

SW so it wasn't as if there were lots of people saying don't put it in don't put it in it's just it was in there and was seized upon . rather than number ten specifically going against ?

DK there were lots of people saying that – I mean it was an interesting week before the dossier was put out because there were so many things in there that people were saying well we're not so sure about that, or in fact they were happy with it being in but not expressed the way that it was, because you know the word-smithing is actually quite important, and the intelligence community are a pretty cautious lot on the whole but once you get people putting it/presenting it for public consumption then of course they use different words. I don't think they're being wilfully dishonest I think they just think that that's the way the public will appreciate it best I'm sure you have the same problem as a journalist don't you, sometimes you've got to put things into words that the public will understand

SW simple

DK. in your heart of hearts you must realise sometimes that's not actually the right thing to say .but it's the only way you can put it over if you've got to get it over in two minutes or three minutes

SW did you actually write that section which refers to the 45 minutes Or was it somebody else?

DK errr I didn't write THAT section, no I mean I reviewed the whole thing, I was involved with the whole process . In the end it was just a flurry of activity and it was very difficult to get comments in because people at the top of the ladder didn't want to hear some of the things

SW so you expressed your unease about it? Put it that way

DK errr well yes yep yes

SW so how do you feel now number ten is furiously denying it and Alastair Campbell specifically saying it's all nonsense it was all in the intelligence material?

DK well I think it's matter of perception isn't it I think people will perceive things and they'll be, how shall I put it, they'll see it from their own standpoint and they may not even appreciate quite what they were doing

SW do you think there ought to be a security and intelligence committee inquiry?

DK yes but not now I think that has to be done in about six months time when we actually have come to the end of the evaluation of Iraq and the information that is going to come out of it I still think it's far too early to be talking about the intelligence that is there . a lot of intelligence that would appear to be good quality intelligence , some of which is not and it take a long long time to get the information that's required from Iraq The process has only just started I think one of the problems with the dossier – and again I think you and I have talked about it in the past is that it was presented in a very black and white way without any sort of quantitative aspects of it The only quantitative aspects were the figures derived essentially from UNSCOM figures, which in turn are Iraq's figures presented to UNSCOM – you know the xxx litres anthrax, the 4 tonnes VX – all of that actually is Iraqi figures – but there was nothing else in there that was quantitative or even remotely qualitative – I mean it was just a black and white thing – they have weapons or they don't have weapons That in turn has been interpreted as being a vast arsenal and I'm not sure any of us ever said that . people have said to me that that was what was implied, Again we discussed it .and I discussed it with many people, that my own perception is that yes they have weapons but actually not xzxxx (xxx not problem ) at this point in time The PROBLEM was that one could anticipate that without any form of inspection, and that forms a real deterrence, other than the sanctions side of things, then that that would develop I think that was the real concern that everyone had, it was not so much what they have now but what they would have in the future But that unfortunately wasn't expressed strongly in the dossier because that takes away the case for war (I cough) to a certain extent

SW a clear and present, imminent threat?

DK yes

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