

The British Olympic Association

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23rd January 1980.

The Right Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.
10 Downing Street
LONDON S.W.1.

Dear Mrs. Thatcher,

MOSCOW OLYMPICS

I have your letter of 22nd January 1980 concerning the above.

I will, as you request, approach the International Olympic Committee with your suggestion that the Olympic Games be moved from Moscow.

Without the approval of the members of my National Olympic Committee, I am in no position to support your suggestion. I am, however, sending a copy of your letter to members of that Committee with a request for their observations.

You should know that your further suggestion that various sports associated with the Olympic programme be held in this country is beset with constitutional and practical difficulties.

In the first place, the International Federation of the sport concerned would have to approve the holding of a tournament of an International nature.

So far as I am aware none of the twenty six International Federations governing the Games, comprising the Olympic programme, has made any move to change the venue of the Games in Moscow.

Their response to a request to authorise staging of alternative Games is not difficult to imagine.

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PT has seen.

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The practical difficulties of organising alternative tournaments, assuming permission were obtained so to do, would be immense. Speaking for the sport about which I know most, namely Association Football, I must say it took four years for the Football Association to organise the World Cup held in England in 1966.

The Olympic Tournament is the World Cup in miniature. I cannot see it being organised in less than six months!

Yours sincerely,

Denis Follows

SIR DENIS FOLLOWS

Chairman

The greatest contribution of organizing administrative management
has been to bring to our minds the fact that the organization
is a living entity which must be constantly re-created and
re-organized to meet the changing needs of the organization.
The organization must be able to adapt to the changing
needs of the organization in order to survive.

Very truly yours,
[Signature]

24 JAN 1960

