

- 2 -

recently received. He may merely be a social climber, but, from the indications I have given above, my own feeling is that there is more to it than this.

I ought to add that Ward told me that he frequently had members of the Soviet Embassy staff down to his cottage at Cliveden.

## CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

I first met Percival Murray in either 1955 or 1956. I cannot be sure exactly when it was. At that time I was serving at Air Ministry Acton + controlled a staff of civilian security officers engaged in positive vetting enquiries. Wg. Cdr. H.W.C. Lewis was my superior officer at the time and Lt. Lt. (now Sq. Ldr.) J.C. Burton worked with me in P.M.1(C). A need arose for observations to be undertaken in a drinking club called the Ante Room in Scho. I cannot remember the exact nature of the enquiry but believe that the task emanated from the Security Service and had some connection with the Czechoslovakian Embassy. John Burton was the officer chosen by Wg. Cdr. Lewis to carry out the task and the problem then arose as to how he was to gain entry to the Ante-Room club. Amongst the civilian security officers I had working for me was an ex-Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police, John Gavin. Gavin had been engaged in anti-vice work at Scotland Yard and suggested that an acquaintance of his, Percival Murray, might be able to help. I met Murray at the Cabaret Club with John Gavin and arrangements were made for John Burton to be introduced to the Ante-Room club without suspicion being raised. Wg. Cdr. Lewis was aware of these arrangements and of my meeting with Percival Murray. Some time after this meeting Murray phoned me at Acton concerning a W.R.A.F. absentee who had been at work as a hostess at the Cabaret Club. I forget the exact circumstances but I recollect that a tactful arrest was requested. Murray did not want uniformed W.R.A.F. Police arriving at his club in the middle of a floor show. I felt this was reasonable enough and in the event I believe the apprehension was made at the airwoman's lodgings. Wg. Cdr. Lewis was aware of all this and the case was actioned by HQ. Pd S.S. (U.K.). Between the time I

CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

## CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

first met Murray and my departure for Germany  
 in April 1957 I suppose I visited the Cabaret  
 Club about five or six times. I was never there  
 on my own I went with either Wg. Cdr. Lewis  
 John Gavin or Sqn. Ldr. B.C. Player who took  
 over from me in A.M. (P.M.I.C.). I went with  
 either one or the other of these three or  
 with a combination of all three. Additionally  
 I dined on two occasions with Percival  
 Murray and his wife at the R.A.F. Club. On  
 these occasions Wg. Cdr. Lewis & John Gavin were  
 present on one occasion and I believe  
 Wg. Cdr. Lewis, John Gavin & Sqn. Ldr. Player on  
 another. I liked Percival Murray and  
 looked on him as a friend. I had a  
 great deal of sympathy for him. He was  
 devoted to his wife a charming woman  
 who was slowly dying of cancer and was  
 in and out of the London Clinic for  
 treatment. His sole aim in life seemed to  
 be to give her all the happiness he could  
 whilst she was still with him. I felt  
 he did not really like the jungle of pimps,  
 prostitutes, ponces, & swindlers he was  
 inevitably forced to work in as a London  
 night club proprietor. I think Wg. Cdr. Lewis  
 felt the same. Certainly Percival Murray seemed  
 to me to live a fairly ordered life, he drank  
 but little was a good conversationalist &  
 good company. I came back from Germany  
 on a short visit to England in July 1957  
 and dined at the Cabaret Club with my  
 wife. She was then living in London awaiting  
 accommodation to become available in  
 Germany. She joined me in Germany in  
 early August 1957. From then on except  
 for an exchange of Christmas cards and  
 letters when his wife died I lost contact  
 with Percival Murray. On my return to  
 England in July 1960 I joined a Royal  
 Air Force Volunteer Reserve organisation in

CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

## CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

Kensington W8 and did not see Murray until as near as I can remember late 1961. I spoke to him occasionally on the phone + we remained more or less in contact and I had occasional news of him through John Cravin who was then working at No 5 R.A.F. Police District. My wife + I found that social obligations, evening + week-end training periods with the Reserve took up most of our spare time. However I did see Murray sometime late in 1961 in order to obtain some assorted book match covers which I needed as clues for an exercise ~~where~~ the reserve unit was preparing. I called on him at his office at the Cabaret Club to collect these one afternoon. The next time I saw him was sometime in early 1963 though we had spoken on the phone on odd occasions. I cannot remember exactly when it was but Murray was ill at the time + I received a message via the caretaker at my unit on a Saturday asking me to phone him. This I did and at his request went over to Whitehall Court to see him at his flat. One of the Reserve officers of my unit was dining with me at home on this occasion and came across with me and met Murray. Murray was concerned about an individual who had visited his Cabaret Club lost a valuable wallet + failed to report it under suspicious circumstances. The individual was a dual-national of Russian/French parentage had been in Moscow on numerous occasions and Murray felt there might be something of security interest in it. The story was a bit garbled and I visited the Cabaret Club some two days or so afterwards and saw Murray's son David Murray in order to clear the picture

CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

## CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

and sent the details to Kenneth Tolson at the Security Service. The case involved a Hong Kong precision instrument export/import company if I remember rightly. Anyhow I sent it to Kenneth Tolson & received an acknowledgement from him. Here perhaps I should say that Murray knew I was a Provost Officer knew from our first introduction that I was interested in security matters & had occasionally from our first meeting passed on odd items of information for what they were worth. This instance, that is in early 1963 was the first time since I left for Germany in 1957. Certainly it had ~~no~~ bearing on the subject of the Denning Inquiry and was in fact the only information obtained from Percival Murray which I passed on to the Security Service between 1957 and 1963. I passed other information arising from other sources to the Security Service in 1962 ~~consequently~~ There were two occasions both round about October or November of 1962. A series of peculiar postcards arrived with a degree of regularity at my unit's Headquarters they were addressed to "Jack Brown Esq" and merely gave a Shepherd's Bush phone number. Having tried the phone number and getting a reply in foreign accents I reported the facts to a Sgt. Wdr. Motton of the Security Services who was in contact with me on other matters he looked into the matter and phoned me about it towards the end of 1962. This had nothing to do with the Denning Inquiry subject matter. The other occasion concerning a Polish wife ~~of mine~~ who visited Poland regularly I mentioned to Kenneth Tolson when he was visiting me in about October or November 1962. He made some enquiries for me and later advised me on this matter.

CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

## CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

This also had no relation to the Profumo affair and did not originate from Percival Murray.

Sometime in April 1963 I received a message asking me to phone Percival Murray. I cannot be sure when I got this message but it was delivered as a note from one of my staff the original request having been received at my unit. I had no phone at my flat. I was away from the unit engaged in an exercise in Cyprus until 9th April 1963 and was on Easter Grant and lecturing at Debdene & elsewhere from 11th-16th & 17th-18th April respectively. Anyhow I phoned Murray and he asked me if I could come over to see him as he had something which might be of interest. I arranged to dine with him with my wife at the Cabaret Club the following night. My wife recalls that the evening we dined with Percival Murray coincided with a farewell party given by neighbours of ours who were leaving the following day for Kenya. I remember leaving the party at about 9.30 pm for the Cabaret Club. My wife assures me that this was the 24th April 1963. Anyhow we dined with Percival Murray and his leading lady saw the floor show and Murray handed me an envelope saying that Bill Shepherd had given him it that I might be interested and that he passed it on for what it was worth. I did not know at that time who Bill Shepherd was & the time, company & place were not opportune to ask questions. I put the envelope in my pocket without reading it. The contents of that envelope are attached at App. A. to this statement. The following day I read the document and decided here & then that it wasn't worth passing on. The last sentence of the first paragraph and the third sentence of the second paragraph identified "Bill Shepherd" as

CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

## CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

William Shepherd M.P. I felt that if an M.P. wanted to pass information to some authority he had plenty of channels in Westminster without going through a London night club and I wanted no part of it. I locked the document away in my office in Kensington, left to take an intensive Intelligence Course which kept me fully occupied until 24th May 1963 returned to find the disbandment of my unit was ordered and put into motion the necessary plans before packing and leaving on 28th June 1963 for the Far East.

I have never met William Shepherd nor have I had contact with him. My relationship with Percival Murray was exactly as I have stated. I consider Murray to be a likeable honest individual and will take some convincing that he is not. I sense that my relationship with him may be considered suspect. This is not so, my wife is as much a friend as I am and she has always been aware of my visits to the Cabaret Club & has as I have said accompanied me on at least two occasions. Wg. Cdr. Lewis knows of my association with Murray & can vouch for much of the background material I have tried to supply. I have never met Christine Keeler or Rice-Davies to the best of my knowledge but if they were performing at the Cabaret Club in 1956-57 I may well have seen them in the floor show.

12<sup>th</sup> July 1963.

*B. D. Godsen*  
(B. D. GODSEN)  
Squadron leader.

CONFIDENTIAL &amp; PERSONAL

(App 'A')

re: Stephen Ward

I met Stephen Ward when I was with several doctors and a dental surgeon in the Kenya Coffee shop in the Marylebone High Street. He joined in our discussion from an adjoining table; the discussion was on Cuba. Ward put the Soviet case with what I considered to be an assumed air of detachment - he even went so far as to say he was a Conservative. *He did not know my position.*

Ward waited for me to leave the Kenya Coffee shop and, when I came outside, invited me to meet a Soviet Military Attache at his flat. This I did; the persons present were Ward, the Soviet Military Attache, Christine Keeler and Marian Davies. I went because I was suspicious of the set-up and I answered the Attache's question as to whether I was involved in politics in an evasive way. The Attache then proceeded to launch an attack upon Krushchev for buckling under to the U.S.A. He grew more and more excited and could scarcely control himself; I concluded he might well be a Stalinist and certainly a most dangerous individual.

