



He said that Mr Straw had been incorrect to suggest, in 2002, that UN weapons inspectors were not being allowed access to certain sites.

"He did not focus at all on what I had said about the increased Iraqi co-operation," he said, explaining: "he focused upon - say - that the Iraqis are not allowing you to interview people and they are stopping you from getting to sites. That was not true," he said.

Mr Blix added that he was perplexed by Mr Straw's interpretation of the 2002 report, which he said was merely a collection of issues which needed resolving with the Iraqis.

"I think it was an amazing statement that the report, that we sent around at that time, the so-called 'cluster report', that this would have convinced him," he said.

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