



Sir Antony Acland KCMG KCVO
Permanent Under-Secretary of State

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 October 1985

John Pitt-Brooke Esq
PS/Sir Clive Whitmore KCB CVO
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

COP 207K.

Dear John,

ALLEGED SOVIET VIOLATIONS OF THE ABM TREATY

1 As you may know, Sir Antony Acland represented the Foreign Secretary at a Summit Seven Foreign Ministers' dinner hosted by Mr Shultz in New York last night.

2 Sir Antony Acland thought that the Defence Secretary and Sir Clive Whitmore might like to know that Mr Shultz stressed to Sir Antony after the dinner that Mr Weinberger was very tough on Soviet violations of the ABM Treaty, especially in relation to Krasnoyarsk, and warned that this matter would come up at the NPG meeting next week - as you know. Shultz went on to say that, whatever our private interpretations might be, it was very important that there should be no public divergence of view between the British and American Defence Secretaries over this. He added that the Prime Minister had taken an interest in the interpretation of the ABM treaty, and asked that Sir Antony should pass this message on to her (which he did on the aeroplane last night).

3 Sir Antony realises that Mr Heseltine is already well aware of Mr Weinberger's strong views on this subject and of the need to avoid a public row, but he nevertheless thought it might be helpful for Mr Heseltine to be aware of this conversation in advance of next week's NPG meeting.



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4 I am sending copies of this letter to Charles Powell (10 Downing Street), Richard Mottram (Ministry of Defence) and Michael Stark (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,

Sherard Cowper-Coles

Sherard Cowper-Coles
Private Secretary

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