Ward again sought to play the part of the honest broker, but Miss Keeler was much more outspoken and clearly had pro-Communist sympathies. As I was about to leave, Ward informed me that he and the Military Attache were going to have dinner with Iain Macleod. I subsequently found out that they were in fact going to Miss Macleod's party and that Ward had sought permission through one of his friends to go along to this party with the Military Attache.

In subsequent discussions with the medical people, I learned from Mr. P.W. Heinemann, Dental Surgeon of 51 Welbeck Street, that Ward had previously expressed the view to a group of medical people that the only country in which medical men got proper recognition was the Soviet Union - and that one might be better off by going there.

It is difficult to understand why Ward should have invited me to talk to the Military Attache, or why he always pretends in public to be other than pro-Russian (whilst insinuating Soviet ideas), unless he is playing some sort of double game. I imagine that his usefulness will have been somewhat limited by the publicity he has

Continued/



- 2 -

recently received. He may merely be a social climber, but, from the indications I have given above, my own feeling is that there is more to it than this.

I ought to add that Ward told me that he frequently had members of the Soviet Embassy staff down to his cottage at Cliveden.

17A

Cutting from the Daily Telegraph 17.7.63.

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*"Dubious Parties"*

**WOMAN FRIEND  
OF IVANOV**

Mr. LEWIS (Lab., West Ham, N.) asked the Prime Minister whether he had studied evidence which he sent to Mr. Macmillan about the security risks of the activities in this country of a Czech friend of Capt. Ivanov [the former Russian Naval attaché in London] and if he would have inquiries made.

Mr. MACMILLAN: I referred the Press cutting which you sent me to the appropriate authorities.

Mr. LEWIS asked: Can you say whether, in addition, you have made any investigations, because it has been reported that the lady in question has been in the habit of giving dubious parties at which very many prominent people have been in attendance?

"Have you investigated that and sent all the evidence in your possession to Lord Denning?"

Mr. MACMILLAN: I think all these matters are under investigation.

---



15A

HOME OFFICE  
WHITEHALL · S.W.1

16 JUL 1963

15th July, 1963.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

PA in Bank. BO  
16/7.

Recd. 16/7

Dear Hollis,

13A

Many thanks for your letter of the 11th July (Ref: Gen.4/Sect/EGWB/D.G.) about the statement said to have been made by Mr. W. S. Shepherd, M.P., to the Chief Whip. In the light of our talk with the Home Secretary this morning, Mr. Brooke has now sent the Chief Whip a minute, of which I enclose a copy. I do not think there is anything more for us to do.

Yours sincerely,  
B. Birmingham

Sir Roger Hollis, C.B., O.B.E.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

16A


THE CHIEF WHIP

I understand that Bill Shepherd claims that he made reports about the Profumo case in November 1962 and March 1963, to a Mr. Percival Murray for communication to a Mr. David Gomsall, whom he thought to be a high officer of the Security Service: that he had an acknowledgment of these reports from the Security Service: and that he made similar reports to Airey Neave.

Mr. Murray has been interviewed at Murray's Cabaret Club, of which I believe he is a director. "David Gomsall" appears to be a Squadron Leader David Godsell, who was until recently serving in the Port and Travel Control Group of the R.A.F., and is now in Singapore. He is not, and has never been, an officer of the Security Service. Arrangements are being made for him now to be asked for a statement.

16A

Murray says he gave Godsell an envelope containing a communication from Shepherd - he thinks in March last. It certainly never reached the Security Service, and Murray denies having ever relayed an acknowledgement from the Security Service to Shepherd. He has said in writing, "I very much resent the suggestion that I have at any time passed back any official answer - this is utterly without foundation".



Shepherd, as you may perhaps know, has been seen by Lord Denning.

(sgd.) HENRY BROOKE.

15th July 1963

- 2 -

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 MARCH 2022

Rec: 15.7.63

HOTEL MAJESTIC  
CANNES  
TEL. 39-17-92

July 12 1963 SB

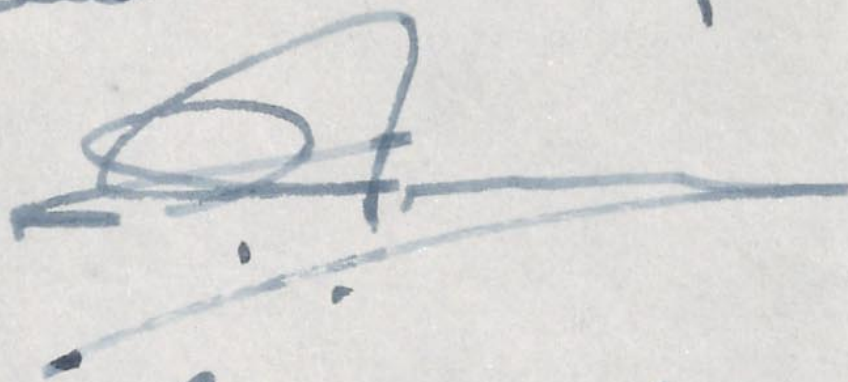
Dear Mr Allen ~~Mr~~ <sup>Mr with exte</sup> <sup>correspondent</sup>

Thanks for your of 10th -  
# - before I return to town -  
which should now be family

soon - there is anything - at  
the club - which my son feels

worth your attention - to  
has your place to a situation

Yours Sincerely,



P. MURRAY

GRANDE SEMAINE  
MOTONAUTIQUE  
**MYCCA**  
AOUT A CANNES

Paris  
Personnel

J. A. Allen Esq  
Room 055 LA  
War Office  
Whitehall.

England London S.W.1.



HOTEL MAJESTIC  
SUR LA CROISSETTE  
CANNES



Gen.4/Sect/EGWB.

**SECRET**

ISA

Extract from note of D.G.'s discussion with  
Sir Charles Cunningham.

Complete copy on SF.50/24/101 Supp.A.

I saw Sir Charles Cunningham yesterday and raised the following matters with him :

.....

4. I reminded Cunningham of the Shepherd intervention in the Profumo debate and said that I had had Shepherd's contact, Murray, interviewed. I was proposing to report the results of this interview, and in view of the fact that the Home Secretary had expressed recently such a strong view that he should be the Minister mainly concerned with such matters, I was proposing to send my report to Cunningham for the Home Secretary's information. As however the Chief Whip had already interviewed Shepherd, I thought that I should send a copy to Tim Bligh and a further one to Simpson who also had an interest in Shepherd. Cunningham agreed with this action.

.....

R. H. HOLLIS

D.G.

11.7.63.

**SECRET**

SECRET AND PERSONAL

14A

Gen.4/Sect/EGWB/D.G.

11th July 1963.

9B.

Thank you for your letter of 5th July enclosing a transcript of the recording of a conversation between Mr. Marples and Mr. Shepherd. I have not referred to this recording in the enclosed letter — 13A about SHEPHERD since there is sufficient information without making use of this delicate material.

2. The recording confirms the somewhat simple-minded belief held by SHEPHERD that he has been in touch not only with the Security Service, but with Sir Percy Sillitoe's successor.

3. I will keep the transcript but will be glad to let you have it back if you should need it.

4. I am copying this letter to Critchley and to Simpson, but not to Bligh.

R. H. HOLLIS

Sir Charles Cunningham, K.C.B.,  
K.B.E., C.V.O.,  
Home Office, Whitehall, S.W.1.

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SECRET AND PERSONAL

SECRET AND PERSONAL

13A

Gen.4/Secr./SGWR/D.O.

11th July 1963.

Enclosed is a copy of the note of a conversation between W.S. SHEPHERD, M.P. for Chcadle, and Lord CRAIGTON, sent to me with Brennan's letter of 3rd July, and a copy of a letter from Bligh giving information arising from a conversation with the Chief Whip about SHEPHERD.

2. As it is clear that SHEPHERD has been under the impression that he is in touch with a relatively high officer in the Security Service, David GOSBELL, through Percival MURRAY, I arranged for MURRAY to be interviewed. A note of this interview is attached. GOSBELL turns out to be Sq.Ldr. David GODSELL who until recently was serving with the Port and Travel Control Group of the R.A.F. in London and is now in Singapore. In the course of his duties in London GODSELL was in touch from time to time with two of my officers, but they assure me that at no time did they receive any information from GODSELL having any bearing on the PROFUMO/KEELER affair. I am arranging to obtain a statement from GODSELL about his relations with MURRAY and SHEPHERD.

3. It will be seen that MURRAY denies having passed any acknowledgement to SHEPHERD of his reports. Indeed in a letter received since the interview he states: "I very much resent the suggestion that I have at any time passed back any official answer - this is utterly without foundation".

4. As for the other channel to the Security Service mentioned in paragraph 6 of the note, this is Airey NEAVE, M.P., also mentioned in Bligh's letter. Airey NEAVE had some dealings with M.I.6 during the war arising from his escape from enemy territory, but has not subsequently been in touch with M.I.6 or ourselves.

