

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

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10 DOWNING STREET

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THE PRIME MINISTER

5 November 1990

Dear Prime Minister

Thank you for writing to me following your recent tour of the Middle East. I agree that it is now more important than ever that we should stay in close touch and have the benefit of each other's thinking on this vital issue.

I welcome your firmness in pointing out to the Iraqis that a solution to the present crisis can only be achieved by their full implementation of the relevant Security Council Resolutions: and, in resisting Iraq's attempts to divide the countries opposed to it by offering preferential treatment to some hostages.

We are all grateful for the major contribution which Japan has made to the costs of countering Saddam Hussein's aggression. Assistance to the front-line states which are suffering as a result of sanctions is becoming urgent. I have in mind Egypt, Turkey and particularly Jordan. I believe Jordan's performance in complying with sanctions has improved recently and there is no doubt that its economic problems are real and pressing. Although the European Community is providing help, most will come only from the 1991 budget. Anything Japan could do to get help to them now, preferably on a grant basis, would be of great value.

Warm regards.

Yours sincerely

Narasimhaiah

His Excellency Mr. Toshiki Kaifu, K.B.E.

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