

SECRET

12(A-B) ~~CEPC~~



071-828 1884

9 BUCKINGHAM GATE

LONDON SW1E 6JP

Prime Minister

Content?

*CDI
15/9.*

The Rt Hon Douglas Hurd CBE MP
Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
London SW1

10 September 1990

Dear Douglas:

GULF CRISIS: REQUEST FROM THE AMIR

record attached

At the meeting of OD(G) on 5 September it was noted that the request for assistance which the Amir of Kuwait has made to us does not embrace the use of force beyond that necessary to enforce economic sanctions, and that a further request would be needed. Your Departmental Legal Advisers have been in touch with my office about the drafting of such a request.

I attach the text of a request which I suggest can form the basis of our discussions with the US and other partners and, subject to those discussions, can be submitted to the Amir. The text is of course drafted on the assumption that a request is obtained as soon as possible. A different draft would be necessary if we were to obtain the further request only if and when the occasion for further use of force arose.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Tom King, John Wakeham, William Waldegrave and Sir Robin Butler.

John King

Na Wick

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DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE AMIR OF KUWAIT TO THE PRIME MINISTER

I wish to express the renewed gratitude of my Government and the people of Kuwait for the firm and clear measures taken by the Government of the United Kingdom described in Your Excellency's message of 29 August. These measures and those taken by other friendly nations at the request of the Government of Kuwait to deal with the Iraqi aggression have not produced the desired result. Instead, Iraq continues to defy the decisions of the United Nations Security Council, which call for an immediate withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of our lawful authority, and continues in unlawful occupation of our territory. Accordingly in the event that further and measured military force is necessary to secure the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait/I formally request, in exercise of the inherent right of individual and collective self-defence recognised in Article 51 of the UN Charter, that the Government of Kuwait, to take such further military steps as are necessary to achieve that end.

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Requests in similar terms are being addressed to the Governments of.....

g the UK
 proceed, in
 consultation with
 the Government

SECRET

dated version

*With the Compliments of
the Attorney-General*

*The Legal Secretariat to the Law Officers
Attorney General's Chambers
9 Buckingham Gate
London SW1E 6JP*

071-828 1884

SECRET

11

DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE AMIR OF KUWAIT TO THE PRIME MINISTER

I wish to express the renewed gratitude of my Government and the people of Kuwait for the firm and clear measures taken by the Government of the United Kingdom described in Your Excellency's message of 29 August. These measures and those taken by other friendly nations at the request of the Government of Kuwait to deal with the Iraqi aggression have not produced the desired result. Instead, Iraq continues to defy the decisions of the United Nations Security Council, which call for an immediate withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of our lawful authority, and continues in unlawful occupation of our territory. | Accordingly in the event that further and measured] military force is necessary to secure the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait I formally request, | in exercise of the inherent right of individual and collective self-defence recognised in Article 51 of the UN Charter, | that the Government of the United Kingdom proceed, in consultation with the Government of Kuwait, to take such further military steps as are necessary to achieve that end. |

Requests in similar terms are being addressed to the Governments of.....

SECRET

17(A-B) CCPC ①
Prime Minister

Ref.A090/2109

MR POWELL

Yours
Center with
this address?
CBP 11/9.

Draft Message from the Amir of Kuwait to the Prime Minister

--- I attach a revision of the draft message considered by OD(G) this morning. This has been cleared with the Attorney General.

2. You will have seen from telegram No.143 from Jeddah that the Kuwaitis are themselves envisaging a letter from the Amir to the US, UK and other allies asking for military action. Subject to the Prime Minister's agreement therefore, it would be timely for the FCO to discuss this draft with the Kuwaitis and then with the Americans, as envisaged by OD(G) this morning.

R.R.B.

ROBIN BUTLER

11 September 1990

Not scanned (not working!)

DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE AMIR OF KUWAIT TO THE PRIME MINISTER

B

I wish to express the renewed gratitude of my Government and the people of Kuwait for the firm and clear measures taken by the Government of the United Kingdom described in Your Excellency's message of 29 August. These measures and those taken by other friendly nations at the request of the Government of Kuwait to deal with the Iraqi aggression have not produced the desired result. Instead, Iraq continues to defy the decisions of the United Nations Security Council, which calls for an immediate withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of our lawful authority, and continues in unlawful occupation of our territory. Accordingly I hereby confirm the request already made orally to you by representatives of my Government that, in exercise of the inherent right of individual and collective self-defence recognised in Article 51 of the UN Charter, the Government of the United Kingdom take such further military steps as are necessary to achieve the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait and the restoration of Kuwait's legitimate Government.

Requests in similar terms are being addressed to the Governments of.....



THE LEGAL SECRETARIAT TO THE LAW OFFICERS
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS
9 BUCKINGHAM GATE
LONDON SW1E 6JP

General enquiries 071-828 7155
Direct line 071-828 1386

Sir Robin Butler KCB, CVO
The Secretary of the Cabinet
and Head of the Home Civil Service,
Cabinet Office,
70 Whitehall,
London,
SW1.

COP 12/9.

11 September 1990

Dear Sir Robin,

The Attorney General has seen the revised version of the draft message attached to your letter to Juliet Wheldon of 11 September. He is quite content with the text, which indeed is very similar to his own redraft.

will cop?

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Defence, the Secretary of State for Energy, the Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Chief of the Defence Staff and to Sir Percy Cradock.

Yours

date *hls*

E. S. WILMSHURST

FILE

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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

Sir Robin Butler

**DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE AMIR OF KUWAIT
TO THE PRIME MINISTER**

I have shown the revised draft message from the Amir of Kuwait attached to your minute of 11 September to the Prime Minister. She is content with it and agrees that the FCO should now discuss the draft with the Kuwaitis.

I am copying this minute to Elisabeth Wilmshurst (Law Officers Department) and Simon Gass (Foreign and Commonwealth Office).

C.D.P.

(C. D. POWELL)
12 September 1990

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etc



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

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*CNP
149.*

11 September 1990

Dear Sonia,

MILITARY OPTIONS : REQUEST FROM THE AMIR OF KUWAIT

I have no further comment on the draft message from the Amir of Kuwait circulated under cover of your letter of this morning. I would like, however, to draw attention in this context to the telegram from Mr Blackley in Jedda (telno 143 of 11 September) reporting on the Shadow Foreign Secretary's meetings with Kuwaiti Ministers which contains the news that the Kuwaitis are already proposing to send messages to those with forces in Saudi Arabia on similar lines to those we have discussed. As the initiative has now been taken by the Kuwaitis, it is therefore very much in our interests to present our own text to them as soon as possible as the suggested basis of any letter the Amir may issue.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Defence, the Secretary of State for Energy, the Chief of the Defence Staff and to Sir Percy Craddock.

Yours sincerely

Dominic Asquith

The Hon Dominic Asquith
Private Secretary to
The Rt Hon William Waldegrave

Ms Sonia Phippard
Private Secretary
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
LONDON SW1A 2AS

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