

80



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

6 November, 1981.

Gulf Patrol

The Prime Minister has seen the Secretary of State for Defence's minute to her of 3 November on this subject. She has asked about the reaction of the Government of Oman. She has commented that Oman is a good friend of Britain, and that the Sultan is paying a State Visit to this country next year.

B/P

I should be grateful if you could let me know whether we have taken steps to brief the Sultan, and whether we have it in mind, for instance, to make regular port visits to the country.

I am sending copies of this letter to Francis Richards (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), John Rhodes (Department of Trade), and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

David Omand, Esq.,
Ministry of Defence.

512