



Ministry
of Defence

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MSU/4.3.8

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Dear John,

DEFENCE COVID-19 AND UK RESILIENCE ASSISTANCE SUMMARY

Over the last two years 34,000 Armed Forces personnel deployed on over 450 Military Aid to Civil Authority (MACA) tasks supporting the Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These tasks have encompassed planning, logistics, analytical, engineering, mass testing and vaccination tasks, as well as supporting hospitals and ambulance services when they faced critical staff shortages. We have supported all the nations of the United Kingdom and in many of these tasks we also ensured that our Reservist forces played a central role. I am very proud of the contribution we have made to the Government's COVID response.

Throughout the pandemic we have ensured that the House has been kept informed of Defence's contribution through regular updates on our MACA taskings, most recently in response to a commitment I gave to you in answer to your question of 13 December 2021 (UIN 91832). However, in recent weeks we have drawn operation RESCRIPT (our support to the domestic COVID-19 response) to a close and consequently there is currently insufficient MACA activity to justify these continued updates. I hope you will agree with me that the time has come to draw this regular release to a close. Should there be a resurgence in Defence support in this area in the future I would be happy to consider reinstating this practice.

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

JAMES HEAPPEY MP

The Rt Hon John Healey MP
House of Commons
London
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