



MS

c: Kapitsa

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

26 June 1990

THE KAPITSA FOUNDATION

Thank you for your letter of 25 June about the Kapitsa Foundation. The Russians were very keen for the Prime Minister to mention this during her television interview at Kiev Airport at the end of her visit to the Soviet Union. I discouraged this on the grounds that none of the Prime Minister's travelling party knew much about the background. But I said that we would do our best to be helpful over some sort of statement in London, provided that was discussed with the FCO. Is it in fact possible to put out some little statement or announcement about what seems a sensible and worthwhile project?

BN

Charles Powell

Richard Gozney Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

AK

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 June 1990

Dear Charles,

The Kapitsa Foundation

On 22 June the Soviet Embassy Counsellor Karasin told Simon Hemans, Head of Soviet Department, that you and Ambassador Zamyatin had discussed the proposed Kapitsa Foundation and the use of the late Academician Kapitsa's house in Cambridge as a foundation centre. Karasin said he gave you a piece of paper, (copy enclosed), and suggested you would look into how we might help.

If Karasin has got it right is there anything which we in the FCO need to do?

Yours ever,

Richard Gozney

(R H T Gozney)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

While preparing the visit of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to the Soviet Union the two sides spoke out in favour of the initiative by the scientists to establish in Cambridge and Oxford the Academician Kapitsa Foundation in order to create propitious conditions for the Soviet and UK scientists to work jointly in the area of fundamental research. The Kapitsa Foundation will be set up by the Academies of Sciences of both countries, their research centres and scientists' associations. It is envisaged that Academician Kapitsa's house in Cambridge will serve as one of the centres for the Foundation's activities.

Talks will be held between Soviet and UK organisations involved to formalise the agreement on the establishment of the Foundation.

The subsequent outcome of the talks will reflect the new approach in bilateral relations and will doubtless prove to be another manifestation of the readiness of the scientific communities in the Soviet Union and United Kingdom to promote their cooperation.