Soviet replies, it is important to go on raising cases like that of Dr. Sakharov in order to show that human rights remains a subject of real concern here. The Prime Minister assures you that she and her Ministers will continue to do all they realistically can to drive this point home.

TIM FLESHER

Mr. Efram Yankelevich

ecu

CFPS.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

21 December, 1984

Dear David,

GM
PS

Thank you for your letter of 3 December, enclosing one addressed to the Prime Minister from Mr Efrem Yankelevich.

/ I enclose a draft Private Secretary reply.

Yours Sincerely,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq
10 Downing Street

Revised)

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

Private Secretary, No 10

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Unclassified

Efrem Yankelevich Esq
54 Maplewood Avenue
Newton
Mass 02159
USA

Copies to:

SC 2 ABM

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 28 November about Dr Sakharov and Mrs Bonner, and for letting her have your latest news about them.

She and the Foreign Secretary both raised their case with Mr Gorbachev this week. The latter's reply was unsatisfactory; he merely referred to Soviet internal legislation, and avoided making any direct reference to the particular names that were raised. Nevertheless, the British Government's view remains that, however disappointing the Soviet replies, it is important to go on raising cases like that of Dr Sakharov in order to show that human rights remains a subject of real concern here. The Prime Minister assures you that she and her Ministers will continue to do all they realistically can to drive this point home.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

SOVIET UNION

SAKHAROV

Jan 1980

TEL NO

DEPARTMENT

You Request

1234567890
1234567890 Avenue
1234567890
1234567890

Copy to

The time has come when we must take a stand for
your letter of 23 November about Mr. Sakharov and
the Bureau, and for letting her have your latest
news about them.

She and the foreign secretary both raised their case
with Mr. Gorbachev this week. The latter's reply was

essentially correct; he merely returned to Soviet

internal legislation, and avoided making any direct

reference to the particular names that were raised.

Nevertheless, the official, somewhat more tentative

that, however disappointing the Soviet reply,

it is important to go on raising cases like that of

Mr. Sakharov in order to show that human rights remains



FILE 84

Aded
(3/12)

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

3 December, 1984

I enclose a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from Mr. Efrem Yankelevich of Massachusetts.

~~BF~~
17/12/84

I should be grateful if you would provide a draft Private Secretary reply which I might send to Mr. Yankelevich by 17 December.

DAVID BARCLAY

Colin Budd, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

ECU

EFREM YANKELEVICH
54 MAPLEWOOD AVENUE
NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02159
(617) 964-8528

CF PP's P

Mr. David Barclay
10 Downing Str.
London SW1
ENGLAND

PP CB (FCO) PS

November 28th, 1984

Dear Mr. Barclay:

I wonder if I may ask you, once again, to convey the enclosed letter to the Prime Minister. As far as I understand, Mr. Gorbachev is expected to be received by the Prime Minister, and, as you can see, I view this meeting as an extremely important opportunity to affect both present and future Soviet position toward the Sakharovs.

I greatly appreciate your assistance.

Sincerely yours

E. Yankelevich
Efrem Yankelevich

EFREM YANKELEVICH
54 MAPLEWOOD AVENUE
NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02159
(617) 964-8528

The Right Honourable
Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister
10 Downing Str.
London SW1
ENGLAND

November 28th, 1984

Madam:

I deeply appreciate efforts of your Government on behalf of Dr. and Mrs. Sakharov. Sir Geoffrey How recently informed me that he had raised, on my request, the issue of the Sakharovs, once again, at his meeting with Mr. Gromyko in New York.

I would not want to bother you again, if not for Mr. Gorbachev's forthcoming visit to London.

Whether or not Mr. Gorbachev will succeed Mr. Chernenko, as many believe, it could be already in his power to influence the Politburo's attitude toward the "Sakharov's problem". If he is to become the next Secretary General, it would be of utmost importance to make Mr. Gorbachev aware what the British Government will be expecting from the new leadership in respect to the Sakharovs.

I wonder if Mr. Gorbachev could be asked whether he, personally, believes that the Sakharovs will be eventually released.

Few words, if I may, on the current situation with the Sakharovs. It appears that Dr. Sakharov has been released from the hospital around September 10th. It is not known when he actually stopped the hungerstrike, but some unconfirmed reports suggest that it could have been the end of June, or early July. While in hospital, he was reportedly force-fed and administered psychotropic drugs. Mrs. Bonner-Sakharov is, apparently, sentenced to exile in Gorky. They are held, virtually incommunicado, in their Gorky apartment. The fact that they are together and, apparently, in satisfactory condition, is the only information contained in a few postcards, which were recently received from Mrs. Sakharov.

Yours respectfully

Efrem Yankelevich

SOVIET UNION

Sakharov

Jan 80

5 DEC 1984

