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This is a copy. The original has been extracted and retained under s. 3(4)

Prime Minister

M/D 19/IX

Foreign and Commonwealth Office



Liz... mb

London SW1A 2AH

19 September 1980

Dear Michael,

Publicity for the Resistance in Afghanistan:

\* ~~~~~ \*

In my letter of 26 June I mentioned \* filed on Soviet Union August 1979 Breytonards. \*  
\* Afghan tribesmen to take films of Russian atrocities and military activities in Afghanistan.

The first two batches of film produced \* ~~~~~ \*  
\* were processed in London last month, and excerpts appeared in BBC television news on 3 and 26 August. The excerpts shown by the BBC included shots of Mujahideen flourishing their weapons, moving through rough terrain in guerilla formation and standing over a wrecked Soviet helicopter and military vehicles that had been knocked out.

The film \* ~~~~~ \* was passed indirectly to Visnews, who produced two sequences of about 4 minutes each for distribution to their subscribers. Visnews never knows which of their subscribers show any particular item; but they expect that, in addition to the screening already given on the BBC, some of the film will have appeared in North and South America, Japan and other states round the Pacific, including Australia and some ASEAN countries. It is also likely to have been shown in many Western European countries, and possibly also in Romania and Poland.

The first batch of film was in the hands of the BBC before the Olympics closed, though unfortunately the BBC did not show it until immediately afterwards.

In all 26 cameramen have now been trained, and teams have been equipped and despatched. \* ~~~~~ \*  
the latest cameraman to return came back on 12 September, bloody and tattered having lost everything except his cameras and film after becoming involved in a heavy Soviet attack on a Mujahideen headquarters near Jalalabad. They hope for good shots from his film, which is now on its way back to the UK.

\* ~~~~~ \* Passages deleted and retained under Section 3(4)  
Othwayland

7-22  
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(G G H Walden)

M O'D B Alexander Esq 21.7.11  
10 Downing St

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