[Main Building](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry_of_Defence_Main_Building_(United_Kingdom)),

[Whitehall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whitehall),

[Westminster](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/City_of_Westminster),

Central London.

12th March, 1941.

Budmouth Point Lighthouse,

Budmouth,

North Devonshire,

EX11 3AB.

Dear Mr. Churchill,

I am writing to insist that you allow the lighthouse beacon to remain on the Devonshire coast. The reasons for this are outlined below.

First of all, since evacuating to North Devonshire, I have witnessed how important it is for the lighthouse beacon to remain on to ensure that local people have access to, and benefit from, outdoor light. When I first evacuated to Devon, I was shocked by the blackout darkness of the surrounding area, compared to the constant, bright, city lights of London. Walking through the dark, eerie countryside, the lighthouse highlighted the houses to guide the local people to their homes. Therefore, the flashing light of the beacon ensures that the land is illuminated by its beam without attracting too much attention from the Luftwaffe as it is located on the edge of the local village. Unless the beacon remains on, local people will not be able to see even the outline of their houses in case of emergencies.

Secondly, I believe that the beacon is a benefit to national security. Although your department believes that the beacon is a threat to our country’s safety, local people have argued that it is essential. Although the beacon is larger than a torch, many local fisherman call it the ‘torchlight of the coast’ to help them navigate their fishing boats. Sailing along the coast, ships have crashed against the jagged, uneven rocks without the beacon highlighting the coast. The light that beams on the grey water and its white-topped waves is the light that has saved hundreds of lives along the Devonshire coast.

Furthermore, by keeping the lighthouse beacon on, the hazards outlined above that would otherwise be faced in Budmouth, will be resolved. I believe that the beacon must remain on with immediate effect. This is a simple request that will save the lives and livelihoods of local residents and those out at sea who are working and fighting for us all. The lighthouse is a remarkable invention: it guides and saves the residents and visitors along the coastline and ensures that lives that are at risk of being extinguished will never go out.

Please, for the safety and livelihoods of all who live here, keep the beacon on in the lighthouse.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Olive Bradshaw