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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

S 130 /02

18 May 2002

DAVID MANNING'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON, 17 MAY
IRAQ

This could involve you here with the PM to be aware

described how US policy-makers had come to hear of the alleged UK offer of an armoured division for military action against Iraq.

had dropped into the conversation that a UK officer at Tampa had said that the UK would provide an armoured division. had been taken by surprise.

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I am copying this letter to Peter Watkins, Admiral Sir Mike Boyce and Sir Kevin Tebbit (Ministry of Defence), Sir Richard Wilson, John Scarlett and Tom McKane (Cabinet Office), Sir Michael Jay (FCO), 'C', Sir Christopher Meyer (Washington) and Jonathan Powell.

*John ...
Sam ...*

for **MATTHEW RYCROFT**

Simon McDonald
FCO

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