

CPAC-PA

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From: D/PACS-PERSONAL  
Sent: 08 August 2003 12:15  
To: CPAC-PA  
Subject: FOR PRINTING PLEASE

-----Original Message-----

From: D/PACS-PERSONAL  
Sent: 04 July 2003 14:59  
To: Personnel Director-PS  
Subject: Dr David Kelly - Gilligan



DK - Gilligan.doc

Richard asked for this as part of a minute/letter he is preparing

Bryan Wells  
DCPAC

MOD/5/0061

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An individual has come forward of his own volition and admitted speaking to Gilligan. This is Dr David Kelly, an MOD Civil Servant (although paid by the FCO). Kelly has considerable experience of weapons inspections in Iraq, and was involved in the drafting of parts of the Government's September 2002 Dossier (the history UN inspections, and Iraq's programmes 1971-1998). Kelly has admitted speaking to Gilligan (at Gilligan's request) on 22 May. This was not authorised. Kelly also met Gilligan at an IISS seminar in September 2002, which took place between the publication of the IISS Dossier and that of the Government's own assessment.

[I] have interviewed Kelly. The meeting on 22 May was 45 minutes duration. According to Kelly, its purpose was to discuss Gilligan's experiences in Iraq, and the discussions focussed principally on the Iraqi individuals associated with the WMD programmes. There appear to be consistencies between parts of Gilligan's testimony to the Foreign Affairs Committee, and what Kelly says that he said to Gilligan. In particular, the meeting was set up at Gilligan's initiative (Q398 answer), and Kelly acknowledges that it was 30% likely that there was a CW programme in the 6 months before the conflict (Q511 answer) is consistent with his views. But there are significant discrepancies. In particular, Kelly denies having any knowledge of the "45 minutes" assessment until after the Dossier was published, he therefore denies having any knowledge of the process by which that assessment was included (Q449-452, Q457 answers). He also denies giving any opinion that the evidence that Uranium had been sought from Niger was based on unreliable information (Q453, Q454 answers). In addition, Kelly is not of the view that Iraq had not been able to weaponise CBW (Q511 answer). There are other, minor inconsistencies with Gilligan's testimony. Kelly had not met Gilligan "several times" (Q398 answer), is not "long-standing, well-known" to Gilligan (Q418 answer), and is not in the intelligence services (Q559 answer), but I have not given these much weight given that Gilligan might well have wished to embellish.

[My] judgement is that if there is a single source for Gilligan's information, then it is not Kelly. Kelly's words may have been part of the background to Gilligan's stories, but on the basis of what he has told [me], [I] am satisfied that he is not the source of the most significant allegations.

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