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10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

14 October 1990

Dear Simon,

GULF: ROE

Thank you for your letter of 4 October enclosing draft 'dormant' Rules of Engagement for British forces in the Gulf, for use if a limited conflict develops. I note that the Attorney General has confirmed that he is content with these. I have shown them to the Prime Minister, who is equally satisfied. She also agrees that authority to implement essential elements in them should, in extremis, be delegated to the British Force Commander Middle East, provided retrospective Ministerial authority is sought as soon as possible afterwards.

I am copying this letter to Richard Gozney (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), John Neilson (Department of Energy), Elisabeth Wilmshurst (Law Officers' Department) and Sonia Phippard (Cabinet Office).

Yours sincerely,

CHARLES POWELL

Simon Webb Esq  
Ministry of Defence

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