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SECRET  
INTELLIGENCE  
SERVICE

Secret Intelligence Service  
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Our Ref: IPT/12032019

12 March 2019

Sue Cobb  
Investigatory Powers Tribunal

Dear Sue,

**RE: Privacy International, Reprive, Committee on the Administration of Justice and the Pat Finucane Centre - v - Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the Secretary of State for the Home Department, GCHQ, The Security Service and the Secret Intelligence Service (the "Third Direction")**

Thank-you for your letter to ██████ of 7 March 2019 ref. IPT/17/86&87/CH, in which you refer to telephone conversations which you had with two of my ██████ team on 5 March.

I would like to assure you that the sole purpose of those telephone calls was to seek to understand better the nature of SIS information apparently referenced in the attachments to your 27 February email to the Government Legal Department (on the basis that this appeared to be the only material you yourself had not sent with your email to GLD).

In the course of the conversations with my staff, you helpfully explained to them that the material in question had been provided to the Tribunal by the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office (IPCO). IPCO had provided this material in response to a statutory request for assistance that the Tribunal had made, pursuant to section 232 of the Investigatory Powers Act 2016, in the course of the Tribunal's consideration of the above complaint in relation to the "Third Direction", in which SIS is a named respondent. You made clear that you would be unable to provide any further details. We recognise, of course, that the only appropriate channel to raise any continuing concerns we may have in relation to this issue would be through the Government Legal Department.

Please accept my apologies for any misunderstanding that may have arisen as a result of the approach made to the Tribunal on this issue. I would be grateful if you would draw this letter to the attention of the President of the Tribunal. I am also copying this letter to  
████████████████████

[REDACTED]

Amanda Jeffrey at the Investigatory Powers Commissioner's Office, for the attention of Sir  
Adrian Fulford.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]