



file

BT  
Soviet Union

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

26 January 1981

The Prime Minister, who wrote to you on 3 January about the Government's attitude towards the current wave of repression from the Soviet Union, has asked me to let you have further details of what the Government is doing.

I enclose, for your background, the text of the speech which the Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr. Blaker, made to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Madrid in November together with a selection of press coverage on that speech. I also enclose the text of a typical letter from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to an MP about Soviet treatment of Jewish "Refuseniks".

We shall be keeping up the pressure when the Madrid meeting reconvenes on 27 January. Apart from our activities in the Conference itself, Mr. Blaker will be giving a series of radio interviews prior to the reopening of discussions. When the next six-monthly report to Parliament on CSC implementation appears shortly, we will be taking the opportunity to record again our concern about the activities of the Soviet Government.

We shall of course be bearing in mind the need for the Prime Minister and the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary also to go on record. I am confident that an opportunity will present itself soon.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

Bryan Forbes, Esq.