DOMINIC CAROLINE

TRAQ/KUWAIT

The heteline ce Stuff (of Scowcusft) pay May & PC FERB W. Haldegrane MOD Aminitar

and no Atles

There is quite a well-established drill for this week. JIC do a highly-classified morning Sitrep. which takes in all overnight information. It arrives about 1015 and should be faxed down to the Prime Minister. With this, she is unlikely to need any telegrams.

William Waldegrave chairs a coordination meeting at 1100 every day, which is attended by Robin Butler and Percy Cradock among others. There is no need for you to go: but one or other of them will probably touch base before or after. There is a written note of its conclusions in the early afternoon, which is a useful summary of action in hand. I would not send it to the Prime Minister since it might only stimulate interventions: but it is handy for answering/parrying her questions. Any specific requests for authority to do something will reach you in Private Secretary letters from FCO (probably Dominic Asquith this week) or MoD, and should be faxed down.

The situation next week is less clear. The Prime Minister is back on Tuesday, and both the Foreign Secretary and Defence Secretary are in the country and available. I imagine the Prime Minister will want to chair a meeting to take stock on Tuesday or Thursday (in diary terms a meeting on Wednesday would be difficult). Barring accidents I would go for Thursday, which should carry you through the weekend and Bank Holiday.

I have told the White House of my whereabouts and advised them to contact either of you in an emergency.

On my own front, the papers for the Finnish visit should come in next week. I will process them on return, and do a short speech. I have already done a draft speech for the EDU.

(C. D. POWELL)

14 August 1990

c:\wpdocs\foreign\Iraq (srw)