



Caxton House Tothill Street London SW1H 9NA  
 Telephone Direct Line 01-213 6400  
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Prime Minister (1)

An important proposal.

Should I write to

Mr Nott's office making clear your support for

October 1982

The Rt Hon John Nott MP  
 Secretary of State for Defence  
 Ministry of Defence  
 Main Building  
 Whitehall  
 LONDON SW1A 0AA

*Resubmitted - has please!!*

*no his idea?*

*D John.*

*Mrs 14/10*

THE YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME AND THE ARMED FORCES

The Ministry of Defence is already making a significant contribution to the success of the Youth Opportunities Programme (YOP) by providing places for young people in civilian establishments. Last year we also investigated the possibility of setting up YOP schemes with the armed forces, but the proposal foundered largely on grounds of cost. Since then, however, you have set up the Youth Adventure Scheme which is giving two or three weeks of "Outward Bound" type activities to 5,000 16 to 18 year olds this summer. I understand that the scheme has been a considerable success.

The Youth Opportunities Programme will be replaced next year by our new Youth Training Scheme (YTS), which will provide a full year's foundation training to all unemployed 16 and 17 year old school leavers, as well as to many 16 year olds in employment. Altogether we are planning to involve 460,000 young people in the new scheme, which will be a radical new step in bridging the gap between the worlds of school and work.

I very much hope that Ministry of Defence civilian establishments will make at least as great a contribution to the new scheme as they have done to YOP.

In addition I should like to examine urgently whether we can together set up a similar type of scheme for the Armed Forces. This could give young people 12 months in the Armed Forces with training of the kind which will be offered by the Youth Training Scheme. I am looking for a scheme within the cost limits of the YTS, which will provide a block



grant of £1,850 per trainee (or £1,950 if the sponsor organises a full 12 months of training and work experience). It seems to me that as the trainees concerned would be housed and fed by the Services the normal allowance of £25 per week should be considerably reduced.

I very much hope that you will agree with this approach. I suggest that our officials should consider the matter and report back quickly. The YTS will be launched in September 1983 but there is no reason why the scheme I am proposing should not start earlier if this is possible.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, with whom I have discussed this matter.

*J. Norman*

14 OCT 1962

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*From the Private Secretary*

15 October 1982

The Youth Training Scheme and the Armed Forces

The Prime Minister has seen a copy of the Secretary of State for Employment's letter of 14 October to your Secretary of State, in which he asked your Secretary of State to consider urgently whether he will be able to set up a scheme for the Armed Forces on the lines of the Youth Training Scheme.

The Prime Minister has asked me to write to say that she strongly supports this approach, and very much hopes that a worthwhile scheme can be devised.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Barnaby Shaw (Department of Employment).

M. C. SCHOLAR

Richard Mottram Esq  
Ministry of Defence.

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*Mampound, 25/11*



*Prime Minister* (2)  
*Mes 1/11*

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

TELEPHONE 01-218 9000  
DIRECT DIALLING 01-218 6169

MO 24

1st November 1982

*mt*

*Dear Norman.*

*+PM (with mes?)*

Thank you for your letter of 14th October. I have set in hand a study of the extent to which the Armed Forces can make a contribution to the Youth Training Scheme, and our officials have already met for a preliminary discussion. It is the intention they should meet again shortly when we have assessed the possibilities in greater detail here.

One or two points have already been identified as needing further consideration. As you mention in your letter the MOD ran a highly successful Adventure Training Scheme this year. The extent to which this can be repeated, if we are to run a YTS intake as well, is doubtful. Again, as regards costs, the early assessments show that the costs to the MOD budget are likely to be greater than the YTS subvention. We can no doubt return to this when the details are firmer.

As regards the contribution of MOD establishments to the employment of YOP, there is no reason to believe they will not be able to do at least as much for YTS, so long as there is acceptance of a part for MOD establishments to play in YTS role.

The Rt Hon Norman Tebbit MP

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I have noted the support that the Prime Minister is giving to the proposition as regards the Armed Forces. When officials have taken the matter forward I will write to you again.

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Prime Minister.

Yours ever  
John

John Nott



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The Rt Hon John Nott MP  
Secretary of State for Defence  
Ministry of Defence  
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LONDON SW1A 0AA

14 October 1982

*D. John.*

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*J. Norman*



28 MAR 1983

