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Foreign and Commonwealth Office
London SW1A 2AH

14 December 1990

Dear Charles,

Iraq-Kuwait: Message From The President of Nauru

The President of Nauru has sent the following message to the Prime Minister:

7 December 1990

Dear Prime Minister,

I wrote to your predecessor, the Honourable Mrs Margaret Thatcher, back in August expressing my concern over the action of the Iraq President to detain British citizens in Kuwait and Iraq as hostages.

Your former Prime Minister very kindly acknowledged my message.

I am very happy to hear today that Iraq has now decided to free all foreign hostages without delay. I hope that the news is true.

I understand that there are over a thousand British trapped in the area, and I am sure you and your Government and your people are very pleased and happy with this wonderful development. We on this small island, rejoice with you all.

I hope your people will arrive home safely without any further delay to enjoy the festivities of Christmas and the New Year with their loved ones.

With lots of best wishes.

Yours sincerely
Bernard Dowiyogo - President



The original is being sent direct from Nauru to
/ No 10. I enclose a suggested draft reply.

Yours ever,
[Handwritten Signature]

(S. L. Gass)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

DRAFT LETTER TO HE MR BERNARD DOWIYOGO, PRESIDENT OF NAURU

Thank you for your kind message of 7 December, about the release of the hostages from Iraq and Kuwait. We are all very glad that Iraq has finally understood that the holding of hostages is counter-productive. It is, of course, a great joy to the families that their loved ones will be with them at Christmas time.

I am most grateful for your interest and support on this issue over the past few months. I wish you and the people of Nauru a joyful Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

MIDDLE EAST
SITE A 35

