



Lord Armstrong told the Daily Mail: 'I thought MI5's actions were correct at the time. I think they were right to report the rumour, they were right to make what inquiries they could and they were right to come to the conclusion they did. I think if there was evidence it would have been properly examined at the time. I don't think this is a matter of important people being protected. You can't pursue inquiries unless you have evidence on which you can base the enquiry. A shadow of a rumour is not enough.'

Lord Armstrong said he knew the identity of the MP in question but refused to name him, saying: 'I think he was interviewed but he denied it. It is not my position to name him.'

He said he did not know if Mrs Thatcher was told of the MI5 decision. Simon Danczuk, the Labour MP for Rochdale who helped uncover the extent of Cyril Smith's child abuse, said he was shocked by Lord Armstrong's 'cavalier attitude'. He said: 'It's a criminal matter and it beggars belief that someone at the heart of government should show such a lack of interest in protecting children.'

Rocketman: Official trailer gives fans a glimpse at the true fantasy's stunning costumes, sprawling musical numbers and Taron Egerton's singing