

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

In addition, Dr Kelly has spoken with journalists about Iraq at a range of seminars and similar events, and on the telephone. For example, he met with Susan Watts (BBC), following his presentation at the Foreign Office Open day on the 5 November 2002. Dr Kelly has also discussed non-Iraq WMD matters on which he is an acknowledged expert.

July 03

PQ Ref 4234N

TVP/3/0261

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 has records of having held. In addition, Dr Kelly will have 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).

TVP/3/0262

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 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 12-14 September 2002.

July 03

PQ Ref 4235N

TVP/3/0263

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.

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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/3/0264