

The Rt. Hon. Joe Clark, P.C., M.P.
Secretary of State for External Affairs



Le très hon. Joe Clark, C.P., député
Secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires extérieures

Canada

OTTAWA, ONTARIO
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October 15, 1990

Dear Lloyd:

The Iraqi Armed Forces remain in Kuwait. Canadian naval vessels, supported by Canadian air cover, continue to enforce, under the authority of United Nations Security Council resolution 665, the economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations.

While in New York recently for the General Assembly, I proposed that we allow some time to President Saddam Hussein to reflect on his situation and the will of the international community. There is, of course, no guarantee that President Hussein will take the decision to relinquish control over Kuwait, a decision which we all agree he must take. At the same time, I have also made it clear that, if President Hussein does not withdraw from Kuwait in the face of the unprecedented international consensus and under the pressure of sanctions, he must understand the willingness of the world to take further actions, including military action. Canada is prepared to consider, with its Security Council colleagues, what the next steps might be.

The Canadian objective in this crisis remains unchanged. The international community cannot allow this act of naked aggression by Iraq to stand unchecked and Canada will do its full part in finding a solution that restores the territorial integrity and authority of Kuwait. The Canadian ships and aircraft in the Persian Gulf region are a reflection of that commitment.

Obviously, events can often move very rapidly in a crisis situation and may require an immediate response. As you will recall, I declared to the House of Commons on

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The Honourable Lloyd Axworthy, P.C., M.P.
House of Commons
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