

11 July 2003

I also place on record my extreme disquiet that a senior BBC executive has apparently told a journalist at The Telegraph that the BBC believes Andrew Gilligan's source to be my source also and that Andrew Gilligan and I "got exactly the same story".

I do not agree that a comparison of the two reports suggests that there is only one area of difference between the information disclosed by my source and Mr Gilligan's source, as was suggested by Mr Richard Sambrook to my solicitor and on which basis he apparently predicates his belief that they are the same person.


In fact, I believe that there are significant points of difference between the two reports.

Further, I am very concerned about the process by which the circumstances surrounding my Newsnight report are being drawn into a dispute between the BBC and the Government and consider it inappropriate that my reports be used in this way.

I am unwilling to entertain any further questions that I consider might tend to identify my source or invite a further line of enquiry as to the source's identity."

We confirm that we have been instructed to place the aforementioned statement to you formally on behalf of our client.

Yours faithfully



Finers Stephens Innocent

Direct Tel: 020 7344 7663
Direct Fax: 020 7344 5603
E-mail: fcampbell@fsilaw.co.uk

SJW/1 | 0082