

PF 604604 / V4

LEWELYN - DAVIES,

 RICHARD.
 LEWELYN - DAVIES,

 ANNE PATRICIA.

PF 604604 / V4

S Form 924A

10209

FILE CLOSED

SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER

| Serial No | Star Designation | Date | Serial No | Star Designation | Date | Serial No | Star Designation | Date |
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| KV2 / 4671 | | | | | | | | |

S. 960 Edn2

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LIMITED CIRCULATION

Please refer to S. Form 239 before
 sending this file to another Section.

S Form 238B

PF 604604 / V4

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184

K.3/P.F.S. Thank you. When Part 2 joins the file
Kx should see it. JS. 12/5

I invite your attention to the report on our first interview with LLEWELYN DAVIES at serial 182a. I have sent copies to K./Adv. and K.7/Mr. Cradock, vide serial 183a.

E. W. Pratt
E. W. Pratt

K.3/7

28th April, 1972

185

16.5.72

Ext from AZURE

185b

186

22.5.72

Report on second interview with LLEWELYN DAVIES

186a

23.5.72

Loose minute

186b

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K.3/P.F.S.

I invite your attention to the report on our second interview with LLEWELYN DAVIES at serial 186a. In the light of your note at Minute 184 you may wish to pass the file to Director KX.

2. I have attempted to draw some conclusions in the final section of the report as it is, I think, time to take stock. We have reached a position where, having removed the outer wrappings, we are unlikely to get much further without taking cross-bearings and acquiring new information to provide new angles for attack.

3. To do this I think we should consider undertaking the following interviews most of which, in addition to helping us in this particular case, could provide useful information in other fields:

Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES - arrangements for which are in hand;

Lady ROTHSCHILD, if practicable;

Francis COOKE and his wife Tina;

Eddie PLAYFAIR;

Flora SOLOMON;

Mary BARNES @ COOKE nee COSS, who we should be able to identify fully through PLAYFAIR who is said to have remained in touch with her. If we find out from him where she is now living in the U.S., I suggest we should brief S.L.O. Washington and ask him to see her.

4. I find it encouraging that according to Lord ROTHSCHILD (vide 179a) LLEWELYN DAVIES has been disequilibrating by our interviews: I am sure he has more to tell us and I am sure we should keep up the pressure.

K.3/7

E. W. Pratt
E. W. Pratt

23rd May, 1972

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188

KX *K3. We spoke. May I have the files back after your meeting on 1st June - the interview reports deserve much more study than I have been able to give them. HAA 30/5*

I think you will wish to read Mr. Pratt's reports at 182a and 186a on our interviews with Richard LLEWELYN-DAVIES, which considerably expand and elaborate on the short notes which I wrote for the Operation SILK file. When you have had time to brood on these reports, I would be grateful if you could spare some time to discuss with us the action which we should now take.

2. I intend to have a meeting with the Ring of Five group of K.3. on the afternoon of Thursday, 1st June and we will, of course, be giving consideration to the suggestions put forward in paragraph 3 of Mr. Pratt's Minute 187. As you know, we are already making arrangements to see Pat LLEWELYN-DAVIES, but I am now dubious whether Tess ROTHSCILD will hold to her original agreement to see us, which she promised to do shortly before Easter. Of the other interviews recommended by Mr. Pratt, I have a strong feeling that we should consider a further interview with Eddie PLAYFAIR who, if my recollection serves me, was extremely evasive in his replies to questions about BURGESS put to him by K. Adviser. Moreover, I cannot dismiss from my mind the recollection that he was P.U.S. at the War Office at the time when, according to KAGO's revelations, there were substantial leakages of defence information to the KGB. Any such interview would, however, require a certain amount of preparation.

3. I think that we should also give thought to a further interview with Flora SOLOMON. I think you will have read Mrs. Rimington's excellent summary of the file. My own conclusion at the time was to leave Mrs. SOLOMON alone, as I had got the impression that she was seriously unbalanced. This is contradicted by recent information from Richard LLEWELYN-DAVIES, who told us at his last interview that she was still vigorous in both body and mind. I believe that she is worth interviewing

/if only.....

Minute 188 cont.

if only for the two substantial reasons which I have placed upon her file, i.e. what in fact were her emotional attachments to PHILBY and who was it, if it was not Victor ROTHSCHILD, who denounced PHILBY to her when she visited Israel. The answer to this second question is essential to our examination of the timing and motives of PHILBY's defection.

4. Although I can see merit in approaching Francis COOKE, for whom we have already prepared an interview brief, and also seeing whether SLO Washington can identify and interview Mary BARNES, I think we should leave these till we have dealt with the more immediate problems which include, as I have mentioned in another context, some method of engineering an interview and discussion between LLEWELYN-DAVIES and BLUNT.

P. F. Stewart

P. F. Stewart

K.3./0

24th May, 1972

Letter from Victor ROTHSCHILD

188b

30.5.72

K3/EWP. *31.5.72*

To see KX's comment on Min 188 before our discussion tomorrow.

K3/0
31.5.72.

P. F. Stewart

190

31.5.72

Letter to Post Office

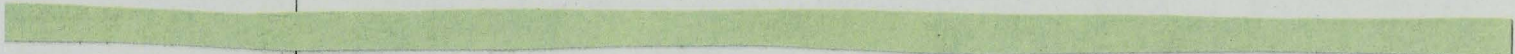
190a

191

6.6.72

Note for File

191a



193

7.6.72

Note file

193a

8.6.72

Int. letter to BLUNT from PLAYFAIR

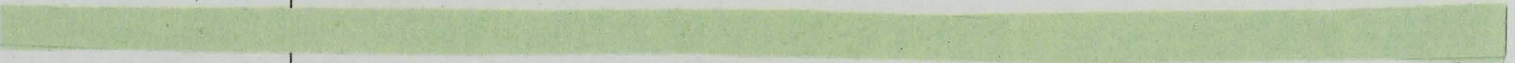
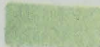
193b

194

9.6.72

Note re meeting with lady JEWELYN-DAVIES

194a



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~~K.S.~~ ~~E.W.P.~~ to see. Let us discuss. 196.
P.S. 146.

I have now studied the reports of the two inter-views on LLEWELYN-DAVIES in more detail. Whether he is concealing anything amounting to espionage activity on his part remains as open a question as before you began this investigation. I cannot believe that he is so uninformed as he appears about the extent of the Communist group in Trinity when he was there. Some of the gaps in his memory are also surprising. But it is in his favour that he suggested we should have a separate talk with his wife. I think some at least of the interviews with the other persons mentioned in para. 3 of Minute 187 may well be worthwhile; but no doubt you will delay preparation until we have seen Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES, made our further bid to get Richard to BLUNT's apartment and taken stock of what we have achieved as a result of our investigation to date.

J. A. Allen

EX

J. A. Allen

15 June, 1972.

| | | |
|---------|--------------------------|------|
| | 197 | |
| 22.6.72 | To Lord ROTHSCHILD | 197a |
| | 198 | |
| 23.6.72 | Ext. from T/C on BLUNDEN | 198a |
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200

27.6.72

To Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES

200a

201

27.6.72

Note for File

201a

203

4.7.72

Loose Minute from K.3/6

203a

204

15.9.72

Ext. from AZURE

204z

19. 9.72

Report on Interview with Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES

204a

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REPORT ON INTERVIEW WITH LADY LLEWELYN DAVIES

Through the good offices of Lord ROTHSCHILD arrangements were made for me to see Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES at the ROTHSCHILD's London house, 23 St. James's Place at 5.30 on 26th June, 1972. I arrived soon after 5 o'clock and was shown into a sitting room

It proved to be a good thing that I decided to arrive early because no later than 5.15 - a good quarter of an hour early - Pat LLEWELYN DAVIES was shown in.

2. She is still an attractive woman, very well preserved for her years, and despite an underlying hint of nervousness she generated a great deal of charm.

3. Once the butler had provided drinks and left us, Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said she was sure she was not going to be of any use. I said I thought she could help us considerably and went on to explain why we had sought her help. In the course of our conversations with her husband in March and April he had expressed the view that in certain respects not only had her contacts with BURGESS been greater than his own but he thought her memory was likely to prove better; not only that, her husband had told us he was sure she would be prepared to help. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said she was quite ready to try, but as it had all happened so long ago doubted whether she would be able to tell us anything of value.

4. I said I expected she had talked things over with her husband, and perhaps with Lord ROTHSCHILD, and would therefore have some idea what this was all about. She agreed she had. I did not therefore go into a detailed explanation but confined myself to saying that we continued to study the Russian Intelligence effort of the 1930s and were continuing to find aspects of that effort relevant to our current security. As her husband had no doubt told her the R.I.S effort of those days had had long term objectives and had by no means been confined to the recruitment and operation of their spies PHILBY, BURGESS and MACLEAN - although each of those was certainly an important figure. The main reason why we wanted to talk to her was of course her knowledge of BURGESS. With a laugh Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES broke in to say that she must make the point that it continued "to surprise us all" that BURGESS had been an important figure in anything - it seemed so unlikely he would have been useful to anybody. I replied that there were many indications to suggest he had been of great use to the Russians.

5. Perhaps we could go back to the beginning to try to reconstruct the background to, and the circumstances in which, she had come across BURGESS in the first place and to talk about her subsequent knowledge of his activities and his friends? This would take us back to Cambridge and this seemed to be the best starting point.

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/She nodded . . .

6. She nodded her agreement and at once said she had not known BURGESS when he was up at Cambridge - when had he gone down? I told her: June 1935. As she thought it had been a year earlier I explained that BURGESS had taken an Aegrotat in Part II of his Tripos in 1934 but had stayed on another year as a research student. She accepted this but added she still did not think she had met BURGESS while he was at the University, although she must have overlapped with him for a year. She thought she had met him during the following year - some time during the academic year 1935-1936 - and had done so through her friendship with Anthony BLUNT. Although BURGESS had not himself been at Cambridge she thought she had met him there at a party either in Trinity or King's to which BLUNT had taken her. She could not remember much about the party - in whose rooms it had been or who had been there but thought she remembered Dadie RYLANDS and various other Apostles. Before the party BLUNT had talked to her about BURGESS; he had said that of all the really brilliant people at Cambridge at that time BURGESS was perhaps the most brilliant. When she had met him however she had been disappointed; he was a shambling character who had had the reputation of being an intellectual meteor but she wondered even then whether he would ever do anything.

7. She went on to explain that although that had been the first occasion she had met BURGESS, the first time she had talked to him at any length was in London shortly afterwards. BLUNT had taken her to lunch "to meet him properly". They had had lunch at a little cafe somewhere near Euston Station, and had spent about three-and-a-half hours there listening to Guy's stories - "Most of which were quite scandalous but which I found quite fascinating". She thought this had taken place early in 1936.

8. It seemed appropriate to ask when and in what circumstances she had met BLUNT. She said she was unable to recall precisely and would have to go back a bit to explain. As I would certainly know she had married her first husband (Note: Alexander RAWDON SMITH, PF 796,666) during the long vacation of 1934, before she matriculated to Girton. Her husband had moved in intellectual circles and although when she married him he had not been a member of the Apostles he had been friendly with a number of those who were. Anthony BLUNT had been among those she had met. "As a girl of eighteen or so, straight up from the country, I was terribly impressed with this circle". She thought she had probably met Anthony during her first year (1934-1935) but could not recall the circumstances.

9. I asked her when she had completed her Tripos. She had taken four years over it and had taken her Part II in June 1938 - just before she and her husband had gone to the United States.

(Comment: I asked this question because the record books are incomplete about Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES' Cambridge career; indeed there is no recorded indication that she in fact did complete her Tripos.)

/She said . . .

10. She said she had met Victor (I assumed she was referring to Lord ROTHSCHILD) quite early on about the end of her first term (i.e., Michaelmas 1934). She had been reading French Literature and he had taught her about 18th century first editions.

(Comment: Although she said Victor (and I checked this on AZURE) looking at the context it is reasonably clear that in her reference to French Literature she meant to say 'Anthony'. I shall go back to her on this but assuming she was referring to BLUNT this dates their meeting.)

11. I asked her about her political activities as an undergraduate. She said she had been very busy and very political at Cambridge. She had been left-wing Labour - indeed still was - but had always been non-Communist. She had belonged to C.U.S.S and later to C.U.S.C, but had not been particularly active in either organisation; her political work had taken her more to the town as she had felt it necessary to try to bridge the gap which existed between town and gown. "My milieu was to enlighten uneducated people - the aim of any real socialist". She had concentrated particularly on the 'Workers' Theatre Club, her aim being "to bring socialism to workers through cultural activities". The Communists had thought her foolish but she had come into close contact with them through these activities. She had also come to know such people as:

Alan HODGKIN (PF 701,777)

Sage and Irene BERNAL

Joe and Dorothy NEEDHAM (PF 42,384)

and others active in the Cambridge Scientists' Anti-War group. She added that her political activities "had shocked Victor who strongly disapproved". The BERNALS - for different reasons - had also disapproved; they had thought she should have been doing something more important than organising plays. "But I still think I was right to do what I did; It was the sort of thing that any real socialist would have done".

