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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

Telephone 071-21 82111/3

MO 6/17/15/1J

11th October 1990

can 11/12

Dear Tim,

MPS' VISITS TO THE GULF


will request if required

Thank you for your letter of 28th September responding to Simon Webb's earlier proposals on a visit by Parliamentarians to the Gulf.

We are now quite keen to move matters forward. We continue to plan on the basis of a group of about ten people; the composition would be decided in the light of views coming from each House but, broadly speaking, we would envisage inviting representatives of the Select Committees on Defence and Foreign Affairs (probably the Chairman and one member in each case) and the Opposition spokesmen on Defence. As far as the Lords is concerned, I understand that the Lord Privy Seal's office would recommend the inclusion of a representative of each Party and one cross-bencher - but it would be helpful to have confirmation of this.

I would be grateful if Murdo Maclean and Gillian Kirton would let me know as soon as the idea has been fed into the usual channels; we will then get on with the business of issuing formal invitations.

I am copying this letter to Charles Powell (No. 10), Richard Gozney (Foreign Office), John Neilson (Energy), Martin Stanley, (DTI), Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's Office), and Sonia Phippard (Cabinet Office); and also to Gillian Kirton in the Lord Privy Seal's Office and Douglas Slater in the Chief Whip (Lords') Office.

Yours ever 

(S J AMBLER-EDWARDS) (MISS)
Private Secretary

Tim Sutton Esq
PS/Lord President's Office

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