

DECLASSIFIED



DFID Department for
International
Development
1 Palace Street, London SW1E 5HE

From the Secretary of State

The Rt Hon Tony Blair MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1A 2AA

7 April 2003

Dear Tony,
POST CONFLICT IRAQ

As you know, I am concerned that we establish clear red lines for UK involvement in post-conflict Iraq, and set out to the US a way forward that will comply with the Attorney General's advice and win the international support necessary for successful reconstruction.

- i) ORHA's mandate must be limited to coalition forces' Geneva and Hague Convention obligations to provide humanitarian assistance, ensure public order and keep civil administration functioning. ORHA engagement in major reform would breach the Attorney's advice and alienate international opinion;

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

The consequences of us continuing to be vague about the detail of future arrangements are very serious. We risk putting our armed forces and our civil servants in a situation where they are complicit with breaches of international law. We risk prolonging an insecure environment in Iraq by leaving Iraq as occupied territory and the coalition as an occupying power.

Tow S
Clare
CLARE SHORT

DECLASSIFIED