5. Since SHEPHERD had no information from the Security Service through either MURRAY or Airey NEAVE, it follows that he is in no position to state that M.I.5 had a copy of Profumo's "Darling" letter, that the rank and file of M.I.5 are afraid to "split" on a Minister, or to quote any views we may have about GALBRAITH. There may be some excuse for SHEPHERD to believe that he has been able to pass information to the security authorities through MURRAY and GODSELL.

6. SHEPHERD's intervention in the debate in the House on 17th June to the effect that he had reported information to security in October 1962 was entirely inaccurate, and I believe the Home Secretary may wish to consider whether the true facts should be reported to the Chief Whip.

7. I am sending copies of this letter to Critchley for the information of Lord Denning, to Simpson and to Bligh.

R. H. HOLLIS

Sir Charles Cunningham, K.C.B.,  
K.B.E., C.V.O.,  
Home Office.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

**CONFIDENTIAL**Reference...PF..800898.....  
84NOTE.

Mr. Percival MURRAY received me this evening in his office above MURRAY's Cabaret Club (No. 16 Beak Street) where, he reminded me, Miss KEELER and Miss RICE-DAVIES had begun their careers. He appears to be one of the Directors of the Club.

2. I referred to Mr. SHEPHERD's statement in the House on the 17th June and to subsequent enquiries made of Mr. SHEPHERD by the Chief Whip and I explained that the purpose of my visit was to identify Mr. David GOMSALL.

3. Mr. MURRAY replied readily that David GODSELL, not GOMSALL, was a friend whom he had met about six or seven years ago; at that time GODSELL had been a Squadron Leader in the R.A.F. Some time later GODSELL was seconded from the R.A.F., as MURRAY understood it, to some secret security post; he became a "Professor" training persons for secret work at a drill hall in Kensington. Very recently GODSELL had written to MURRAY, while the latter was on a visit to Cannes, explaining that he had been posted to Singapore and MURRAY gathered that the new appointment was once more in the R.A.F. since GODSELL was taking over a job which had been held by another friend of Mr. MURRAY's, Lynn LEWIS. I said this sounded like a name I had heard in connection with the R.A.F. Provost-Marshal Branch and Mr. MURRAY said that it would be the same man.

4. Mr. MURRAY described GODSELL as an "honest copper" to whom he had from time to time passed snippets of information which might have a security significance. Thus he recalled telling GODSELL of a visitor to the Club who had lost a wallet containing £100 but on subsequent visits never referred to his loss; there had also been a Roumanian act (I think) performing at the Club, the members of which spoke very fluent Russian.

5. According to Mr. MURRAY, Mr. SHEPHERD was being "rather naughty" in suggesting that he had been sending reports to the Security Service via MURRAY and GODSELL. The only incident which properly fell into this category was the occasion (probably in March) when Mr. SHEPHERD remarked that the time had arrived when he ought to pass on a written report to the Security Service about the KEELER affair. Mr. MURRAY, at Mr. SHEPHERD's request, handed to GODSELL an envelope containing several sheets of typewritten paper to be passed on to the appropriate quarter. GODSELL was aware of the subject matter of the report but Mr. MURRAY did not know what he had done with it. He might have torn it up taking the view that it was of no value; Mr. MURRAY implied that this could well have been a correct view of the document since Mr. SHEPHERD had no special access to the facts of the KEELER affair - anything he had to say would be purely opinion. Mr. SHEPHERD had formed the view that KEELER was a member of a security or spying organization and this seemed to be what had prompted him to write the report, but in Mr. MURRAY's view on the basis of his own experience of KEELER's intelligence this was a pretty ridiculous theory.

6. I said that Mr. SHEPHERD had spoken of having received acknowledgments of his reports from the Security Service through Mr. MURRAY. Mr. MURRAY replied that he must be thinking of his other channel to the Security Service (he assumed that I knew that Mr. SHEPHERD used a Member of Parliament for this purpose); certainly he had never relayed any acknowledgments of this kind to Mr. SHEPHERD nor had GODSELL asked for messages to be given to Mr. SHEPHERD.

/Page 2. ....

**CONFIDENTIAL**

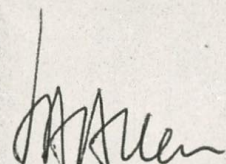
**CONFIDENTIAL**

Reference.....

- 2 -

7. Mr. MURRAY was unable to give me any address for GODSELL, but he undertook to search his diary and write to me from Cannes early next week because he believed that he had a note of the drill hall address somewhere and it was also possible that he had kept a letter from GODSELL giving his hotel address in Singapore.

8. Mr. MURRAY undertook to get in touch with me at Room 055 if in the future he had any reports to make which might touch on national security.

  
J.A. Allen.

L.A.  
5.7.63.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

RUMOURS

Dear Home Secretary

The P.M.'s minute M.219/63 21.6.63. prompts me to write:-

On the evening of the Profumo debate opened by the P.M., after the debate was over I sat at the small table by the fireplace in the Commons smoke room, by myself. W.S. Shepherd M.P. for Cheadle was sitting with others on the long couch facing the chess room - he saw me and came straight over, sat down and started telling me stories, without any preliminary pleasantries - separately attached.

About ten years ago I was in Paris with Shepherd on a visit to NATO headquarters; he took me to a night club that night - and it was so good that when my wife arrived in Paris next evening I went back there with her. Since then Shepherd and I have done no more than pass the time of day as with any other colleague.

Our conversation was broken up by Brooman White who joined us and almost immediately also by Jack MacLay. The conversation became general - Shepherd left us and I said to R.B.W. and J.M. something to the effect that "in all my years in Parliament I had never had such an extraordinary conversation and I was not going to tell them what it was about".

The affair worried me, as it seemed a deliberate attempt to spread rumours to the Lords; so a few days later I made a note of all I could remember having been told.

I also asked advice of Lord Stuart of Findhorn on the propriety of repeating smoke room gossip. He spoke to the Lord Chancellor whose advice that I should write to him has been overtaken by the P.M.'s minute.

Yours sincerely,

CRAIGTON.

H157/11<sup>c/d</sup>INFORMATION GIVEN BY SHEPHERD, M.P. to CRAIGTON.

1. He had interjected in the debate and told me exactly the same story about his "meeting the Parties" as appeared in the newspapers.
2. The Russian was a stalinist - S. argued against him - Christine supported the Russian - there was a slight row - Ward apologised to S. and said it was unlike the Russian to get angry.
3. The government was full of Homosexuals, some unmarried and some married as "a front".  
Examples: (a) Hughes-Hallett had only been restrained by a colleague from setting a boy up in a flat in his constituency.  
(b) Denzil Freeth is a Homo.
4. Duncan Sandys was on the Argyle list (I have heard this rumour so often that this is the only item about which I am not absolutely sure).
5. George Ward had a row in the Cabaret Club over a girl (not Christine) and there was a fight.
6. M.I.5. had a copy of Profumo's "Darling" letter when the five met to arrange the Personal statement. M.I.5. had obtained it from their contact in the newspaper's office.
7. Although the P.M. was the nominal head - the chief of M.I.5. in practice acts alone. He should have an advisory Cabinet.
8. The rank and file of M.I.5. are afraid to "split" on a minister as they cannot always produce proof.
9. On the Vassal case -  
(a) M.I.5. were very dubious still about Tom Galbraith and he wished that the P.M. had not been so quick in reinstating him (I did not ask why).  
(b) The judge who conducted the enquiry was sympathetic to Homos and had earlier himself Homo tendencies - not now of course.

(c) The Judge's brother had been jailed  
for some Home offence.

10. Shepherd had just said "and then there's  
Amory" when Brooman White came over.

CRAIGTON.

1-7-63.





2A

~~253B~~  
Admiralty House  
Whitehall, S.W.1

June 27, 1963.

27 JUN 1963

PERSONAL &CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Roger,

I understand from the Chief Whip that Mr. Shepherd spoke to a Percival Murray of 124, Whitehall Court. Mr. Murray is at present out of the country. Mr. Shepherd understands that Murray has known "David Gomsall" for a considerable time and believes that Mr. Gomsall is a relatively high officer in the Security Service. Shepherd maintains that he made reports to Murray in November and March but says that "some reports are never recorded" - "this is part of the system". He claims that he got a message back from the Security Service through Mr. Murray to say that his reports had been received and further that the report he made in March was sent in writing.

Mr. Shepherd also says that he gave the same information to Mr. Airey Neave at the same time and he assumes that Mr. Neave also has contacts with the Security Service.

It does seem that if the whole story is bogus it ought to be possible to take some fairly effective action.

Yours ever,

Tim Bligh

Sir Roger Hollis, C.B., O.B.E.

D1/Rmo  
4/7

Reference.....

12A

Note for GEN.4.

Wing Commander Smith rang and informed me that GODSELL had been in touch while in the Post and Travel Control Group with David Stewart and Kenneth Tolson, to either of whom he might have passed information.

I spoke to David Stewart who stated that GODSELL never passed him any information. Kenneth Tolson says that he received a written report on one occasion from GODSELL which was about some money lost in a club, which he passed on to D.3. (This ties up with one item mentioned by MURRAY). Tolson says that he received no report from GODSELL either in writing or orally about anything to do with the PROFUMO/KEELER affair.

Sect.

10.7.63.

CODE 18-76

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958

JANUARY 2021

11B

PF. 800,898/L.A./JAA

10th July, 1963.

