

ANDREW TYRIE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon William Hague
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

2nd July 2010

Dear William,

You may have seen the letter I placed in the FT yesterday. I very much hope that you will give the points made your careful consideration before making a formal announcement.

I'd be very happy to discuss this in more detail, if it would be helpful.

I'll be putting a copy of this letter and any response in the public domain.

Yours ever,

Andrew

ANDREW TYRIE MP

Chairman of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Extraordinary Rendition

cc. Rt Hon David Cameron MP
Rt Hon Nick Clegg MP
Rt Hon Liam Fox MP
Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke MP
Rt Hon Dominic Grieve MP



"Without fear and without favour"

Letters

Inquiry into rendition must be wide

From Andrew Tyrie MP.

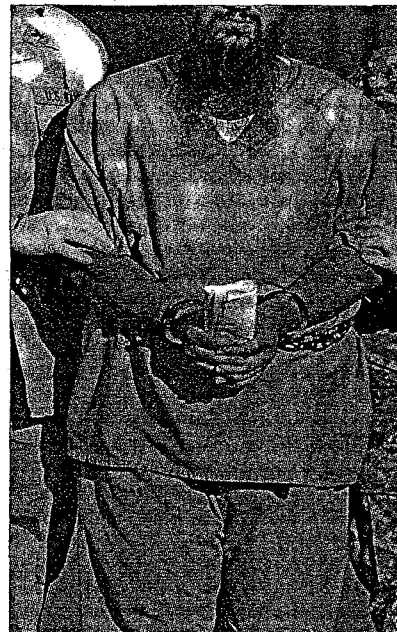
Sir, James Blitz's article on the UK government's plans for an inquiry into the mistreatment of former Guantánamo Bay detainees ("Terror suspects win probe on torture claims", June 30) sets out the terms being considered by the government for an inquiry into allegations of British complicity in torture.

The government should think again. A narrowly focused inquiry such as is being suggested is not enough. The crucial test is whether an inquiry satisfies public concern that we have got to the bottom of British involvement in extraordinary rendition, that is, the programme under which people were kidnapped and taken to places where they could be maltreated or tortured. Unless this is investigated, the government will continue to be plagued by a

drip-drip of allegations and revelations, tarnishing the UK's reputation abroad, making it more difficult to collect intelligence, and reducing public confidence at home in the important work done by our security services.

The minimum requirements for any inquiry are, therefore, that it must look at all allegations of complicity in extraordinary rendition, not just the handful of specific cases which currently involve legal action; its independence should be underpinned by leadership from a high court judge; and it should, as far as practicable, conduct its business in public and publish its findings. The Chilcot model being floated in the Financial Times fails to meet these requirements.

Andrew Tyrie,
Chairman, All Party Parliamentary
Group on Extraordinary Rendition



All allegations must be examined