

News Corporation
K.R. Murdoch
First Statement
"KRM33"
12 April 2012

**IN THE MATTER OF THE LEVESON INQUIRY INTO THE CULTURE, PRACTICES AND ETHICS
OF THE PRESS**

EXHIBIT "KRM33"

This is the exhibit marked "KRM33" referred to in the witness statement of Keith Rupert Murdoch dated the 12th day of April 2012.



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

5 April 2010

Dear Rupert

I am writing about an important foreign policy issue - the Afghanistan campaign.

When I spoke to you some time ago, we were agreed on the importance of the war against the Taliban in Afghanistan and, just as we agreed on the importance of supporting our forces when they were in Iraq, we were at one over the imperative of supporting our military forces in Afghanistan.

I understood from that conversation that you agreed that The Sun would stop attacking our defence policy in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Yet, almost every day in recent weeks, The Sun has chosen to accuse me personally of letting the Armed Forces down.

The polls suggest that, even after the work we have done in tackling the Taliban in recent months, two thirds of the British people want our troops out of Afghanistan. While The Sun says it wishes to persuade people we need more troops in Afghanistan, all they have succeeded in doing is persuading people that our troops should leave Afghanistan.

Irrespective of such polls and the way The Sun behaves, I will stand firm for our policy against the Taliban. Indeed, even with an election imminent, I raised our number of troops in Afghanistan and I have done so even as the Netherlands, Canada and Japan prepare to leave and other countries decide not to respond with more. The year before I took over as PM we spent £750m pounds on our troops in Afghanistan. This year it will be £5,000m.

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- 2 -

But it is unfair, to say the least, to find the newspaper that says it supports the campaign in Afghanistan undermining public support by the way it behaves. If this kind of newspaper editorialising continues (and of course that is your right) the public will come to a settled view that they do not want their troops fighting at all.

My best wishes to Wendi, and to Chloe and Grace,

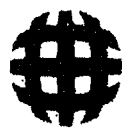
Yours sincerely

GMM

Mr Rupert Murdoch

021-012167

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News Corporation

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April 9, 2010

RUPERT MURDOCH, A.C.
CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Gordon,

Your letter dated April 5th has just arrived.

Of course we absolutely support our troops in Afghanistan as we did in Iraq. My understanding is that we have been criticizing your Government for not keeping our boys sufficiently supplied with the best equipment – rightly or wrongly. We resolutely support the mission. It is just that our criticism has been on the mission's management.

There are other things that worry me about the allied position in Afghanistan and I attach a recent email received from a very good and reliable friend of mine in Kabul who moved from Australia back to Afghanistan to set up a commercial television station as soon as that city was freed.

I know the ultimate decisions on this will probably have to come from President Obama, but it would be awful if all our efforts come to nothing.

It was nice to hear from you above all the din of the election.

Our love to Sarah and the boys.

Sincerely,

Rupert

The Rt. Hon. Gordon Brown
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON

021-012162

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Washington and Beijing:
Prescription for a
Better Relationship

Loose Nukes:
Keeping Lethal
Uranium Safe

South Sudan:
Doomed to Be
A Failed State?

TIME

Why Britain's Election Should Be About Her

Politicians are letting
their soldiers down

BY CATHERINE MAYER

Army officer
cadet Prun-lla
Ellwood, 21,
training at Druid's
Bridge in Wales



www.time.com

021-012163

PROP100001920

27. APR. 2010 15:16
TO: NY

<3M LONDON

10.5162 P. 1



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

Personal

26th April 2010

Dear Rupert,

Thank you for your letter
and article on Marzo. You know
from our past conversations my
strong views on Marzo.

Your comments about the
management of our mission in
Afghanistan sadden and shock me.
This is the first time you
have told me of your own
questions about the management
by me of our war effort. I
hope you will be prepared

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27. APR. 2010 15:16

CRM LONDON

10.5162 P. 2

to reconsider your views.
 Of course we will always try
 to do more and I am
 always looking at how we
 can strengthen our effectiveness
 but I hope you will consider
 that not people who look
 objectively at his know our
 troops are better equipped than
 even all that the UN is doing
 far more than anyone except the
 USA. I hope you will also bear
 in mind that, while the war is
 unpopular here, I have increased
 our troop numbers and remained
 steadfast in my purpose. I am therefore
 sorry that the UN has no such a
 political campaign which undermines the
 support we need for the war. D. J. P.

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27. APR. 2010 15:17

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that, I will keep doing
what is right.

My best wishes to Heidi
and Grace and Chloe.

Yours sincerely

Carole.

021-012161

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27. APR. 2010 17:43
TO: NY

KRM LONDON

VO. 5164 P. 1

Personal

26th April 2010

Dear Rupert

Thank you for your letter and article on Karzai. You know from our past conversations my strong views on Karzai.

Your comments about the management of our mission in Afghanistan sadden and shock me.

This is the first time you have told me of your own questions about the management by me of our war effort. I hope you will be prepared to reconsider your views.

Of course we will always try to do more and I am always looking at how we can strengthen our effectiveness but I hope you will consider that most people who look objectively at this know our troops are better equipped than ever and that the UK is doing far more than anyone except the USA. I hope you will also bear in mind that, while the war is unpopular here, I have increased our troop numbers and remained steadfast in my purpose. I am therefore sorry that The Sun has run such a politicised campaign which undermines the support we need for the war. Despite that, I will keep doing what is right.

My best wishes to Wendi and Grace and Chloe.

Yours sincerely

Gordon

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