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10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

10 June 1985

Dear Sir David,

Thank you for your letter of 22 April enclosing the Review Body's recommendations on the pay and charges of the Armed Forces from 1 April 1985.

As you know, the Government has decided to implement immediately the full recommendations. Once again, we are extremely grateful to you and your colleagues on the Review Body for all the work you have done. Perhaps you would pass on my personal thanks to them.

I look forward to receiving your further recommendations on the pay of medical and dental officers in due course. I am considering the question of additional pay for certain Signals personnel referred to in your letter and I will let you know our decision on that as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely  
Margaret Thatcher

Sir David Orr, M.C.

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10 DOWNING STREET

19 June 1985

*From the Private Secretary*

REVIEW BODY ON ARMED FORCES PAY

In her letter to you of 10 June the Prime Minister said that she would let you know the Government's decision on the question of additional pay for 602 Signal Troop as soon as possible.

I am now writing to let you know that the Government has decided to accept your recommendations.

(Andrew Turnbull)

Sir David Orr, M.C.

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10 DOWNING STREET

19 June 1985

*From the Private Secretary*

REVIEW BODY ON ARMED FORCES PAY

I attach a copy of the letter to Sir David Orr signifying the Government's acceptance of the recommendations on 602 Signal Troop.

I am copying this letter to Rachel Lomax (H.M. Treasury) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

(Andrew Turnbull)

Denis Brennan, Esq.,  
Ministry of Defence.

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB  
Telephone 01-330 702 218 2111/3

18th June 1985

Dear Andrew,

REVIEW BODY ON ARMED FORCES PAY

I mentioned in my letter of 7th June that officials here were considering the confidential recommendations of the Armed Forces Pay Review Board (AFPRB) of personnel in 602 Signal Troop. The AFPRB recommendations were set out in Sir David Orr's letter of 22nd April to the Prime Minister. We have consulted the Treasury on this and the advice is that the recommendations should be accepted.

If the Prime Minister is content, I attach a draft letter which you might send to Sir David Orr notifying him of this decision. Perhaps you would also let me know so that we can take action to implement the decision.

I am copying this letter to Rachel Lomax (Treasury) and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever,  
Denis

(D BRENNAN)

A Turnbull Esq  
No 10 Downing Street

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PL type to  
PJ signature

DRAFT LETTER FROM NO 10 TO SIR DAVID ORR

PS

- at

Office of Manpower Economics  
22 Kingsway  
London WC2B 6JY

REVIEW BODY ON ARMED FORCES PAY

In her letter to you of 10th June 1985 the Prime Minister said that she would let you know the Government's decision on the question of additional pay for 602 Signal Troop as soon as possible.

I am now writing to let you know that the Government has decided to accept your recommendations.

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Armed Forces Pay : Defence Pt 2

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to PM signature



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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB  
Telephone 01-~~XXXXXX~~ 218 2111/3

7th June 1985

Dear Andrew,

/ I attach the draft of a letter which the Prime Minister might send to Sir David Orr thanking him and his colleagues for the work they have done in producing this year's AFPRB report.

The AFPRB's supplementary report on the pay of Service medical and dental officers is expected to be completed by about the end of this month and we shall be in touch about that separately. Officials are considering urgently the confidential recommendations of the AFPRB on the pay of certain Signals personnel, and we shall provide advice on this as soon as possible.

Yours ever,  
Denis

(D BRENNAN)

A Turnbull Esq  
No 10 Downing Street

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DRAFT LETTER FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO SIR DAVID ORR, MC

Thank you for your letter of 22 April enclosing the Review Body's recommendations on the pay and charges of the Armed Forces from 1 April 1985.

As you know the Government has decided to implement <sup>immediately</sup> the full recommendations ~~at once~~. Once again, we are extremely grateful to you and your colleagues on the Review Body for all the work you have done. Perhaps you would pass on my personal thanks to them.

I look forward to receiving your further recommendations on the pay of medical and dental officers in due course. I am considering the question of additional pay for certain Signals personnel referred to in your letter and I will let you know our decision on that as soon as possible.

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bc Mr. Gregson

10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

23 April 1985

Armed Forces Pay Review Body

I enclose a copy of the Report of the Armed Forces Pay Review Body. Also enclosed is a copy of Sir David Orr's covering letter which raises separately the question of pay for personnel in 602 Signal Troop. The Prime Minister has asked that this Report should, for the time being, be shown only to the Secretary of State and the Permanent Secretary. I am sending a copy, on a similar basis, to Rachel Lomax (HM Treasury).

A meeting has been arranged for 8 May to discuss the Review Body Reports.

(Andrew Turnbull)

Richard Mottram, Esq.,  
Ministry of Defence.

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OFFICE OF MANPOWER ECONOMICS

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Telephone 01-405 5944

cc Mr Gregson  
+ Sops No 2  
cc Richard Holman  
Rachel Lomas

The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON SW1

22 April 1985

*Dear Prime Minister*

REVIEW BODY ON ARMED FORCES PAY

I enclose the Review Body's Fourteenth Report, which contains recommendations on levels of military salaries and of food and accommodation charges for members of the armed forces which we consider appropriate at 1 April 1985. As usual, we will put forward our recommendations on the pay of medical and dental officers at a later date, when decisions on the remuneration of general medical practitioners in the National Health Service are known.

There is a further matter which we have considered during this review and on which, for security reasons and at the request of the Ministry of Defence, we put forward recommendations outside our report. This relates to the introduction of additional pay for personnel in 602 Signal Troop (Special Communications). This Troop provides special communications for Government agencies. Members of the Troop are all volunteers, and the standard of skill they are required to achieve is considerably higher than for other personnel working in the same specialisations elsewhere. In recognition of the need to attract volunteers, given these specialist skills and the type of work they carry out, Radio Telegraphists in the troop have been paid, since 1970, one pay band higher than that laid down for their employment qualification. However, personnel in other specialisations in 602 Signal Troop receive no additional payments.

The Ministry of Defence have informed us that the pay lead for Radio Telegraphists in 602 Signal Troop has been eroded, at the ranks up to Corporal, because Radio Telegraphists in other Royal Signals' units were up-banded to the same level in 1983. It is not feasible to increase further the pay of Radio Telegraphists in 602 Signal Troop through the pay banding system as they are already in the highest pay band for those ranks. The Ministry of Defence have proposed, therefore, that the 'one pay band up' approach be abandoned and replaced by additional pay. They have also proposed that additional payments be made to those in other specialisations in 602 Signal Troop.

We have noted the problems of attracting volunteers to 602 Signal Troop in the Radio Telegraphist specialisation and we are convinced of the need to reintroduce a financial incentive to encourage personnel in this specialisation to volunteer. We are, however, less convinced of the case for introducing additional pay for those in 602 Signal Troop who are in other specialisations. These personnel have not previously received additional

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payments and the manning situation for them is generally satisfactory. We therefore recommend that, with effect from 1 April 1985, personnel in the Radio Telegraphist specialisation in 602 Signal Troop be paid in the pay band appropriate to their employment qualification but that they receive additional pay at the rate of £3.00 a day for ranks up to and including Corporal and £4.00 a day for ranks above Corporal up to and including WO1. We recommend no change in the current pay arrangements for other personnel in 602 Signal Troop.

*Yours sincerely*  
*David Orr*

SIR DAVID ORR  
CHAIRMAN  
REVIEW BODY ON ARMED FORCES PAY

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