

CONFIDENTIAL



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

8 February 1983

for John,

Type letter pl.

A-S-C-9/2.

Anatoly Shcharansky

Thank you for your letter of 28 January enclosing one to the Prime Minister from Mr Neville Sandelson MP about Shcharansky.

It was unfortunately not possible to reach a consensus among the Ten in favour of a joint message by Foreign Ministers to Mr Gromyko appealing for the release of Shcharansky. It became apparent that some of our partners thought that bilateral approaches were more likely to be effective. As proposed in my letter of 19 January, therefore, Mr Pym raised the case with the Soviet Ambassador on 7 February.

I enclose a self-explanatory draft reply from the Prime Minister to Mr Sandelson.

*Yours ever,
R B Bone*

(R B Bone)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

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DSI (Revised)

DRAFT: ~~minute~~/letter/~~telegram~~/~~despatch~~/~~note~~

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:

Reference

Prime Minister

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Neville Sandelson Esq MP
House of Commons
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

Thank you for your letter of 26 January.

CAVEAT.....

I fully share your concern about Anatoly Shcharansky. As you perhaps saw from press reports, Francis Pym raised the matter with the Soviet Ambassador on 7 February and asked him to convey to the Soviet Government an urgent appeal for Shcharansky's immediate release on humanitarian grounds. Our delegation at the CSCE Review meeting at Madrid have also been instructed to raise the case in the session which resumes this week. I believe that bilateral approaches of this kind, and raising the issue at the Madrid meeting, are the right way to bring home to the Russians the full extent of public concern about their treatment of this ~~matter~~ case.

Handwritten initials and fraction: JOL 5/2

Enclosures—flag(s).....

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JUNE 79

28 January 1983

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to thank you for your letter of 26 January.

I shall of course place this before the Prime Minister and a reply will be sent to you as soon as possible.

AJC

Neville Sandelson, Esq., M.P.

Checked F10 7/2

vb

Neville SANDELSON, MP.

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Coming 8/2

① 7/2

28 January 1983

Shcharansky

I enclose a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from Mr. Neville Sandelson, MP. I should be grateful for a draft reply as early as possible next week. It will be helpful if this could state the present position with regard to the proposed representations by the Ten to the Soviet Government about this case.

AJC

R.B. Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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