Ref. A090/2025

MR MORRIS

Prince Minter

Gulf Situation: Handling Arrangements

The Prime Minister might wish to have, for her return, a note of the present arrangements for handling the Gulf situation.

Standing Daily Arrangements

There is a JIC Sit Rep, available by 9.30 am. The Cabinet Office Briefing Room is open at 9.00 am for a relay of the MOD briefing on intelligence, military situation and media. An Ad Hoc Group meets in the Cabinet Office at 11.00 am, under the Chairmanship of a Foreign Office Minister or the Cabinet Office, including FCO, MOD, Treasury/Bank, DTI, Department of Energy, Department of Transport, Home Office and Law Officers' Department, to run through the Sit Rep and co-ordinate action, including handling of the media. The Department of Transport has set up a Sanctions Co-ordination Centre which receives intelligence from all sources about movement of civil ships and aircraft in the area and produces a daily assessment of threats to the embargo: the report of this group is also considered at the Cabinet Office 11.00 am meeting.

Other Arrangements

- The JIC produces further assessments of specific features (eg Iraq's offer to Iran, the position of Jordan) as required.
- The Prime Minister may wish to hold at least one meeting of OD(G) next week; the Foreign Secretary and Secretary of State for Defence are due to be in Paris on Tuesday for the WEU meeting but otherwise they and the Secretary of State for Energy and Chief of the Defence Staff are all in the UK next week, although they

would have to come up to London. I plan to be away from tomorrow, but Mr Appleyard and Mr Reeves will be in the office next week; and Mr Reeves will be available throughout the weekend.

--- 5. I attach a chart showing the location of all members of the Cabinet. It will be clear that it would be a major exercise to set up a meeting of the full Cabinet, but it could of course, be done with a little notice if necessary.

F.R.B.

ROBIN BUTLER

16 August 1990

* - members of oD(q) (CDS is available through office) Tues wed Fri Thur Mon 23 Aug 24 Aug 22 Aug 20 Aug 21 Aug Australia Lord President Lord Chancellor Scotland + Foreign Secretary * Devon Paris Devon -Spain (chancellor of the Exchequer Scotland Home Secretary 55 / Defence Scotland or Paris wiltshire Wiltshire France chancellor of the Duchy Yugoslavia + ss/Health Italy + ss / Education Scotland 5 ss / Scotland Bahamas ss / Transport 55 / Energy * Hampshire Wales woodbridge -Lord Privy Seal ss / Social Services Esse∞ ← ss / Environment Italy ← In office or wiltshire ss/ Northern Ireland min Agriculture Suffolk chief Secretary 55 / Employment France + ss/ wales wirral / wirral Suffolkss/ Trade & Industry V ? V?