

For Office <sup>HS</sup>

4 November 1980

CSCE Review Meeting

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to me of 3 November on this subject and has agreed that Mr. Blaker should go to Madrid to deliver the UK opening statement.

MICHAEL ALEXANDER

Paul Lever, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

*[Handwritten signature]*



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

3 November 1980

Prime Minister

Agree that Mr Blaker  
Should go to Madrid.

Yes mt

Paul  
3/x

Dear Michael,

CSCE Review Meeting

The main Madrid CSCE Review Meeting opens on 11 November. We need to decide who should represent the UK at the opening session, which will be devoted to statements from all 35 participating States made in open plenary.

At the Belgrade Review Meeting in 1977 a Minister of State, Lord Goronwy-Roberts, made the opening UK statement. In the present state of East/West relations prospects for real progress at Madrid are not good, but Lord Carrington nevertheless thinks it would be right, subject to any last minute developments, for the UK again to be represented at Ministerial level in order to add political weight to the points we shall wish to make in our opening statement. (We shall wish to pay particular attention to the Soviet record in Afghanistan and on human rights, stressing the way in which they have acted with flagrant disregard for the principles in the Final Act.) Lord Carrington therefore recommends that Mr Blaker, as the Minister of State responsible for CSCE, should deliver the UK statement.

It has been agreed with our partners in the Nine that the level of representation at the opening session should be a matter for governments to decide individually. Most seem likely to send either Foreign Ministers or State Secretaries/Ministers of State.

If the Prime Minister agrees that Mr Blaker should go to Madrid, we should think in terms of a visit of some 2 or 3 working days, in which time might also be set aside for bilateral business with the Spanish Government.

Yours etc

(P Lever)  
Private Secretary

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