



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

12 February 1981

Thank you for your letter of 26 January suggesting that the plight of Professor Yuri Orlov be raised at the next CERN Council meeting.

I know that the leader of the British delegation to the Madrid CSCE meeting has told you of our efforts there. We naturally hope that these may lead to an improved Soviet performance on human rights from which Professor Orlov may benefit.

I agree, however, that Professor Orlov's condition requires that action to draw attention to his plight be taken wherever suitable opportunities occur. I therefore have much sympathy with your wish to intensify, within the field of science, the efforts made on Professor Orlov's behalf. The British members of the CERN Council will be asked to raise this matter there.

(Sgd) MARGARET THATCHER

Mr. John Eades.

ds

ppd all.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Type for PM's signature.

London SW1A 2AH

Rich

11 February 1981

Dear Michael,

Thank you for your letter of 28 January enclosing a copy of one to the Prime Minister from Mr Eades of the Yuri Orlov Committee suggesting that Orlov's case be raised at the next CERN Council meeting.

We should see no objection to raising the question at CERN and understand that the Department of Education and Science would be content for this to be done. Action might take the form, for example, of a resolution which, backed by other members of the Council, would carry some weight with the Soviet authorities. We need to recognise, however, that the extent of cooperation between CERN and the Soviet Union is not such that a threat of withdrawal as a gesture on Orlov's behalf would do much harm to Soviet interests or be likely to influence their treatment of Orlov himself.

The United Kingdom member of the CERN Council will be instructed on these lines at the briefing meeting on 24 February.

/ I enclose a draft reply for the Prime Minister to send to Mr Eades.

I am copying this letter, and that from Mr Eades, to Peter Shaw in the DES.

*Yours ever,**Francis Richards*

(F N Richards)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

The Prime Minister

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Mr J Eades
 The Yuri Orlov Committee
 Case Postale 335
 1217 Meyrin 1
 Switzerland

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

Thank you for your letter of 26 January suggesting that the plight of Professor Yuri Orlov be raised at the next CERN Council meeting.

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Enclosures—flag(s).....

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