



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Robert Kelly
Managing Director
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7 July 2006

Dear Robert

I am writing to you in relation to the current controversy surrounding the UK Government's policy on extradition and the letter to the Home Secretary you signed in the Daily Telegraph on Wednesday.

Let me make it clear that I have no quarrel with the United States which has acted in the interests of its own citizens.

I share many of the concerns that were raised in that letter. It is wholly inappropriate for British citizens to be extradited to the United States to face trial for alleged crimes without a prima facie case being made against them.

The rules were established, as you know, by the 2003 Extradition Treaty between the UK and the United States. The position is made worse by the fact that the United States Senate has still not ratified that Treaty. As a result, there is no reciprocity in the extradition procedures between our two countries.

This is clearly detrimental to our national interest.

That is why we have consistently opposed the legislation that has led us to this position. The regulations establishing the rules for extradition to the US were considered on 15th December 2003 by a House of Commons committee which I attended personally in order to express my concerns - though I was not permitted to vote.

Of the committee members, only the two Liberal Democrats, David Heath and John Pugh, voted against the order that introduced this unfair extradition procedure.

We continue to do what we can to persuade the government to intervene immediately to stop the extradition of the "Nat West Three", who are due to be extradited by 17th July. In addition to raising this issue with the Prime Minister at Questions on 5th July, our party has tabled the Extradition (United States of America) Bill.



Until such a time as the US is able to ratify the 2003 Treaty it is clearly inappropriate for Britain to extradite its citizens in this manner. Our Bill will suspend such extradition until there is a commitment from the Americans to mirror our own legislation.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, I should be very happy to do so.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Menzies Campbell', written in a cursive style.

Menzies Campbell