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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

7 September 1985

Dear Alin,

HETMAN

Thank you for your letter of 6 September enclosing a message to the Prime Minister from HETMAN. She was very touched by this and has decided to write back to him. I enclose her letter and should be grateful if you could arrange for it to be passed on.

The Prime Minister had three further thoughts:

- (i) she assumes that HETMAN is being kept under conditions of complete security with not the slightest risk that the Russians can find him. She does not wish to know details, simply to be assured that this is the case.
- She is struck by the troubled tone of HETMAN's message, particularly concerning his family. She wonders whether he has some sort of companion to talk to and confide in at what is obviously a very difficult time for him.
- (iii) She wonders whether thought is being given to the possibility of getting indirect messages to his family to assure them about his well-being.

On none of these points does the Prime Minister wish to be informed in any detail. But it would be helpful to have brief replies on each of them which I could pass on to her.

I am copying this letter to Len Appleyard (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and Sir Robert Armstrong.

(CHARLES POWELL)