

March 2008

Andrew Dismore MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

**CTP (07-08) 41**

*Dear Andrew*

During the debate that followed my Statement to the House on 21 February, you asked whether I would look again at the evidence given to the Joint Committee on Human Rights on the UN Convention Against Torture (UNCAT). You also asked whether I would reconsider the recommendations made by your Committee, particularly in relation to searching civil aircraft where there are credible allegations of involvement in rendition. I have addressed your questions below.

As I set out in my Statement, new information passed to officials on 15 February by the US Government meant that we needed to correct earlier parliamentary answers, interviews, letters and other statements on this issue. In this context I hope that your Committee will accept my Statement to the House as an update and correction to the evidence provided at the time of your inquiry.

In answer to your question regarding the recommendations given to your Committee, I am happy to ask my officials to look again at these. As you know, I have asked officials to compile a list of all the flights where we have been alerted to concerns regarding rendition through the UK or our Overseas Territories. Once this is ready we will be sending this list to the US and seeking their specific assurance that none of these flights were used for rendition. In addition to this, my officials and their US counterparts continue to work through the details and implications of this new information. I think it would be better to wait until this work is complete before reviewing your Committee's recommendations and so I will write to you again in due course.

*Yours  
David*

**DAVID MILIBAND**