Dear Mr. Murray,

I have now received your letter of July 7th, the contents of which are most useful.

Please accept my thanks for your help in these enquiries.

Yours sincerely,

J.A. Allen.

P. Murray, Esq.,  
Hotel Majestic,  
CANNES, France.

Copies: File  
Room 055  
L.A.  
L.B.  
Spare ✓ - P.A. in Gen 4.

21/10/63  
11/7

Reference.....

11A

Note for Gen.4

I spoke to Wing Commander G.L. Smith of the R.A.F. on Shepherd's Bush 3181, ext. 324, and gave him the background to our interest in Sqn/Ldr. GODSELL. Smith undertook to obtain a statement from GODSELL of his association with MURRAY and SHEPHERD, and to see if there is any trace in their records of SHEPHERD's report of October 1962.

Sect.

10.7.63.

CODE 18-76

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
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3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958  
JANUARY 2021

Reference.....

10A

Note for GEN.4.

I spoke to Sqn/Ldr. Milward of the R.A.F. Provost on Shepherds Bush 3181 ext. 643, who confirmed that Sqn/Ldr. David GODSELL is now serving with the R.A.F. Provost at Singapore, where he has taken over from Sqn/Ldr. GRIFFITHS.

Sect.

9.7.63.

CODE 18-76

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ACT 1958

JANUARY 2021



96  
HOME OFFICE  
WHITEHALL · S.W.1

58 JUL 1963  
5th July, 1963.

SECRET

*seen 9/2/63.*  
Dear Hollis,

I think you know that the police made a record of a conversation between the Minister of Transport and Mr. Shepherd, M.P. A transcript has now been produced and I enclose a copy of it, along with a copy of a letter dated the 3rd July from the Commissioner. I think it hardly necessary to have additional copies made; and I have no doubt that you will let us have the enclosed copy back if we should need it.

In the meantime, you will no doubt wish to consider the references to contacts with the Security Service on pages 26 and 27, and later at page 39.

*Yours sincerely,  
W. P. Cunningham*

Sir Roger Hollis, C.B., O.B.E.

*51/1220  
10/7*

3rd July, 1963.

SECRET

Dear Cunningham,

I am enclosing a copy of the Marples/Shepherd transcript but I regret to say that when the transcript was started the procedure for passing copies had not been settled and I only have two copies in addition to this one. One I have sent to Critchley and the other I am holding here.

The conversation reveals nothing of any value except to show up Shepherd who continually claims contacts with police and the security service. For this reason, and particularly in view of what is reproduced on pages 26 and 27, I think Hollis should see a copy. If you can dispense with your copy and forward it to him it would be helpful because there is a great deal to copy. If, however, you ~~think that~~ <sup>wish</sup> ~~you can depend on it~~ I will have further copies made and send one to Hollis.

I am inclined to write to Mr. Marples and to suggest to him that it is probably a document he would not like to have sent to him but that if ever he needs access to it he can obtain a copy from me.

I should be glad to know your views.

Yours sincerely,

*Burton*

Sir Charles Cunningham, K.C.B., K.B.E., C.V.O.

ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

Transcript of conversation between  
Mr. Marples, Minister of Transport and  
Mr. SHEPHERD, M.P.

gen.4/Sect/EGWB

CODE No. 27-31



96

1.

M. Anyway, what happened?

S. Oh yes, yes, I made some more enquiries and it came back quite clearly that there was nothing whatsoever.....there was nothing.. the attachment of your...of you to this particular thing had no foundation whatsoever, none at all in relation to this particular set. Now...and indeed I think I have got some reporters to get a rollicking from their chiefs for this because its talk among reporters thats formed this trend, it's reporters talk, I mean I heard it first of all from reporters last week and I told you had anything gone wrong I couldn't pursue the matter. I heard it in one night from two different reporters, you know, who came into this place where I was at different times, so I mean it is getting pretty widespread. Perhaps I am a bad sample but I mean I was only in the blasted place for about  $\frac{5}{4}$  of an hour and you get two press people come in and say the same thing. I mean it is getting a wee bit serious.

M. And of course you shook me when you told me.

S. Yes.

M. I mean I can't tell you how you shook me.

S. No, of course you can't.

M. I was astounded. However, it's very kind of you to tell me.

S. Yes, I wanted to because I think it is important for you to know, now I think they do. Of course, when I asked them why did this sort of story spread due to the fact that you told me quite definitely there was absolutely completely no foundation for any suggestion that you're associated with this thing at all; and they go back a few years, and I don't think it is necessary for me to go into all the details, or even desirable. I am forgetting what they told me and I shan't say anything to anyone in any circumstances, but they are connected with the previous..... something previously, and they are putting the two together, and this is how they say it arose. But I say I don't think one wants to pursue it. I have forgotten all I have heard, and I have heard a lot which I forget, and I'm forgetting this and its..... you can say it without any fear or shadow of doubt that all these rumours around you are without foundation.

M. Clear, I agree with you, without foundation but I must chase this, Willie. I can't let it rest, can I?

S. Well, I mean, can you, can you....do you want to assume what they say is still a reality?

M. Well, you saw what was in the Express this morning?

S. No, I didn't.

M. Didn't you see it?

S. No, I didn't. No, I've been, you know sort of... I never read the paper.

2.

M. Would you like me to get it for you?

S. Well, just you tell me.

M. Well, it really talked about this man with the mask on who was absolutely naked who was a servant slave

S. Yes, this is the story of Mandy.....

M. This is the story...

S. Mandy Davies's story, this is.

M. Yes, and the name is of a person in very high places and will be revealed in the next few days.

S. Well, you know, this of course is very likely to be, to be Astor. This is his game and one of his games and it might well be Astor. I heard this story of course some month or so ago and then I say it actually appeared first of all in News Week in an interview with this girl Mandy Davies, who really is a pretty sharp sort of girl. I mean, I think she is much more dangerous than the Keeler girl but I have met all this bloody crowd, you know.

M. Well, I know, I quite agree with you. I haven't met any of them.

S. Well, I don't think that this has need to worry you because there is no attempt to associate you with anything with this affair. As I say, they have got a story, at least they say they have a story, but this dates back some years and I don't think that its worth while your worrying about it because they are not likely to.....What details I had of this story seems a very circumstantial story and I don't think you have any need to worry about it. I forget about it. I don't know I've been told and I don't see there is any reason for you to start trying to stir it up in any way.

M. Well, I don't mind whether its stirred up or not really that is to be quite frank because all I know is I seem to be fighting something I can't get at.

S. Well, would you prefer me to tell you what I heard?

M. I don't mind a bit.

S. Well I will. I mean I wasn't intended to but if you prefer I will tell you. The story is that you were seen in Shepherd's Market in.....6 years ago it was, the dating is supposed to be in P.M.G., you see, days in women's clothes and that you escaped from this situation by getting into some building or other, a policeman saw you, and that you then telephoned the police to say that your car had been stolen. Now this is the story now on which the whole of this thing originates and I want to say I wasn't intending either to say it to you or remember that I had been told, you know I.....this is what they say...

M. Six years ago?

3.

- S. Well I don't know, because I couldn't tell you. I didn't want to enquire any more.
- M. No, but the main point is, Bill, you see, these - most of my colleagues in the House have heard these very serious accusations and my name is being bandied around in the House on this. I feel it, I think you will agree with that.
- S. Oh yes, that's why I thought I had to tell you.
- M. Yes.
- S. And I got the reporters a rollicking for you of one newspaper for spreading these stories. I mean this will do some good because they have been all called in and ticked off. So this will do some good.
- M. But is it in the right papers that you got them a rollicking?
- S. Yes, they were the - yes, one of the right papers, the News of the World reporter has had a rollicking.
- M. What about the Mirror, the Express?
- S. Well, the Mirror is a bit tricky I think, the Mirror's a bit tricky. But in that case, I don't ....
- M. The Mirror's all right as far as I'm concerned, because I can see them at any time. I could the News of the World - but what about the Express? They published it this morning.
- S. Well, you see, it isn't anything to do with you that story, is it?
- M. No.
- S. That is the point. I mean you know who they are gunning for. They've got - the Express crowd got, a story about servants, I think the Labour Party got this servants thing, there is no doubt about that they got the servants thing, the fact you see that Wilson was taunting the old man today about it.
- M. I didn't see it, I didn't....
- S. He was trying - he repeated it, I think twice, the question to the old man. And now that Wilson assures that there will be no further disclosures, serious disclosures, arising from this case and he's trying to get the old man to say there won't be. A silly thing to try and do, only a lunatic would give such an assurance, in these circumstances. But they have got, they had a long leading article in the earlier editions of Monday in the Standard.
- M. Well, you told me about that.
- S. Yes, well I found out about that and you see, I think that a lot of people thought it related to you.
- M. And you led me to believe it did.

4.

