

DRAFT (NOT YET FOR USE)

LETTER FROM SIR KEVIN TEBBIT TO

The Rt Hon Ann Taylor MP
Chairman
Intelligence and Security Committee

I wish to inform you that an individual working in the MOD has come forward to volunteer that he met Andrew Gilligan on 22 May to discuss Iraq. This was one week before Mr Gilligan's story ran on the *Today* programme.

The official has volunteered that he had known Mr Gilligan for some time. He says that he met Mr Gilligan in a central London hotel on 22 May. During the conversation Mr Gilligan raised the Iraqi WMD programme, including the "45 minute" issue. Mr Gilligan also asked about the role of Alastair Campbell in the preparation of the September dossier.

This individual is an expert on WMD but was not "one of the senior officials in charge of drawing up the dossier". He is not a member of the intelligence services. Nor is he a member of the Senior Civil Service. He did not have access to the intelligence report on 45 minutes and was not involved in discussions about whether or how this information should be used in the September dossier. He says that he made no allegations or accusations about the issue related to the dossier, in particular that the 45 minute intelligence had been inserted by Mr Campbell or Downing Street against the wishes of the intelligence community.

He made no other comment about Alastair Campbell. When asked by Mr Gilligan why the 45 minute report was in the dossier, he commented that "it was probably

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