

Subject:
Soviet Union: May 1980: Human Rights

RESTRICTED

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OPS

RR BELGRADE

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. T67A/83

RR NICOSIA

GRS 242

RESTRICTED

FM F C O 191140Z MAY 83

TO ROUTINE HELSINKI

TELEGRAM NUMBER 130 OF 19 MAY

AND TO VIENNA, STOCKHOLM, BELGRADE, NICOSIA

INFO UKDEL MADRID

INFO SAVING WASHINGTON, PARIS, BONN, UKDEL NATO, MOSCOW

MIPT

Prime Ministers

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE REPLY:

BEGINS

THANK YOU FOR THE LETTER DATED 18 APRIL IN WHICH YOU AND CERTAIN OTHER HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES CALLED FOR AN EARLY CONCLUSION TO THE MADRID MEETING ON THE BASIS OF THE DRAFT CONCLUDING DOCUMENT WHICH THE NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED PARTICIPANTS TABLED ON 15 MARCH.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AGREES WITH YOU ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CSCE PROCESS. THE MADRID MEETING HAS PROVED TO BE AN IMPORTANT STAGE IN THIS PROCESS. WE BELIEVE THAT BY TABLING THE REVISED DRAFT, THE NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED PARTICIPANTS HAVE MADE A FURTHER HELPFUL CONTRIBUTION TO THE MEETING'S WORK. INDEED, WE HOPE THAT THE DRAFT MAY PROVE TO BE THE BASIS FOR EVENTUAL AGREEMENT ON A SUBSTANTIAL AND BALANCED CONCLUDING DOCUMENT. BUT, AS YOU ACKNOWLEDGE, THE DRAFT DOES NOT RESOLVE ALL THE PROBLEMS, AND WESTERN PARTICIPANTS BELIEVE IT REQUIRES SOME IMPROVEMENTS.

THESE IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN PUT FORWARD BY THE WESTERN PARTICIPANTS IN A SPIRIT OF REASONABLE COMPROMISE. NOTWITHSTANDING THE SOVIET STATEMENT ON 6 MAY, WE SHALL CONTINUE TO URGE THAT THESE IMPROVEMENTS SHOULD BE ACCEPTED. I HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE A CONSTRUCTIVE AND UNDERSTANDING RESPONSE FROM ALL PARTICIPANTS AT THE MEETING.

ENDS

PYM

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MR THOMAS

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20 MAY 83
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