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News Corporation K.R. Murdoch First Statement "KRM32" 12 April 2012

IN THE MATT	ER OF THE LEVESON INQUIRY INTO THE CULTURE, PRACTICES	S AND ETHICS
OF THE PRES	SS	
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	EXHIBIT "KRM32"	
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This is the exhibit marked "KRM32" referred to in the witness statement of Keith Rupert Murdoch dated the 12^{th} day of April 2012.

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Is THIS the most dangerous man in Britain?;Sun Says;Leading Article;Page o ne opinion;Euro 584 words 24 June 1998 The Sun 1998 News Group Newspapers. All rights reserved

As Euro looms The Sun asks crucial question

IT IS the question we never dreamed we would ask.

But we have been forced to think the unthinkable. And today The Sun demands:

Is Tony Blair the most dangerous man in Britain?

In most respects he is a fine Premier. But he seems determined to scrap the Pound and take Britain into the European single currency.

And that, we believe, will be the biggest gamble any Prime Minister has ever taken.

The result could be disastrous for this country. That is why The Sun has vowed to fight it all the way.

Blair is a charming, persuasive politician. We like him.

He has the potential to be a truly great Prime Minister. He thinks fast and outflanks opponents with a smile that conceals a touch of steel. These are the qualities which propelled him to election triumph and now make him the world's most popular politician.

Coupled with a huge Commons majority and a futile Opposition, they give Blair an awesome power.

It is already clear he is determined to use that power and have his own way.

Many of his actions, like peace moves in Northern Ireland and ruthlessly modernising Labour, have been applauded by Sun readers. Other decisions, like cutting the age for gay sex to 16, fly in the face of public opinion.

But they pale compared to the biggest issue of all: Our membership of the single currency.

Eleven key European states are committed to this dangerous gamble which could put the world economy in peril.

Their decision, taken under Mr Blair's EU presidency, removes any doubt that the euro will be up and running next January.

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The Prime Minister, once a sceptic and now a convert, has decided Britain cannot afford to be left out.

He has decided the Pound must go.

And, almost imperceptibly, he has shifted stance to become an advocate for the revolution.

The Sun backed him at the election because we believed he was the best man for the job. We still believe that.

But our support, as we made plain at the time, did not give him a blank cheque. If he is determined to propel us into the single currency, he will find The Sun a determined opponent.

We know Blair has had his doubts. He agrees with President Clinton that Europe's outdated but powerful labour and welfare lobbies could wreck the euro.

He knows British and German industrialists have grave fears about a system which could lead to economic disaster.

Blair also knows that the majority of British voters - and perhaps most other EU countries - are deeply unhappy about this gigantic experiment.

But he has decided to use his popularity to cajole, seduce and persuade the voters to back him.

Why? Maybe it is because Germany's Chancellor Kohl has told him on the sly: "Young Tony, you can be leader of Europe."

Maybe Blair feels he can get away with sliding us into the euro because there has been no serious debate on the matter.

Well, there is now.

The Sun will not flinch from opposing the euro. We are against it economically, politically and constitutionally.

We will fight, fight, fight.

And whatever happens, we hope people will use the words of the greatest of all Englishmen, Winston Churchill, and say...

This was their finest hour.