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From:

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Sent:

Friday, October 14, 2011 6:14 PM

To:

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Subject:

Fw: Conservative Hammond named as UK Defence Secretary -Sky (Reuters)

From: OpsNewsTicker

Sent: Friday, October 14, 2011 01:14 PM

To: NEWS-EUR; NEWS-Mahogany

Cc: SES-O

Subject: Conservative Hammond named as UK Defence Secretary -Sky (Reuters)

LONDON, Oct 14 (Reuters) - British Prime Minister David Cameron has appointed Conservative Philip Hammond as his new defence secretary, Sky News said on Friday, filling a gap left by the resignation of Liam Fox.

Hammond, regarded as a safe pair of hands who had held the transport ministry brief, will oversee Britain's military operations in Afghanistan and Libya as well as sweeping, cost-cutting reforms to the military.

Fox resigned on Friday following a scandal over his close ties to a businessman who posed as his unofficial adviser, dealing a blow to Cameron's Conservative-Liberal Democrat coalition government.

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