

Sir Brian Hayes KCB Permanent Secretary

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Sir Clue Whitmore

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Deal Mr. Rogers

Thank you for your letter of 28 January, asking that officials of this Department should attend to give evidence before the Committee at 10.50am this Thursday 30 January.

I shall attend at that time and I shall be accompanied by Mr Alastair Macdonald, the Deputy Secretary responsible, among other matters, for the Department's role in relation to most defence manufacturers, including those involved in aerospace manufacture; and by Mr Michael O'Shea, who heads the Branch which is responsible, among other things, for sponsorship of the helicopter industry.

I note the Committee's wish to have the assistance of particular officials, whom you name in your letter. My Secretary of State is anxious that his Department should give all possible help to the Committee in its deliberations, and he has so instructed Mr Macdonald, Mr O'Shea and myself. He does not however regard it as appropriate that the officials you name should give

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evidence, and they will not therefore be accompanying me at the hearing. I hope and expect that Mr Macdonald, Mr O'Shea and I will be able to answer the Committee's questions to the extent that this Department is able to assist them.

BRIAN HAYES

Cours sincerely, Brian Hayes