(Comment: It is difficult to believe that in these circumstances and against the background of the activities of the student branch, pressure would not have been put upon her to go into the Communist fold.)

12. In the context of the left-wing scene at Cambridge at that time Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES made the point that Spain had been the most important single issue and had unified the many left-wing elements.

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/It had . . .

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It had been a highly-charged emotional issue centred largely round the romantic figure of John CORNFORD (PF 42,262) who had been the hero of everyone. His death had been an emotive happening not only for the Communists; its effect had been felt much more widely - across the entire spectrum of the Popular Front. It had even affected the rarified atmosphere of the Apostles. I said I was interested to hear that in the light of something her husband had told us: the Apostles had turned CORNFORD down as a prospective member of the brethren because they regarded him as being too ideologically committed to be able to argue objectively. She said she knew nothing of that but did know that CORNFORD's death had had a deep effect upon the Society.

13. She illustrated this by referring to an incident which had happened when the news of CORNFORD's death had come through (Note: December 1936). Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES had been busy with her theatre for the masses and on the evening in question had been sitting at home in Bateman Street waiting for promised help for the theatre from someone, who incidently was an Apostle but whom she had never met - John WATERLOW (PF 709,246). The door bell had rung, but only several hours after WATERLOW had promised to be there. When she opened the door she had been confronted by a bearded figure covered in snow - WATERLOW she explained as head boy of Eton had been permitted a moustache; at Cambridge he had added a beard. He had come in and she had towelled him while he told her that having heard of CORNFORD's death he had walked disconsolately in the snow for three hours or so so grieved was he at the news. She thought this had been a typical reaction in Cambridge.

14. Her introduction of John WATERLOW's name gave me an opportunity to take some cross bearings on a story relating to him. I began by asking if she had known James KLUGMANN (PF 45,457) at Cambridge. Not at Cambridge but she had met him in Paris. This had been in 1937 when she had gone there to visit the Exhibition; she had gone to call on him in connection with some demonstration "James must have been master-minding", and had met him with John WATERLOW. Could she recall what KLUGMANN had been doing in Paris? Without hesitation she said he had been working for the Comintern as secretary of some youth organisation: with a little help from me she recalled it was the World Student Association.

15. I invited her to tell me more about the visit to Paris. She said it had all started with a row she had had with her husband; her marriage to RAWDON SMITH she explained had already started to break up. They had been going to Paris together but as a result of the row Alexander had gone off with some fellow scientists and she had decided to stay in Cambridge. "But everyone came along and said I must go - so I did; I travelled over with someone - I think it was John WATERLOW". I waited for her to go on; when she did not do so I asked whether there was anything else about the trip, particularly as it related to KLUGMANN she wanted to tell me. "Oh yes. Somebody said to me 'If you are going to Paris will you take this letter and give it to James KLUGMANN?' and of course I did". I asked who had

/given her . . .

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given her the letter but she said she had no idea who it had been. Then without any sort of prompting from me she went on in a rush: "There was no question of there being anything clandestine about this - I did not tuck it into my corsets or anything". She did not know and indeed made the point she had not asked what the letter had contained but thought she had assumed at the time it had been to do with the recruitment of someone for the Spanish Civil War; possibly someone who had to be smuggled across the border.

(Comment: I thought there was a distinctly hollow ring about this story. It was BLUNT who told us that Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES had taken a letter to KLUGMANN "concealed in her clothing"; but in his version of the story the letter had been given to her by WATERLOW. When, however, the incident was discussed with WATERLOW he denied all knowledge of it but told us that he was so in love with Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES that on one occasion he had accompanied her to Paris to meet her husband but had caught the next train back.)

16. I asked if she had visited KLUGMANN in his office; she had. She could not recall the address but when I mentioned it had been in a street named Cite Paradis she said it came back to her and went on to describe the place. The entrance was through a door in a semi-basement; there were then some rickety, uncarpeted stairs and another door which led into a dingy room KLUGMANN used as an office - the whole place was typical of what one would associate with a Communist/Popular Front organisation. She had chatted to James in his office and had handed over the letter to him "as a normal transaction - in a perfectly overt way. We did not go into a back room or anything". She added that it had not occurred to her to hide it going through customs. "Had I thought I had been carrying something secret I would have been very excited".

(Comment: I found the way she told this story very strange because of the impression I had that she assumed I knew all about the incident. It is possible she had talked about it to WATERLOW - if they are still in touch - but more likely she had talked it over with BLUNT. Because of her insistence on the overt nature of the incident I was left with the feeling "Methinks the lady doth protest too much", and it is odd she cannot remember (while remembering so much else about the incident) the person who gave her the letter.)

/I took . . .

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17. I took her back to the subject of BURGESS and asked her to tell me more about her pre-war association with him. She said there was very little she could tell me about him in the context of Cambridge but she had seen him fairly frequently in London before going to the United States with her husband in 1938. She then asked: "When exactly was Guy in Chester Square?" I told her he was there - no doubt with some gaps - from 1936 until early 1941. She nodded and said she had visited the Chester Square flat some five or six times - possibly more - between 1936-1938; on each occasion Anthony BLUNT had taken her. At that time she had found BURGESS "witty and awfully kind; he loved Anthony - I don't mean simply in the homosexual sense - as much as anyone except his mother, and was extraordinarily kind to him".

18. She made the point that she had seen a lot of BLUNT not only while he was still at Cambridge but also after he had finally left Trinity to work at the Warburg in 1937 when she had come to London fairly often to see him.

(Comment: Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES has thus thrown new light on the question of the closeness of her pre-war (i.e., pre-Bentinck Street) association with BLUNT particularly the length of time this close association endured. We have heard (e.g., from Neville BLACKBURN) that they had an affair but the implication was it was fairly short lived; BLUNT himself referred to Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES as his "one and only girlfriend". What she has herself told us suggests that quite apart from the later, Bentinck Street period, a close association existed between them from about 1935-1938.)

19. I asked how she would assess Guy's political views during the time she had known him before she went to the United States. She had never thought of Guy as political; she supposed he was intellectually of the left, but he had gone to some trouble to parade the fact he was not. On the occasions she had been in the Chester Square flat Guy had never talked politics; so far as she remembered conversations had always concerned history, literature and the arts. When I pursued the point further however a slightly different picture emerged. She explained that what she was really meaning was that Guy had not been interested in the apparatus of politics - such as the working of the Labour Party - but had nevertheless taken some interest in the European Social Democratic movement. In some ways - probably at least partly because of his step-father - she thought he could be described as a political snob; if anything she supposed he had been snobbishly Conservative, but basically she regarded him as a-political.

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/I pointed . . .

20. I pointed out that being 'snobbishly Conservative' hardly squared with being 'intellectually of the left'. She smiled disarmingly and observed: "But that was Guy". There seemed no answer to this but I added I was surprised to hear her say that he had - apparently successfully - maintained a pretence of being a-political; after all he had been an overt Communist for a time - to which she commented: "I did not know that" - and had taken the trouble to give the impression of swinging to the right during his last term or so at Cambridge. The point I was making was that these were positive actions in the context of politics which did not suggest he was a-political. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said that BURGESS had in fact taken an interest in her political friends but apart from that had shown little interest in politics as such. When I asked "What political friends?" she said people like Hector McNEIL. We agreed we should come back to him later in the interview.

21. I asked whom she had met in Chester Square. She had not met many people there - and those she had had mostly been literary. Looking back it was her impression that much the same group of people had been there on each of her visits. There had always been Louis McNEICE and another poet called Bernard someone, Wystan AUDEN, Christopher ISHERWOOD (but she only remembered him being there once or twice) and Stephen SPENDER whom she found a bore and whom she associated rather more with Cafe Royale than with BURGESS's flat.

22. I put some additional names to her of those I thought she might have met in BURGESS's flat.

Tom WYLIE: She did not remember him.

Brian HOWARD: She had known him quite well and had met him in BURGESS's company on several occasions but could not recall ever having discussed anything of significance with him. One particular evening when they had all gone to the Gargoyle Club came back to her. "He rather took to me; homosexuals rather like females who are sympathetic. Brian of course had a very loving relationship with Guy, was very drunken and at times very quarrelsome".

Goronwy REES: She did not meet him in Chester Square and did not think she had heard his name in that context. Recently she had read his book (Note: 'A Chapter of Accidents') and had been fascinated by it. She had been particularly amused by his description of the Bentinck Street menage. Her memory was that REES had appeared in Bentinck Street on only one occasion when she had been there. His description of it therefore at the time he was carrying plans of Operation Overlord (i.e., in 1944) was hopelessly inaccurate; the life he was purporting to describe had come to an end at least two years earlier. Life in Bentinck Street - as he tried to describe it - had

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been en fleur from 1940 for about a couple of years but then had virtually come to an end because Guy had become so impossible. "Richard and Victor could not bear Guy and in any case after Richard and I married in 1943 we left Bentinck Street to live in the country. Goronwy REES's description of the menage had absolutely no basis in fact".

23. At this point Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES broke off reminiscing to say that in discussing this whole business with her husband she had said to him: "I think the security people have just been taken in. KOESTLER had demonstrated the difficulties of maintaining a continuing commitment to Communism against the changing backgrounds which followed the 1930s. They have just been taken in either because they have been fed this stuff from Russia by Guy - and he could never stop boasting - or by Kim who simply would want to sow dissension". She paused and then went on: "You know you should discount anything that might have come from Guy - but I should not be saying this; I shouldn't be trying to teach my grandfather to suck eggs".

(Comment: I was in no doubt that Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES was trying to kick away the props on which the justification of this type of enquiry is based. In any case her thinking is illogical: if, as she appears to do, she accepts that BURGESS and PHILBY were long-term/ideological spies recruited in the 1930s, this of itself tends to negate the argument she is postulating.)

24. I countered by saying that our conviction that the Russian Intelligence effort in this country against students in the 1930s had current relevance was in fact soundly based; I assured her there was no question of our having been taken in by some sort of dis-information ploy generated by Moscow. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said she realised that she could not ask me more about the facts upon which we based our conviction and would accept what I said.

(Comment: I was left with a feeling that I was supposed to realise she did not accept what I said.)

25. She then said there was something else. We had told her husband that we knew six spies among the Apostles. Both she and her husband found this terribly difficult to believe. Richard she knew had told us what made the Apostles tick: the belief in truth. That is what they lived by and because of it both she and her husband found it extremely difficult to accept that six of them had dealt in deceit. Naturally they had considered to whom we had been referring and had concluded that the only one - other than of course Guy - whom they might suspect was Alister WATSON.

/I asked . . .

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26. I asked why they had come to that conclusion. She said that WATSON was an odd person - brilliant but a failure socially. He had been deeply in love with Richard's mother - and indeed loved Richard very much. She thought Alister would have been more thrilled than anyone by becoming an Apostle; he would have felt he had made it. But somehow he had failed. He had been the least open among those associated with that group, and somehow, for some reason, he had disappeared from their lives during the war. I asked whether she meant he had disappeared entirely. It seemed that both she and her husband had in fact seen WATSON from time to time, but not very frequently. They had realised that WATSON was in the Admiralty "doing something extraordinary - and in those days we never asked anyone what they were doing - but he was so secretive; most unlike the rest of us. What I am saying is the most awful bit of libel about Alister, but Alister was so different from the rest of us and I thought perhaps a little inner thinking might be helpful - this is all hindsight of course".

(Comment: There seemed little enough in what she said to support her suggestion that WATSON was the one Apostle (other than BURGESS) to have become a spy. One can speculate how much her observations on WATSON were what she really felt and how much could be attributed to the emphasis inevitably placed upon him in the course of the two interviews we had with her husband and this was being fed back to me. Or perhaps she was fishing - if so she did not get a bite. Here again, however, like her husband an attempt was made to play down war time contact with WATSON.)

27. Still in the context of the Apostles I asked whether she had known any of the older members of the Society. I began by asking about Denis PROCTOR. She had known both Denis and his formidable wife Varda. She had met them soon after arriving in Cambridge, presumably through Anthony BLUNT. As an unsophisticated eighteen year old she had been terrified of Varda. Looking back to those days PROCTOR had seemed small and withdrawn whereas her memory of him later, after Varda had died, was that he was larger, much more assured - indeed quite formidable - and very irascible. His change in all respects after Varda's death had been quite remarkable.

(Comment: Varda PROCTOR committed suicide shortly after the BURGESS/MACLEAN defection in 1951.)

No: Feb. 1951 i.e. before.

