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10 DOWN ING STREET LONDON SWIA 2AA

From the Private Secretary

7 January 1991

IRAQ/KUWAIT: MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT KAUNDA

Thank you for your letter of 7 January to Charles Powell. I am sure the Prime Minister would be content for the message to be despatched in the form proposed. There will be no signed original (though if the CHOGM talks take place as planned later this month and President Kaunda comes, the Prime Minister can reiterate his thanks on that occasion).

(DOMINIC MORRIS)

Simon Gass, Esq., Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

7 January 1991

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Iraq/Kuwait: Message to President Kaunda

While British hostages were held in Iraq, President Kaunda approached Saddam Hussain at our request in order to seek the release of those who were seriously ill. The Foreign Secretary thinks the Prime Ministr should write President Kaunda a short letter of thanks for his efforts on their behalf which could be delivered by our High Commissioner in Lusaka. We suggest the following wording:

"Now that the majority of Britons from Iraq and Kuwait have returned to the United Kingdom, I should like to thank Your Excellency for your efforts to secure the release of those British hostages detained in Iraq, who were seriously ill. This was most helpful, and we greatly appreciate it."

I should be grateful if you could let me know whether the Prime Minister agrees to this.

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ours ever

Private Secretary

Sir Charles Powell KCMG 10 Downing Street

