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6th February 2007

Dear Sir / Madam

**MEDIA BRIEFING BY POLITICAL ADVISERS – FREEDOM OF  
INFORMATION REQUEST**

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

1. Details of all media organisations, specifying the newspaper, journal, magazine, radio station or television channel, with whom the Home Secretary's political advisers between Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January and Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2007 inclusive, discussed the alleged plot by Islamist extremists to kidnap one or more members of the armed forces, and the police's investigation or impending investigation into the alleged plot, and/or who was briefed in relation to the same between the same dates, and/or to whom information, in whatever form, in relation to the same was provided by them between the same dates;
2. In relation to each such media organisation (specifying as above) the date and time of each contact and the manner in which it was made;
3. Details of any policy operated by the Home Office on briefing the media on sensitive police and security operations including, where such a policy provides for it:
  - a. Who should authorise such briefing;
  - b. Who should conduct it;
  - c. Whether it should be done *on* or *off the record*;
  - d. Whether records are kept of such briefings;
  - e. Whether the police are consulted about any such briefings before they are conducted;
  - f. Whether there are any Chinese walls between the Home Office and political staff to protect sensitive material.

We are happy to receive separate replies to each of the three parts of this request.

Yours faithfully,

**SHAMI CHAKRABARTI**