

**Dr Kelly:** I would not say I was being exploited.

**Q159 Sir John Stanley:** You had been before them to rubbish Mr Gilligan and his source, quite clearly?

**Dr Kelly:** I just found myself to be in this position out of my own honesty in acknowledging the fact that I had interacted with him. I felt obliged to make that statement once I realised that I may possibly be that source. Until then, I have to admit that I was out of the country for most of the time this debate was going on so I was not following the actual interactions that were going on. It was not until I was alerted to the transcript by a friend that I actually even considered that I might be the source.

**Q160 Sir John Stanley:** If I may say so, I think you have behaved in a very honourable and proper manner by going to your departmental line managers in the circumstances you describe. That does not get away from the key issue, which is why did you feel it was incumbent upon you to go along with the request that clearly had been made to you to be thrown to the wolves, not only to the media but, also, to this Committee?

**Dr Kelly:** I think that is a line of questioning you will have to ask the Ministry of Defence. I am sorry.

**Sir John Stanley:** I am grateful.

**Q161 Chairman:** Do you feel any concern at the way the Ministry of Defence responded after you volunteered your admission?

**Dr Kelly:** I accept what has happened.

**Q162 Andrew Mackinlay:** The feeling I have, and you might be able to help me with this, was that there was no serious attempt by the security or intelligence services or the Ministry of Defence Police to find out Gilligan's source. Did they come knocking at your door or that of your colleagues, to your knowledge at all, to discover that?

**Dr Kelly:** I have no knowledge of that whatsoever.

**Q163 Andrew Mackinlay:** Since you wrote to your superiors in the way you have done, have you met Geoff Hoon?

**Dr Kelly:** No.

**Q164 Andrew Mackinlay:** Any ministers?

**Dr Kelly:** No.

**Mr Pope:** Any special advisers?

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