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Information Commissioner's Office
Promoting public access to official information
and protecting your personal information

Our Ref. Z0065/LT

2 February 2007

What price privacy now?

I am enclosing a correction to the above report which was laid before Parliament on 13 December 2006 with HC number 36. The correction relates to the table shown on page 9 of the report which shows publications identified from documentation seized during the Operation Motorman investigation.

A detailed investigation has now revealed that we recorded the figures for the Sunday Times, and for the News of the World, incorrectly. The true figure is that there are only 4 cases linked with the Sunday Times, all of which involve one journalist. The figures for the News of the World increase to 228 and 23 respectively. In addition, 2 cases involving one journalist should have been listed for the Times newspaper. We have carefully checked all the figures for all the other publications identified in the table and no further error has come to light. A copy of the amended table is attached and I can confirm that this is being presented to Parliament and sent to all those on the distribution list for the report.

This unfortunate error occurred as a result of inputting errors made by a contractor when transferring details of over 13,000 transactions from hand-written workbooks to a spreadsheet at the time of the original investigation.

We have issued an unqualified apology to the Sunday Times.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Richard Thomas'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Richard Thomas
Information Commissioner

Publication	Number of transactions positively identified	Number of journalists/clients using services
Daily Mail	952	58
Sunday People	802	50
Daily Mirror	681	45
Mail on Sunday	266	33
News of the World	228	23
Sunday Mirror	143	25
Best Magazine	134	20
Evening Standard	130	1
The Observer	103	4
Daily Sport	62	4
The People	37	19
Daily Express	36	7
Weekend Magazine (Daily Mail)	30	4
Sunday Express	29	8
The Sun	24	4
Closer Magazine	22	5
Sunday Sport	15	1
Night and Day (Mail on Sunday)	9	2
Sunday Business News	8	1
Daily Record	7	2
Saturday (Express)	7	1
Sunday Mirror Magazine	6	1
Real Magazine	4	1
Woman's Own	4	2
The Sunday Times	4	1
Daily Mirror Magazine	3	2
Mail in Ireland	3	1
Daily Star	2	4
The Times	2	1
Marie Claire	2	1
Personal Magazine	1	1
Sunday World	1	1