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THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Sir John,

Thank you for your letter of 15 July, setting out the latest position on the Inquiry.

I agree that it is important to ensure that those who the Inquiry intends to criticise are informed and provided an opportunity to make representations under the "Maxwellisation" process. It is particularly important that the process is a confidential one. Clearly the complex declassification discussions must be completed before this can take place. The Government will continue to make every effort to ensure that the process runs smoothly and is completed as quickly as possible.

I am pleased that discussions have now begun with officials on two particularly sensitive issues - how to reflect Cabinet and Cabinet Committee discussions in your report, and how to refer to communications between UK Prime Ministers and US Presidents.

I recognise the efforts being made by the Inquiry, and encourage you to do all you can to meet the timetable set out in your letter.

I am content for you to publish this letter alongside yours to me.

I am copying this letter to Sir Jeremy Heywood.

*Yours sincerely,
David Cameron*

The Right Honourable Sir John Chilcot GCB