

Statement by John Goetz

In August 2011 I was asked by Oxford Films Ltd to give an interview for a programme that they were making for Channel 4 Television about the WikiLeaks releases during 2010, in which I was involved as a reporter and editor for one of the media partners, *Der Spiegel*. A small section of my interview recorded with Oxford Films was used in the finished programme *True Stories: WikiLeaks Secrets and Lies* broadcast in the UK in late November 2011.

The programme was originally presented to me as a documentary that was mostly about Bradley Manning and the impact of the release of the diplomatic cables. Patrick Forbes, the producer, told me that he felt that "all of that other stuff" – including the Swedish allegations against Julian Assange -- was off the point and irrelevant. I had therefore prepared some material about Task Force 373 for my interview because I had spent a lot of time working on that particular story and *Der Spiegel* had run a cover article about it.

Prior to my interview, I had a visit from Patrick Forbes in my office, during which he asked me about what had happened during a dinner in London in early July 2010 a few weeks before publication of the Afghan War Diaries. I was at the dinner at the Moro restaurant in London, along with Marcel Rosenbach from *Der Spiegel*, David Leigh and Declan Walsh of the *Guardian*, and Julian Assange of WikiLeaks. Patrick Forbes asked me specifically if Julian Assange had made the remark "They're informants, they deserve to die" at that dinner, as has been alleged by David Leigh, and I told him that Julian did not say that at the dinner. I told Patrick Forbes that I would not discuss the dinner on camera, because it was a private dinner and it is the policy of *Der Spiegel* not to discuss private meetings in a public forum.

Signed:



John Goetz

Dated:

Berlin,  
May 15, 2012