



Ministry
of Defence

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
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THE RT HON BARONESS GOLDIE DL
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS

MSU/4/8/2/3/ap

5 February 2021

Dear Baroness Bennett,

During the Second Reading of the Overseas Operations (Service Personnel and Veterans) Bill on 20 January 2021, you asked whether I could provide reassurance that the Government would continue to show strong international leadership against rape as a weapon of war.

I can certainly reassure you that this is the case. This is reflected in the fact that the measures in the Bill would not apply to the sexual offences listed in Schedule 1, given the Government's strong belief that the use of sexual violence or sexual exploitation during overseas operations is never acceptable in any circumstances.

I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

*Yours sincerely,
Annabel Su Looie*

BARONESS GOLDIE DL

Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle
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London
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