



10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

19 July 1983

O

Thank you for your letter and enclosure of 7 July to Mr. Rickett, about the case of Mr. Paritsky.

The latest news about Alexander Paritsky and about the family is very distressing. Let us hope that Mrs. Paritsky is able to find work soon, and that Polina's treatment in hospital is successful. But clearly it is the condition of Alexander himself which causes the gravest concern. As you know we are doing all we can to keep up the pressure on the Soviet authorities for the release of Mr. Paritsky and will raise his case again as soon as a suitable occasion arises.

Timothy Flesher

Mrs. Rita Eker



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

18 July 1983

*Don't*, *See my sis*

Thank you for your letter of 12 July enclosing one from Mrs Eker of the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry about Alexander Paritsky.

/ I enclose a draft Private Secretary reply.

*G. J. P. Fall*

(B J P Fall)  
Private Secretary

T Flesher Esq  
10 Downing St

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

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:  
PS/No 10

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

Mrs Rita Eker  
 Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry  
 564 Finchley Road  
 LONDON  
 NW11

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

Thank you for your letter and enclosure of 7 July to Mr Rickett, about the case of Mr Paritsky.

CAVEAT.....

The latest news about Alexander Paritsky and about the family is very distressing. Let us hope that Mrs Paritsky is able to find work soon, and that Polina's treatment in hospital is successful. But clearly it is the condition of Alexander himself which causes the gravest concern. As you know we are doing all we can to keep up the pressure on the Soviet authorities for the release of Mr Paritsky and will raise his case again as soon as a suitable occasion arises.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

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Ack 12/7

12 July 1983

I enclose a copy of a letter we have received from Mrs. Rita Eker on behalf of the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry.

I should be grateful if you could let me have a draft Private Secretary reply to send to Mrs. Eker by Tuesday 19 July.

Tim Flesher

Roger Bone, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CF

WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN FOR SOVIET JEWRY  
35'S

Co-Chairmen: RITA EKER, MARGARET RIGAL

564 Finchley Road, London NW11  
Tel: 01-458 7147

RE/DC

(Please note new address)

7th July, 1983.

Mr. William Rickett,  
Private Secretary to  
The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher,  
Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street, S.W.1.  
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*AKC* *AKS*  
*RB (H...)*

Dear Mr. Rickett,

We have just received the enclosed letter from a colleague of ours in London.

We felt that as this letter was addressed to Mrs. Thatcher it is only right for us to pass it on to her.

I do hope you will bring the Paritsky case, once more, to her attention.

With many thanks,

Yours sincerely,

*Rita Eker.*

Rita Eker (Mrs.),  
on behalf of  
Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry.

Enclosure

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE MARGARET THATCHER

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We, the friends of Alexander Paritsky, turn to you, because we hope that as a woman and mother you will take pity at the terrible situation which has befallen Dr Alexander Paritsky, his wife Pauline and their daughters Ann and Doreen, aged 11 and 17 respectively, and as a Prime Minister you will use your influence to help them.

Dr Paritsky's "crime" was, that after being dismissed from his job in the Soviet Union, because of his desire to leave for Israel, he taught young people in his home Mathematics, Physics, Hebrew and Jewish history.

He was arrested and sentenced to three years imprisonment in a forced labour camp.

His daughter Doreen wrote in a school essay that she considered Russia as her stepmother but Israel as her real mother. Dr Paritsky was accused of bringing up his daughters in an anti-soviet spirit and other political crimes. Doreen has been sent to a hospital for nervous diseases. Mrs Paritsky is unable to find work and destitute and the Soviet Authorities threaten to take the younger girl away.

Alexander Paritsky has been sent to a special camp in East Siberia, where he has to carry heavy bags. After he collapsed, he was accused to refuse to work, was sent to a punishment cell for 15 days, where he received 400 gr bread and hot water once in two days, without winter garments in the Siberian cold. As soon as he returned to work he collapsed again and this process was repeated three times.

Paritsky was asked to sign a paper that he no longer wished to go to Israel, but refused to do so. He wrote a letter to his wife that he was being sent to a prison camp in complete isolation and did not expect to see his family again. Nothing further was heard since December 1983.

We, his friends, are sure that only by means of highest international contact, his life or at least his family can be saved.

To save a life is to save a world. We appeal to you to act on his behalf.

"The friends of Alexander Paritsky"