



PRESS COMPLAINTS COMMISSION

From the Chairman

Ms Rebekah Wade
Editor
The Sun
1 Virginia Street
London E98 1SN

9th September 2008

Dear Rebekah,

Thank you for your letter of 26th August, which I have just seen on return from leave.

I am sorry our ruling made you angry. But it was based fairly and squarely on the Code.

The central argument – which I think is a matter of common sense – is that there *must be* a distinction between the publication of a still image taken in public and of footage taken using a hidden camera. That is why the Code requires a higher level of justification for the use of secret filming than it does for simple photography.

On this occasion, the Commission did not dispute that there was a public interest in the story and specifically supported your right to highlight and comment upon the activities of the man in question. But the public interest could have been fully served without the undercover footage, for which, in the unanimous view of the Commission, there was no such justification.

With kind regards.

Your ever



Sir Christopher Meyer

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