28. She wondered whether Victor had ever told us about an appalling row he had had with PROCTOR? I thought not and asked her to tell me about it. It had happened just after the war, probably in 1946. Victor had been giving his usual New Year's Eve Party at Merton Hall

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and as usual wanted some form of entertainment. He had asked Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES if she could get hold of an unusual film that no one would have seen. She had cast around and had gone to some trouble to persuade someone she had known in the Unity Theatre to let her have a pre-release copy of the Italian film *Miraculo in Milano*. It was a great success with everyone except Denis PROCTOR; he had created a frightful scene. He had got up and stormed he would not stay a minute longer in a house where there was Communist propaganda and straight away packed his pyjamas and tooth-brush and left the house then and there. The other guests had failed to understand why he had made such a fuss; people in that crowd certainly drank a lot but very rarely got drunk and never got nasty.

(Comment: I have recorded this story as Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES told it because I found it very surprising.)

PROCTOR himself told us when he was interviewed that he became a Marxist in the early 1930s and remained one. His anger at a left-wing film in that sort of company is therefore hard to understand - if indeed it was genuine. If it was not genuine who was he trying to fool? and why?

We should I think ask Lord ROTHSCHILD for his account of the incident.)

29. I asked Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES what light she could throw on PROCTOR's relationship with BURGESS. She did not think she could throw much. PROCTOR and BURGESS had, of course, known each other for years but she did not think they had been particularly close. In response to my further questions she did not associate PROCTOR particularly with PHILBY although they must also have known each other.

(Comment: In the context of his relationship with BURGESS, PROCTOR has said he was so close to him that he would have told him anything he wanted to know. Flora SOLOMON has told us that PHILBY brought PROCTOR round to her flat and there are other indications to suggest that PROCTOR and PHILBY were fairly close.)

30. Did she know Eddie PLAYFAIR (PF 604,861)? She did but did not think she had met him until he had become a P.U.S.

31. Then without prompting from me she went on to say she had visited Highpoint some time before the war but she had not done so until Richard was living there for the second time - that is after he had married Ann.

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(Comment: It is possible to date this fairly accurately. Lord LLEWELYN DAVIES married Ann STEPHEN soon after the latter came down from Cambridge (June 1938); Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES went off to Harvard with Alexander RAWDON SMITH in September 1938. The visit must therefore have taken place in July or August 1938.)

32. She added that although she had not visited Highpoint during the time Richard had shared a penthouse with Eddie PLAYFAIR and Francis COOKE she had met LUBETKIN. She could say little about the circumstances of meeting him and emphasised that although she had heard quite a lot about them she had not met either Francis or Mary COOKE. I asked if she had ever heard anything to link Guy BURGESS with Highpoint. She was quite positive on this point: "No definitely not". She had known Guy quite well at this time through her friendship with Anthony BLUNT but apart from going in his company to the Gargoyle Club, or out to a restaurant for a meal, she had only known him in the context of Chester Square. There was absolutely nothing in her memory to associate BURGESS with Highpoint.

(Comment: Her mention of LUBETKIN and the COOKES in the context of Highpoint suggests that LLEWELYN DAVIES had discussed this aspect of our interviews with him with his wife; possibly our evident interest in any visit BURGESS might have made to Highpoint or any contact he might have had with occupants of the flats there led to this positive denial. One wonders why.

PLAYFAIR told us he took BURGESS to gatherings at Highpoint.)

33. The third of the older generation of Apostles I wished to ask her about was Henry LINTOTT (PF 607,236). Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said she did not think she could help on him because she had not known him at the time we were discussing and had not come across him until after the war when he was working in Paris.

(Comment: After the war, from 1948-1956 LINTOTT served in Paris as Deputy Secretary General of O.E.E.C.

At the time in which we are interested according to Ian HENDERSON (PF 221,352) BURGESS was a frequent visitor at the LINTOTT's house in Chelsea. LLEWELYN DAVIES told us he had an affair with LINTOTT's wife.)

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34. I then turned to her knowledge of Kim PHILBY and asked whether she had met him or heard about him in the context of Chester Square. Her reply was positive: "No definitely not". She had thought a lot about this and was quite certain she had not met him - or indeed heard about him - until after she had returned from the United States in 1939 when she had met him with Anthony and Guy. She recalled she had regarded him as a bad man - bad because he had supported Franco; because of that she did not feel that she wanted to meet him again. She did, however, meet him again and her main memories of him were twofold: first her initial anger when she had been told he had supported Franco, and secondly his curious cold, off-putting manner. On the other hand she had quite taken to Aileen whom she had regarded as a sort of mental cripple. "Guy kept saying it was one of the most unsuitable marriages".

(Comment: PHILBY met Aileen nee FURSE through his old friend Flora SOLOMON. He lived with her and produced a family between 1940-1946 when he divorced Lizzy and married Aileen.)

35. She told me that for a time Kim and Aileen had lived very close to them in Bentinck Street; they had taken a furnished flat "in something mansions" which she thought had been on the corner of Bentinck Street and Mandeville Place. They must have been there in 1940-1941 as she had clear memories of meeting Kim fire-watching. Aileen had been pregnant at the time and had frequently slept in the basement of the Bentinck Street establishment. She recalled particularly that Aileen had brought with her to the shelter PHILBY's two Fox Terriers. Did I know the names of those dogs? For a moment their names eluded me; mercifully, however, my memory worked in time and I said: "Weren't they called M.I.5 and M.I.6?" She agreed but I thought I detected a slight sense of disappointment that she had not caught me out. We then tried to date when the PHILBYs had left that area; we managed to do this when Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said they had gone to the country about a month before Aileen had had her child.

(Comment: That the PHILBYs lived near the Bentinck Street menage is new to us. Aileen's first child was born in St. Albans in August 1941; it seems likely therefore that they lived in the flat Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES has now told us about for some months prior to say July 1941. According to Flora SOLOMON Kim and Aileen started to live together in mid-1940 in her house at 32 Addison Road, Kensington; it has hitherto not been clear to us how long they stayed in the Addison Road house. Flora said that BURGESS who joined them there was told to leave fairly soon afterwards for making anti-Jewish remarks. If Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES's memory is right it suggests that BURGESS left Addison Road not long before the PHILBYs.)

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36. I was pleased that unprompted by me our discussion of the PHILBYs had led us to the fact that Aileen had slept in the Bentinck Street shelter. This provided an opportunity to ask whether Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES had any memory of Flora SOLOMON having also slept there. Once again she was quite positive: "I am quite sure I never saw Flora in our air-raid shelter; quite sure. I would have been very interested to meet her because of her association with KERENSKY, but I did not meet her until years later, in fact only a few years ago". I mentioned that Aileen had been Flora's assistant in Marks and Spencer's Welfare Department and that it had been Flora who had introduced Aileen to Kim. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said she had not known this. I went on to say that I wondered whether through her own acquaintanceship with Aileen she had heard about or indeed come across Flora. She insisted she had not and had not realised there had been any connection between Flora and the PHILBYs until after seeing us her husband had told her that there had been.

(Comment: Flora SOLOMON told us that sometimes during the blitz she slept at the Bentinck Street air-raid shelter; it was in that context she said she knew Richard and Pat LLEWELYN DAVIES and that Richard at that time was a close friend of Kim PHILBY (Richard LLEWELYN DAVIES denied meeting PHILBY at this time). Until now it has been difficult to see why Flora should have slept in this shelter - it did not seem to make geographical sense. Now that we know from Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES that Aileen slept there, because Aileen was Flora's friend and protege it makes more sense that she should also occasionally have done so. What it does not explain is why both Lord LLEWELYN DAVIES and his wife should take such a positive line denying any knowledge of Flora until, according to them, they met her a matter of a few years ago through their doctor - Dr. Herbert.)

37. I asked if she had met PHILBY's first wife Lizzy and showed her a photograph adding that I thought Lizzy might have visited Bentinck Street. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said she was sure she had never met her and the photograph meant nothing to her.

38. Repeating that she was sure the girl in the photograph had never come to Bentinck Street she said that in the light of what she was now learning she had become convinced there must have been a life in Bentinck Street about which she and Tess had known nothing. They had been away every weekend and when Guy was getting more and more impossible they had arranged to be out as much as they could. She now thought that not only had this other life existed but that it had been deliberately kept from Tess and herself. "I know they had their boyfriends in during the weekends - but that is not what I mean". She said perhaps it would be a good idea if she told me about the origins of Bentinck Street; I encouraged her to do so.

39. She began by saying that she had left her husband in the United States and returned to this country in July, 1939. She had to find a job so she came to London where she had shared a flat with Judy FISCHER WILLIAMS (PF 701,776) - the top floor of 92 Gower Street. Judy had gone off to marry David HUBBACK and Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES had then shared the flat with Tess. One evening in the autumn of 1940 Tess and she had gone to dine with Barbara and Victor ROTHSCHILD who were then living in the Bentinck Street flat. Anthony BLUNT, after his return from France earlier that year, was living with them.

40. On the evening in question when it had been time for them to go home the air raids had been so bad that Victor had persuaded them to stay the night. Next morning Tess had gone off to her job with Jonathan CAPE and Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES had gone to the Gower Street flat to collect some clothes only to find that it had been bombed.

41. Victor had said that London was no place for Barbara, who had been very pregnant at the time, and had decided to take her to the country. This had left the large Bentinck Street flat with Anthony BLUNT as the only occupant. Victor had suggested that as Tess and she had no home they should move in with Anthony and this they had done. There was plenty of room - the flat was on three floors and had four bathrooms - and thus was large enough for them to lead their individual lives.

42. All had been going splendidly until Brendan BRACKEN - who owned it - decided to raise the rent (she made a sharp crack about capitalist rentiers). The rent even though it was split between the three of them became too much for them to cope with and it was then that Anthony had suggested he should ask Guy to join them. I asked when he had actually done so. It had not been before April 1941 - and possibly not until some time in May. "Guy's arrival in Bentinck Street changed everything; until then it had been a remarkably happy place and we were always known as 'the family' - but Guy gradually spoilt it".

43. She went on: "Tess and I were so upset about Anthony; we all worshipped him - he was a man sans rapproche; intellectually so honest. He knew we'd put up with Guy for his sake. I am sure it was for this reason he was so broken when Guy went off in 1951. He was absolutely broken; I have never seen a human being so broken. Guy had not only betrayed his country; he had betrayed his homosexual friends - and this is unforgivable. Anthony felt because it was he who invited Guy to join us in Bentinck Street that it was all his fault that we had become part of it". She spoke with great emotion and added that she and her husband had looked after Anthony after the news of Guy's departure had become known; someone had had to protect him against the outside world.

(Comment: I was led to wonder how nearly this reflected what Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES really thought; did she really feel that BURGESS's betrayal of fellow homosexuals

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was a sin greater than betraying his country? It is not unreasonable to think she did - and it would certainly not be "un-Apostolic" to take this view. After all it was E. M. Forster, that father-figure of the Apostles, who wrote that if he had to choose between betraying his friends and betraying his country he hoped God would give him strength to betray his country.

It is almost certainly true that BLUNT was "broken" after BURGESS's defection - but all the indications suggest that his state of agitation stemmed from fear for himself.) *- a need!*

44. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES recalled an incident concerning BURGESS before he moved into Bentinck Street. She had been ill and he had insisted she should see his doctor and she had done so. The doctor turned out to be a "sinister Swiss called Pierre something"; it had been this man she learnt later who had been responsible for supplying BURGESS with drugs. He had she thought been doing so during the time Guy had lived in Chester Square and had continued to do so while he lived in Bentinck Street.

(Comment: The Swiss doctor was Pierre LANSEL who has no file but is carded in the BURGESS/MACLEAN index. A Note of traces relating to him in the BURGESS correspondence is at serial 203a.)

45. I asked if Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES had ever accompanied Guy on his regular visits to the Chelsea Palace Music Hall. She had not and did not think that anyone from the flat had except perhaps Jackie HEWITT. She said it came back to her that on occasion Guy had taken Marjorie MAXSE of the Conservative Central Office; he had also brought her to dinner in the flat. Quite often Guy, who was a good pianist, would jump up from the breakfast table on mornings following his visits to the Chelsea Palace to play over the tunes he had heard the previous evening and to try to recall some of the funnier words.

(Comment: Reference is made by Goronwy REES in the "A Chapter of Accidents" to BURGESS's regular Monday evening visits to the Chelsea Palace. David FOOTMAN also mentioned these visits.

Marjorie MAXSE before the war was Chief Organisation Officer in the Conservative Central Office.

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46. I asked if her husband had mentioned to her the important matter we had discussed with him: a report we had had that Richard had taken Alister WATSON to BURGESS's flat. Before I could say more she interrupted me to say: "If this was Guy's Chester Square flat this could not have been so - Richard was never there". I told her we were not sure at which flat this visit had taken place; the report said in effect that the purpose of the visit was that Alister should meet a friend of Guy's and that Anthony BLUNT was also present. I said the importance of this lay in the fact we believed that the friend of Guy's was a senior Russian Intelligence Officer. "Ah" she said, "That must be the mysterious Otto". I agreed that it was: could she throw any light upon this meeting? Did she know whether her husband had had any further thoughts about it?

47. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES gave an emphatic no to each question. She added that Richard had been very upset by this story - largely because of his odd background. She explained that Richard simply could not believe he had been present during a conversation in the course of which someone tried to recruit Alister to become a spy; Richard had always had something of a paternalistic attitude towards Alister - he would have said to him: Don't be a clot. She then asked if we could not be more precise when and where this incident was supposed to have taken place. I told her we were not certain either as to time or place but we could not rule out that it had happened in Chester Square. She repeated that she was sure Richard had never been there.

(Comment: LLEWELYN DAVIES himself told us he thought he had not visited Chester Square, but as in so many other respects he left the question open by saying that he might have been.)

48. As a switch in the direction of my questions I asked her to describe what she could remember of the lay-out and furnishings of Guy's Chester Square flat. Her response was immediate; it was as if she had been expecting the question. What follows came out without a moment's hesitation. It had been on the top floor and there had been two rooms - a bedroom and a sitting room. In the sitting room there had been a big square blue sofa and two red armchairs; the curtains had been white. "Trust Guy to have red, white and blue". The fireplace had been on the left as you came in; the mantelpiece had either been marble or wood and had had some gold on it. An electric fire had sat in the fireplace. There had been a table

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with a gramophone on it which Guy always kept playing - just like the young do now - and another table against a wall near the bookcase. In the middle of this wall was the door leading to the bedroom. The bedroom had two single beds and the fireplace there had a gas fire fitted. From the bedroom doors led into a bathroom and loo. "There must have been a kitchen too - they must have been able to cook".

49. At this point Lord ROTHSCHILD arrived. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES at once told him: "Victor I have just described Guy's flat in Chester Square in detail. I have not thought of it for 30 years but I had total recall; complete recovery".

(Comment: I found it hard to swallow that she had not thought about this for thirty years.)

50. As we did not seem able to make further progress on the question of the meeting with "Otto" I asked if we could talk about visitors who came to Bentinck Street. During this part of the interview ROTHSCHILD was sometimes in the room with us and sometimes out of it. I put the following names:

David FOOTMAN: Oh yes. He was enormously tall. She did not like him very much because he was not very interesting and never said much. He was however a respectable person - one of the few respectable people Guy brought to the flat. She had been puzzled why Guy had brought him. ROTHSCHILD asked her whether FOOTMAN was a queer. She thought he might have had tendencies that way but did not believe he had been active at that time. He had had a friend in Oxford whom after some discussion we identified as Maurice BOWRA. ROTHSCHILD suggested those two would have had a common interest in 19th century Russia.

Harold NICHOLSON: He was another 'respectable' friend of Guy's but the basis lay in a homosexual friendship. "Harold liked little boys sitting on his knee; he would sit with them rather drunkenly and giggle. He was rather sweet".

Nancy CUNARD: Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES had met her through John STRACHEY, whom she said had been in love with her. His association with Nancy had been through the Bloomsbury set. I asked if she could recall any foreigners, particularly any Russians, with whom Nancy CUNARD had associated. She looked rather blank so I explained Nancy had taken a Russian to a party with Guy BURGESS at Willkey's Club in Soho in 1942. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES first asked what sex the Russian had been

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and when I said I thought male said she was quite sure she had no memory of meeting any Russian man with Nancy. "If I had done so I would certainly remember as he would have made an impression upon me". She explained she had asked me which sex the Russian had been because the only Russian she remembered meeting was with Louis McNEICE; he had had a Russian tart with one leg. When I pressed the point whether or not she had met any other Russians at this time she was quite sure she had not; there had however been an odd Czech including one they had all disliked.

(Comment: At Christmas 1942 Nancy CUNARD wrote to BURGESS and referred to "that nice Russian whose name I don't know" whom she invited to a party at Willkey's Club. The Russian has not been identified.)

Peter SMOLLETT @ SMOLKA: I asked if he had been the Czech they had all disliked. She thought not. She could not recall SMOLLETT nor did she recognise his photograph. Again she suggested that BURGESS must have had people to the flat during the times Tess and she were not present.

(Comment: I was surprised that she had no knowledge of SMOLLETT as they would have had many mutual acquaintances through whom their paths might have crossed.)

Stuart HAMPSHIRE: She could not recall that he had come to the flat and could not recall meeting him until about 1945 when they were both working in the Foreign Office. She did not know whether BURGESS and HAMPSHIRE had had any earlier association nor did she think her husband had met HAMPSHIRE earlier than herself.

(Comment: Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES's statement about the dating of her husband's first acquaintance with HAMPSHIRE accords with what LLEWELYN DAVIES himself said. However, we should perhaps bear in mind that Michael CHANCE thought that Richard LLEWELYN DAVIES and HAMPSHIRE had known each other in the 1930s.)

Wolfgang Von PUTLITZ: She remembered him quite well and thought of him as a squash ball: round and rather bouncy. She recalled that Guy had on one occasion tried to bring him to Merton Hall, the ROTHSCHILD's house in Cambridge. "But Victor wouldn't have it because he said Von PUTLITZ was a Nazi".

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"Tim": I asked whether this name meant anything to her in the context of Bentinck Street. "Tim" we thought had been at Cambridge, had served in the Navy and had been a member of the Travellers' Club. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said no one came to mind who would fit this description. There had been a horrible little page boy at the Savoy called Tim who Guy had known - but he had certainly not been to Cambridge nor been a member of the Travellers' Club!

(Comment: "Tim" who crops up in the BURGESS correspondence has not as yet been identified.)

Young Captain: I asked if she recalled a young Army Captain who might have stayed at Bentinck Street but had possibly done so after the LLEWELYN DAVIESs had left. She told me that after she and her husband had moved out of Bentinck Street they continued to visit it fairly often and would probably have come across all those living there. She thought the young Captain might possibly have been Peter POLLOCK (whom they had regarded as Cherubino) but almost at once she dismissed the idea but could not suggest any more likely candidate.

(Comment: The suggestion that a young Captain had moved into Bentinck Street was made by Patrick DAY.)

Donald MACLEAN: Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said she had never met him and was sure he had not visited the flat.

Tommy HARRIS: She had known him well. He had certainly visited Bentinck Street but not as often as 'they' had visited his house in Chesterfield Street. Tommy had been a friend of longstanding of Anthony's - they both lived in the world of pictures. The HARRISs had given very good parties. "Guy was sure to be there but apart from him there had been John JUSTIN and lots of other beautiful people". In answer to my question Kim PHILBY had also been a fairly frequent visitor.

She made the point that although HARRIS had not been politically towards the left - at least when she had known him - he nevertheless had been a very attractive man. "He once made a serious pass at me - it was really rather marvellous - but it came to nothing because he said Franco was doing good for his country. I found that very unattractive; I was very surprised".

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I asked if she knew when and where HARRIS and PHILBY had first met. She did not know but told me they appeared to know each other very well. I then asked if she knew what HARRIS had been doing during the war. She did not think she had known; everybody had been doing something extraordinary, but everybody was very discreet about what they did.

I then made the point that I found it a little odd that in a circle which was clearly fairly well towards the left HARRIS had been accepted as a friend although, from what she said, he was himself fairly far to the right. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES explained this had been no problem because by no means all Anthony's art friends were left-wing and as for Anthony himself he was not political at all. "He did not give a damn for the workers - all he was interested in was art".

(Comment: I was left with the impression that Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES was holding something back about her knowledge of HARRIS.

My purpose in asking her how long PHILBY and HARRIS had known each other was to try to resolve the conflicting accounts we have had on this point. Both BLUNT and HARRIS himself have said that HARRIS first met PHILBY in 1940 but Flora SOLOMON told us that their acquaintance went back further and that HARRIS had acted as a courier for PHILBY during the Spanish Civil War.)

51. Lord ROTHSCHILD, who for most of the time I was putting the above names had been out of the room to change, reappeared just as I was about to ask Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES about Rolf KATZ. I had KATZ's photograph in my hand but prevented myself producing it or his name as I thought it would be thoroughly tactless to do so in ROTHSCHILD's presence.

(Comment: Rolf KATZ (PF 47,638) was reported to be a COMINTERN agent in the 1930s and it has been said it was he who recruited BURGESS. I was inhibited from producing his name in ROTHSCHILD's presence because it was through BURGESS that in the mid 1930s KATZ and BURGESS became financial advisers to ROTHSCHILD's mother.

KATZ under some pressure left the United Kingdom for the Argentine in the Andalucia Star in 1940.)

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52. As she had earlier mentioned dining in the Cafe Royal (Note: This was in the context of BURGESS's friend the poet Stephen SPENDER vide paragraph 21 above) I asked if she had been a member of a group which had dined there - or at some other restaurant - fairly regularly. She had dined at the Cafe Royal occasionally but not regularly. It was the Madrid in Frith Street where "some of us used to eat fairly regularly". She had been due to be there the night it was bombed; she had been saved because she had been in bed with German Measles. I said I thought there might have been somewhere else where they had dined - somewhere possibly called Garry's. "Ah yes Garry's; but that was exclusively Guy's". She confirmed Garry, short for Garibaldi, was the name of the owner. It was not a restaurant in the normal sense - there was no name or indication outside that it was a restaurant; it was more like a little club. You went through a green plush curtain into a tiny room where there were no more than two or three tables. "It was a great honour to be taken there by Guy; Anthony loved it but no one would dream of going there unless they were taken by Guy". I asked whom Guy had taken. "Just the family". I asked her to be more precise and as a result she told me that apart from "the family" (i.e., BURGESS, BLUNT, Jackie HEWITT, Tess MAYOR, Richard LLEWELYN DAVIES (sometimes) and herself) possibly Tommy HARRIS had joined them occasionally and Victor ROTHSCHILD had come once but did not like it. I asked if any of BLUNT's war time colleagues such as Dick WHITE or Guy LIDDELL had ever been in Guy's parties at Garry's. "Absolutely not - Guy would never have anyone outside the family at his place".

53. I asked whether these dinners either at the Madrid or at Garry's had had any particular significance or purpose. She said not. They had all been working terribly hard. "I have never worked so hard in my life - usually sixteen hours a day". She had been looking after a very difficult Minister (Note: Philip Noel BAKER). Lord ROTHSCHILD interjected: "Pat found it particularly difficult as Noel BAKER was in love with her". Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES agreed he had been, adding that he had been a very exacting Minister - full of ideas but lacking in judgement "and he would not let me out of his sight". She pointed out that I would not be able to imagine or appreciate the intensity of "life at that time when we were trying to win the war". They had regarded their occasional evenings out dining - which were themselves also intense from an intellectual point of view - as a relaxation from the rigours of their working life. There had been no more to these dinners than that.

(Comment: I forebore to point out that there were many of us who were "all trying to win the war" and therefore did have some idea of the intensity of life at that time.)

54. It had been difficult to keep our discussion in any sort of chronological order; she rather tended to grasshopper and I thought during this initial encounter it was wise to let her have her head. However I was conscious of the fact that although there had been brief references to her time in the United States in 1938-1939 we

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had not looked at this period in any detail. I started by asking if she had met anyone from Cambridge during the time she had spent with her husband in Cambridge Massachusetts. She thought this over and said she remembered that Alan HODGKIN who had been in New York had come down to see them. There had been somebody else - then she remembered: a curious South African who had also come up from New York; she could not remember his name but thought it was Kits something. I suggested Kits Van HEYNINGEN and she agreed at once that was right. Lord ROTHSCHILD who had completed another of his many telephone calls picked up the name and commented: "He was that dirty South African dwarf who had an affair with Joe NEEDHAM's wife".

55. I asked her if she had seen Michael STRAIGHT in the United States. Her answer was confused and disjointed. She started by saying she did not think she had known him at Cambridge and she 'did not really' think she had met him during her time in the United States. She did not think so - but possibly she had. She had certainly known him later on, after the war but had never known him well.

(Comment: There is something odd about this. STRAIGHT himself has talked on several occasions at some length about his knowledge of Pat LLEWELYN DAVIES and has given the impression that he knew her fairly well and, by implication, over a longish period. And again the implication is that he knew her at Cambridge. Their social circles certainly overlapped there; there were links with the Apostles both through her first and second husbands and perhaps of more direct relevance to the point at issue, through Anthony BLUNT; there was also a link through her friend Tess who knew STRAIGHT well enough at Cambridge for him to propose to her. Moreover the impression I formed of Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES leads me to believe it unlikely that she would not have been aware of someone who was not only a friend - indeed a protege - of Anthony BLUNT but who was also as good looking (and clever and wealthy) as STRAIGHT undoubtedly was in those days.

It is of course difficult to know when to believe STRAIGHT but it is curious that he should have said he knew Pat "very well indeed" and that this had led him to the conclusion that from our point of view she was "pretty fishy".

