

TO: P. 03

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From Director, News

Rt. Hon. Geoffrey Hoon MP.,  
Ministry of Defence,  
Room 205,  
Old War Office Building,  
WHITEHALL,  
London.  
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3 July, 2003

Dear Geoff,

Thank you for your letter. Clearly your version of what happened on the evening of 28 May differs from ours. I take that seriously and will again look at what happened together with the BBC's Controller of Editorial Policy who, as you know, is independent of the News Division. I will respond as soon as that is done.

If we fell short of what we believe to be acceptable we shall say so.

At no time in this dispute have I sought to in any way criticise the MoD Press Office with whom we have always enjoyed excellent relations.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

(Richard Sambrook)

CAB/1/0406