

reliable source and frankly Jim I don't think the BBC needs to be taught lessons in the use of sources by a Communications Department which plagiarised a twelve year old thesis and distributed it unattributed.

JN: *Alastair Campbell says that by alleging that the forty five minute part of the dossier was inserted at a late stage, it was added at a late stage, it was dealt with at a late stage in the preparation of the dossier in a way which disturbed elements of the intelligence services we in the BBC are all accusing Prime Minister of lying, effectively, and of leading the country in to a war on a false premise. Now how do you respond to that?*

RS: As I said at the outset Jim we have never suggested any such thing.

JN: *Well he says one leads to the other. He says if you say against what we in Downing Street claim to be the truth that Andrew Gilligan's story is absolutely true then we are accusing the Prime Minister of going to war on a false premise.*

RS: I don't accept that extrapolation at all. What we have said quite simply is that a senior and credible source said there was disquiet within the intelligence services about one piece, that one forty five minute claim. That's what we have on one source. Beyond that we've had a number of people as indeed have many newspapers and other broadcasting organisations over the last few weeks have been briefed by senior people in the defence and intelligence communities about a level of disquiet about the way some of this intelligence was presented. That's all ...

JN: *And so ...*

RS: ... we have said.

JN: *... and so to listeners who, I mean it's important for listeners to realise this, that in something like this you have taken some trouble to talk to the people who have been in direct contact with these sources and gone through this and you personally as Director of BBC News are absolutely satisfied that this is a true statement, a statement which reflects accurately the feelings as we have reported them.*

RS: I have no question that there was that level of disquiet within defence and intelligence communities. And that is an, an issue of public interest. Part of the problem is that whenever we have, have said that the response to it has been to suggest we were alleging something else and to, and to deny something we haven't suggested.

JN: *Well Mr Campbell is clearly angry about this and this is another final clip from his evidence to the Committee.*

Alastair Campbell: I find it incredible and I mean incredible that people can report based on one single anonymous uncorroborated source, can report, and let's get to the heart of what the allegation is, that the Prime Minister, the Cabinet, the intelligence agencies, people like myself, connived to persuade Parliament to send British forces in to action on a lie. That's the allegation. And I tell you until the BBC acknowledge that is a lie I will keep banging on, that correspondence file will get thicker and they better issue an

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