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10 DOWNING STREET - -

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

14 August 1990

IRAQ/KUWAIT: PRESS POOLS

At Mr Waldegrave's meeting this morning, it was agreed to ask the Prime Minister whether she would accept occasional small press pools being organised for visits to our Forces in the Gulf.

I have subsequently spoken to the Prime Minister on this point. She is prepared to agree provided they are under strict control (better control than during the Falklands war, the Prime Minister has commented). On no account should there be any discussion with them of Rules of Engagement or other operational matters.

I am copying this letter to Jane Binstead and David Hatcher (Ministry of Defence) and to Sir Robin Butler.

CHARLES POWELL

The Hon. Dominic Asquith
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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