21th February 2003

Sir

I have the honour to inform you that a resolution of the States Assembly was adopted on 18th February 2003 in the following terms:

"The States have resolved that:

It is the view of the Assembly that no military action should be taken by the governments of the United States of America and the United Kingdom against Iraq unless sanctioned by the United Nations and to request the Bailiff to transmit the view of the Assembly to Her Majesty's Government with a request that the opinion of the States be also forwarded to the government of the United States of America by Her Majesty's Government."

The proposition was adopted by the States by 27 votes to 17 with one abstention on a free vote following the lodging of the proposition by a private member.

The Assembly was advised that the foreign policy of Her Majesty's Government is indivisible and that it may not be possible to comply with the second part of the request.

Nonetheless, I have the honour to request that the proposition in the terms set out above be transmitted in accordance with the wishes of the States Assembly.

> I have the honour to be Sir Your Excellency's obedient servant

Bailiff

His Excellency Air Chief Marshal Sir John Cheshire KBE CB Government House