- S. Yes I did, I did and I checked who it related to. But I thought it did and I think that Bill Deedes thought it did. I think a lot of people in the past thought it did and I read the check of the story and it relates to Seames.
- M. Seames.
- S. They've got something, the Labour Party have got something there. But what I - I don't think, you know, I think that what I've done and what you've done I mean will really kill this story and I've got a chap going round telling everybody that this is a lot of lies, you know, and this P.R. chap is telling everybody when he hears this story, scotching it, saying he's been right through it and it's a lot of lies. I think we will be able to stop that. I mean I think you've been unlucky because you have had a turn, you see, and I've even heard - I mean, some of these stories are absolutely bloody unbelievable - I mean Lord Home....
- M. No, no, he's not in it surely?
- S. Well, I've heard stories from pressmen that Home is involved. Not me, I don't believe for one single solitary instant but this is what has been said so you are in very distinguished company.
- M. In very good company (laughter)
- S. Yes, yes.
- M. Well look, the other wine I don't think you'll like as well as that. It's from my own vineyard. It's very light stuff after that, I'm afraid, but it's better for you, you can drink more of it without getting a head.
- S. Yes, this is pretty heady stuff, isn't it?
- M. It is.
- S. Yes.
- M. You'll have to have a biscuit, I'm afraid.
- S. This is your own vineyard stuff.
- M. That's it, but you can drink a lot of it.
- S. A nice wine, yes.
- M. And I prefer it because I can drink it and never get a head, you know.
- S. I'll tell you one thing I'd like you to tell me. If you know the answer to this question it will save me a lot of bother. Does Martin know all the stuff the police got off Ward?
- M. I don't know, I've no idea.
- S. Because I haven't liked to ask him, it's a difficult thing you see. I mean I.....
- M. Why should Martin know?
- S. Well, he must know.
- M. Well, he's had a hell of a time hasn't he?
- S. You appreciate the significance and importance of finding out.
- M. I can't hear you very well.
- S. I can hardly hear myself with the noise of this bloody.....
- M. You're so far away from me.

5.

- S. You appreciate the importance of finding out with the minimum of delay all there is to know, including about anybody in....
- M. Oh yes, and I think the quicker the Ward case is over the better.
- S. Well of course you can't get the Ward case over too quickly, because of certain problems arising from it, and what I was anxious to find out was do they know....
- M. Perhaps I can help you because they really must get, they must get the Ward case over quickly.
- S. You see, you can't get the case over. What I - you see, I've got access, I mean this is confidential, to the police and security, you see, and I do find out things. I found out an awful lot of the Profumo case long before anybody else and I can perhaps at any rate take some steps to find out what is in the muck that Ward has got, you see, but I don't want to do it if it's already been done because it's not an easy job and I appreciate the difficulty of somebody like Peter saying to me well look, can you find this out because you know it's jolly tricky to.....
- M. Find what out? About the...
- S. Well, what is in this stuff of Ward's that they took from Ward's. You see, when they arrested Ward, they went through his stuff and they took all the things that were in - you know, relevant to their case. Now they didn't get everything, because the bastard sold his story and a lot of his muck to a newspaper before, a fortnight before, he was arrested.
- M. Which newspaper?
- S. Well, I think it's the News of the World, I'm not sure. I can't find this out actually at the moment. I will know by.....
- M. Well, the News of the World - well, I don't know....well, go on.
- S. I'd think it's more the - it's one of two newspapers and I'm not quite sure which it is. It's either the Sunday Pictorial or the News of the World.
- M. Sunday Pictorial or the News? Sunday Mirror..
- S. Well, one of the two.
- M. My information when I told you when I met you and you said these photographs were in possession of two newspapers....
- S. Yes.
- M. I verified they weren't and therefore....
- S. You're not involved at all, you don't realise that.
- M. I am, you know.
- S. You are not involved...
- M. I am at the moment.
- S. You're not.

6.

- M. Well, I think I'm rumoured I am.
- S. You are not. Well, let's take it that to people who know the situation you are not involved, but that doesn't mean to say there aren't people involved and therefore the fact that they say something wrong about you doesn't mean to say there aren't other people involved and what I am trying to get at is - there are two things I want to learn, and learn as quickly as possible, what are the contents of the stuff that Ward sold to newspapers and secondly what do the police know about it.
- M. On Ward?
- S. No, picked up from Ward. You see, I mean they got some of his stuff. When they arrested him they went through his stuff, what he had got left.
- M. Yes.
- S. Now it would be very valuable for us to have answers to both these questions. On the first one, the newspapers, it is possible we might be able to....but there is the problem, you see now - the security people - you want to keep this very, very quiet, they don't want it to be known - have a man in a pretty high position in the Pic-Mirror office and the first I heard about this thing was when they got out the gist of the letter Profumo wrote and the article which this bloody girl Keeler wrote, you know. I was asked what I thought about the article - there was quite a lot of lies in the article. So we got a bloke in there, because this is the problem, that even now I doubt whether - I doubt very much whether they come to the old man with the stuff that they've got. This is the great problem, see, with security.
- M. Well, I quite honestly, I - the beauty of my job at the Ministry of Transport - I don't know anything about the security aspects of it, quite honestly. No, I mean it's not involved in any way.
- S. No, it has nothing to do with you; but it is to do with the Government as a whole.
- M. Well, I see. Willie, after I saw you - you remember the other night, after I saw you, and you were very kind to me and I appreciate it - I made a number of notes which I would like to have a.....it really puzzled me enormously - here they are, I've got the notes here. Now first of all, where was this party that I'm involved in?
- S. Oh well, I didn't say - there was no, but there was no party. Let's get this quite clear that there is no question of your being involved in any party as far as any stories that are in any of the hands of newspapers that I have been able to - that I have the <sup>1</sup>entree to, there is no question of any party whatsoever..

7.

- M. If that is so. If there was a party, I want to know, when was it? Who else was there? Let's get at it, because one must - you can't chase shadows..
- S. No, no, no. Well, this is all that has arisen in your case. As fast as I tell you through tittle tattle among reporters - tittle tattle among reporters - now they talk to a lot of people don't they?
- M. Well they may do, but I mean...
- S. And don't forget all about this - there is no suggestion at any time that you, I mean there's no real suggestion that you are... that you've been involved in any party...or anything to do with this bastard Astor or anybody at all.
- M. There's no suggestion?
- S. None at all.
- M. No, but O.K. Well now, so if.....because I'm damned if.....as I've told you, it's untrue.
- S. Well it is. I mean this is definitely a.....
- M. This worries me, I have told Ruth all about this.
- S. Yes.
- M. And it worries her too.
- S. But of course, that is why I told you.
- M. That is why I'd like the date and the place. But otherwise you can't defend yourself against these terrible things.
- S. You don't need to because I say that I've got the reporters who were responsible for saying these things a rollicking and I don't believe you are going to hear anything more of the story that might associate you with the Profumo affair.
- M. Well I hope not, but, if I do, I don't mind a bit because, if I get the date and place I will see where I was in my diary at the time - There's all sorts of things to do.
- S. Well of course.
- M. Well now, Willie, I'm most grateful to you for telling me before you told the others, I really am. Now...but if I... I don't know, when I saw this thing in the paper, the Express, this morning, I was quite shaken.
- S. No need to worry about any suggestion about being involved, because we'll check with the Express as well.
- M. Well, I don't think there is anybody.....they asked to take my photograph this afternoon.
- S. Who?
- M. The Express.
- S. Well, that is not unusual is it?
- M. No, they've got hundreds of my photographs. I don't know, maybe not, at any rate, that's it. The point is, you are - you know - you have mixed more than I have in this sort of world.
- S. Yes.

8.

- M. I don't know really what I should do next.
- S. You don't want to do anything, because I think I've done all that can be done. I mean, let us remember that your name was going round in these circles at the same time as names like Home, and even Rab, even Rab, even Rab.
- M. This is unbelievable.
- S. Yes, this is absolutely true.
- M. Willie, do you mean Rab Butler and Mike Home were in on this?
- S. These are stories that are going round, going round even at the level of newspapermen. Now this is unbelievable to you and to me, but this is what happened. So don't be too..... I mean you are in a gross company, really.
- M. Now Willie, all right, now we'll leave the party because I'm bound to tell you I am going to try and find out what it's about. You say it's all right as far as rumour is concerned but I am going to find out as far as facts from analysis I will find out where the party was held, when it was held, who was there and so on... I mean....I must.
- S. Well, need you, because I think you can be pretty certain that all these stories about you and Miss so-called's part in this obscene photograph was sheer invention by reporters and it was a connection with something that they had heard about years ago tying up with....
- M. Six years ago?
- S. Well I don't know, about 6 years ago, I make it when you were P.M.G. When were you P.M.G.?
- M. From 57 to 63, fiftyseven I should think, that is six years ago.
- S. Yes, it is, quite a time ago. But as far....projecting your mind, I think we've scotched this one.
- M. Of course we can check that quite easily. But now, you see, I told you, I really mean this, that my experience as Marples Ridgeway had been unpleasant. Well now this Irish cheque, I told you this didn't I? At Housing they said I made profits out of these bloody housing contracts.
- S. Yes.
- M. And then, when I became Minister of Transport, they said I was making - I sold my shares; and it was alleged two months ago I was - that my wife was making profits out of the shares that she held; and I said, now all right then, you can see my solicitors and you can see my accountants, whoever it may be, and I believe that that is the only way I can really clear my name, i.e., not my word but somebody else's. But you think that so far as this party's concerned I am out of the game?
- S. Yes, I think that what I have done is sufficient to set a lot of these chaps by the ears because they've, I mean they've been talking a lot of balls to a lot of people and this has, I think



I think/

this has sorted things out and.... but I don't think there is anything you can do. I don't think there is anything you want to do really.

