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The Rt. Hon Dominic Raab MP
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth
Affairs and First Secretary of State
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH
United Kingdom

17 July 2020

Dear Dominic

The US Senate Committee on Intelligence report on Rendition, Detention and Interrogation.

As you will be aware, there remains significant concern on the part of human rights organisations, such as Reprieve, regarding the use of UK airports, specifically those in Scotland, for the purposes of extraordinary rendition by the United States of America.

Police Scotland have been undertaking an investigation since 2013 into the use of these airports to consider whether any unlawful activity has taken place. That investigation remains live and ongoing. The US Senate Committee released the redacted summary of their report on 9 December 2014 but have not produced the full and unredacted Report. I believe that as much information about this matter should be available to the public as possible. In order that some closure to the events can be achieved, Reprieve, other human rights organisations and my fellow MSPs have asked that, as the Cabinet Secretary for Justice, I seek to obtain a copy of the unredacted report before it is too late. As Civil Aviation and Foreign Affairs are both reserved matters, I am therefore, in turn, seeking the support of the UK Government in making representations to the US Government in order to facilitate access to all relevant information about of the use of Scottish airports for extraordinary rendition flights.

We have, in the past, sought confirmation that UK airports were not used for extraordinary rendition flights, and that assurance was found to be inaccurate when the US government finally disclosed the use of Diego Garcia for one such flight. I am therefore inclined to seek the report itself, which should be a true and accurate picture, than to seek verbal assurances.

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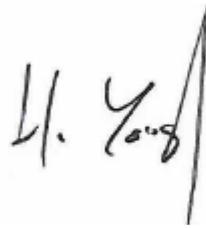
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Therefore, I would be grateful if you could formally make representations to the US Government to seek the unredacted information contained in the report. I look forward to your reply. I would be happy to discuss this request further with you.

I have copied this letter to the Secretary of State for Scotland, the Secretary of State for Home Affairs, and the Lord Advocate.



HUMZA YOUSAF MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Justice

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