

LOOSE MINUTE

July 2003

**PS/Secretary of State**

Copy to:  
PS/PUS  
Personnel Director  
Policy Director  
DCDI  
D News  
Parliamentary Clerk

**FAC: DR KELLY'S CONTACT WITH JOURNALISTS**

1. Replies are outstanding to the FAC Clerk's letter of 16 July asking for details of Dr Kelly's contacts with journalists, and to PQs 4234N and 4235N (tabled by Andrew MacKinlay), on the same subject. We are in the process of checking details with Dr Kelly when he disappeared on 17 July, and I am afraid that I have been unable to return to these issues until now.

2. We have given as comprehensive a set of answers as possible. Dr Kelly met journalists at seminars, Chatham House events, and similar occasions. He was often contacted at home (not least on technical issues). In many cases he has not kept a record of the details. We have therefore listed those meetings specifically set up by a journalist with Dr Kelly, and where Dr Kelly logged the meeting in his diary, and listed all those journalists whose business cards (or other contact details) Dr Kelly has in his possession, which indicates that he had met them in some context, even if it was in the margins of another event, and possibly many years ago. I note - give the press reporting - that Dr Kelly gave us no record of his having met Gavin Hewitt; the draft letter makes this clear.

Dr B H Wells  
Director  
CPAC  
MT 2/26 82296 MB

**Enclosure:**  
**Letter to FAC Clerk**

MOD / 5 / 0054



DRAFT

Mr Steve Priestley  
Clerk  
Foreign Affairs Committee  
House of Commons  
LONDON  
SW1A 0AA

July 2003

Thank you for your letter of 16 July, asking for a list of journalists with whom Dr David Kelly has had contact. You will understand that the tragic circumstances of the following days prevented us from replying earlier.

Dr Kelly had records of having held meetings with the following journalists over the past 2 years.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Nick Rufford (Sunday Times)	14 March 2002	Discussing Al-Manal
Alex Nicoll (Financial Times)	15 May 2002	Iraqi WMD in general
Phillip Sen (The Engineer)	3 October 2002	Inspection technology
Andrew Gilligan (BBC)	February 2003	Iraqi WMD in general
Andrew Gilligan (BBC)	22 May 2003	Iraqi WMD in general

Dr Kelly had also had meetings during the period with Jane Corbin (BBC) on general UN Inspections and Tom Mangold (BBC) on UNSCOM Inspections, but had no record of the dates

MOD/S/0055

In addition, Dr Kelly spoke about WMD issues on which he was an acknowledged expert at a range of seminars and similar events, and on the telephone. For example, he had a conversation about Iraq WMD with Andrew Gilligan at the IISS seminar 12-14 September 2002 and, as mentioned at the Foreign Affairs Select Committee hearing, he met with Susan Watts (BBC), following his presentation at the Foreign Office Open Day on the 5 November 2002. Other than those noted above, Dr Kelly did not have records of contacts with journalists. However, those journalists whose business cards (or other contact details) Dr Kelly had in his possession are listed below: he believed that he had met them, either one-to-one or in the margins of seminars or other events, and in some cases possibly many years ago.

Tamar Weinstein, CBC Radio Canada  
Anna Maria Tremonti, CBC Radio Canada  
Bernard Edinger, Reuters  
Andrew Veitch, ITN  
Mark Worthington, TBS News  
Tetsuya Chikushi News, 23 TBS News  
Koichiro Yoneda, TBS News  
Paul Lashmar, The Independent  
Susan Lambert, Australian Broadcasting Corporation  
Jeremy Webb, New Scientist  
James Bone, The Times  
Marilyn Chase, Wall Street Journal  
Jeff Goldberg, Freelance journalist  
Judith Miller, New York Times  
Calum Lynch, Washington Post  
Helen Vyner, Simon Prentice Associates  
Carolyn Hawley, BBC  
Lynsey Hilsum, Channel Four News  
Stephen Endelberg, New York Times  
Sean O'Neill, Daily Telegraph

I should add that Dr Kelly did not provide us with any record of his having had dealings with Gavin Hewitt.

