

FAD WENDY - DUTY CLERK NO10

PETER BLAKE - CABINET OFFICE DUTY OFFICER

TWO DRAFT STATEMENTS ATTACHED,  
ONE BASED ON THE DEFENSIVE LINES  
PREPARED ON FRIDAY. THE OTHER  
REFLECTS FURTHER DISCUSSIONS TODAY  
BUT REQUIRES FURTHER CHECKING: AND  
REPRESENTS A HIGHER RISK APPROACH  
AS WE CANNOT BE SURE THAT HE IS  
GILLIGAN'S SINGLE SOURCE.

DOMINIC WILSON

PS / SIR KEVIN TEBBIT.

CAB/1/0048

**PRESS STATEMENT**

An individual working in the MOD has volunteered that he met with Andrew Gilligan in a hotel on 22 May to discuss Gilligan's experiences as a correspondent in Iraq. This was one week before Gilligan's story claiming that the September 2002 Iraq dossier had been "sexed up". The account of the meeting given by this official does not match the account given by Gilligan to the Foreign Affairs Committee of his "single source". The official has told us that he made no allegations or accusations about the dossier and, in particular, did not suggest that any material had been added to the dossier by Alastair Campbell or Downing Street against the wishes of the intelligence community. He is not a member of the Intelligence Services or the Defence Intelligence Staff.

This discussion was not authorised in accordance with departmental guidance for contact with the media. This is being dealt with appropriately by line management.

There is no reason to suspect that a breach of security is involved.

CAB/1/0049

DRAFT - NOT FOR USE

MOD STATEMENT

An individual working in the MoD has come forward to volunteer that he met Andrew Gilligan on 22 May to discuss Iraq in general. This was one week before Mr Gilligan's story ran on the Today Programme claiming that the Iraq September dossier had been "sexed up".

The official <sup>has</sup> volunteered that he <sup>could have</sup> known Mr Gilligan for some time. At the meeting in a hotel on 22 May, the Iraq WMD programme, including the "45 minutes" issue, was <sup>discussed</sup> together with some of the other elements of Mr Gilligan's <sup>claim</sup> story.

This individual was not "one of the senior officials in charge of drawing up the dossier" as Mr Gilligan claimed his source was in his evidence to the FAC. <sup>is an expert in WMD (sic)</sup> Nor is <sup>he</sup> a member of the intelligence services. <sup>Crucially, although</sup> Mr Gilligan raised the <sup>issue</sup> of Alastair Campbell, since the individual was not involved in the process he <sup>did</sup> not comment. He says he made no allegations or accusations about any issue related to the dossier, in particular that the 45 minutes intelligence had been inserted by Mr Campbell or Downing Street against the wishes of the intelligence community. <sup>When asked by Mr Gilligan why</sup>

Mr Gilligan has made it clear that he had only one source for the specific "45 minute" story and the accusations related to it. From the account we have received from the MoD official, this leads us to conclude that either there was more than one source, or Mr Gilligan misled his employers <sup>about</sup> the information the MoD official discussed with him.

PTO

We assume the Intelligence Service Committee will take this into account in their enquiry should they so wish.

The 45 minute report was in the dossier he saw it was probably for use. He <sup>said</sup> he believed, as an expert in the field, that Saddam Hussein possessed WMD.

CAB | 1 | 0050

Was he did not have access to the intelligence report on 45 minutes

We understand that Mr Gilligan has given his employees  
the name of his source. We have, in confidence, given the  
name of this individual to the Chairman of the BBC, who  
we agree will investigate whether this is the same person.

The offer is ready to be interviewed by the Intelligence and  
Security Committee if they wish.

CAB | 1 | 0051

We are putting this name to George Dawson particularly since it  
is was the BBC's defence for running the story, that it was  
not the BBC that was making the allegation, but the source, and  
it had a duty to report what the source said. It is not  
clear that if this is the single source he contests with  
Andrew Gilligan claims he saw. If the BBC does not contest  
it was indeed this individual

DRAFT - NOT FOR USE

MOD STATEMENT

An <sup>official</sup> individual working in the MoD has come forward to volunteer that he met Andrew Gilligan on 22 May to discuss Iraq <sup>(in general)</sup>. This was one week before Mr Gilligan's story ran on the Today Programme claiming that the Iraq September dossier had been "sexed up".

