

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE



SUBJECT cc MASTER
OPS

file DAS
cc AD
DOE

SERIAL No. T126/88 10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

16 August 1988

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter of 1 August.

The Government of the United Kingdom attaches great importance to the protection and enhancement of the North Sea environment. It is for this reason that the United Kingdom has played an active and positive role in the Ministerial Conferences on the North Sea. We are parties to the Declaration made at the London Conference last November and intend to implement fully and vigorously the action programme agreed there.

The scientific Task Force which the North Sea States agreed to set up provides the medium for promoting and co-ordinating the research necessary to improve our understanding of the environmental quality of the North Sea. Our commitment to the Task Force remains.

We are happy to accept your invitation to the international symposium on marine pollution in Stockholm on 18 August. The United Kingdom will be sending two representatives.

Yours sincerely

Rajamohanram

His Excellency Mr. Ingvar Carlsson

faxed to DOE
15-35 17/8



FILE

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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

16 August 1988

I explained on the telephone that the Prime Minister had amended the draft letter to Prime Minister Carlsson. I enclose a copy of the version which she has signed, and should be grateful if you could arrange for this to be transmitted by telegram if necessary as the original will not be back with us in London until next week. You will see that the Prime Minister is content with your proposal to send two representatives to the symposium.

(P. A. BEARPARK)

Miss Deborah Lamb,
Department of the Environment.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'P. A. Bearpark'.



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

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His Excellency Mr. Ingvar Carlsson



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The scientific Task Force which the North Sea States agreed to set up provides the medium for promoting and co-ordinating the research necessary to improve our understanding of the environmental quality of the North Sea, ~~and of the factors which determine that quality and their interactions.~~ Our ~~commitment to the Task Force remains.~~ Equally the United Kingdom Government believes that the most appropriate means for reaching the political decisions necessary to achieve our common environmental goals for the North Sea lies in the series of Ministerial Conferences of North Sea states. ^{Franklin} ~~look forward to participating in the third North Sea Conference to be held in The Hague in 1990.~~ _{We}

We are happy to accept your invitation

~~to send representatives to the international symposium on~~

~~I am grateful to you for affording us the opportunity to send representatives to the international symposium on marine pollution which you are to hold in Stockholm on 18 August.~~

The United Kingdom will be participating ~~and we~~

~~representatives.~~

His Excellency Mr. Ingvar Carlsson

PRIME MINISTER

Sorry to trouble you on holiday.

The attached letter from Prime Minister Carlsson of Sweden invites you to send a representative to a Conference on 18 August to discuss pollution of the North Sea. You will see from the DOE letter below that Nick Ridley thinks that it would be wrong for us to stay away and proposes a low level delegation of two officials.

Content to sign the attached reply?

PAR

ANDY BEARPARK

16 August 1988

1Faxed to Cornwall
1015 £ 16.8.88DEBBIES G AND S

Attached to this note are a letter from Deborah Lamb to Charles Powell, a draft reply for the Prime Minister to send to Mr. Carlsson, Prime Minister of Sweden, and Mr. Carlsson's original letter. Also, a covering minute from me to the Prime Minister.

Could you please type up the draft reply and then put the papers into the Prime Minister whenever you get a chance today. You will see from the letters that there is an element of urgency.



ANDY BEARPARK

16 August 1988



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Charles Powell Esq
Private Secretary to
The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1A 2AA

9CB

2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:
Your ref:

15 August 1988

Dear Charles,

at flap

Stephen Wall wrote to you on 5 August about this invitation which the Prime Minister has received from the Prime Minister of Sweden to send representatives to a hastily convened one-day conference on pollution of the North Sea on 18 August.

The ulterior motivation behind the setting up of this conference is clearly concerned with Swedish domestic politics, where deaths of seals in the current viral epidemic following hard on the heels of the recent algal bloom are high on the political agenda.

Although the Conference is likely to have little practical value, it would be to the disadvantage of this country to stay away. Accordingly my Secretary of State proposes to send a low level delegation of two officials (one to cover the politics, the other the science). Their brief will be to ensure that the established machinery of the North Sea Ministerial Conferences and the international scientific Task Force formed at last November's London Conference is not compromised.

It would greatly strengthen their hand if the Prime Minister's reply to Mr Carlsson could reaffirm our commitment to the existing arrangements and I attach a draft to that effect, which has been cleared by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

I am copying this minute to Stephen Wall at the FCO.

Yours,

Deborah.

DEBORAH LAMB
Private Secretary





DRAFT REPLY TO MR. INGVAR CARLSSON, PRIME MINISTER OF SWEDEN

PROTECTION OF THE NORTH SEA ENVIRONMENT

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I am grateful to you for affording us the opportunity to send representatives to the international symposium on marine pollution which you are to hold in Stockholm on August 18. The United Kingdom will be participating.

ENV AFFAIRS: Aid Rav
A.C.

