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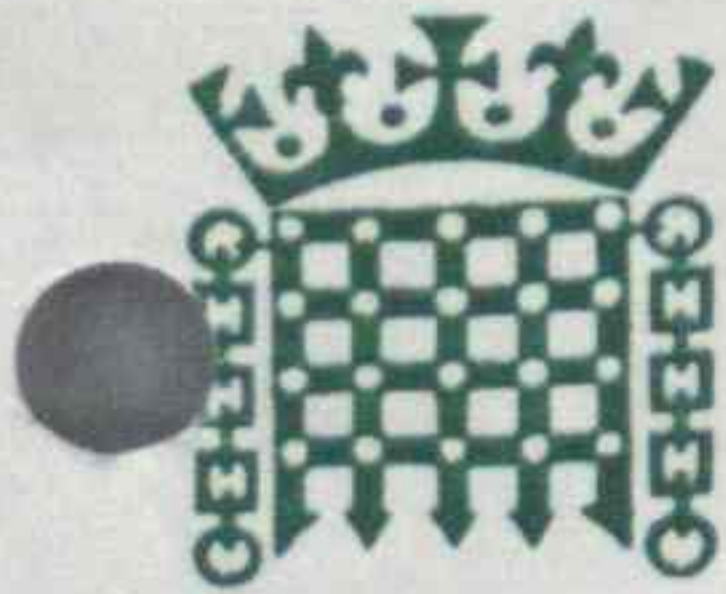
10 DOWNING STREET

~~PRIME MINISTER~~

Here is an outrageous letter from Ron Brown MP suggesting you should invite President Karmal to come to London. We will let you have a draft reply.

MS

20 January 1981



CC IG
Press Office

20/1

R. Brown
67 Pilton Avenue
Edinburgh. EH5 2HP

16 Jan 1981

Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP
10 Downing Street
LONDON

Repl

Dear Prime Minister,

AFGHANISTAN

I am sure you will be interested to know that during my recent visit to Afghanistan I met President Babrak Karmal. He explained his country's position, saying that Soviet troops would leave immediately he secured agreement with neighbouring countries over the Afghan border.

When I pressed him on this point, he stressed that he wanted early negotiations to resolve this matter.

He seemed sincere and I think his offer should be tested by inviting him to talks with yourself in London.

I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

MP for Leith