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10 DOWNING STREET  
LONDON SW1A 2AA

178922/04

21 JUN 2004

From the Private Secretary

Dear Kara,

**RECOGNITION FOR CIVILIAN SERVICE IN IRAQ**

The Prime Minister has seen recent correspondence on this subject from Jack Straw, Geoff Hoon, David Blunkett, Hilary Benn and Andrew Turnbull.

The Prime Minister supports the proposal for a special civilian medal for Iraq. The FCO should now take this forward. You will need urgently to seek approval from The Queen. FCO and the other Departments concerned will need to confirm that they are able to handle the administrative arrangements and meet the costs.

We would be grateful for a draft announcement by the Prime Minister, to reach me by lunchtime on 25 June. (This will need to be coordinated with the process of seeking approval from the Palace.)

The Prime Minister agrees with Geoff Hoon that HD should take forward a wider review of the issue of recognition for civilian service.

I am copying this letter to Desmond Bowen and Sue Pither (Cabinet Office), Mike Naworynsky (MoD), Jonathan Sedgwick (Home Office), Moazzam Malik (DFID), David Richmond (Baghdad) and Patrick Nixon (Basra).

Yours ever,

*David*

DAVID QUARREY

Kara Owen, FCO

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cc PS  
B/Benn  
B/PS  
W.Sawyer

Hand: (PV)  
21 June 2004  
Hes Sec.

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