



The Chairman

Home Affairs Committee

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Rt Hon Sir Malcolm Rifkind MP
Intelligence and Security Committee
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Intelligence and Security Committee Inquiry into Woolwich Murder

I am writing in connection with the Intelligence and Security Committee's investigation into the murder of Drummer Lee Rigby and the possible relationship between Michael Adebolajo and the UK Security Service. The Home Affairs Committee visited Kenya in March this year, where Adebolajo was arrested in 2010, reportedly as part of a group who were trying to enter Somalia to train with al-Shabbab.

We heard competing accounts from British and Kenyan sources about the circumstances under which Adebolajo was returned to the UK. Officials at the High Commission told us that they provided him with consular assistance, as they were obliged to do, and that he was deported to the UK at the instigation of the Kenyan authorities.

Kenyan officials, when pressed by Mark Reckless MP, on the other hand, seemed to suggest that they had wanted to charge Adebolajo with terrorist offences, but that the British government actively sought his return. It is suggested that this might have been because he was either providing intelligence to the Security Service, or he had indicated his willingness to do so.

The suggestion that this dangerous individual, who could have been prosecuted and convicted for terrorist offences overseas, might have been at large in London because of the intervention of certain UK authorities is, of course, deeply troubling. I hope your Committee will be able to take this issue up with Andrew Parker and other relevant officials.

Rt Hon Keith Vaz MP
Committee Chair