

>
> weapons at such readiness to fire, they could not have been deeply
> concealed, so would surely have been found by now. This does not strike me
>
> as proof that your informant has a good track record - actually rather the
>
> reverse As soon as his information is able to be tested it is found
> wanting Maybe it argues for a little more discrimination in using the
> reports of single informants
>
> We didn't speak to the FCO because it wasn't your dossier I spoke to the
> MoD the night before and we booked Ingram to talk about cluster bombs and
> this on the programme The programme also spoke to Downing Street early on
>
> the morning of transmission You are one of the Government press people I
> respect as a straight shooter and I would always come to you with an FCO
> story
>
> Andrew

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From pat barrie@fco.gov.uk [SMTP:pat.barrie@fco.gov.uk]
>> Sent Thursday, June 05, 2003 12:50 PM
>> To Andrew Gilligan-INTERNET
>> Subject RE: Letter from John Williams, FCO Press Secretary
>> Importance High
>>
>>
>> Andrew

>> I was making two points. One, that I am sure you would
>> not now want to re-peddle The Guardian's story in one of
>> those round-up interviews where you go back over all the
>> mistakes we have allegedly made Second, I am surprised
>> that you have never rung me about the dossier I appreciate
>> that you stand by the story your source gave you, but I
>> would have thought you would want to reflect the other side
>> of the story. I refer you to today's FT front-page. Your
>> source has given you an utterly false impression It is simply
>> not right to suggest that it is out of order to give credence
>> to a single sourced piece of intelligence, provided the source
>> has a good track record The source for the 45 minute intelligence
>> was a member of the Iraqi military who had been informing us
>> secretly for some years Today Programme listeners might find
>> that interesting.

>> Pat

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From Andrew Gilligan-INTERNET [mailto:andrew.gilligan@bbc.co.uk]
>> Sent Thursday, June 05, 2003 12:38 PM
>> To 'pat.barrie@fco.gov.uk'
>> Cc brian.macarthur@thetimes.co.uk, stephen.glover@spectator.co.uk
>> Subject RE: Letter from John Williams, FCO Press Secretary

>> Dear John,

>> I'm sure the programme will get back to you on the Guardian story, but
> for
>> my part you are wrong to think that I did it The programme followed the
>> Guardian story, but I did not, because I was doing an entirely different
>> piece that day

CAB/4/0011