

From: [REDACTED]  
Date: 07 August 2000

cc: [REDACTED]

To: [REDACTED]  
APS/Mr Vaz

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM ARCHY KIRKWOOD MP: UK EXPORTS TO QATAR, [REDACTED]

1. Archy Kirkwood MP has written to the Prime Minister enclosing a letter [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] No 10 have asked the Duty Minister (Mr Vaz) to reply. I attach a draft reply, agreed with NPD, HRPD and MED.

2. The Amnesty letter refers to a report in the Sunday Times of 16 July which alleged that the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (A copy of the article is attached). We have not, in fact, received any formal export licence applications for this equipment.

3. Mr Vaz may also wish to be aware that Mr Hain has sent the Quadripartite Committee, on request, a confidential briefing on the allegations (copy also attached). [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED]

5. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

. The draft reply reflects this.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
The Committees requested a note on the article on alleged exports to [REDACTED] via Qatar which appeared in the Sunday Times on 16 July.

I can confirm that the Government has not received export licence applications from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for the export of [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to either Qatar or [REDACTED]. We have no reason to suspect that any of the UK companies mentioned in the Sunday Times article are attempting to evade UK export licensing controls or to supply false end user documentation.

[REDACTED] have applied for [REDACTED] to supply [REDACTED] to both [REDACTED]. No decision on this application has yet been made. It is not, of

course, an export licence application. I attach an explanatory note on the MoD F580 Application process.

The article refers to a "shopping list" of equipment which included

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

If any UK companies do apply for export licences we will consider their applications on a case by case basis against our national criteria and those in the EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports.

For reasons of commercial confidentiality, this information is provided to the Committees in confidence.

*Yours truly,*

[REDACTED]