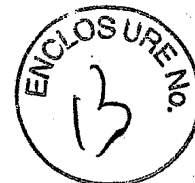


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Drall



D/IIT/2/2
3 June 2004

MA/Minister(AF)

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MEETING WITH AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

1. Minister(AF) and Bill Rammell, FCO Minister for Human Rights are meeting Kate Allen, Director Amnesty International UK on Monday. We understand Ms Allen will be accompanied by Tim Hannock (Hd Policy Govt Affairs), Said Boumedouha (Iraq Researcher) and Livio Zilli (UK Researcher).
2. We have agreed with the FCO at official level that on the whole MOD will respond to allegations against the UK Armed Forces and FCO will respond to wider allegations whether or not these pertain to the UK area of responsibility in Iraq. I will send to you a copy of the briefing FCO officials have provided to Mr Rammell as soon as it is available.
3. As Minister(AF) is aware since the outset of the conflict, Amnesty have published three major reports which combine general allegations and recommendations with reports of specific incidents some of which are subject, or have been subject to, Service Police Investigations. The reports are as follows:
 - **23 July 2003** - Amnesty Report: Iraq - memorandum on concerns relating to law and order
 - **18 March 2003** - Amnesty Report: Iraq - one year on the human rights situation remains dire
 - **11 May 2004** - Amnesty Report: Iraq – killings of civilians in Basra and al-'Amara

Additionally Amnesty wrote to the Prime Minister of 14 May 2004 with additional allegations about two incidents not mentioned in previous report. In response Minister(AF) has told Amnesty and Parliament that he will provide a consolidated and definitive response to these reports which will be published in the Library of the House. We are currently working this up and hope to submit to Ministers before the end of this month.

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