It is curious too that Richard LLEWELYN DAVIES who must have known STRAIGHT as an Apostle also went out of his way to deny knowledge of him.)

/I asked . . .

TOP SECRET

56. I asked if she had ever come across either Herbert NORMAN (PF 604,641) or Michael GREENBERG (PF 94,026) either in Cambridge England or Cambridge Massachusetts but she said she did not know them. She felt she was correct when she said she had seen no-one from Cambridge at that time other than HODGKIN and Van HEYNINGEN. While in the United States she had spent most of the time in Cambridge Massachusetts but had spent two months doing a trip to the west coast. Her marriage had by then finally broken up and leaving her husband in Harvard she had returned to this country in July 1939.

57. We then reverted to the question of BURGESS's relationship with Hector McNEIL which Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES described as "quite inexplicable". It had started when BURGESS recruited McNEIL to his B.B.C programme "Today in Parliament" in 1941. McNEIL was a man of humble origin who became dazzled by Guy's brilliance but later when McNEIL had been in the Foreign Office he had gone to great lengths to insist that Guy, who by then had been very much on the downward path, should become his P.A. Looking back it now seemed to her that it must really have been a case of Hector working for Guy rather than Guy for Hector. She could not see how there could be any other explanation.

58. I thought I detected indications from ROTHSCHILD that he thought it was about time I brought the interview to a conclusion. He said to Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES in a way which suggested that this should wind up the interview: "Have you explained about Richard? You said you wanted to". Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES said she had not; in the light of the way our talk had developed she had taken the view that it was not appropriate; she did not wish to bore me with it. I encouraged her to tell me whatever it was. She agreed to do so and began by saying how very upset Richard had been as a result of our interviews. She thought she should say that Richard was a very intelligent and hard working man who continually did about four jobs; he was very highly strung. (ROTHSCHILD commented: "Richard is one of the laziest people alive" but Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES chose to ignore this and continued). Earlier she had made reference to Richard's extraordinary early background; she was sure this was very important in the context of what she was about to say. His father had been Treasury Solicitor and his mother a beautiful rebel. When he was six he saw his mother being taken off to prison by British soldiers in an armoured car and this had left an indelible impression on him.

59. He had grown up in circumstances in which all children of his age in Ireland had "known" that the Black and Tans put babies on the end of their bayonets to toast them before eating them. It had been a terrible atmosphere in which to grow up. Moreover he had not gone to school. He had been taught, in so far as he was taught at all, by his mother's friends who visited their house: Bertie RUSSELL, George MOORE, George THOMSON and others. Richard had absorbed all they had to say like blotting paper but there had been nothing organised or systematic about the way he learnt.

/He had . . .

60. He had also been terrified. Michael COLLINS, his mother's lover, had lived hidden in their house; Richard had been terrified the British would come to get him. And then Richard used to say because he loved his mother so much he wanted to kill his father - "all that old Freudian stuff".

61. She explained she was telling me this so that I might better understand the reasons for the concern she had felt about Richard around the time we first saw him. He had not told her he was going to talk to us - "and we never have secrets from each other", but she had known he was terribly worried about something but she could not find out the reason; he had begun to look hunted. He had then told her he had seen us and that we had discussed his Communism - "he was of course a Communist for many years" - and this had brought back all kinds of long-forgotten spectres.

62. He had been terribly upset by the suggestion we had made that he might have been present at an attempt to recruit Alister as a spy and had kept repeating to her: "I have a feeling I am being framed". For a time he woke up screaming in the middle of the night and she added, but with great charm: "You had brought back all his childhood fears; all that old feeling against the British".

63. It was for this reason she had telephoned Victor and had said: "Damm you, by what you have done (i.e., persuading him to talk to us) you have thoroughly upset Richard". She had said these things in the heat of temper but had long got over it; she would not have raised this with me at all had Victor not prodded her into it. Richard had now got over his reaction to the interviews and neither he nor she now minded. "Richard knows his reaction was completely irrational; he simply could not help it".

64. I said I was most grateful to her for telling me about this. We then discussed the possibility of a further meeting in the course of which she reaffirmed that both she and her husband were completely willing to see me again at any place and at any time. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES added she would be quite happy to come to our Office to talk.

65. Having thanked her I walked to the door with Lord ROTHSCHILD who said he thought it had all gone "rather well".

CONCLUSIONS

66. This first interview was, necessarily, exploratory. While it could not be hoped to provide the basis for a definitive assessment of the significance of the part, if any, Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES played in the story we are trying to reconstruct, it did nevertheless provide certain pointers.

/Most important .

67. Most important perhaps was what she told me about her relationship with BLUNT. This relationship we now know to be much closer and to have covered an appreciably longer period than we had hitherto thought. It now seems that these two were on terms of close affection from some time in 1935 until she went to Harvard with her first husband in September 1938, in addition to the time when she shared the Bentinck Street flat with BLUNT and BURGESS. Even if we give or take a year or so in BLUNT's story about his recruitment - he maintains he was recruited by BURGESS on behalf of the Russians in 1936 - we are left with the fact that Pat RAWDON SMITH as she then was, was emotionally on terms of close intimacy with BLUNT during a most significant period of his life - if we accept the premise that to take the decision to become a spy is a major step in anyone's life. The question arises: could a woman as intelligent and perceptive as she clearly is, have been as emotionally close, as she evidently was, and have remained unaware that something of significance had happened in BLUNT's life? Resultant changes, tensions, could well have been sensed by a perceptive woman with whom the newly-recruited spy was intimately involved - and it is my guess this particular woman would want to know why.

68. This line of thought is perhaps strengthened by the fact that they remained close after BLUNT had left Cambridge; until this interview we were quite unaware she visited him in London and that together they were fairly frequently in the company of BURGESS. And then of course a couple of years later all three were together - with Tess - as "the family" in Bentinck Street at a time when BLUNT was at his most active.

69. In these circumstances I find it difficult to believe that either then, or in retrospect in the light of all that became public knowledge following BURGESS's defection, she could have entertained no suspicion of BLUNT's involvement. Again, more recently, while being scrupulously careful to give nothing away, we have had to mention BLUNT in the context of WATSON's story of the meeting with "Otto". This of itself should have caused warning lights to flash - but I detected no sign that any seeds of suspicion had been sown. To her BLUNT was still sans rapproche (and to her husband was a charismatic figure personifying the high ideals of the Apostles).

70. At the same time she maintained (when the going tended to become a little difficult) that there must have been a "life" in Bentinck Street which had been deliberately kept from Tess and herself. By implication she put responsibility for this on BURGESS; surely in view of the relationship between them she could not honestly dissociate BLUNT from this "other life"?

71. I am left with the feeling that whatever she and her husband know, or suspect about BLUNT, they regard him as someone who must be protected at all costs. Why?

72. The second major point to emerge was the account she gave, forced out by Lord ROTHSCHILD, of her husband's reaction to our interviews. She explained away his hunted look and his screaming in the middle of

/the night . . .

TOP SECRET

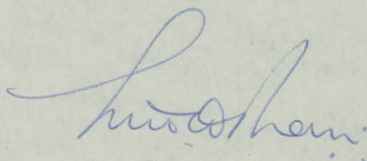
- 26 -

the night by Freudian associations with his extraordinary childhood. This may be a valid explanation. On the other hand if one takes away Freud, it could be more simply regarded as an over-reaction by anyone innocent of anything more sinister than youthful Communism. To my mind the explanation could have its basis in guilt and fear just as easily as in Freudian thoughts on the Black and Tans coupled with an Oedipus complex.

73. Quite apart from her attempt to cut the ground of justification for our investigation from under my feet - albeit on illogical grounds - there were other things in her answers which did not add up. It is not clear to me for example why she should think I knew about the letter she carried to KLUGMANN in Paris; I feel we have still not got to the bottom of that incident. Then there were various examples where she went out of her way to support what her husband had told us: denial of any association between BURGESS and Highpoint; denial of war-time association with WATSON (having picked him out as an Apostolic spy); denial of knowledge, at the material times, of Flora SOLOMON (during the Blitz) and Michael STRAIGHT (at Cambridge and in the United States). Stands she took on these points were pretty obviously the result of discussion with Richard; their effect, when considered in the context of our other information, is to my mind to cast doubt on those points rather than to resolve them.

74. It is my view she held back on some things and could have been deliberately misleading on others. If this impression is right the question arises: why? The answer I suggest is in some way related to BLUNT; despite her protestation that she regarded him as a man sans rapproche, I take leave to wonder just what in her view this implies.

75. We must be grateful to Lord ROTHSCHILD for arranging for this interview to take place and for stage managing it - and indeed for prodding Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES into telling me about her husband's reactions. I think however that for the next round we should accept her expressed willingness to come to us and that I should see her in Room 055.



E. W. Pratt

K.3/7

19th September, 1972

TOP SECRET

(vii) A letter of Mrs BASSETT's in 1948 describes how she applied to LANSEL when she wanted some milk, which had been severely rationed. He wrote her a nice letter back and obliged her, saying he had not seen BURGESS for months and felt very deprived of news of the family. She added 'he, I think, is very fond of you - perhaps a bit fonder of money'.

D. G. Shuren

P. B. Palliser

K.3./6

4 July, 1972.

LASCAR AZURE

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EXTRACT

Extract for File No: PF 604,604 Name: LLWELYN DAVIES
 From file No: PF 604,582 Vol: Serial: Date of Despatch: 15.9.72
 Responsible Section: K.7/R.P A2 A Reference: XJB/3
 Date of Contents: 13.9.72 A2A Transcriber: LE / LH 32
 Extracted on: 25.9.72 by: SDO Section: K.3

12.10 TESS ROTHSCHILD arrived. Both BLUNDEN and GASKIN were here. BLUNDEN mentions that they were at that moment speculating as to the difficulties she might be having in parking. TESS explained that she had put herself into 'that garage' and had then had difficulty in finding her way out of the place. She asked how BLUNDEN was feeling. Not too bad, said BLUNDEN. TESS Turning to GASKIN, TESS asked 'how is he?' GASKIN replied that 'he is very good' and 'eating very well' and 'even has a glass of wine when he feels like it'. TESS talked of hearing that with ulcers one was not allowed any sort of drink. BLUNDEN explained to her how he was allowed whisky whilst in the hospital and was in fact 'ordered' to have some. GASKIN added his comments after which he offered TESS a drink which she declined. BLUNDEN then began to talk about the work ERIC HENBORN had done for DOLLY and this had been much admired by all and, said TESS, VICTOR regarded the work as a great improvement on anything in existence so far. Further about the technicalities involved

WARNING

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(Any extract or summary of this information must bear the above warning and the name of the source).

TESS returned to the subject of BLUNDEN's operation. (No further signs of GASKIN so he may have gone out of the room.) BLUNDEN mentioned having to return into hospital on the 26th for about 10 days. They discussed then the question of BLUNDEN giving up his work as Surveyor of the Queen's pictures. BLUNDEN mentioned how he and FRANCIS WATSON had decided that they would retire from this at the same time. Remarks about ages followed during which BLUNDEN asked VICTOR's age. He is 62. TESS had thought that there was only a year or two's difference between them. BLUNDEN mentioned OLIVER MILLER taking over but he would himself continue as advisor of the Queen's drawings - one lot of drawings. Further about MILLER and the task he would take over, the work involved. TESS mentioned having thought of BLUNDEN the other day when she came across certain etchings at the galleries of the British Academy. TESS then went on suddenly to ask-

TESS: 'You haven't heard any news from our friend PETER, have you? ^{willard}

B: 'No, nothing at all.

TESS: 'No.

B: 'He was - I believe he was moving-when I last saw him, he was going to move down to Devonshire or Cornwall.

TESS: 'Yes, Cornwall, I think.

B: 'Cornwall, yes.

TESS: 'Yes, yes.

B: 'And - er -

TESS: 'But, there are no worries on that score?

B: 'No - I - I was - you know I was going to have a talk with RICHARD, but that hasn't - oh - did I tell you ? (we were having) lunch and he rang up to -

TESS: 'I didn't - I didn't know that you were going to, I don't think.
I knew it was discussed.'

B: 'Well, it was planned in (JENNIFER's ??)-

TESS: 'Yes.'

B: 'And then, I had to get in touch with him for something else-

TESS: 'Yes.'

B: 'Ehm- and we'd got - but, I must say, he's awfully grand - my secretary was rung by his secretary to announce he could only do one day in the next - 'I can do Wednesday on- in three weeks' (slight laugh).

T: (Laughs).

GASKIN at this point reappears in search of a little black bag, which is not to be found, and he seems to leave the room again. TESS continues-

TESS: 'He's now in Bogota - no, he was in Bogota and then he was in Chicago - I mean, he spends an awful lot of time in America.'

B: 'This time he was only going to Zürich.'

TESS: 'Yes, and then they, of course, had a long holiday in Greece.'

