

## **PRESS RELEASE – 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2004**

### **LLOYD INQUIRY INTO GULF WAR ILLNESSES** **BACKED BY LIBERAL DEMOCRATS**

The Rt Hon Lord Morris of Manchester today received strong backing from Rt Hon Charles Kennedy MP, leader of the Liberal Democrat party, for the independent public inquiry into Gulf War Illnesses to be chaired by the Rt Hon Lord Lloyd of Berwick.

In his letter to Lord Morris - who announced the inquiry on 14 June - Charles Kennedy states:

“I am pleased to send my support to the establishment of the independent inquiry into Gulf Veterans’ Illnesses, headed by Lord Lloyd of Berwick.

“This independent inquiry is long overdue. The ex-servicemen and their families, whose lives have been blighted by their illnesses, fully deserve an inquiry with such wide terms of reference.

“I shall closely follow the developments of this inquiry, and I hope it brings closure to an issue that has devastated the lives of so many families for well over a decade.”

Speaking about the letter, Lord Morris of Manchester said today:

“I am extremely glad to have Charles Kennedy’s letter, and delighted by the positive response to the inquiry at Westminster from people of all parties, and of none.”

“The response of Gulf War veterans and their families is especially heartening. The National Gulf Veterans and Families Association told me today of their message to members about the ‘paramount importance’ of the inquiry; and they’re calling upon all veterans to ‘support this Independent Inquiry 100%’,” he said.

ENDS

**Issued by:**

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**For those interested in further information on the Lloyd Inquiry into Gulf War Illnesses, please visit the inquiry website at: [www.Lloyd-gwii.com](http://www.Lloyd-gwii.com)**