PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION No 98228 ON THE 2003 US-UK EXTRADITION TREATY

You tabled the above Parliamentary Question and I undertook to write to you with a substantive answer.

Following preliminary discussions between US and UK officials, the formal process of the negotiation of the new treaty began on 8 February 2002, when the US submitted a first draft of the new treaty. UK Officials sent written comments on that draft in advance of a meeting in Washington on 20 May 2002. During the course of the subsequent negotiations, various elements were discussed and amended. These were then subject to further discussion at the London meeting on 12 July 2002.

After the London meeting, further negotiations were undertaken electronically. Various further drafts were produced as discussions continued, but these mostly dealt with minor points.

The final version constitutes a text that was found acceptable by both countries' representatives

I will arrange for a copy of this reply to be placed in the House Library.