

CONFIDENTIAL



File kw

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

8 December 1990

Dear Steph,

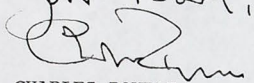
UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

I should record that, as I mentioned to you, Prince Bandar telephoned me today about the draft Security Council Resolution on the Occupied Territories. His main point was that it would be a mistake to include a reference to an international conference in a resolution at this juncture, because that would seem a victory for Saddam Hussein. He had been in touch with the US Administration to urge them to take the reference out, or otherwise block the resolution. He had the clear impression they would do so, but wanted support from others.

I said that support for an international conference was established UK, US and indeed Saudi policy and it was not easy to object to it. I had some sympathy with the point about linkage, and was frankly surprised that the Americans had gone along with a drafting exercise which put a reference to the international conference in the resolution at this stage. We had not been consulted. I was sure we would be ready to talk to the Americans: but the main effort would have to come from them.

You subsequently told me that Secretary Baker had spoken to the Foreign Secretary and indicated that the US would probably veto the resolution. The Foreign Secretary said that we would abstain.

I am copying this letter to Simon Webb (Ministry of Defence) and to Sonia Phippard (Cabinet Office).

Your sincerely,

CHARLES POWELL

J S Wall Esq LVO
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

CONFIDENTIAL

kw