The official <sup>has</sup> volunteered that he had known Mr Gilligan for some time. At the meeting in a <sup>Central London</sup> hotel on 22 May, the Iraqi WMD programme, including the "45 minutes" issue, was discussed, <sup>read by Mr Gilligan</sup> together with some of the other elements of Mr Gilligan's <sup>claims</sup>.

This individual was not "one of the senior officials in charge of drawing up the dossier" as Mr Gilligan claimed his source <sup>to be</sup> was in his evidence to the FAC. Nor is he a member of the intelligence services. <sup>Crucially, although Mr Gilligan raised the issue of Alastair Campbell, since the individual was not involved in the process he did not comment. He says he made no allegations or accusations about any issue related to the dossier, in particular that the 45 minutes intelligence had been inserted by Mr Campbell or Downing Street against the wishes of the intelligence community.</sup> <sup>As he says he believes, that as an expert in the field, the source (from whom he got the info) was not</sup>

an the 45 mins primary news has said

source

When asked by Mr Gilligan why the 45 mins was in the dossier he said he had no idea it was put in for insertion

Mr Gilligan has made it clear that he had only one source for the specific "45 minute" story and the accusations related to it. From the account we have received from the MoD official, this leads us to conclude that either there was more than one source, or Mr Gilligan misled his employers <sup>about the information the MoD official discussed with him,</sup>

and the public

We assume the Intelligence Service Committee will take this into account in their enquiry should they so wish.

The other has been in Iraq ready and it would not have been possible for Mr Gilligan to call the Iraq expert

CAB/1/0052

→ A.T.O

PAID since it was not  
3B's date for my  
to stop, the DDC was  
to apply, but it was  
as it was a job to work  
with case and. for the  
if this is the system  
in simple words the  
class to see.

~~We understand that the Bill is drafted~~

We understand that Mr. Githinji has given his employees the  
name of his source but has, in confidence, given the  
name, then introduced to the chairman of the BBI,  
the we found with investigation with the same  
introduced. The ~~most~~ official has seen to be willing to be  
interviewed by the ISC.

CAB/1/0053

If the BIC do the  
duplicates will be kept  
can we all see the

Godric Smith

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From: Godric Smith  
Sent: 08 July 2003 09:16  
To: 'ps/pus@mod.gsi.gov.uk'  
Subject: Drafting suggestions

Dominic

This is a revise of version 2 reordering a bit with a different penultimate para which asks the question but doesn't point the finger. Grateful if you could forward to pam. Let me know how things progress

Godric



Gilligan source.doc

An individual who works in the MoD has come forward to volunteer that he met Andrew Gilligan in a hotel on 22 May to discuss Iraq.

Their conversation included the Iraqi WMD programme and the '45' minute issue. The official volunteered that he had known Mr Gilligan for some time.

The individual is an expert on WMD but is not a member of the Intelligence Services or a member of the Defence Intelligence Services. He was not one of the senior officials in charge of drawing up the dossier.

During their meeting the official says that Mr Gilligan raised the involvement of Alastair Campbell. Since he was not involved in the process the individual says he did not comment on his role. He also says he made no accusations or allegations about any issue related to the dossier, in particular that the 45 minutes intelligence had been inserted by Mr Campbell or Downing Street against the wishes of the intelligence community.

We do not know how many people Mr Gilligan met in hotels shortly before May 29 to discuss Iraq and WMD. We do know that he had only one source for his story. He made clear to the Select Committee that the three subsequent sources he referred to did not talk to him about the WMD September dossier.

Something about ISC

CAB/1/0055

An individual working in the MoD has come forward to volunteer that he met Andrew Gilligan of the BBC on May 22. This was one week before Mr Gilligan broadcast allegations against the Government about the WMD dossier on the Today programme.

The person who has come forward has volunteered that he has known Mr Gilligan for some months. He says that he met Mr Gilligan in a central London hotel at Mr Gilligan's request. During the conversation Mr Gilligan raised the Iraqi WMD programme, including the "45 minutes" issue. The official says that Mr Gilligan also raised the issue of Alastair Campbell.

The individual is an expert on WMD who has advised ministers on WMD and whose contribution to the Dossier of September 2002 was to contribute towards drafts of historical accounts of UN inspections. He is not "one of the senior officials in charge of drawing up the dossier." He is not a member of the intelligence services and nor is he a member of the Senior Civil Service. He says he did not see the 45 minute intelligence report.

He says that when Mr Gilligan asked about the role of Alastair Campbell with regard to the 45 minute issue, he made no comment and explained that he was not involved in the process of drawing up the intelligence parts of the Dossier.

