

ANDREW TYRIE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt. Hon. Jack Straw MP
Secretary of State for Justice and Lord Chancellor
Ministry of Justice
Selborne House
54 Victoria Street
London
SW1E 6QW

08 January 2010

Dear Sir,

Re: APPG on Extraordinary Rendition Proposals to Criminalise UK Involvement in Extraordinary Rendition

Thank you for your letter dated 14th December 2009. I look forward to receiving the government's full response to the APPG's proposals.

I will publish responses where authors give consent once we have reviewed and digested them, together with our proposals, amended if necessary, some time early this year.

I am astonished that you do not consider circuit flights that transit UK airspace on their way to or from a rendition to be a problem. The importance of preventing such flights seems inarguable. It amounts, at best, to turning a blind eye to extraordinary rendition. At worst, it is serious complicity. This is why addressing them is an integral part of the APPG's proposals. I would also remind you of the Foreign Affairs Committee's conclusion that the government has a moral and legal obligation to prevent such flights from using UK airspace. You suggest that it would be 'impractical' to ask the US Administration whether any of the flights on the list submitted last year were part of a 'rendition circuit'. What is the practical bar?

I am copying this letter to the Foreign Secretary. I am placing a copy of this letter in the public domain.

Yours ever,
Andrew

ANDREW TYRIE

Chairman, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Extraordinary Rendition