PERSONAL MESSAGE

PERSONAL MASTER

SUBJECT CC OPS

SUBJECT CC OPS

14th August 1990

First Agent Agent

The Right Honourable Maragaret Thatcher MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London

I wish to thank you for your recent letter and your expressions of concern for Bahrain. The United Kingdom's continued support and assistance to Bahrain is most welcome and deeply appreciated at the current time.

I am aware that the delegations from both our countries are now engaged in talks regarding the current situation, assessing the threat to Bahrain and giving consideration to what steps can be taken to counter any further Iraqi aggression and to free Kuwait from Iraqi occupation.

The positive response of the United Kingdom in the deployment of aircraft in the region and the strengthening of the Armilla patrol is a most valuable contribution to the international effort. The ships of the Armilla patrol are always welcome in Bahrain and the usual facilities will contine to be available to them. I am also able to confirm that Bahrain is willing, during the current crisis, to make facilities available to the RAF to station aircraft in Bahrain both to defend Bahrain and her neighbour, Saudi Arabia, and also to facilitate the international response to the problem. Bahrain is also making arrangements to increase the facilities available to other friendly countries as part of her contribution to the international effort to resolve the current situation. There will, of course, be the need for all parties to coordinate their activities as the events unfold.

As you may be aware, my Government has requested the supply of certain military equipment to Bahrain for defensive purposes. I should be grateful if this request can receive urgent and sympathetic consideration. I would like to thank you again for your confirmation of support for Bahrain and for the response and initiatives taken by the United Kingdom and her allies in trying to resolve the current crisis in this region. With sincere personal regards, Esser Bin Salu

Isa bin Sulman Al-Khalifa Amir of the State of Bahrain