M. No, well as far as I'm concerned, that helps me enormously because it relieves my mind so much that, in spite of my wife's admonition, I'll have another drink.

S. I think so, I wouldn't.....

M. Which is the Burgandy?

S. This is the Burgandy I've got here now. I'd forget about it altogether because, as I say, I am going to forget about it and I am not going to say anything to anybody, and forget about the bloody thing and, you know, and...

M. That's the Burgandy.

S. That's the Fleurie or the Burgandy?

M. No, that's the Fleurie, you can have which you like.

S. I've got a Burgandy, I want to finish this one off....

M. Yes.

S. I've got about an hour's driving, you know.

M. All right, you must be careful. You musn't drink.... Now the other thing is, what I want to ask you, because this chap Stephen Ward has had a great number of very distinguished people visit him, both Royals and posh jobs. I know that, I think you will agree with that?

S. Oh yes, I know it to be true.

M. I don't know, when you told me of the way you met him and that sort of thing, I was a bit sort of shaken, because I couldn't quite understand why he should do that sort of thing, because he has got a lot of money, he must have, he must make a lot of money by his drawings and his osteopathy.

S. Well, I don't know, this is not so. You see, this is one of the big - it's rather difficult to explain why it is that a man as talented as he is - his drawings are absolutely superb, and there's, I doubt whether there's any man in Europe today can equal this man, but - and therefore you say to me, which is a very natural question, why is it a man who has got this enormous talent for which there is a very great demand, you see.....

M. Yes.

S. Should find himself charged with living on the immoral earnings of women, who might be charged with things like blackmail and abortion and espionage, you see any charges against this man are.. any charge is possible. Why is it that this chap is in this situation. Well I think that it's - this is a very complex

10.

complex/

character - the Ward character. I am reminded, when I went over the black museum, seeing the wonderful forging of a five pound note and the chap who was showing me over said- I was admiring this exhibit terrifically..."Yes, it is absolutely amazing", he said, "We are told by experts in this field that you couldn't do this in less than a week". And here's this man you see, doing a week for five pounds. If he worked for a firm commercially, with his tremendous skill, which is of the highest level, he could earn anyway 4, 5, 6, 7 times as much as this, 8 times I should think. So that there may be this explanation. The whole thing is this...I don't know....it may well be that Ward is a communist, you see. It was a good year so far as he was concerned and he is...what do you do with things, you know, with the party.

M. Which party?

S. The communist party.

M. The Communist Party actually?

S. And it is also.....and another thing, I think, which might add to be a factor to this situation is that I judge Ward - and again I am judging him without any real evidence, but fairly reasonable assumptions, to be a man who is sexually impotent.

M. Ward?

S. Yes. I think he is. I wouldn't say he's a homo, but you might see nude women and all kinds of things fooling about with him. I don't think he's capable of normal sexual intercourse. And this again, you know, does have an affect upon personality.

M. Of course, yes.

S. And this may well be one of the explanations of his behaviour. It's jolly difficult to even - and I've only met him twice, I still can't quite....

M. But, Willie, how did you first meet him? You've told me....I got rather confused when you first told me about how you met him.

S. Will I did. I'll tell you again how I met him. I go round - you know I run several clinics, and I mentioned a medical man in the Consulate I have to - have to employ doctor (Onopodou ? ) and I go round to a Kenya cafe in Marylebone High Street for a quick lunch, a light lunch, and there's a little group there of Jewish refugee doctors, very charming people, and....

M. Very talented I should think....

S. Very talented as well, yes, they're very nice, and we meet there a couple of times a week and have a bit of a jaw for twenty minutes or so while we're having lunch and go away; and this group was there on one day during the Cuba crisis and we were talking about this and a chap leaned over from the next table and started to talk to us and put the Russian point of view at the same time as claiming that he was'nt pro-Russian, you see,

11.

you see, /

and this chap that I like very much, a chap named Mandell, a charming bloke, he was pretty rough with this fellow, who turned out to be Ward, and I suppose I did a bit of trying to smooth it over - it was getting a bit heated, but Mandell you know was chased out by Hitler and he hasn't any great regard for Dictators....

M. Who's Mandell? Is he a....

S. He's a doctor.

M. A German?

S. He's a - well he's an Austrian actually, an Austrian, a very charming man indeed, and he was a bit rough with this bloke, and so I thought I'd smooth it over, I suppose. The thing wound up and I went out to get - to pay the bill and, when I got outside the place, there was Ward waiting for me and he said would you like to discuss this matter further, he said, with a Russian military attache, you see,..... (laughter) I said "Yes" and gave him my number and he rang up and a few days later I went round at 6.30 and in the flat was Ward and Ivanov and Christine Keeler and the girl Davies; and I was introduced all round and we sat down and the first thing Ivanov said to me, he said - he said - he said, - "You're not connected with politics in any way are you?" and I said, "No", and he said, "Well this'll enable me to talk a little more freely". And he went off, and this is the explanation I imagine, of what - of the report you see today in the Daily Mail that the bastard's in clink, you know ....

M. I've not seen that.

S. Oh yes, he's a - he's a - been ....

M. Who's in clink?

S. Ivanov. Been dismissed from the Communist Party and in clink.

M. I haven't seen that, I must look at that. That's very interesting.

S. It is to me, completely, because you see he then started really he did - he then started to tell, to tell me that Krushev, I mean I am paraphrasing his words, had let the Russian people down by capitulating to the Americans, you see, and this wasn't good enough for people in higher authority and unless he got some corresponding advantage from the west in a short time, you know, Krushev's position would become untenable.

M. Yes, that was it, yes.

S. And this is mystifying...

M. That was a lie.

S. I think this is what they found out, you see, that this man was a Stalinist really, you see. And another thing which is really worth noting, is very very interesting indeed is that - I suppose

12.

suppose/

I spent of this hour and a half about half an hour trying to convince Ivanov that, that real authority in this country really resides in the hands of the, of, of Parliament and the Government. It didn't reside in the hands of, of, of people of wealth or interests, or chaps with handles to their names. He came over here with exactly the same ideas tested twenty years ago.

M. Why is this, why did they do this?

S. I don't know - I mean, you can understand Hess because of his bombing starting and he'd never been outside Germany, had he? But here's an intelligent man with a wonderful command of English, who has lived in this country, and in other countries, yet he still believes, he still believes, that if he talks to enough people with handles to their names or ..... that he can influence the course of events.

M. But you see...

S. I don't know....I, I don't know.

M. Willie, let me make my position quite clear. The first thing is, I must clear myself.

S. Yes, of course.

M. That's the first thing. After that I'll do anything I can to help. But I mean.....self-preservation is the guiding principle here.

S. But with everybody in this, I mean, I think, that if - I mean you've got to give, do all you can to help, you know, generally.

M. I will, no, no, I will, I agree with that. But, first of all, as far as the party's concerned, the thing in the Express this morning, you think I'm in the clear?

S. I'm, I'm absolutely sure of it, Ernest, I don't think there is any doubt at all. If I had a shadow of doubt I'd tell you.

M. O.K.

S. I will be quite frank with you.

M. No, but you tell me the first rumour against me. If I'm in the clear, and it's proved, I don't mind. I know I am in the clear.

S. I'll tell you this, that, my assumption - and I haven't read this report, but perhaps if I did read it - but, my immediate reaction to that report would be that Astor is the man involved. Now this is my immediate reaction, because I know this is the sort of line that he runs.

M. Well, it's his business, it's not my line.

S. Now this.....

M. But the -- now the other thing is your informant. Because, if this rumour about me persists, I must chase it, I must pursue it. You, you tell me he was a public relations man, on his own now, who was formerly with the Daily Mail?

S. Yes, that's quite true.

M. But now he's there no longer?

13.

- S. There no longer. What he does now, he circulates round all the papers and that's why he's so low.
- M. And yet he - I said to you, and I think you'll agree it's a very powerful argument, that I don't think that my own denial is enough to prove my innocence, after what's happened. We must do, what I've always done - get a third party to prove it, not me. Now, how can I do this? But what interests me in all this is this - there are two cases coming on, the Ward case and maybe the Rice-Davies case.
- S. Yes.
- M. And maybe, both prosecuted.
- S. And the Keeler case, perhaps, you know.
- M. Maybe.
- S. I believe they are going to chase her up as well, but this is.....
- M. I don't know.
- S. I think this is so.
- M. I don't know, I - but the point is, the first thing is, I am sure, it is in the interests of the country as a whole that the quicker the Ward case is brought on and cleared the better.
- S. Oh yes, I am sure of that.
- M. Don't you agree?
- S. Oh, I agree with that, you can't expedite this bloody case, can you? I mean.....
- M. Well, I don't know, we, we must get it out of the way.
- S. Quickly yes but you can't get it finished. You've got the holidays coming on for the bloody courts. Couldn't we alter that....I don't agree, I say....
- M. Well, I'm not....I agree about the difficulties but surely it's in the interests of the whole country that we should get this thing finished, started and finished, as quickly as we can.
- S. Yes, we can put it at London Sessions. That's the only acceleration we can give.
- M. Well, well...I don't....that....the technicalities of the thing, the mechanical thing, I don't know. Would you agree in principle with that?
- S. Oh yes. Well, I would hesitate here. I'd say what we want to do is to find out today or tomorrow what is going to be revealed in those cases.
- M. Today or tomorrow? Friday or Saturday?
- S. Yes, I mean let's find out and hear it, when and what's to be revealed. I don't want to wait until that bloody case comes up. You see, I mean, what will happen will be this that Ward will make all kinds of allegations against all kinds of people.

