

References to Gilligan's Source(s)

1. ~~Gilligan has one main source who has commented directly on the September~~
WMD dossier and who is quoted extensively. He has 3 other sources "in or connected with the intelligence community" who have commented on "Downing Street's use of intelligence material over the last six months". (FAC transcript page 6) It appears that one of these 3 sources was the person who showed Gilligan the Top Secret DIS D-TAG report dated circa 13 January concerning links between Iraq and terrorist organisations.

Gilligan denied that his WMD source and the latter are the same person.

(FAC transcript, pages 7, 22, 27,28).

(Comment: Gilligan could be lying, to protect his WMD source from identification)

Gilligan's relationship with source

2. Gilligan describes his source as "a British official" who is "a source of mine of longstanding"... "whom I have known for some time". They have met several times, but not regularly. Prior to the meeting when they discussed the dossier, they last met over a year ago but had spoken on the phone since then. The source has been busy over the last 6 or 7 months. (FAC transcript pages 3, 6, 35).

Gilligan's latest meeting with source

3. Gilligan initiated the latest meeting by calling the source and asking for it, to talk about Iraq. It appears to have lasted about 1½ -2 hours. As to location, in his Mail on Sunday article Gilligan claims it was a central London hotel but during the FAC appearance he does not refute or confirm the Chairman's suggestion that the meeting took place in an office

(FAC transcript, page 35 and 36; Mail on Sunday article 1 June 2003)

Source's knowledge of opposition to 45 minute claim

4. Source has first or second-hand knowledge of the opposition to inclusion of the 45 minute claim. He stated the 45 minute claim was included in the dossier against "our wishes because it wasn't reliable....It was a single source and it was not reliable. Most things in the dossier were double-sourced but that was single-sourced and we believe the source was wrong."

(FAC transcript page 14)

(Comment: If source's claims concerning the double-sourcing of most of the JIC items is correct, it confirms a close knowledge of the intelligence used for the dossier)

5. Gilligan reports the source "as saying there was unhappiness within the intelligence services, disquiet within the intelligence services. His words, apparently, were "Most people in intelligence were not happy with it (the dossier) because it did not reflect the considered view they were putting forward".

(FAC transcript pages 13 and 25.)

CAB/18/0055