

CCPE (1)

Prime Minister

Center with these changes - which would not affect the group which you chair?
CDD 12/9

Ref.A090/2124

MR POWELL

Meetings on the Gulf

The structure of meetings on the Gulf - very restricted high-level meeting under the Prime Minister's chairmanship and a wider group of departments meeting daily to follow up action - have been working well. We have tried to make the Cabinet Office meetings brisk and business-like, concentrating on sharing information, allocating action and chasing progress.

2. The Prime Minister asked that the wider Cabinet Office group should meet daily under a senior Minister. Now that we may be entering the long haul, I doubt whether the Cabinet Office group need meet every day - three times a week may be sufficient. Would you ask the Prime Minister whether she is prepared to give discretion -

(a) for the group to meet less often than daily if events allow that;

(b) for me or Mr Appleyard to chair the group if a senior Minister is not available, particularly on those days when OD(G) is also meeting.

R.B.

ROBIN BUTLER

12 September 1990

CONFIDENTIAL

KW



file

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBIN BUTLER
CABINET OFFICE

MEETINGS ON THE GULF

You discussed with the Prime Minister your minute of 12 September to Mr Powell. She was content that the wider Cabinet Office Group should meet less often than daily if events permit it; and that you or Mr Appleyard should chair the Group if a senior minister is not available, particularly on those days when OD(G) is also meeting.

ANDREW TURNBULL
13 September 1990

CONFIDENTIAL

✓