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27 Oct 06

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THEATRE ARTICULATION OF CAPABILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. The recent debate on what capabilities are needed for operations now has thrown the spotlight on how effective theatre commanders are in predicting emerging capability requirements and reporting these back to the UK. VCDS discussed how we might improve this with Gen Applegate recently and they thought that the mechanisms used both in theatre and at PJHQ might need strengthening. Specifically Gen Applegate thought we used to deploy people to theatres specifically to proactively keep current and future requirements under review; the added advantage of this was that they could also keep theatre informed of what was being done for them at home, for example on UORs.

2. Consequently, VCDS has asked that you scope this issue and report back on how effective we currently are and how we might be more so. He would be grateful for your thoughts by 10 Nov.

<Original Signed on DII>

MA/VCDS