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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

9 February, 1983

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter of 8 February about her intervention on behalf of Anatoly Shcharansky. Mrs. Thatcher very much appreciates your kind words.

TIMOTHY FLESHER

Arieh L. Handler, Esq.

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National Council for Soviet Jewry

of the United Kingdom and Ireland 83 Finchley Road London NW3 6LD Tel: 01-624 0181



The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, House of Commons, London, SWl.

8th February, 1983.

Dear Prime Minister,

We were greatly encouraged last night to hear of the intervention on behalf of Anatoly Shcharansky to the Soviet Ambassador. I have written to the Foreign Secretary expressing our thanks as per enclosed.

Allow me, however, to add that the consistent lead given by you in the fight for basic human rights in accordance with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights and the Helsinki Final Act, has had an enormous effect on the whole campaign not only in this country but throughout the western world. For this, our grateful thanks,

Yours sincerely,

ARIEH L. HANDLER

Chairman

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National Council for Soviet Jewry

of the United Kingdom and Ireland

3 Finchley Road condon NW3 6LD Tel: 01-624 0181



The Rt. Hon. Francis Pym, MC, MP, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Foreign Office, Whitehall, London, SW1.

8th February, 1983.

Dear Mr. Pym,

On behalf of all my colleagues at the National Council, I would like to express to you our thanks for your intervention for Anatoly Shcharansky with the Soviet Ambassador. This step has been of tremendous encouragement to our campaign as a whole and of course especially to Avital Shcharansky to whom we telephoned the news of this meeting yesterday.

This intervention was so much in line with the support given by Her Majesty's Government and the Prime Minister in the campaign for human rights for Soviet Jewry.

The situation for Anatoly Shcharansky and his fellow-sufferers has become so serious that we are following up the steps which have been taken so far by a public march for him from Speaker's Corner to the Soviet Embassy on 6th March.

With renewed thanks and kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

ARIEH L. HANDLER Chairman

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