He says he made no other comment about Mr Campbell. When Mr Gilligan asked him why the 45 minute point was in the Dossier, he says he commented that it was "probably for impact."

He has said that, as an expert in the field, he believes Saddam Hussein possessed WMD.

The MoD, with the individual's agreement, intend to give his name to the Chairman of the Intelligence and Security Committee, in confidence, should they wish to interview him as part of their inquiry.

He says that as far as he is aware, Mr Gilligan has made no attempt to contact him since May 29.

We do not know that this official is the single source quoted by Mr Gilligan. We do know that Mr Gilligan told the FAC he had only one source for his story, and that the other three sources he mentioned to the FAC did not talk to him about the September Dossier, or did so after the broadcast.

CAB | 1 | 0056

He says that he met  
Mr Gilligan

DRAFT - NOT FOR USE

MOD STATEMENT

An individual working in the MOD has come forward to volunteer that he met Andrew Gilligan on 22 May to discuss Iraq. This was one week before Mr Gilligan's story ran on the Today Programme.

The official has volunteered that he had known Mr Gilligan for some time. ~~At the meeting in a central London hotel on 22 May,~~ the Iraqi WMD programme, including the "45 minutes" issue, was raised by Mr Gilligan together with some of the other elements of Mr Gilligan's story, including . . . .

This individual is an expert <sup>on</sup> ~~in~~ WMD but was not "one of the senior officials in charge of drawing up the dossier" as Mr Gilligan claimed his source was in his evidence to the FAC. He is not a member of the intelligence services. Nor did he have access to ~~The Intelligence Report on 45 minutes.~~ During the meeting Mr Gilligan raised the involvement of Alastair Campbell. Since the individual was not involved in the <sup>dossier</sup> process he says he did not comment. He says he made no allegations or accusations about any issue related to the dossier, in particular that the 45 minutes intelligence had been inserted by Mr Campbell or Downing Street against the wishes of the intelligence community. When asked by Mr Gilligan why the 45 minute report was in the dossier he said it was "probably for impact." He said he believed, as an expert in the field, that Saddam Hussein possessed WMD.

is the  
BBC  
Director of  
News  
has said

The individual says that

There is no sufficient  
evidence for  
to assume

We understand that Mr Gilligan has given his employers the name of his source. We have, in confidence, given the name of this individual to the Chairman of the BBC, who we assume will investigate whether they are the same person.

to assume  
this may

the source, according to  
the source, according to

to the person  
Mr Gilligan  
to be his  
source

We are putting this name to Gavyn Davies particularly since it was the BBC's defence for running the story, that it was not the BBC that was making the allegation, but the source, and it had a duty to report what the source said. It is not clear that if this is the single source he contests what Andrew Gilligan claimed he said. If the BBC does not contest this was the single source, we will assume that it was indeed this individual.

The official is ready to be interviewed by the Intelligence and Security Committee if they wish.

-> Give name to ISC

CAB/1/0057

Who has written in Iraq

01712183048

**DRAFT – NOT FOR USE****MOD STATEMENT**

An individual working in the MoD has come forward to volunteer that he met Andrew Gilligan to discuss Iraq in general. This was one week before Mr Gilligan's story ran on the Today Programme claiming that the Iraq September dossier had been "sexed up".

The official volunteered that he had known Mr Gilligan for some months. At the meeting in a hotel on 22 May, the Iraqi WMD programme, including the "45 minutes" issue, was discussed.

This individual was not "one of the senior officials in charge of drawing up the dossier" as Mr Gilligan claimed his source was in his evidence to the FAC. Nor is he a member of the intelligence services or the Defence Intelligence Staff. During the meeting the official says that Mr Gilligan raised the involvement of Alastair Campbell. Since he was not involved in the process the individual says he did not comment on his role. He also says he made no allegations or accusations about any issue related to the dossier, in particular that the 45 minutes intelligence had been inserted by Mr Campbell or Downing Street against the wishes of the intelligence community.

This discussion was not authorised in accordance with Departmental guidance for contact with the media. This is being dealt with appropriately by line management. There is no reason to suspect a breach of security was involved.

We do not know how many people Mr Gilligan met in hotels shortly before May 29 to discuss Iraq and WMD. We cannot say whether this is the individual that Mr Gilligan regards as the source of his story. We do know that he told the FAC that he had only one source. He claims his three other sources did not talk to him about the September dossier or else did so after the broadcast.

We assume the Intelligence Service Committee will take this information into account in their enquiry should they so wish.

CAB/1/0058