14.

M. Well, I agree, but...

S. I don't worry about that. It's what bloody evidence there is either in writing or in photographs, whatever it is, he's got to substantiate in this. That's what I want to find out. That's why I asked you that question.

M. That Ward should be brought up quickly?

S. Well, I mean, you can't bring him up any more quickly. I think the earliest you can do this, I am told, I mean - I can't vouch myself, I am told that, that if you get him up in August, it's about as early as you'll get.

M. Well, I suppose, I don't know. Is that so?

S. It's too long. You see, the police aren't ready yet to proceed with the summary hearing. They haven't preferred the other charges yet.

M. Oh.

S. You see, you're getting towards the end of June, aren't you, and beginning of July

M. Well, the 20th, the 21st of June now, aren't we?

S. You see, we arrive at July.

M. What's the date now, the 21st isn't it?

S. Yes, it's the 21st. You may...I don't know how long the summary hearing will last. It might last quite a time. You'll be right into the holiday period. I believe, if you get this in at the London Sessions in August, it's about the quickest you'll get it there.

M. It has got to be quick, I think.

S. It can't be. That's why I say to you that what we've got to do is to find out exactly what material is likely to be available to comrade Ward and, moreover, what the newspapers have bought from him, because we don't want to get past the trial and when the trial's over leave the newspapers free to publish their material and find we're up against further trouble.

M. Yes, Ward...I see the point.

S. You see, he's sold out. He sold out a fortnight ago and I must find out who it is, I must find out.

M. To whom?

S. I don't know who the reporter is at the moment, it's very difficult to tell the reporter ....

M. He's sold all his stuff?

S. His muck, yes. I should think he's sold the best of the muck.

M. Would you? If he sells anything, he would sell the best, obviously. But to whom?

S. People have been through his flat. People have been through Aster's house, you know - burglary, to get this material.

M. Have they?

S. Oh yes. So some of the best probably has gone.

15.

- M. But now I am bewildered by the whole thing, actually. I don't know.....what.....what's in it?
- S. Well, I've told you why....
- M. Well, about me as far as I'm concerned, I think I agree. In fact, I don't only agree, I know and you know. I am quite prepared to find out the date of this party, the time of this party...
- S. There is nothing...forget the party.
- M. Yes, I know.
- S. There's not - let me make this clear again - that there's nothing in this connecting you with the Keeler affair.
- M. No.
- S. Nothing whatsoever in any possible circumstances.
- M. Now look, Willie, Keeler - Now I, I'm bound to say that I've heard certain rumours about the Cabaret Club. I made enquiries...
- S. Yes?
- M. Very crude, rough, incomplete inquiries. Was Keeler one of the girls in the Cabaret Club?
- S. Oh yes.
- M. Originally?
- S. Oh yes.
- M. Do you own the Cabaret Club?
- S. No, I've nothing to do with it at all, nothing.
- M.. No?
- S. Nothing to do with it at all.
- M. I was told you were, I don't know...
- S. No, it's not true, not true. I've never had, never had any, I've never had any interest in any night-clubs of any kind.
- M. Well, O.K. But she started there and...Now what about Rice-Davies?
- S. She was also employed at the Cabaret Club.
- M. She was?
- S. I'll tell you what happened.
- M. So that's all she is?
- S. Well I'll tell you a story that affects the Cabaret Club. But Keeler and Davies were employed at the Cabaret Club, as artists in the show and as hostesses. The Keeler girl was seen by Ward, and Ward put her a proposition and she left. She then came back again to the, to the Cabaret Club, the Davies girl still remaining.
- M. At the Cabaret Club?
- S. Yes. She was sacked from the Cabaret Club because...
- M. Who was?
- S. Keeler. Because she was untruthful and unreliable,unsatisfactory. And the Davies girl went with her. She makes a lot of lying statements about this in her article, which she wrote to the Sunday Pictorial.

16.

M. Who was this?

S. Keeler, Keeler, you see. But, as far as the Cabaret Club was concerned, they were jolly glad to see the back of her. In fact, Murray had her up about four months after she'd left and said, "Isn't it the case that you have been going to our firms of hairdresser and having your hair done every week as a member of this staff for four months when you aren't a member of this staff any longer?" and she said, "Yes I have", and he said, "Well if you go next week, I shall have to go over to the police." That was the sort of...

M. This is Keeler?

S. This is Keeler. And Davies, the same...

M. The two?

S. Yes, job, yes. They're both, they're both girls who have got a very bad reputation and I would say without any hesitation that the girl, the Davies girl, is the much more dangerous. Keeler is dull-witted...

M. I have a feeling that you may be right, I don't know.

S. I, I fear the Davies girl, and I talked to her, after all, and...

M. Now, Willie, tell me this. If you fear this Davies girl, why do you fear her, fear her, and how could I help?

S. Well only help by fear because she's a much shrewder...

M. Care to have a whisky by the way?

S. Yes. She's a much shrewder and more intelligent person than Keeler.

M. She's younger, isn't she?

S. She's younger...

M. Much younger.

S. Much shrewder, much shrewder. Keeler is very flat and dull, lacking in personality.

M. But she does marvellous work, I must say..

S. Yes, it's body, it's body, isn't it?

M. Really, Willie, really!

S. Body!

M. In all consciousness not too badly  
(laughter)

S. It's her body isn't it? But, you see....

M. Well, I don't know.

S. No personality. But, the Davies girl is - is much worse and much more dangerous.

M. Is she?

S. God in hell! I mean, the police have got her...

M. Got whom?

S. Got the Davies girl and they, they're....

M. But she's not arrested.



- S. No, she's not.
- M. I see.
- S. No, but they're going to deal with her.
- M. Are they?
- S. Yes.
- M. Should they do that?
- S. Well I don't know, I'm not quite sure. I'll say this is part of a long conversation I had at twelve o'clock last night from France on the telephone and I'm not quite sure why it is that they are going to deal with her. I'm not certain as to whether they aren't involved in the espionage side of this, you see. This is the point....
- M. When you say they, do you mean both Keeler and....
- S. Both Keeler and Davies.
- M. The two?
- S. Because I'll tell you what was said to me by a bloke who was - when it was repeated to me by a third party who was a contact with the security people, that they had hoped to get both these bitches on their backs, you see - you know, Keeler and Davies. Now this is curious, saying this....
- M. Now, Willie, I've got two objects in mind. The first is obviously to clear myself. Now that's crystal clear.
- S. Yes.
- M. And you think I can do that quite easily?
- S. I think it's been done as far as you're concerned.
- M. Really? I can assure you I can do it. Then of course it leaves an awfully nasty taste in my mouth and I want to pursue it, to the end - to clear myself. I mean, I think you'll agree that's not asking too much. Well surely you would do the same?
- S. Yes, but let's take.. let's try and get this established: that, that no responsible person is saying that, so far as the Keeler set is concerned or the Astor set is concerned, that you are in any single way involved.
- M. No, but the rumours are there.
- S. No, but, but the rumours, I assure you, that the rumours will now diminish altogether until they die out.
- M. Well...
- S. Don't have any, don't have any doubt about that.
- M. Well all right, all right, I accept that.
- S. Well, you've been, you've been to the newspapers yourself. You may not get as much truth as I can get by other means. I mean at any rate you've got the same story as I've got. I mean I've been round to the Express to the Sunday Mirror and to the News of the World and I'm satisfied that not one of these papers believe that you are in any way involved in this story.

18.

M. Well, I hope so but, but...

S. Well, I've done my very best.

M. I don't mind, anyway. My first duty is to clear myself.

S. Yes.

M. Now, having done that, I must say now, "What do I do for the sake of the Tory party? "Because we are innendoed oh so many, many...

S. Well, you tell any information that has any, that has any value to, to Martin.

M. Well I'll do it then, only I..

S. When, when you went to the Sunday Pictorial, they gave you certain information, didn't they, about other people?

M. What, the Mirror?

S. Yes, the Mirror.

M. The Mirror.

S. Well, I mean you must convey that.

M. I'll do that, I'll do, I will do that.

S. Convey that with the least delay to Martin. Because you realise how important it is that we find out with the least possible delay who is involved in this bloody thing.

M. Yes.

S. And, if you've got information about this, your duty is to convey it to Martin right away.

M. I've got very little information, quite honestly.

S. But did they, do they, when you spoke to this man at the Sunday Pictorial, this man that you know, he gave you the impression that other people were involved and he had information about them?

M. Yes.

S. But he didn't tell you who it was?

M. No.

S. Well, we must try and get that.

M. Yes.

S. But let me take this a bit further, I mean, he was quite firm about this?

M. Yes, he was very firm. Not about me, he said I'm out.

S. No, no, let's forget about that.

M. My record is very clean, after I had had the wriggles. Well, as far as I'm concerned.

S. I've forgotten about you, because you're, you're, you're, as far as I'm concerned, are in the clear and that's an end to it. But what I'm worried about is the other fellows who are, who you tell me in your information are not in the clear.

M. No, I haven't told you that, I don't know.

19.

