



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

14 November 1990

Dear Charles,

Soviet views on the Gulf

In your letter of 7 November recording your discussion with the Soviet Ambassador about Mr Gorbachev's message to the Prime Minister on the Gulf, you held open the possibility of a reply after Mrs Thatcher's meeting with Secretary Baker on 9 November. No reply seems necessary, but if the Prime Minister wants to send a further message, I enclose a short draft, which has been approved by the Foreign Secretary. It is designed primarily as the lead-in to a discussion of the Gulf with Mr Gorbachev in the margins of the CSCE meeting in Paris next week.

Yours,
Stephen Wall

(J S Wall)

Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

From: Prime Minister

To: Mr Gorbachev

I was grateful for your letter of 6 November setting out your views on the Gulf crisis. It was helpful to have these assurances of the firmness and consistency of your policy in resisting the Iraqi aggression and to know that you recognise the need to keep up the military pressure on Saddam Hussein.

Since you wrote I have had a useful talk with Jim Baker, who had just come from seeing you in Moscow. I look forward to discussing all this with you when we are both in Paris next week for the CSCE Summit.

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