B: 'Oh did they?

TESS: 'Yes.'

B: 'Ehm.'

TESS: 'Three weeks or a month, or something.'

B: 'Yes, because you were just going to lunch with PAT the last time I saw you.'

TESS: 'That's right, absolutely, who sent lots of love and - er - said she was going to write you a note but -

B: 'How sweet of her.'

TESS: (TESS here, with a slight laugh, makes an inaudible remark)

'Well I did rather discourage it.

B: 'Yes, well, I still don't feel completely -(like seeing
people)'

.....

K.3./Mr Pratt

1. You asked for a note about Doctor Pierre LANSEL who was mentioned by Pat LLEWELYN-DAVIES.
2. Pierre LANSEL has a card in the B and M index which gives a list of all the traces for him in various volumes of BURGESS's file. Summarised these are as follows:-

Dr. Pierre LANSEL

Born 8.2.99.

1951 : Hotel Eden, Lausanne

- (i) In 1938 Dr. LANSEL vouched for BURGESS's sick leave (14.3.38 to 27.4.38) and stated he was suffering from nerves.
- (ii) On 23 August, 1943 BURGESS put in a report to this office on a Swiss doctor suspected of Nazi sympathies. The source had been Dr. P. LANSEL. He said of LANSEL that he was Swiss by origin a fashionable Doctor with loyalty above suspicion. BURGESS believed he completed his naturalization after the outbreak of war.
- (iv) On 16 June, 1951 that LANSEL was in Lausanne, having been there since April, 1950, since when he had neither seen nor heard anything of BURGESS. He knew BURGESS well before that time and regarded BURGESS as an open sympathiser with communism.
- (v)
- (vi) LANSEL features in the BURGESS correspondence which contains bills and prescriptions of his (including some for benzidrine and sleeping pills). He wrote BURGESS a postcard in 1937 (apparently accepting an invitation) and there is a note in LANSEL's handwriting 'M. Rottenburger, Pad. 1745'. Enquiries so far have failed to identify this person.

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/(vii)

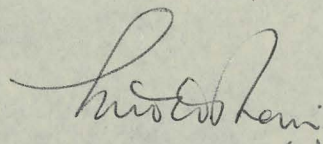
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NOTE FOR FILE

Lord Rothschild telephoned this afternoon (27th June). He told me he had had a word with Lady LLEWELYN DAIVES after I had left the previous evening (he had, moreover, sat in on the last half to three quarters of an hour of the interview) and he had rung to say he thought "everything had gone rather well". He added that things looked good for a further meeting.

K.3/7E. W. Pratt

27th June, 1972

✓
KS/RC
28.6.72

PERSONAL

ROOM 055
FILE
LB
FLOAT

2000

PF 604,604/K.3/7

27th June, 1972

It was very good of you to spare me so much time on Monday. I can say, with sincerity, that from my point of view our talk was most helpful.

I am grateful also for your offer to continue our talk and look forward to doing so when I have fully digested that of last evening.

[Signature]
B. W. Pratt

Lady Llewelyn Davies,
36 Parkhill Road,
LONDON N.W.3.

PERSONAL

✓
K3/pc
28.6.72

TOWROPE

SECRET

A2A Reference: 4305 to 4308
Responsible Section: K7
Transcriber: [redacted]

Target: BLUNDEN
Tel. No.: WEL 9292 to 9295
Date Reported: 22.6.72

DISTRIBUTION

Thursday

23 JUN 1972

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I/C for BLUNDEN's secretary - from Lord LLEWELYN DAVIES's secretary

Distant announced to ELISABETH HASLOCH who she was - they spoke as follows:

DIST: Is that BLUNDEN's secretary?

E: Yes.

DIST: Yes, this is Lord LLEWELYN DAVIES's secretary.

E: Yes.

DIST: They had a word a little while ago and the suggestion of a luncheon was made at the end of July and that I would be in touch with you.

E: Yes.

DIST: Well, I know Lord LLEWELYN DAVIES is so terribly booked I thought I'd look at the diary at once. The only date in July that I've got is the 27th - Thursday the 27th. (laughs).

E: (is amused) The only free day?

DIST: Well, Lord LLEWELYN DAVIES is going to be away now and he's coming back for a few days and is going off again!

E: (Laughs)

DIST: And that's literally the only lunch that I have free in July.

E: (ELISABETH goes away to have a look and returns a moment later)

Hallo?

DIST: Yes.

E: Yes, thank you very much.

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305

TOWROPE

SECRET

Continuation Sheet No.: 2

E: Yes - I'll put it down.

DIST: Good.

E: (laughs)

DIST: Very good - you've put it down - I thought I had better
strike at once - he was saying glibly 'end of July' and-
I thought well- (laughs)

E: Yes, I know! Good.

DIST: Fine.

E: Fine - so, time and place later, or-

DIST: Time and place later -ehm - yes, maybe time and place
later I really didn't get down to details, so, as long as
we fix this - Thursday the 27th-

E: Good.

Dist: -and I'll call you.

E: Good.

DIST: Lovely, thank you. Goodbye. (Has foreign accent -probably
of German origin)

E: Goodbye.

17.24 (4305)

LE

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PF 604, 604

TOWROPE

SECRET

198a

A2A Reference: 4305 to 4308
Responsible Section: K7
Transcriber: [redacted]

Target: BLUNDEN
Tel. No.: WEL 9292 to 9295
Date Reported: 22.6.72
Thursday

23 JUL 1972

DISTRIBUTION

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I/C to BLUNDEN from RICHARD LLEWELYN DAVIES.
BLUNDEN spoke to his secretary who was obviously ringing back in answer to a call. BLUNDEN went on to say -

B: Would you tell him that in fact I've now solved my problem. I wanted to ask his advice about something and I have in fact got the answer. However, I would like to speak to him because I haven't spoken to him for about 3 years.

Dist: Aha - well, he's right here, if you'd like to- just a second.

RLD: Hallo?

B: Richard!

RLD: Anthony!

B: I'm awfully sorry-

RLD: How are you?

B: Very well indeed and you?
I rang - I was going to ask your advice about an architectural problem arising but I've in the meantime got the answer. It's a question about our - some fire precautions people who want to ruin the house.

RLD: Oh.

B: But I've discovered-

RLD: You've fixed them-

B: Well, I haven't fixed them but I've discovered the man to get on to.

RLD: Oh fine - right. Well, it's lovely to hear from you.

B: Well, we must meet sometime?

RLD: I meant to be in touch with you sometime ago and have a gossip because there are one or two things I'd like to have a chat - to chat with you.

like

/continued

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SECRET

K3/KC
27.6.72

TOWROPE

SECRET

Continuation Sheet No.: 2

B: Well, yes-

RLD: Will you be around in July?

B: I shall be around the whole of July.

RLD: Late July?

B: Yes - I shall.

RLD: Can I ask my secretary to have a talk to yours and fix a lunch in late July?

B: I would be very nice indeed.

RLD: Splendid.

B: I shall be here - as far as I know - I may go away for a few days but in principle I shall be here the whole of the time.

RLD: Good, splendid.

B: Good.

RLD: We'll do that.

B: Lovely.

RLD: Goodbye - I'm sure PAT would send lots of love.

B: Yes, and send mine to her.

RLD: Bye, Anthony.

B: Goodbye.

17.10 (4305)

EE.

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ACT 1958 August 2022

PERSONAL

PF 604,604

~~XROOM X055~~

FILE

LB

FLOAT


197a

PF 605,565/K.3/7

22nd June, 1972

This is simply to confirm
that I look forward to meeting you soon
after 5 p.m. on Monday, 26th June, and
to talking to P.

We are all very grateful to you.


E. W. Pratt

The Lord Rothschild,
C.M., Ph.D., S.C.D., F.R.S.,
23 St. James' Place,
S.W.1.

PERSONAL

✓
K3/RC
22.6.72

195a

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PF 605,565


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194A

NOTE FOR FILE

Lord ROTHSCHILD telephoned to-day to say that the meeting with Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES had been rearranged for 5.30 p.m. on 26th June at 23 St. James's Place.

K.3/7


E. W. Pratt

9th June, 1972

✓
K.3/7
12.6.

6 JUNE 1972

W.D.O. SECRET

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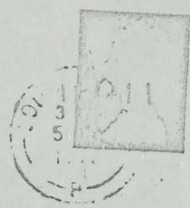
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PF604604

PF604861



Sir Anthony Blunt KEVO FBA
Courtauld Institute of Art
20 Portman Square
W1

BROOKS'S.

ST. JAMES'S STREET, S.W. 1.

TEL 01-499 0072

My dear Anthony

DDG Wat. Trust.

A second thought in case
Robin Fedden doesn't solve
your problem. The right
expert advice to go for is
a good architect with urban,
& negotiating, experience.

One such is Richard Davies,
who of course is senior
partner of a large practice
as well as professor, &
who has a reputation of

KJ/RC
20. 6. 72

6 JUNE 1972

W.D.O. SECRET

01111

knowing the ropes very well.

He is a member of the
Managing Committee, isn't
he? He never comes -
all the more reason for
him to help you behind
the scenes

Yours

Eddie

193A

NOTE FOR FILE

Further to my Note at serial 191a, I thought it would be interesting to check on whether or not there had been a three-line whip in the House of Lords at about the time Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES had agreed to talk to me.

2. The only whip in the Lords during 6th June was a two-line Government whip (Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES is of course in the Opposition) on the Housing Finance Bill (Housing Subsidies) which it seems was put on as the Opposition had moved an amendment to one clause. The amendment was defeated; the Government had a majority of 34.

3. Perhaps we should not take Lord ROTHSCHILD's statement to me too literally; the Housing Finance Bill sounds like something Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES would interest herself in. At the same time I do not think we can exclude the possibility that it was a convenient opportunity at least to put off the business of talking to me.

K.3/7

E. W. Pratt
E. W. Pratt

7th June, 1972

KX sec J
7/6

192a.

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ACT 1958.

191a

NOTE FOR FILE

/(5th June)

Lord ROTHSCHILD rang this morning./ In my absence on a day's leave the call was taken by Stella Rimington. As Lord ROTHSCHILD said he would prefer to speak to me personally he was given my home telephone number where he contacted me later. He said "the lady" (i.e. Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES) was extremely sorry to have to cry off the meeting with me which Lord ROTHSCHILD had arranged in his London house at 5.30 on Tuesday, 6th June. She was required to be in the House of Lords where a three-line whip would be operating. Lord ROTHSCHILD assured me there was no question of her backing out; she was quite happy for him to rearrange the meeting which he would do and let me know.

K.3/7E. W. Pratt

6th June, 1972

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190a

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
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ACT 1958.

Peter Wright

Copied to PF 605,565

1886

23 ST. JAMES'S PLACE
LONDON S.W.1
01-493 6110

25th May, 1972

Dear Peter,

I have arranged for the person in question to come and have a drink with me at 23 St. James's Place at 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 6th June. Could you let Mr. Pratt know?

Your
Victor

Note

Spoke to V.R. who agreed I should come to his flat around 7pm, on 6th June.

[Signature]

30.5.72.

EE

ENCL
[Signature]

30 MAY 1972

TO *[Signature]*
REF *[Signature]*

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187b
187c
187d.

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
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ACT 1958.

TOP SECRET LOOSE MINUTE

Copy to PF 604,604

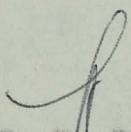
1866

K./Adviser

K.7/J.A.C. (Separate copies)

You may care to see the report on the second interview Patrick Stewart and I had with Richard LLEWELYN DAVIES.

K.3/7


E. W. Pratt

23rd May, 1972

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K3/RC
23.5.72

Copy sent to F2/JRG - 11.7.72.

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186a

SECOND INTERVIEW WITH RICHARD LLEWELYN DAVIES

LLEWELYN DAVIES arrived just about on time on 23rd March, 1972, for his ten o'clock appointment with Patrick Stewart and myself. For this interview he came to the Hyde Park Hotel where we had arranged to see him in a private room known as the Loggia.

2. This is a room at the back of the hotel overlooking the park. As we were walking through corridors towards it he said how much he appreciated the fact that we had agreed to see him at such short notice and much sooner than we had originally planned. Since our first meeting he had been disturbed by the matters we had then talked about and felt he wanted to see us again before he went away after Easter; as he had explained on the telephone he was due to be away for about a month.

Germany 1945

3. When LLEWELYN DAVIES was settled in the Loggia where Patrick Stewart was awaiting us, we reminded him that at the end of the previous interview he had agreed that we should use a tape recorder at this one. He repeated he was quite happy that we should do so; accordingly I started up the machine which A.2.C. had provided and set up.

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R7 Wewides
Howe
1983.

4. We recalled that previously we had taken him through his memories of people and events up to the war; we would like to start this interview by carrying on from that point and then go back to further questions about BURGESS and his associates. He indicated his agreement. We asked him to tell us about his time in Germany.

