



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

20 May 1981

Dear Mr. Milligan.

I am sorry that I have not been able to reply earlier to your letter of 24 April about the import of furs into the Federal Republic of Germany.

I understand and share your concern. But the fact is that this is a matter on which the Federal Republic of Germany must reach its own conclusions, and it would not be appropriate for Her Majesty's Government to intervene. If you wished, you could take the matter up directly with the Federal German Government. It may be of interest to you that the FRG is, like the UK, a party to the Washington Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). This Convention lays down minimum international standards for trade in endangered species and their products; and certain species of crocodile and two sub-species of ocelot are among those covered by that Convention.

*Yours sincerely
Margaret Thatcher*

Spike Milligan, Esq.

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