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G42/214

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, 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

(Please type answer here using as much space as necessary).

Andrew Gilligan has 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 [] September 2002.

July 03

PQ Ref 4234N

TVP/2/0021

BACKGROUND NOTE

(type background note here – use as much space as necessary)

Background

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.

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	:	*	TEL:	*
AUTHORISED BY	:	*	TEL:	*
GRADE/RANK	:	*		
BRANCH	:			

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).

TVP | 2 | 0022

TEMPLATE TO BE USED FOR REPLY

Ministry of Defence

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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

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QUESTIONS AND NOT PQMAIL**

(Please type answer here using as much space as necessary)

Dr Kelly has records of having held meetings with the following journalists:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
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In addition, Dr Kelly will have spoken with journalists about Iraq at a range of seminars and similar events, and on the telephone. Dr Kelly has also discussed non-Iraq WMD matters on which he is an acknowledged expert.

July 03

PQ Ref 4234N

TVP/2/0023

BACKGROUND NOTE

(type background note here – use as much space as necessary)

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 has records of having held. It covers both Iraq and non-Iraq matters. It does not cover briefings that Dr Kelly gave at the FCO (any done at MOD or UN request?) In addition, Dr Kelly will have had contacts with journalists that are not in his records: such contacts would include seminars, telephone conversations (and occasional "soundbite" interviews). (What about interviews like the one quoted by F&C?).
3. It is not possible to list with any certainty all the contacts Dr Kelly has had with journalists. The answer is therefore restricted to those of which Dr Kelly has records and which were specifically arranged by the journalist and him.

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DRAFTED BY : * TEL: *
AUTHORISED BY : * TEL: *
GRADE/RANK : *
BRANCH :

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).

TVP | 2 / 0024

LOOSE MINUTE

16 July 2003

PS/Secretary of State

Copy to:
PS/PUS
DCDI
D News
Parliamentary Clerk

FAC: DR KELLY'S CONTACT WITH JOURNALISTS

I attach a reply to the FAC Clerk's letter of 16 July asking for details of Dr Kelly's contacts with journalists. Its terms are consistent with the draft answer to PQ 126332 (tabled by Andrew MacKinlay), which is due for answer today.

2. It is not possible to give a comprehensive answer. Dr Kelly will have met journalists at seminars, Chatham House events, and similar occasions. He is often contacted at home (not least on technical issues). He has briefed journalists at FCO requests. In most cases he has not kept a record. We have therefore confined the answer to those meetings specifically set up by a journalist with Dr Kelly, and of which Dr Kelly has logged the meeting in his diary, whilst noting that there have been other contacts as well.

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

Enclosure:
Letter to FAC Clerk

TVP/2/0025



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

17 July 2003

Thank you for your letter of 16 July, asking for a list of journalists with whom Dr David Kelly has had contact.

As Dr Kelly explained in his evidence to the Foreign Affairs Committee, the presence of the press outside his house has meant that he has not in recent days been able to gain access to the personal records he holds there. He was able to gain access to them last night. Mr Hoon wanted me to write to you as quickly as possible with this information, noting that it is drawn from a rapid analysis by Dr Kelly of his diaries.

TVP|2|0026