5. He had gone to Germany "almost the day the war ended" as a member of a Technical Intelligence Team to study engineering and building technological breakthroughs which the Germans had achieved during the war. The team had been led by Balfour THOMAS and had visited various parts of Germany including Bad Oyenhausen, Stuttgart and Essen; they had not visited Berlin. They had spent two or three months there and had got home in time for Christmas.

(Comment:

(i) "Almost the day the war ended" is a slight exaggeration. LLEWELYN DAVIES's U.K. passport was delivered in October, 1945, (he had previously travelled with Irish papers) and his departure from the U.K. in October would fit in reasonably well with his statement that the team was in Germany for two or three months and home in time for Christmas.

(ii) I have been unable so far to identify Balfour THOMAS.

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6. We asked if he had come across any familiar faces while he was in Germany - particularly people about whom we talked at the previous interview. His response was: "You mean people like Anthony BLUNT?". When we agreed that he was the sort of person we had in mind he added: "No, I didn't. I didn't know he was in Germany". We told him BLUNT had visited Germany several times soon after the end of the war. He repeated he had not seen him there. We then suggested he might have come across Leo LONG there. Having said he was quite sure he had not, characteristically added at least he did not think he had. We told him LONG had spent some time in Dusseldorf. He didn't think the team had visited Dusseldorf, though they had been quite close when they visited Essen. He explained they had been on the move nearly all the time; they had visited a good many places and talked to a good many people but almost all of these were technical people, not those associated with his Cambridge past; indeed he was pretty sure he had not met anyone from Cambridge in Germany.

(Comment:

(i) The fact that his immediate reaction was to raise BLUNT's name in this context struck us as a little odd.

(ii) Leo LONG (Trinity 1935-38/39; PF 604,789) was in Germany from April, 1945, and from the formation of the Control Commission served in counter-intelligence in Dusseldorf.)

7. On his return to this country LLEWELYN DAVIES returned to his job with the L.M.S.

Guy BURGESS

8. In the light of what he had told us there seemed to be no way in to learn anything further of interest about his trip to Germany. We therefore reverted to his early association with Guy BURGESS (Trinity 1930-35; PF 604,529). We reminded him that at the previous interview he told us his memory of BURGESS at Cambridge was that he had been a Conservative. Had he had any further thoughts on this? He said he had thought about it a lot but could not identify BURGESS with socialism.

9. We told him we thought BURGESS had joined the Party at about the same time as himself, give or take a month or so. LLEWELYN DAVIES presumed he would have done so as a secret member; we thought not and said there were indications which strongly suggested that for a time - probably for about a year - he had been an overt member of the student branch. He said he found this difficult to credit. In discussing this we recalled we had told him previously about Charles RYCROFT's article mentioning the two Communist groups at Trinity: a small group of about eight or ten - "The Scabs" - and the larger group which was more in the mainstream of the student branch.

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LLEWELYN DAVIES, from his own description, seemed to have been in the Scabs group and it was possible BURGESS might have been in the other one. He agreed this was a possible explanation but added: "I am very surprised to hear Guy was an overt Party member; it does not fit in with my memory".

(Comment: There are a good many indications to support the belief that BURGESS was a normal student branch member from the end of 1933, or early 1934, to about February, 1935.)

10. We asked if he had known John MADGE (Trinity 1933-36; PF 136,292). He said he had very well indeed. We asked what he could tell us about the origins of MADGE's association with the Party. He said he had no idea; he had completely forgotten him at Trinity. He had, however, known him well later. At the Nuffield Foundation "he was my boss until he got sacked; I succeeded him". He had also known him in the Architectural Association and as a Visiting Professor at U.C.L. We said that some years before he died we talked to MADGE; one of the things he told us was that in his first year at Cambridge he had been recruited to the Party by Richard LLEWELYN DAVIES and Guy BURGESS.

11. His reaction was to say: "How dim my memories are" adding that although he had been active during his final year at Trinity (1933/34) and it was possible he had recruited MADGE - but he could not recall doing so - he could not believe he would have done so with BURGESS. He repeated that his memory was that BURGESS had not been in the Party. We pointed out that in fact his Communism was fairly well known and that his apparent change of heart had not come about until a term or so after LLEWELYN DAVIES had come down. Another thing which might have indicated his Communism was that BURGESS had gone to Russia in the long vacation of 1934; he could well have talked about his preparations for this trip, possibly to his fellow Apostles. LLEWELYN DAVIES had no memory that BURGESS had done so.

12. We asked whether he had known any of the Miners' Welfare Scholars at Trinity: Jim LEES (1930-33; PF 149,938) or Harry DAWES (1929-32; PF 51,504). He had no memory of either of those we named. We explained that they had been prominent in left-wing circles - the Socialist Society and the Party - but what was more important was that LEES had become a close friend of BURGESS. LLEWELYN DAVIES said these names struck no chord with him.

13. We explained that we were exploring his memories of BURGESS's politics in some detail because we would have expected that looking back to the time when he came down from Cambridge he would have been left with a memory of BURGESS as a Communist, or at least a left-winger. LLEWELYN DAVIES said he had been trying hard to conjure up a picture in those terms - but nothing came; it was he thought quite possible that the subsequent

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image he had of BURGESS overlaid his earlier memories. He reverted to his memory of a conversation he had had with James KLUGMANN (Trinity 1931-35; PF 45,597) which he had mentioned previously and recalled that KLUGMANN had described BURGESS as unreliable, untrustworthy and a playboy; someone not to be taken seriously. KLUGMANN had given the impression that BURGESS was someone not worth bothering about as a future - or present - member of the Party. We pointed out that of itself this conversation strongly suggested that BURGESS was being considered in the context of the Party. Could he date the conversation? He could not but conceded it had possibly taken place before he himself had joined the Party.

14. We then turned to any continuing post-Cambridge association he might have had with BURGESS before the Bentinck Street days. He had met BURGESS at the Society's dinners but had no specific memory of meeting him in other circumstances. At that time his social life had revolved round Bloomsbury, particularly round the BELLS and the STEPHENS. BURGESS had never really been part of that circle but may have been on the fringe. LLEWELYN DAVIES's own friends had largely been of an older generation and he agreed that his friendships with PROCTOR (King's 1924-27; PF 604,597), LINTOTT (King's 1927-30; PF 607,236), PLAYFAIR (King's 1927-30; PF 604,861), themselves all part of the Bloomsbury circle in which he moved, were examples of this.

15. We asked if he had visited the LINTOTT's house. He said he had, but could not recall where they had lived. We told him we thought BURGESS had also been a fairly frequent visitor to the LINTOTT's. LLEWELYN DAVIES agreed he could well have been.

(Comment: Ian HENDERSON (Christ's 1934-37; PF 221,352) who claims to have been friendly with the LINTOTTs at that time has told us he always found BURGESS about when calling on or staying with the LINTOTTs.)

He agreed that there had been fairly frequent parties at the LINTOTT's house and added that perhaps he should tell us he had had a love affair with LINTOTT's wife at that time.

(Comment: LINTOTT's first wife was Phyllis nee HAMMERTON; they were married in 1934 and divorced in 1948. She is not on record.)

16. We asked if he had ever met Jack PLUMB (Christ's 1934-39 and 1946 onwards; PF 606,905) at the LINTOTT's or elsewhere. He thought he might have met him at the LINTOTT's; was he a short fat man? We were unable to answer this with certainty but suggested he was probably brought to the LINTOTT's by Ian HENDERSON. He thought this was possible. We said we had heard about an occasion in about 1935/36 when in addition to PLUMB and HENDERSON those who had been at the LINTOTT's that night probably included Alister WATSON, Guy BURGESS, Anthony BLUNT, Victor ROTHSCHILD and LLEWELYN DAVIES himself. He could

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not recall any specific evening when such a gathering had taken place but added he could see no reason why those people should not have been at the same party at the LINTOTT's. This would not have been unusual. His only doubt was as to whether Victor ROTHSCHILD would have been among those present.

17. We pressed the point that in the light of what he had said about the LINTOTT's parties he must have seen BURGESS from time to time in circumstances other than the Apostles' dinners. He agreed that this must have been so but could not be specific about occasions when he might have done so.

(Comment: It was Ian HENDERSON who told us about the party at the LINTOTT's at which the people he named had probably been present. HENDERSON had borrowed Michael STRAIGHT's car to drive PLUMB from Cambridge to the party and back again.)

18. We raised again the subject of his relationship with Denis PROCTOR. Although LLEWELYN DAVIES had known him from the late '20s and continued to see him in London during his post-Cambridge years he regarded him as an acquaintance rather than as a friend. He illustrated what he meant by the fact that he did not think he had ever had a social engagement with PROCTOR alone. They had always met in the company of others. We asked if he had ever met BURGESS or PHILBY in PROCTOR's company adding that we believed PROCTOR had seen quite a lot of each of them. LLEWELYN DAVIES could not recall ever having met either with PROCTOR and added: "I am sure I never bumped into Kim".

(Comment: PROCTOR has told us of the close friendship which existed between himself and BURGESS. There are a number of indications that PROCTOR also saw PHILBY fairly frequently both before the latter went to Spain and during the war.)

19. We then tried to identify the focal points of his social life at that time. He thought they could be listed as:

Gordon Square where the STEPHENS' lived;
(when we suggested the HENDERSONS in this context he dismissed them by saying they were spongers who were camping out in Gordon Square)

James STRACHEY;

Julian BELL and his mother Vanessa who had a studio in Fitzroy Square;

Eddie PLAYFAIR's flat in Highpoint;

the LINTOTT's house in Chelsea.

20. We asked whether he visited the Bentinck Street flat in those days. He had not done so, neither had Victor ROTHSCHILD

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been around much in the circles he had been describing. Although he had known ROTHSCHILD at Trinity, the latter had not then made much sign of wanting to be friendly; moreover he had not become an Apostle until after LLEWELYN DAVIES had come down. He had hardly seen him in pre-war years and had not met ROTHSCHILD's first wife, Barbara, until he returned from Ireland in 1940. From then on, however, he had known them both well and had frequently stayed with them at Tring. His wife, Pat, had known both Victor and Barbara ROTHSCHILD well before the war.

was surely?

(Comment: According to the Conversazione Society's Presidents Book (SF 468-1-4) ROTHSCHILD was elected to the Apostles in 1933, that is while LLEWELYN DAVIES was still in residence.)

Highpoint

21. Still with BURGESS in mind we moved on to the question of political activities in the flats at Highpoint during the time when LLEWELYN DAVIES shared a flat with Eddie PLAYFAIR and Francis COOKE (PF 642,774) in 1935/36. He said he had had no further memories about any such activity in the Highpoint complex. He went on to raise Tollik LUBETKIN's name and asked whether he had lived there; we said we thought he had.

22. He reminisced about Highpoint. He had moved in to share a penthouse flat with COOKE and PLAYFAIR as soon as the block had been completed in the summer of 1935; opposite them had lived the ROTHENSTEINS.

(Comment: The Voters' List of Highpoint for 1935-36 shows Flat 11 was then occupied by Sir William and Lady ROTHENSTEIN (No Trace). Sir William ROTHENSTEIN was the distinguished artist father of Sir John ROTHENSTEIN, Director of the Tate Gallery (No Trace).)

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PF203,602*

23. We asked whether he could remember the number of his penthouse flat. When he said he could not we suggested it might have been No. 21. He agreed it had been. Had he returned to Highpoint after his marriage to Ann STEPHEN? (Newnham 1935-38; PF 133,318) He had. They had taken a small flat there. He remembered it had been No. 10. They had lived there from the time they were married in 1938, which was soon after Ann had come down from Newnham, until they went to Ireland the following year. No.10 which had previously been occupied by another architect whose name he could not recall was nowhere near as large as the penthouse he had shared with COOKE and PLAYFAIR.

24. We established that PLAYFAIR had moved out of Highpoint by the time LLEWELYN DAVIES and his wife had moved in; PLAYFAIR had gone to live in St. James'. We then said we were surprised

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to learn that in 1938 LLEWELYN DAVIES and his wife had moved into No.10; we thought they had returned to No.21. As he shook his head, we explained we thought this because many years after she had re-married Ann had applied for a visa for the U.S.A. and in completing the portion of the form relating to addresses she listed under 1938: 21 Highpoint.

(Comment: This visa application was made in 1963.)

LLEWELYN DAVIES's reaction was to say: "How very odd; I simply cannot imagine why she should have said that". He went on to say that when he was living in No.21 in 1935-36, he was having a love affair with Ann and she sometimes had spent the night there, but she had not resided there. He agreed with a laugh that insofar as the record of her 1938 address was concerned she must have been guilty of a Freudian slip.

25. We told him that having discovered Ann had quoted 21 Highpoint as her 1938 address, and knowing PLAYFAIR had by then left there, we had concluded that he and Ann had moved in with Francis COOKE (PF 642,774) and Tina ARNHEIM (L 255-14). We now realised this was not the case.

