



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

23 July 1979

The Prime Minister has asked me to reply to your letter of 28 June about the recent arrest and detention of ten signatories of Charter 77. Mrs Thatcher read with great interest and sympathy your description of the deplorable situation faced by these ten people, including three women.

The British Government were already following this matter very carefully. Indeed, along with other members of the European Community, we had expressed to the Czechoslovak Government the deep concern of public opinion and the Government in Britain. We had also reminded your Government of the importance we attach to the full implementation of the Helsinki Final Act, including the provisions which deal with human rights.

The Prime Minister has asked me to assure you most warmly that you need have no fear that your letter will be forgotten. It will be vividly in our minds as we pursue discussions with other Governments about the need for full implementation of the Final Act and an end to unjustified treatment of those who speak out for human rights everywhere in Europe.

H. G. CAMPBELL

Mrs E. Kanturkova.