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HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Richard Sambrook
Director of News
BBC

July 1st 2003

Dear Richard,

I was surprised by your desire to wait for the outcome of the Foreign Affairs select committee. The specific point that I have been making, namely that John Humphreys was wrong to claim in an interview with me the BBC checked Gilligan's allegation with the Government prior to broadcast, is not something I would expect the Foreign Affairs Select Committee to adjudicate on.

You will now know, as I do, John Humphreys' claim is untrue.

I have not traduced the whole of the BBC. In fact, I have gone out of my way to praise the superb journalism of the BBC.

All that needs to happen is an apology for broadcasting a false claim which, I note, you are no longer bothering to defend.

With very best wishes,

Ben Bradshaw MP



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