



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

10 June 1985

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: DISBURSEMENT OF THE £250,000

This is to confirm that the Prime Minister has agreed that arrangements should now be set in hand to make payments to the next of kin of those who died as a result of the events at the Heysel Stadium on 29 May. She has, however, suggested that the payments to each family bereaved should be £5,000, which would leave some £60,000 to be paid out to those who have been badly injured. Her preference also is that payments should be made direct to families if that is possible.

I am sending copies of this letter to Phil Dykins (Department of the Environment) and Nigel Pantling (Home Office).

Mark Addison

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

PRIME MINISTER

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: DISBURSEMENT OF THE £250,000

The attached letter from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office sets out their proposals for carrying forward the disbursement of the £250,000 the Government made available after the tragedy at Brussels.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office propose now to pay to the Governments concerned £2,000 to the next of kin of each of the dead. 33 of the 38 victims who died were Italian, so Italy would get the lion's share. Your messages to Signor Craxi and Monsieur Martens said the £250,000 would be for all the families of the victims (ie not just the Italians).

£2,000 for each family seems rather low. It would take up only £76,000 of the £250,000. It is true this would represent only an initial disbursement, and the families of the dead, as well as the injured, could expect more in due course. But you might I think now wish to commit a larger sum for the families of the dead. Perhaps this could be set at \$4,000 per head, which would amount to £152,000 in total. It is worth remembering that the main need for the injured at Brussels will probably be compensation for a period off work. This is rather different from the Bradford case, where the dreadful injuries will need long periods of specialised hospital treatment.

*For letter
to be
forwarded
any*

Content that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office should now make an immediate initial disbursement to the families of the dead; but that this should be at £4,000 per head, not £2,000?

*Would rather pay
direct to families
Julie Bowers if possible
PP Mark Addison.*

(I should pay 5000

7 June 1985

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15.0

to each family bereaved

*leaving 6000 to be paid out to
any who are badly injured. not*