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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB

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SECRETARY OF STATE

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9 July 1997

Dear Ken,

✓ Prime Minister
To be aware. No
mentioned this to you
on the phone although
reinforcements in case of
trouble at the weekend.

UK STAND-BY BATTALION

I have discussed your Secretary of State's letter of 9 July with the Defence Secretary in Madrid. He is content that the UK Stand-by Battalion, currently 1 Staffords, should deploy to Northern Ireland as soon as possible. We currently expect that the battalion will begin arriving in Province from early tomorrow morning.

I am sending copies of this letter to John Holmes (No. 10) and to Jan Polley (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever,

(M A VENABLES)
Private Secretary

Ken Lindsay Esq
PS/Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

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