



ODA

Overseas Development
Administration

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From The Minister

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READING
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Rupert Douglas-Bate

Thank you for the wonderful work you have been doing to help the Iraqi refugees. When I visited Turkey and Iran in April, the plight of the refugees was truly harrowing. Now a major disaster has been averted. Many lives have been saved through your efforts, and you have also helped the refugees in their villages with shelter, water supplies, health care, electricity, sanitation, and food supplies. It is an achievement of which you can be very proud.

It is sadly true that in the past no matter how well run aid operations were, someone would be critical about them. On this occasion, I am delighted to say there has been nothing but praise. Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan has been most impressed by your work. The European Commission now want to send MSTs to Iraq. And civil servants here are very excited by your success - and that does not happen every day!

Looking to the future, I intend that ODA should establish a permanent register of people we can send as MSTs when other disasters occur. I hope you will consider being on the register, and that you will help us learn from your experiences. My officials will be in touch with you soon - and I look forward to meeting you myself in due course.

With sincerest thanks for your efforts and congratulations on your achievements.

*Yours sincerely
Lynda Chalker*

LYNDA CHALKER

