

Soviet Union
PS/No 10 Downing St

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GR 250
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DEDIP
DESKBY 120900Z
FM WASHINGTON 120435Z
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 614 OF 11 MARCH 1983

FOLLOWING FOR BROOMFIELD, E.E.S.D.
MRS SHCHARANSKY

mt

1. PALMER (STATE DEPARTMENT) INFORMED US THIS EVENING THAT MRS SHCHARANSKY PLANNED TO ARRIVE IN LONDON ON 13 MARCH. SHE WAS HOPING TO ARRANGE A CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER, WITH A VIEW TO THE LATTER OR THE TEN ISSUING A STATEMENT OF SUPPORT BEFORE OR AT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL.
2. PALMER WANTED US TO KNOW, IN STRICT CONFIDENCE, THAT THERE WAS SUBSTANCE TO REPORTS THAT THE US WERE ENGAGED PRIVATELY IN SOME TALKS THAT COULD LEAD TO AN IMPROVEMENT IN SHCHARANSKY'S SITUATION. HE COULD NOT BE MORE SPECIFIC, NOR COULD HE FORECAST WHEN IF EVER A DEAL MIGHT MATERIALIZE.
3. HOWEVER, HE WAS ANXIOUS THAT WE SHOULD NOT BELIEVE REPORTS THAT, GIVEN THESE DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS, THE US WOULD NOT FAVOUR MRS SHCHARANSKY BEING RECEIVED BY OTHER LEADERS, INCLUDING THE PRIME MINISTER. ON THE CONTRARY, THE US WOULD WELCOME ANY ARRANGEMENTS WHICH IT WAS POSSIBLE TO MAKE FOR MRS SHCHARANSKY TO CALL ON MRS THATCHER.

4. RESIDENT CLERK: PLEASE ALERT BROOMFIELD, EESD.

WRIGHT

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MR GOODISON

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