- S. No, but you said to me that these people...
- M. I was told by them that they had photographs of other people but not of me.
- S. No, I mean this is, this is what I want to get at, now...
- M. Now, I don't know....
- S. What I want to know, who are, who are these people?
- M. That I don't know.
- S. Well, how are we going to find out?
- M. Well, how can you find out? Now, what can I do to help?
- S. Well, you can't do anything. What I shall have to do is to try and see if the security can find out.
- M. I see, and how can they find out?
- S. Well, they've probably got somebody in the offices.
- M. In all the newspapers?
- S. In the Sunday Pictorial.
- M. Yes, but not the News of the World.
- S. Well, maybe not.
- M. What about the Express?
- S. It's rather easier on the...Well, I don't know. I only know that they've got somebody - I don't know the answer to this - I know they've got somebody in the, in, in the Mirror because, as I say, I was rung up to - in the early part of January - to ask what I thought about Profumo being involved in this and I said, "For God's sake", I said, "We're in enough bother at the moment with this bastard Fletcher-Cooke.
- M. Oh!
- S. ....let, let, let's get rid of this. And I thought the bloody thing was going to be, you know, hushed up really.
- M. Yes.
- S. But I backed the wrong horse there.
- M. Who, Fletcher-Cooke?
- S. Oh, he's a bastard.
- M. Well, was he? Why?
- S. Well, yes. Well, I'll tell you this, he ought to be out of the House. I went down to a detention centre last week and a warden said to me, "Turner was here", and I said.....
- M. Turner?
- S. Turner. He's the bloke that Fletcher was involved with, he is the boy that Fletcher was involved with.
- M. Oh yes, yes.
- S. So I said, I asked him about Turner and he told me. He said he was with homosexuals in the West End before he came here. He said, "We took very special steps to prevent him getting into the hands of the same order when he left here which we knew he would do, and that Pakenham was very helpful. So I said, "What, when did Fletcher-Cooke come down here, then?"

M. Down? Down where?

S. To this detention centre.

M. Where was that?

S. This was at - a thing called Blantyre House, Kent, somewhere near Stevehurst, Sevenoaks. He said, "But Fletcher-Cooke didn't come down here." So I said, "In the letter to the Prime Minister in explanation, he said that he came across this boy in the course of his Home Office duties, which just isn't true."

M. Yes.

S. What do you do with such people really? When he got in touch with this boy he was handed on by a bloody, bloody homosexual network and that is the answer.

M. To this boy?

S. Fletcher-Cooke. And he strides about the bloody place, you know.

M. Who? Fletcher-Cooke?

S. Fletcher-Cooke, yes... well he doesn't know any sense of shame.

M. Well, he is lying?

S. Yes, I mean, he should resign from Parliament. If you're in, if you're in this sort of thing, bugging about with young boys, why the hell should you be allowed in Parliament?

M. Well. Willie, this is getting almost beyond me... I - you are very kind - I'm most grateful to you for the way you came to tell me. I'm quite certain I'll have no difficulty in defying and defeating any allegation that I was in the, in the West End. This is chiefly the case.

S. You won't have any difficulty at all. I think you'll find that you won't. These rumours as far as you are concerned will die out.

M. Good.

S. They will die out.

M. Good.

S. They will die out and I don't think you will want to do anything at all.

M. Well now if that is so....let us assume that is so

S. Yes, maybe.

M. So.

S. Or not so.

M. What do I do in the general interests of the Government? Now then, here you have Ward charged and Rice-Davies charged. What is there I can do? I don't know. We have only, of course, as Ministers of the Crown a very limited power, haven't we? It is limited by the Constitution and statutes which apply but, I mean, should - I am quite certain whatever my powers are or any of the Ministers, Cabinet, really, the quicker the Ward case is over the better.

S. Yes.

21.

- M. For everybody, but of course it must - it can't go too fast, if the police say that they must wait a long time to get all the necessary evidence.
- S. Yes.
- M. I mean, that's reasonable.
- S. Yes, it can't be...
- M. That's so. There must be a fair trial, a reasonable trial and all, you see, but that's the first thing that comes out. Now we have this - that's the first thing, I think you will agree with me?
- S. Yes, yes, yes.
- M. Now we get the, we get the Rice-Davies - what's the name?
- S. Rice-Davies, yes, Marilyn.
- M. Marilyn?
- S. Marilyn Rice-Davies, yes.
- M. She must, she must be charged.
- S. Yes, I think she is, yes. Well, the security want to charge both of them.
- M. Together?
- S. No, separately. I don't know. I don't know what they're going to do. I mean, I only know they spoke to me on the 'phone on - from France last night at about one o'clock in the morning on this - I'm not very clear about it - but at any rate there's going to be, they believe they can get both these bitches and they want to get them. Now I imagine that this is what they are talking about, they are talking about security not talking about any other thing....
- M. Oh - the other people will come in?
- S. Yes.
- M. They must be dragged in, surely?
- S. Well they're going to fight and they're going to incriminate every ...
- M. Surely.
- S. My impression is this, listening to these two girls for a short period of time, they are both communist sympathisers. This is what you've got to bear in mind.
- M. Are you, Willie, may I ask this. When you say listen to them, did you listen to them in the flesh?
- S. Yes, yes, of course.
- M. Where?
- S. At Ward's flat, I mean, I went to Ward's flat - there was Ward, Ivanov, Rice-Davies and Keeler - when the four of them were there, for one and a half hours. This is what I'm telling you. And I formed the view that these two girls were very sympathetic to the Soviet Union and therefore...
- M. (laughing) Willie, I'm awfully sorry to say this. Surely they haven't got any brains to be sympathetic to the communists?

22.

- S. No.
- M. Maybe not. I may be wrong.
- S. No, they don't have to have brains, do they?
- M. No, but why should they, I mean - well I don't know. I'm sorry, I can't quite grasp - as far as, as long as I'm in the clear...
- S. Before we ever met, you had me a bit worried, I admit....
- M. I agree, I agree with you.
- S. As sure as I'm sitting here, you're in the clear...
- M. But, Willie, Willie, my point in seeing you is to get myself in the clear. And, if I'm in the clear, the first point is I'm happy. Secondly, how can I help to clear this mess up?
- S. I don't think you can, I don't think you can.
- M. But surely, I don't see why these two unintelligent women should be able to help in this case.
- S. I don't know, I never....
- M. Are they really communist sympathisers?
- S. Yes, I think they are communist hangers-on, let's put it at that, that they are communist hangers-on.
- M. They get cash for it?
- S. Well, I don't know what they get for it, I don't pretend to know. I'll just say this that my short experience of them which was about an hour and a half, I would take the view that they were sympathetic to the Soviet Union, which was my impression, and therefore you've got to watch them. If this is so, they are going when they get cornered to lash out at as many people as possible; and I say your duty and - is to - you told me you haven't got any information from this man or the Sunday Pictorial - It's a pity you haven't. Can you get any?
- M. Sure.
- S. Well, I mean the duty that you...(telephone rings)...
- M. I'll leave that to ring.
- S. Your duty is to get the information and then, even if it affects your colleagues, I mean it's most important...
- M. Well, I don't mind about that, I'll get the information.
- S. And give it to Martin?
- M. I'm quite certain of this, Willie, the truth is going to come out.
- S. Well, of course, it's bound to come out, yes, it's bound to come out.
- M. There's no option. I mean, it's coming out after the P.M.'s statement today with this judicial enquiry. The truth is going to come out. All I want to do is to get it out as quickly as I possibly can.
- S. Yes, I agree with you.
- M. First of all, naturally, self-preservation..
- S. Yes.
- M.. ...a human instinct - I ought to get it out for myself.

23.

- S. Yes.
- M. I think I shall have no difficulty...(telephone rings)...
- S. No, I'm sure of this.
- M. No difficulty at all. Don't you agree?
- S. Yes, I, I have already, I've already forgotten about you. I've forgotten about this.
- M. Now there may be rows and rumours. But, you know, Willie, we are facing as a Party a great crisis. How do we clear the Party?
- S. Well, I think this is, this is, this is the routine and it's quite simple really. The first thing is to, is to find out before this trial comes about what muck is available and what will be produced. We must then find out, before publication, what newspapers have at their disposal when the Ward case is finished. And then, having got this, and not before, and not before, we must have a change of Prime Minister.
- M. Yes?
- S. Because, you see, if - let's take, for example, I know three people with homosexual tendencies in the Government that have got to be got out, you see. Let's say that I've a fair idea, though not a firm fixed idea, there are probably three other Ministers of perhaps senior rank who have got to be got rid of. Now let's pretend...
- M. Who are these? Will that be...
- S. Well some form of implication in this or the ? case. Now, what you can't do....
- M. Does that include me or not?
- S. It doesn't, of course not. You're out of it, Ernest. Get yourself...
- M. Well, I'm very much in it at the moment.
- S. No you're not, you're finished. I'm ahead of events, so you're finished as far as I am concerned. I have written you off. (laughter) I have written you off.
- M. As a dead loss? (laughter)
- S. As a dead loss. You're not in this business. Now let's assume, let's assume that there are half a dozen Ministers, junior and senior, who've got to be got rid of. Now it's quite - this is not an unreasonable assumption, this is about right I would think - Now, it must be quite clear to you that there is no way of getting rid of these Ministers in one act of moral cleansing. I mean, it would be too impossible for words to say, for MacMillan to announce one morning that X, Y, Z, so and so and so on, had left the Government and there had been some pressure put on them.
- M. Yes, quite impossible to imagine.