MOD/5/0056

TEMPLATE TO BE USED FOR REPLY

**Ministry of Defence**

THURSDAY 17 JULY 2003

**Andrew MacKinlay Esq MP(THURROCK) (LAB)**

**NAMED DAY WRITTEN**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, which journalists Mr David Kelly has met over the past two years; other than Andrew Gilligan of the BBC, (a) for what purpose each meeting was held, and (b) when each meeting took place 126331

Minister replying The Rt Hon Geoffrey Hoon MP

**DRAFT REPLIES SHOULD BE SENT TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS  
AND NOT PQMAIL**

Dr Kelly had records of having held meetings with the following journalists.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Nick Rufford (Sunday Times)	14 March 2002	Discussing Al-Manal
Alex Nicoll (Financial Times)	15 May 2002	Iraqi WMD in general
Phillip Sen (The Engineer)	3 October 2002	Inspection technology

Dr Kelly had also had meetings with Jane Corbin (BBC) on general UN Inspections and Tom Mangold (BBC) on UNSCOM Inspections, but had no record of the dates

In addition, Dr Kelly spoke with journalists about WMD issues on which he was an acknowledged expert at a range of seminars and similar events, and on the telephone

MOD/5/0057

For example, he met with Susan Watts (BBC), following his presentation at the Foreign Office Open day on the 5 November 2002

August 03

PQ Ref 4234N

**BACKGROUND NOTE**

**Background**

1. Andrew MacKinlay is a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and pressed Dr Kelly on his contacts with journalists during his evidence session on 15 July. The FAC have followed this evidence up with a letter requesting details of Dr Kelly's contacts.
2. The proposed answer lists the meetings that Dr Kelly had records of having held. In addition, Dr Kelly had contacts with journalists that are not in his records: such contacts would include seminars, and telephone conversations.
3. This PQ should be considered in conjunction with 4235N and the draft letter from PS/Secretary of State to Clerk FAC, both of which concern Dr Kelly's contacts with journalists.

**REMEMBER you are accountable for the accuracy and timeliness of the advice you provide. Departmental Instructions on answering PQs can be viewed on the CHOTS public area and on DAWN. Please send to PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS.**

DRAFTED BY	. B H Wells	TEL	MB 82296
AUTHORISED BY	. B H Wells	TEL.	MB 82296
GRADE/RANK	. Grade 5		
BRANCH	CPAC		

**DECLARATION:** I have satisfied myself that the above answer and background note are in accordance with the Government's policy on answering PQs, Departmental instructions (DCI GEN 150/97) and the Open Government Code (DCI GEN 54/98)

MOD/5/0058

TEMPLATE TO BE USED FOR REPLY

**Ministry of Defence**

**THURSDAY 17 JULY 2003**

**Andrew MacKinlay Esq MP(THURROCK) (LAB)**

**NAMED DAY WRITTEN**

To ask the Secretary of State for Defence, when over the past two years Mr David Kelly has met Andrew Gilligan of the BBC. 126330

Minister replying The Rt Hon Geoffrey Hoon MP

**DRAFT REPLIES SHOULD BE SENT TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS  
AND NOT PQMAIL**

Andrew Gilligan had meetings on Iraq with Dr Kelly twice over the past two years February 2003 and 22 May 2003 In addition, Dr Kelly spoke to Andrew Gilligan about Iraq during a seminar at the International Institute of Strategic Studies on 12-14 September 2002.

August 03

PQ Ref 4235N

MOD/5/0059

**BACKGROUND NOTE**

1 Andrew MacKinlay is a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and has had the opportunity to ask Dr Kelly direct about his dealings with Andrew Gilligan. The answer given to this PQ is drawn from information offered by Dr Kelly to MOD, and is consistent with his evidence to the FAC. Dr Kelly does not have a record of the date in February 2003 on which he met Mr Gilligan.

2 This PQ should be considered in conjunction with PQ 42334N and the draft letter from PS/Secretary of State to Clerk/FAC, both of which concern Dr Kelly's contacts with journalists

**REMEMBER you are accountable for the accuracy and timeliness of the advice you provide. Departmental Instructions on answering PQs can be viewed on the CHOTS public area and on DAWN. Please send to PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS.**

DRAFTED BY	:	B H Wells	TEL.	MB 82296
AUTHORISED BY	:	B H Wells	TEL.	MB 82296
GRADE/RANK	:	Grade 5		
BRANCH	:	CPAC		

**DECLARATION:** I have satisfied myself that the above answer and background note are in accordance with the Government's policy on answering PQs, Departmental instructions (DCI GEN 150/97), and the Open Government Code (DCI GEN 54/98)

MODIS/0060