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15 June 2015

Dear Prime Minister,
IRAQ INQUIRY: PROGRESS

I am writing with an update on the progress of the Inquiry following my last letter in January. I should like to place a copy of this letter on the Inquiry's website on Tuesday 16 June.

Since January, we have received a large proportion of the responses expected from individuals who have been given the opportunity to respond to provisional criticisms and the material which supports them.

The responses have been constructive. In a number of cases they have opened up new issues or referred to material that was not part of the evidence submitted to the Inquiry, which we are considering with care.

It is now essential that the remaining responses are received so that the process can be completed. Only when all responses are in our possession and have been evaluated will I be able to write to you with a realistic timetable for completion.

I know that you, your colleagues, the Houses of Parliament, and many members of the public, including those who took part in operations in Iraq and the relatives of those who were killed or injured as a result, wish to read the Inquiry's report and ensure that the lessons of the conflict are learned as soon as possible.

My colleagues and I wholeheartedly share that wish. We therefore intend to complete our task as quickly as possible in accordance with the processes necessary to ensure we deliver a report which will do justice to the gravity of the issues we have been examining.

Yours sincerely

SIR JOHN CHILCOT