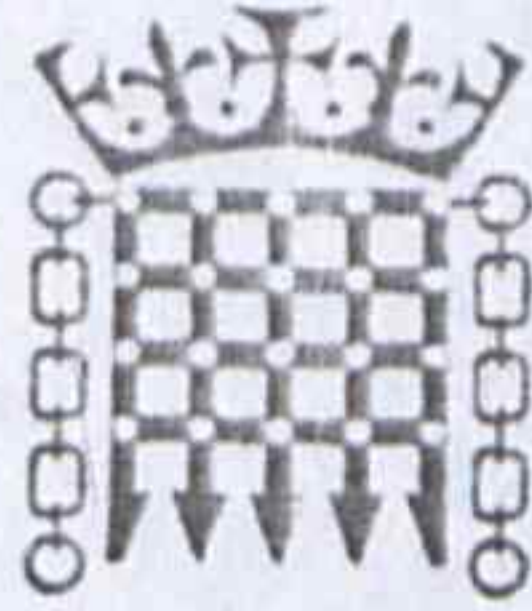
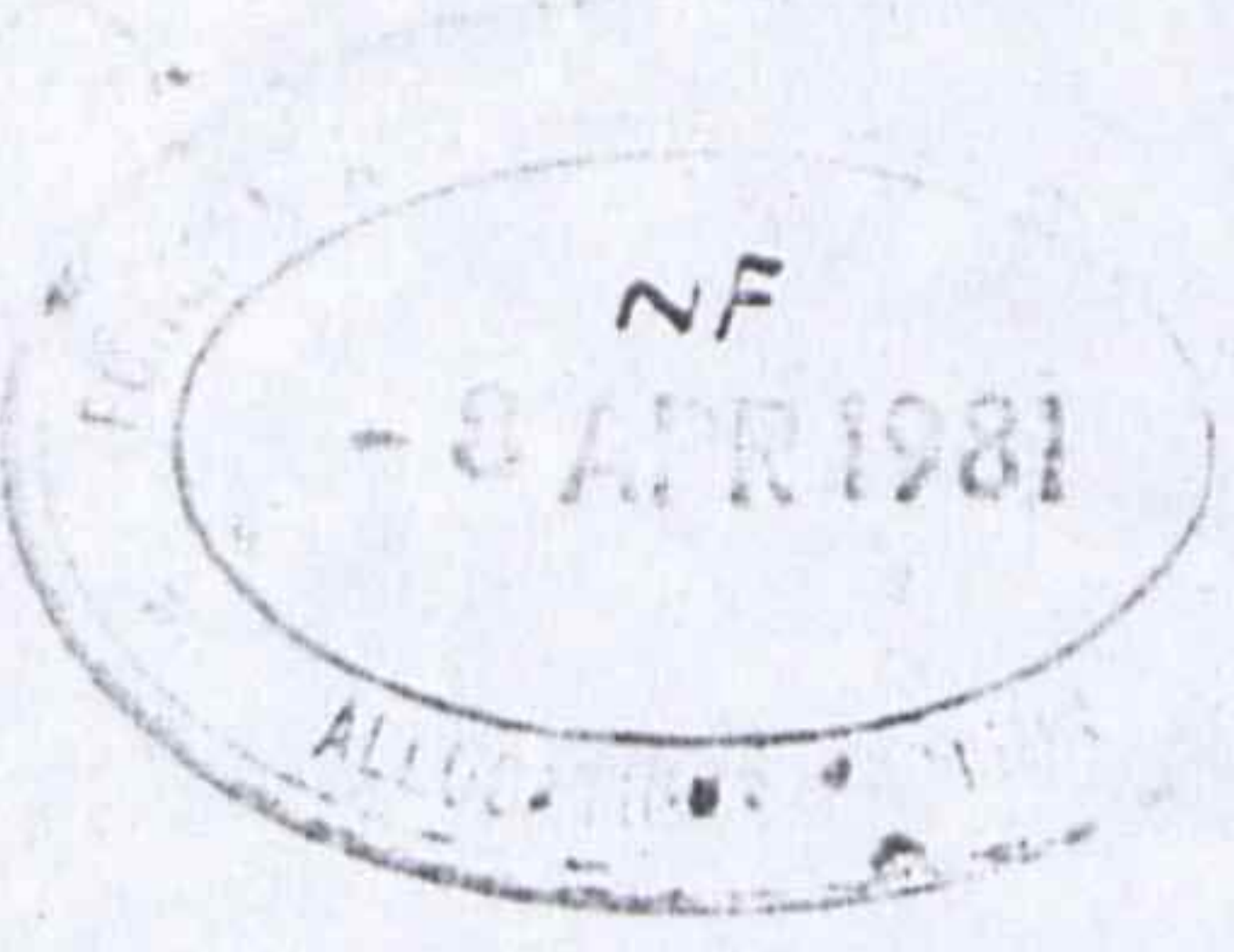


JOHN GORST, M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Hurd
Mr Hurd
RAM
#
9/4
1. Ack ✓
2. NEWAD to draft
reply from Mr Hurd
by 15/4
GC PS
PS/Mr Hurd



7th April 1981

9/4

Dear Lord Carrington,

One of the leaders of the Jewish community in North Hendon came to see me specially to discuss the growing concern amongst them of the creeping recognition of the PLO which is being accorded to them as a result of talks that are taking place and may increasingly occur in the near future.

It was made clear to me that the depth of feeling on this subject amongst my Jewish constituents is reaching a very explosive point, and I am now writing to you to make it clear that I fully support the concern of the Jewish community on this issue; and that my support for them, were the matter to be the subject of debate in the House of Commons, would extend, if necessary, to voting against the government having any dealings with the PLO or its leadership.

I would welcome your assurance that my fears and those of my constituents are without any foundation, and that there are no prospects of negotiation or contact between this country or any organizations of which we are members with the PLO - certainly until such time as that organization completely renounces all connection with terrorism and removes from its articles all suggestion that the State of Israel has no right to exist. In short, an essential pre-condition for any contact with the PLO must be their recognition that the State of Israel has every right to exist.

I am sending a copy of this letter to both the Prime Minister and the Chief Whip, so that there should be no misunderstanding about my position in this matter. With an electorate of whom a quarter to one-third are Jewish, it is essential that I make the strongest possible protest on this matter and at the highest level in our party.

John Gorst

The Rt.Hon.The Lord Carrington, PC,
KCMG, MC,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
Downing Street,
London, S.W.1.

John Gorst