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From: , UND

Date: 31 January 2003

cc: PS/Mr Rammell
PS/Mr O'Brien
Edward Chaplin
Philippa Drew
Heads, UND, MENA
Gavin Hood, Legal Advisers
Jim Drummond, Cabinet Office

Reference: //2003

To: Private Secretary

SUBJECT: IRAQ THE DAY AFTER - US REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE ON JUDICIAL ISSUES

1. The Secretary of State may wish to know that, further to the recent visit to Washington by Edward Chaplin's team to discuss Day After issues, we have received requests from the NSC for assistance on:

a) getting the Iraqi judicial system and police up and running after regime change;

3. Our initial reaction to the proposal that we should take lead responsibility for the judicial system and the police is that this would be a massive undertaking, with implications for the UK's role as an "occupying power", that should more properly be an international effort, mandated by the UN. So we shall avoid getting drawn on this request. Stephen Pattison will also visit Washington next week to pursue Day After issues, and will be pressing the case for

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a UN mandate for the administration of Iraq in the period leading up to the establishment of a democratic Iraqi government.

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