

CCPC



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

23 August 1990

Dear Charles,

The Gulf Crisis: Jordan

Thank you for your letter of 21 August.

Political Directors will on 24 August discuss proposals by the Commission for economic assistance to those countries which will suffer as a result of imposing sanctions against Iraq. The Foreign Secretary and Mr van den Broek declined to accept these proposals on the nod when they were put by Mr Matutes without any supporting paper to the EPC lunch in Paris on 21 August. He proposes to instruct our representative to take a cautious line, and ask for precise details of the Commission's intentions. He agrees with the Prime Minister that those countries not contributing to the multinational forces in the Gulf should play the major part. The best option for us is for the EC Twelve to make national contributions coordinated as necessary, as assistance through the EC budget will attract normal cost sharing arrangements.

This raises a particular point on Jordan. You will now have seen (Washington telno 2003) that the Americans are urgently considering bilateral and multinational assistance, on condition, of course, that Jordan fully imposes sanctions. This is welcome. The Americans are best placed to bring pressure to bear on major potential donors such as Japan, Saudi Arabia and the Kuwaitis. At the same time, the Europeans have a role to play in encouraging the wider international community to contribute, and we will be instructing our representative at tomorrow's meeting accordingly. Our most useful role will be to encourage bilateral European contributions (eg from the Germans). The Foreign Secretary's visit to Jordan on 5 September will give an opportunity to underline HMG's role in coordinating international assistance.

I am copying this letter to Jeremy Heywood (Chief Secretary's Office), Eamonn Taylor (ODA) AND Sonia Phippard (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever,

(S L Gass)
 Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
 10 Downing Street

MIDDLE EAST : Siludra 1924



CONFIDENTIAL



a: / gulf. ws

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

23 August 1990

The Gulf Crisis: Jordan

Thank you for your letter of 23 August about assistance to Jordan to offset the effects of imposing sanctions against Iraq. This was discussed at the Prime Minister's meeting this morning, and it was agreed that we should continue to argue for national contributions (rather than an EC contribution), and should look to countries which are not contributing to the multi-national force to take on this burden instead.

I am copying this letter to Jeremy Heywood (Chief Secretary's Office), Eamonn Taylor (ODA) and Sonia Phippard (Cabinet Office).

C. D. POWELL

S. L. Gass, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

ws

ws