



10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

17 July 1985

*Dear Sir Peter*

Sir David Orr's letter to me of 25 June forwarded the recommendations of the Armed Forces Pay Review Body on the pay of Service Medical and Dental Officers.

I am writing to let you know that the Government have decided to accept the recommendations in full. This decision will be announced by means of a Written Answer in the House of Commons on 18 July. The Supplement to the 14th Report will be published at the same time as Cmnd 9568.

I am, again, extremely grateful to the Review Body members for the work that has gone into this Report.

*Yours sincerely*

*Margaret Thatcher*

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Sir Peter Matthews, A.O.

Thursday 18 July 1985

(Answered by the Prime Minister on Thursday 18 July,  
pursuant to her reply to Eric Forth MP on 6 June 1985)

**THE PRIME MINISTER:**

The Armed Forces Pay Review Body have submitted to me a Supplementary Report on the pay of Medical and Dental Officers in the Armed Forces. It recommends increases of between 4.9% and 8.4% according to rank with effect from 1 June 1985. This reflects the awards to civilian doctors and dentists that I announced in the House on 6 June 1985 (Official Report, vol 80, No. 128, cols 194-6).

The Government has decided to accept in full the recommendations in the Supplementary Report on the pay of Medical and Dental Officers. The Report has been published as Cmnd 9568 and copies are available in the Vote Office.

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10 DOWNING STREET

*From the Private Secretary*

17 July 1985

**AFPRB: DOCTORS AND DENTISTS**

The Government has accepted the recommendations of the AFPRB on doctors and dentists in the Armed Forces. This will be announced on Thursday afternoon either as a self-standing Written Answer, or, if the TSRB announcement is made, as an addition to that.

I enclose a letter to Sir Peter Matthews together with a copy of the Answer. I would be grateful if you could pass the letter to Sir Peter during the course of Thursday morning.

ANDREW TURNBULL

R Williams Esq  
Office of Manpower Economics  
22 Kingsway  
London WC2

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Prime Minister (1)

Content with this recommendation?

The reply goes to Sir Peter Matthews  
as Sir David Orr has now  
returned as Chairman of the  
AFPRB.

AT

16/7



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
 MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1  
 Telephone 01-~~938 7022~~ 218 2111/3

MO 4/4

16th July 1985

*Dear Andrew,*

AFPRB - SERVICE MEDICAL AND DENTAL OFFICERS

In your letter of 26th June you asked for a draft reply from the Prime Minister to Sir David Orr's letter of 25th June about the AFPRB's supplementary report on the pay of medical and dental officers in the Armed Forces. This is now attached together with a draft written answer for your consideration.

The report proposes increases in medical military salaries of between 4.9% and 8.4% according to rank. In line with the Government's decision on the implementation of the Doctors and Dentists Review Body recommendations, it is proposed by the AFPRB that the Service pay award should take effect from 1st June 1985. This would increase the estimated pay bill for the personnel concerned for 1985/86 by 4.9%. In a full year, the increase would be around 5.8%. My Secretary of State proposes that the Government should accept the AFPRB's recommendations. I understand that the Secretary of State for Health and Social Security concurs. I also understand that the Chancellor of the Exchequer is prepared to accept these recommendations subject to the Defence Secretary assuring him that he is prepared to accept the pay differential that will arise between a Service officer at the two star level and a one star medical or dental officer as a result of the Government's proposed handling of the TSRB and AFPRB recommendations. If any one of the options under consideration for implementation of the TSRB recommendations is adopted, the Defence Secretary would reluctantly accept the resulting reverse differential which would occur for a period of one month.

I understand also that, this year, you will be making arrangements for the publication of the report. The draft Parliamentary Answer assumes that you will arrange for publication to coincide with that announcement. Perhaps you would give us early warning of the date so that we are ready for any press enquiries etc. We shall need 500 copies of the supplementary Report on the day for our own consumption and I should be grateful if you will arrange for these to reach us as early as possible. I am copying this letter to recipients of your letter.

*Yours ever,*  
*Dennis*  
 (D BRENNAN)

A Turnbull Esq  
 10 Downing Street

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

26 June, 1985

*Dear Richard*

ARMED FORCES PAY REVIEW BODY

I enclose a copy of the Review Body's Supplementary Report on the pay of medical and dental officers in the Armed Forces, which the Prime Minister received under cover of a letter from Sir David Orr on 25 June.

I would be grateful if you would let me have a draft reply for the Prime Minister's signature together with a draft written answer after the necessary consultations and decisions have been taken.

I am copying this letter and its enclosure to Rachel Lomax (HM Treasury), Steve Godber (DHSS) and Brian Unwin (Cabinet Office).

*Yours sincerely*

*Andrew Turnbull*

(Andrew Turnbull)

R. Mottram, Esq.,  
Ministry of Defence.

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The Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP  
10 Downing Street  
LONDON  
SW1

25 June 1985

*Dear Prime Minister*

REVIEW BODY ON ARMED FORCES PAY

I enclose our supplementary report on the pay of medical and dental officers in the armed forces. As you will know, we could not complete our work on this until the Government's decisions on increases in pay for doctors and dentists in the National Health Service had been made known. Our recommendations take account of those decisions.

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back*

*Yours sincerely  
David Orr*

DAVID ORR  
Chairman  
Review Body on  
Armed Forces Pay