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British Broadcasting Corporation Room 1601 Stage 6 Television Centre Wood Lane London W12 7RJ Telephone 020 8576 7178 Fax 020 8576 7138

**BBC**

From Director, News

Rt. Hon. Geoffrey Hoon MP.,  
Ministry of Defence,  
Room 205,  
Old War Office Building,  
WHITEHALL,  
London.  
SW1A 2EU

3 July, 2003

Dear Geoff,

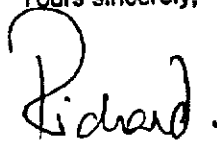
Thank you for your letter. Clearly your version of what happened on the evening of 28 May differs from ours. I take that seriously and will again look at what happened together with the BBC's Controller of Editorial Policy who, as you know, is independent of the News Division. I will respond as soon as that is done.

If we fell short of what we believe to be acceptable we shall say so.

At no time in this dispute have I sought to in any way criticise the MoD Press Office with whom we have always enjoyed excellent relations.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



(Richard Sambrook)



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FROM NEWS MANAGEMENT

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