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File Iraq @SC  
10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

14 October 1980

IRAN/IRAQ

As I mentioned to you on the telephone, the Prime Minister and the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary discussed briefly this morning the question of our naval presence in the Persian Gulf area. The Prime Minister said that she was anxious that the presence of HMS Coventry should be reinforced as soon as possible by the addition of at least one other vessel. You told me that this was already in hand.

I am sending copies of this letter to Paul Lever (FCO) and David Wright (Cabinet Office).

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

David Omand, Esq.,  
Ministry of Defence.

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