



file 10

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From the Private Secretary

15 December 1990

See Resident Clerk.

AMMUNITION FOR BRITISH FORCES IN THE GULF

Jane Binstead sent us various messages during the European Council in Rome asking for help with persuading the German and Dutch Governments to take early decisions on the supply of ammunition for British forces in the Gulf, and the Belgians on sending a field hospital. I spoke to Peter Hartmann in Chancellor Kohl's office and Mr Merkelbach in Prime Minister Lubbers' office. Both undertook to expedite decisions, if possible on 17 December. I know that the Foreign Secretary was intending to try to speak to Genscher and van den Broek but do not know whether he was successful.

I am afraid I was unable to find a Belgian who knew anything about it.

I am copying this letter to Stephen Wall in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Charles Powell

Resident Clerk  
Ministry of Defence