



Richard Sambrook-Internal

From: James Robbins
Sent: 17 July 2003 03:25 PM
To: Richard Sambrook and PA
Subject: Snippet from MoD

Sensitivity: Confidential

Richard

After Mave's farewell, I was with, amongst others, the MoD.

He sought me out to whisper a few thoughts "confidentially" and "off the record".

For what it's worth, he was very keen to stress that Dr. Kelly came forward because "he was alarmed that the idea was gaining currency" among friends/colleagues that he was the sole source, and they advised him to dispel it...

... wouldn't be led as to why Downing St had presented him in that way, and only rolled his eyes and looked pained when I mentioned Downing St's involvement.

He volunteered that Dr. Kelly was regarded as a "bit weird" and "rather eccentric"... not quite clear what this smear was intended to achieve.

He earnestly hoped that the Summer recess would bury all this - he was "very tired" and so was most of Whitehall.

Hardly earth-shattering, but thought I ought to pass it on to you.

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