

JSS (25) file
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From: [REDACTED]
Head of Security Policy Division
Date: 9 July 03

~~John Scarlett~~

Cc Sir David Omand

IRAQ WMD: LEAKS TO THE MEDIA

1. You asked me to do some initial work on the reported leaks to the media about the Iraq WMD dossier. In particular:
 - Whether an analysis of the published accounts of the "45 minutes" leak to Gilligan reveals any clues about how close the leaker was to the development of the September dossier.
 - How many people were in a position to have seen a copy of the Scarlett memo to Alistair Campbell of 20 September (leaked to the Sunday Times and referred to in the report by Nick Fielding and Nicholas Rufford of 1 June 2003) and whether analysis indicates that any other documents were leaked.
2. I expect be able to report on Monday on how many individuals in departments had access to your memo of the 20 September.
3. In the meantime, and in light of developments in the last few days regarding David Kelly, I thought it would be helpful to let you see the result of the Security Service analysis of the "45 minute" references in the press and of the transcript of Gilligan's appearance before the FAC.
4. Summary of points that emerge from the analysis :
 - that your memo of 20 September seems highly likely to have formed the basis of the Sunday Times report of 1 June. We have not identified any indications that any other actual documents were passed or shown to the press (leaving to one side the Top Secret DIS document leaked to Gilligan in January).
 - that there were repeated accusations (it appears from more than one source) that Downing Street and Alastair Campbell exerted pressure to add material to the original draft. Although accusations about pressure to include the "45 minutes" appear to be from a single source.
 - media reports refer variously to "two to three final versions", but also "six to eight drafts" and correctly identify that plans for the dossier date back to March 02 (although the working text of the draft September dossier was amended piecemeal and repeatedly, there were three substantial re drafts circulated for consultation after the announcement to publish was made at the start of September 02).

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