



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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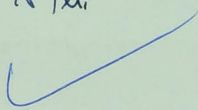
MO 6/17/15/1J

Prime Minister

18th December 1990

POD 15/12/90

Dear Charles,



You asked for advice, following a question from the Leader of the Opposition, on whether the Prime Minister should seek an additional Australian medical contribution when he speaks tonight to Mr Hawke.

The Australians have already contributed a destroyer, a frigate and a support ship to the multinational effort, as well as contributing 4 medical teams, comprising some 40 personnel, to one of the US hospital ships, the COMFORT. This contribution is welcome, though it is not among the largest of the international responses. The Prime Minister could express appreciation for the contributions already made by Australia, but he could certainly also mention to Mr Hawke our own shortage of medical personnel and say that any assistance that the Australians might be able to provide, by deploying additional medical personnel to our own hospitals in the Gulf, would be much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

J R Binstead

(MISS J R BINSTead)
Private Secretary

c/w Mtg. - Refer.

*Uruguay: Agric.
S.A. - Stay in Touch*

Charles Powell Esq
10 Downing Street



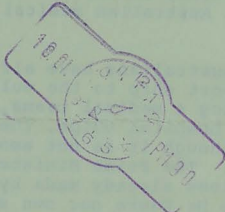
18th December 1952

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John [unclear]
GP [unclear]

John [unclear]

I am sorry that I cannot give you a more definite answer than that the question of a possible transfer to the [unclear] is still a matter which is being considered. The [unclear] is still in the [unclear] and the [unclear] is still in the [unclear] and the [unclear] is still in the [unclear] and the [unclear] is still in the [unclear].



John [unclear]

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[Faint printed text]