



10 DOWNING STREET
PRIME MINISTER

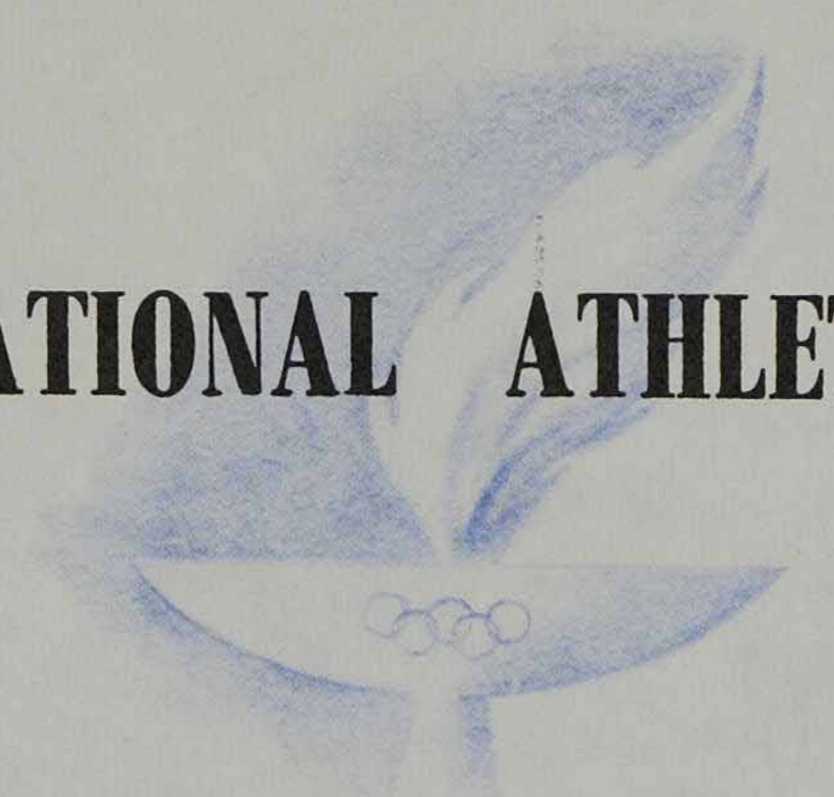
I attach a letter from the Chairman and Secretary of the International Athletes' Club. This, as you will see, is signed by 78 prominent athletes. However it is noteworthy that only one of our potential medal winners (Alan Wells) is among the signatories. None of our other potential medal winners (Messrs Capes, Coe, Moorcroft, Foster or Thompson or Miss Sanderson) have signed.

*I have asked for a
draft reply.*

3 March 1980

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Reeds *Reeds*

INTERNATIONAL ATHLETES' CLUB



HAMPDEN HOUSE
84 KINGSWAY
LONDON WC2B 6SD
Tel: 01-242 8154

The Prime Minister,
THE RIGHT HON. MRS. MARGARET THATCHER,
No. 10, Downing Street,
LONDON.

3rd March, 1980.

Dear Mrs. Thatcher,

Please find enclosed a copy of a letter signed by 78 athletes concerning participation in the Olympic Games, which you are asked to take firm note of.

At a Committee Meeting of the I.A.C. yesterday it was furthermore resolved that this organisation apply formally and immediately to the I.O.C. for permission to select, transport and manage a British Athletics team for Moscow in the event the B.A.A.B. or B.O.A. act in breach of Rule 24c., viz:

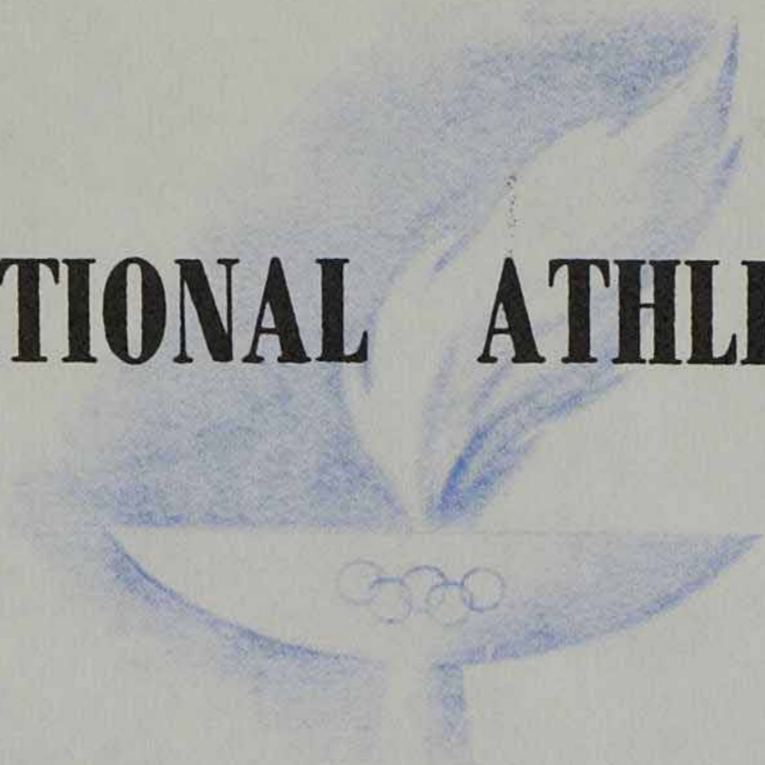
"N.O.C.s must be autonomous and must resist all pressures of any kind whatsoever, whether of a political, religious or economic nature. In pursuing these objectives, N.O.C.s may co-operate with private or government organisations. However, they must not associate themselves with any undertaking which would be in conflict with the principles of the Olympic movement and with the rules of the I.O.C."

