

Andrew Gilligan - most unusually - did not carry the warning - it should have done. But it would be unreasonable not to acknowledge that we have been telling audiences time and again about these restrictions. As for minders - the BBC Baghdad team does have a minder, although he does not accompany them all the time. Having had conversations with members of the team I am confident that Andrew's piece was not influenced by him.

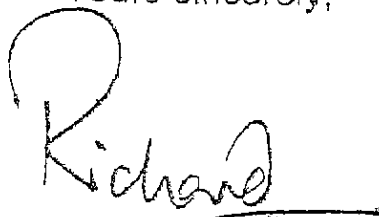
You will not be surprised in the light of my remarks above that I do not accept that we have breached the guidelines in the way you state.

As for Andrew Gilligan's remarks about Uday you again seem to have omitted a significant part of Andrew's contribution. His answer began as follows :

"Uday has run his own private torture chamber, a place called the red room, a place that was absolutely notorious as a place of real horror for the Iraqis."

All in all Andrew has hardly portrayed Uday in anything other an unpleasant light. His remarks about Uday's recent 'reining in ' are drawn from conversations Andrew had in the U.K with diplomats and academics - before he went out to Baghdad. He had been following the Iraq story for many months. His sources point to Saddam Hussein's desire to keep a balance between Uday and Qusai, and the closure last year of the newspaper associated with Uday.

Yours sincerely,



(Richard Sambrook)

I will respond to your last fax about Gilligan later today or tomorrow morning.

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