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Your reference
Our reference) / ER3/22/4 (IN 430/22)
Date 2 July 1982

BATON ROUNDS

I have seen a copy of Barry Miller's letter of 15 June to you on this subject.

As regards the Medical Committee's role, I had understood from my discussions with you that your quite clear view was that the Committee was "getting to the end of its tether". You told me its next meeting was in October, and I hope that HPMI's response to Barry Miller's letter will not be long delayed. It would not be altogether surprising if the first reply did not actually settle the matter, and we need to have time for any official discussion and possible submission upwards well in advance of October.

Your own letter of 23 May suggested a clear link between Barry Miller's first and second questions. If, for example, there was to be any change in the MOD's attitude to baton rounds, it could clearly affect the tone and tenor of any communication to or discussion with the Medical Committee. Once again, therefore, I hope that Head of will be able to give this matter an appropriately high place on his agenda in the fairly near future.

We should then be able to assess whether any fresh proposition needs to be put to the Committee about its role. For example, as regards its giving of advice on baton rounds, it must have been provided with some information in the first place, in order to form an original view; and presumably what it needs now is an update. Or is it that the Committee can have theoretical and experimental data on which to form the original view, but not (for the reasons given) the actual results of the use of baton rounds in practice? If so, it may be for consideration whether this should not be formally explained to them. But I doubt you would favour going down that road.

Yours sincerely
M. ...

Copy to:
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