Yours sincerely,

DAVID BEDFORD
CHAIRMAN

DEREK JOHNSON
HON. SECRETARY

INTERNATIONAL ATHLETES' CLUB



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We, the undersigned, affirm our right to take part in the Olympic Games in Moscow.

We make it clear that in no way do we support Soviet domestic and foreign policies. Just as the presence of the British Ambassador in Moscow implies no approval of the regime, neither will our presence in Moscow in July imply approval.

Since, however, we have an opportunity of expressing our disapproval of Soviet policies, we are prepared, under explicit instruction of the B.A.A.B., to refuse to take part in the Opening and Closing Ceremonies and, in the event that we are recipients of medals, to leave the rostrum immediately after presentation and before the National Anthems are played.

We are not prepared, however, to preside over the destruction of the Olympic movement, and consider that in the end, the Government's responsibility to solve the Afghan crisis is through normal diplomatic means.

We would now like the right and opportunity of preparing ourselves for the Olympic Games free of governmental pressure.

We hope that participants in other Olympic Sports will join us in this action.

Name

Address

.....

Signature

Date

SIGNATORIES TO I.A.C. LETTER

Ainsley Bennett
Alan Wells
Steve Green
Drew McMaster
Mike McFarlane
Steve Scutt
Steve Wymark
Alan Bell
Mike Powell
Terry Whitehead
Phil Cooke
Mike McLeod
Mark Holtom
Berwyn Price
Wilbert Greaves
Gary Oakes
Roger Hackney
John Davies
Colin Reitz
Graham Fell
Roger Mills
Chris Harvey
Amos Seddon
Adrian James
Brad McStravick
Ossie Cham
Roy Mitchell
Aston Moore
Alan Williams
Keith Stock
Simon Osborne
Peter Yates
Dave Ottley
Chris Black
Jim Whitehead
Nick Rose
Dave Black
Steve Binns
Steve Emson
Nat Muir
Julian Goater
Bill Hartley
Richard Ashton
Peter Gordon
George Nibre
Graham Williamson
Cameron Sharp
Phil Cooke
David Wilson

Heather Hunte
Wendy Clarke
Jos. Hoyte Smith
Donna Hartley
Lindsey MacDonald
Michelle Probert
Chris Benning
Katrina Finch
Ann Ford
Paula Fudge
Lorna Boothe
Wendy McDonnell
Yvette Wray
Chris Warden
Sue Longden
Anne Marie Devalley
Barbara Simmonds
Louise Miller
Sue Hearnshaw
Sue Reeve
Vinessa Head
Fatima Whitbread
Liz Barnes
Cherry Hanson
Janet Marlow
Jo White
Gill Dainty
Sue Morley
Moira Maguire

DECLINED TO SIGN

Steve Ovet
Mick Winch (reasons given)
Steve Cram
Tim Foulger
Geoff Capes (reasons given)
Nick Lees (reasons given)
Christina Boxer (reasons given)
Judy Oakes (reasons given)

Beverley Goddard
Tessa Sanderson

LETTER SENT TO FOLLOWING ATHLETES BELIEVED TO BE ABROAD

Sonia Lannaman
Kathy Smallwood
Janet Prictoe
Gillian Hitchen
Meg Ritchie

Olly Flynn
Panny Zeniou
Mark Naylor
Sebastian Coe

UNABLE TO OBTAIN A REPLY FROM THE FOLLOWING

Trevor Hoyte
Dave Baptiste

David Jenkins
John Robson
Dave Moorcroft
Brendan Foster

Alan Drayton
Brian Burgess
Brian Hooper
Colin Sutherland

Edie Cutting
Chris McGeorge
Dave Wilson