26. He asked "Was COOKE mixed up in this? Or perhaps I shouldn't ask. I should be very surprised if he was as I never regarded him as anything but a square." We told him that we did not know; we had not got to the bottom of the strange relationship COOKE had had with Tina ARNHEIM and we were hoping - thinking that he had shared a flat on this second occasion - he might have been able to throw some light on this. LLEWELYN DAVIES said he really had not known COOKE very well; he had only got to know him because PLAYFAIR had asked him to share the flat. He had no recollection of seeing COOKE when he and Ann had lived in No. 10 and did not think he had ever met Tina. Here again as happened so often in the course of both interviews he qualified what seemed to be a definite statement by saying he thought after reflection it was possible he might have played squash with COOKE occasionally during 1938/39; he could not be sure.

27. We took him back to the question of gatherings which had taken place at Highpoint. He countered by asking whether we were saying that these had been organised by LUBETKIN. We thought although they had probably not been organised by LUBETKIN it had been said that he had been a sort of father figure. LLEWELYN DAVIES thought about this for a moment and then said that Mary COOKE might have been the link in all this. By the time he had moved into Highpoint with PLAYFAIR and COOKE, Mary had left her husband but quite often visited the flat to see PLAYFAIR with whom she continued to maintain a friendship. Mary COOKE was working in LUBETKIN's office in TECTON and was then living with Francis SKINNER, another TECTON partner whom LLEWELYN DAVIES knew to be a Communist. He said that Mary COOKE was also a Communist.

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(Comment: Notes on the background of TECTON, Francis COOKE, Tina and Hans ARNHEIM, Tollik LUBETKIN, Mary COOKE and Francis SKINNER are included in the report on the first interview with LLEWELYN DAVIES.)

28. We raised the name of Geoffrey MARR-VEVERS. At once he said: "Ah, the Director of the Zoo". We agreed he had been. LLEWELYN DAVIES went on to say that MARR-VEVERS was a client and friend of LUBETKIN and also a friend of Mary COOKE.

(Comment: At the first interview LLEWELYN DAVIES said he had never even heard of the name MARR-VEVERS. On this occasion his memory seemed to serve him better.)

29. We pointed out that the names which had been mentioned constituted a nucleus of at least one social-cum-left wing political circle. One reason why we were interested in this was that we believed Guy BURGESS turned up to gatherings in Highpoint from time to time - did he remember him being there? His reaction was sharp: "No. Whoever would have brought him?" and after a moment's reflection: "You harp on these gatherings; you must think them important".

30. We asked if Eddie PLAYFAIR had kept up an association with BURGESS and if he recalled meeting BURGESS in PLAYFAIR's company. He did not know whether or not PLAYFAIR had seen much of BURGESS. He himself had no memory of meeting BURGESS in PLAYFAIR's company. He added that he had no doubt PLAYFAIR would tell us if we asked him. Then: "Would you have any objection to my talking to Eddie about this?" We warned him he would have to be discreet but if talking to PLAYFAIR would help him remember things about Highpoint it could be useful. We were particularly interested in memories of gatherings there which might have included BURGESS and any foreigners.

(Comment: There are grounds for thinking that LLEWELYN DAVIES could well be holding back in his account of his memories of political activities in Highpoint; for example, it is difficult to believe he did not know LUBETKIN better than he has admitted either in this or in the previous interview.

PLAYFAIR has told us that during the time he was sharing it with COOKE and LLEWELYN DAVIES, their penthouse flat in Highpoint was a centre of left wing, mostly Cambridge, friends. In this context he made two additional points: first, BURGESS had often been there; secondly, at these gatherings LUBETKIN had not only been present but was regarded as an elder statesman.

That there was a close and continuing relationship between COOKE, PLAYFAIR and LUBETKIN is supported by the fact that COOKE and PLAYFAIR

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were two of the four referees in LUBETKIN's naturalisation application (the other two were Sigmund GESTETNER and Julian HUXLEY). The police report on this (dated July, 1938) records that both COOKE and PLAYFAIR had known LUBETKIN since 1933; both had seen him frequently socially from then on; both were near neighbours. It seems likely, therefore, that LLEWELYN DAVIES would have seen LUBETKIN at the Highpoint pent-house not merely while he was living there but later; PLAYFAIR continued to live there until 1938 and LLEWELYN DAVIES has said (vide para.19 above) that PLAYFAIR's flat in Highpoint remained, after he (LLEWELYN DAVIES) had left it, a focal point of his social life in pre-war London.

Moreover, he has told us that his first job - the design of a house near Portsmouth - was for TECTON. He came to know the firm through COOKE's estranged wife (and PLAYFAIR's friend) Mary nee COSS, who worked for TECTON. He got to know her during his time at Highpoint (1935/36) but did not get the offer of the job until 1938. There must have been a good many architectural students about and because TECTON picked on him I suggest it must be assumed that he remained in touch not only with Mary but also with her principals, LUBETKIN - and perhaps SKINNER - throughout that time.

Then there is the question of MARR VEVERS. There are many indications that regular Sunday soirees took place in his flat in Highpoint; we now know there were certain elements common to the circle which gathered in the COOKE/PLAYFAIR/LLEWELYN DAVIES flat and that which gathered chez MARR VEVERS; LUBETKIN, Mary COOKE, and PLAYFAIR are examples and it is by no means unreasonable to suppose that PLAYFAIR might have taken LLEWELYN DAVIES along - and indeed perhaps BURGESS too.

We have not yet got to the bottom of what went on at Highpoint. We know MARR VEVERS from the mid 1930s onwards was in close touch with the Russian Embassy (he was described as "persona grata" there) and that he was in touch with a number of people of interest to us. What makes all this important is that the mid to late 1930s are a shadowy period in our knowledge of the activities of BURGESS and those with whom he was then in contact.)

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The Apostles

31. It was LLEWELYN DAVIES himself who led the way back to that leitmotif of our interviews - the Society and its ramifications. He had been thinking about our previous discussion on recruitment to the Society during the time he was up, particularly about one point we had made: that he and BURGESS (in that order) had been the only undergraduates to have become Apostles between 1931 and 1934. He had been through the Apostle membership in his mind and our suggestion seemed to him to be right and accorded with his memory. This led him to tell us in some detail about the mechanics of election to the Society. To summarise, a prospective member was first vetted - theoretically without his knowledge - and met existing members. Then came the formal introduction into the Society by the candidate's spiritual father and if no objections were made, the candidate became a member and an entry would be made in the record book: "X gave birth to Y on . . . (the date)". Alister WATSON had been his own spiritual father and Anthony BLUNT had been BURGESS's.

32. Looking more closely at BURGESS's election, he confirmed what he had said at the first interview: he had certainly been upset by it but now admitted that the degree of his disappointment had probably been heightened retrospectively by a back reflection of his subsequent dislike of him which really developed during the Bentinck Street days. He agreed that in the course of the processes leading to BURGESS's introduction to the Society "I could have said: "Don't lets have him" but I didn't". We told him that his dislike of BURGESS - at least in his Cambridge days - had not been reciprocated; last time we had told him what Guy had said about WATSON - that he worshipped him; that he was some sort of god - we believe BURGESS had held a similar view of LLEWELYN DAVIES.

(Comment: Isaiah BERLIN has told us that LLEWELYN DAVIES was one of the people Guy BURGESS worshipped.)

33. He said this was interesting; it raised a basic point relating to the Apostles. Were we interested in the mood of the Apostles as well as facts? We were. He said that to make himself clear he would have to go back a bit. His father had in effect substituted his belief in the Apostles for the Christian ethic. Essentially, the "creed" of the Apostles was honesty in the pursuit of truth and unflinching openness of mind. To his father, his son's election to the Society had represented the culmination of success. For his own part LLEWELYN DAVIES had held the Society in "fantastic awe"; he had felt he was entering a group of particularly exceptional people; exceptional not only intellectually but also morally and ethically. He had hero-worshipped them and this was, he thought, the key to what BURGESS was supposed to have said about himself and Alister; such remarks were simply a reflection of the ethos of the Society. Looking very serious, he said it was for that reason it had been such a dreadful shock to him when we had told him that a number of Apostles had become

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Russian agents. At the time of the defection he had not been able to believe that BURGESS had been an agent and he made the point that while he had had no difficulty accepting that MACLEAN had been a spy, it had been quite different in BURGESS's case. He had come to realise that the reason for this was simply the fact that BURGESS had been an Apostle - even though he had known him to be a bad egg.

34. We told him we appreciated the point he was making. It underlined the fact that because there had been so much emotional rapport among its members, the Society had become such a fertile ground for exploitation by BURGESS on behalf of the Russians. LLEWELYN DAVIES said he now saw this. He asked: "Did those involved know each other to be spies?" We said we would not have thought so to begin with, but each would probably have discovered others recruited by BURGESS. We added that we ourselves had been impressed that this could have happened within this elite group. LLEWELYN DAVIES agreed. Such a thing was wholly incompatible with the principles of the Apostles; it was a total betrayal of all other Apostles and that was why he had not been able to accept it could have happened - even in the case of BURGESS. His reaction had been: it simply could not be true.

35. He went on to develop his theme of the incompatibility of the creed of Communism with that of the Apostles emphasising the degree of intellectual and spiritual adjustment necessitated by his decision to throw in his lot with the Communists. Filling in the background to this he explained that like his father - a philosophy don who had been politically active in Lloyd George's time - he had been a radical liberal before turning to Communism; his radical liberalism had been tempered by the influence of the Society's rigorous truth-seeking and its strong sense of personal ties to other members. The main difficulty both he and WATSON had experienced was the reconciliation of Marxism with radical liberalism and philosophical analysis. As an Apostle he had regarded the unreasoning attitude of the Communists as repugnant; he had, however, succeeded in papering over the cracks by pretending this attitude did not exist. To illustrate the point he was making he cited the case of John CORNFORD. Both brilliant and distinguished, CORNFORD had that fanatical streak which precluded participation in the objective search for truth. The Society had considered him but had rejected him as a potential member because being fanatical he would have had an unacceptable unwillingness to argue and debate.

36. At the same time things had been happening which had stirred the emotions such as the hunger marches; political things had become real and exciting and it seemed to him that the proper thing to do was to participate.

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Alister WATSON

37. He asked: "Was Alister WATSON an agent?" Our reply was to the effect that as he would recall at the previous interview we had told him that we believed a proposition had been made to WATSON on an occasion in which we thought he himself might have been involved; we were looking to him to help us to get the background to this occasion right. He had thought a great deal about this and indeed had lost sleep over it, but had no memory of any such occasion. Had he been involved he was sure he would have told WATSON: "For Christ's sake, don't do it". Even at the height of his Communism he would have been appalled if WATSON, who was a great friend, had been approached.

38. We went round and round the incident when (according to WATSON, but of course we did not vouchsafe the fact that it had been according to WATSON) LLEWELYN DAVIES was supposed to have taken WATSON to meet Guy's friend "Otto" at BURGESS's flat when BLUNT was also said to have been present.

39. He said he had thought terribly hard about this and repeated he had lost sleep over it - "it is a very alarming thing to have tossed at you" - but nothing had come back to him. He had wondered if he could have successfully repressed his memory of a distasteful matter such as this but had concluded this was most unlikely as he was sure he would have reacted in a violent way if he had had a sniff that WATSON had been mixed up in anything sinister. Did we know the nature of the proposition? We admitted we did not know its terms but we believed it to have been made by a senior officer of the R.I.S. who was unlikely to have been so brash as to have asked someone to spy; he would probably have appeared as a middle European who was enlisting support for world peace or co-operation in the fight against Fascism.

40. He mulled this over and asked whether he could have taken WATSON to see this friend of Guy's without being aware of anything sinister. We said we doubted it. He repeated he had no memory of anything of that nature and made the point that had there been sinister overtones at any occasion when he had been in WATSON's and BURGESS's company he would certainly have recalled it when BURGESS defected and would certainly have spoken either to Tess ROTHSCCHILD or to Anthony BLUNT about it. He added he had known WATSON very well; he had been almost one of the family.

41. We reminded him that at the previous interview he had said that after coming down from Cambridge he had seen very little of WATSON. At the end of the interview, however, he had admitted that he had seen him occasionally and we had spoken of the holiday in Corsica they had had together.

(Comment: In fact he admitted to that holiday only after we had reminded him of it.)

He agreed and added that he might also have seen WATSON in

Ireland but maintained he had not seen very much of him.

42. We asked directly: "Just how frequently did you see Alister?"

43. He started his reply by recalling that WATSON had stayed on at King's but he thought he must have come to London from time to time to see old friends from King's such as Henry LINTOTT and Julian BELL. We pointed out that he had already told us LINTOTT and BELL were his own friends; WATSON's social circle in London, therefore, appeared to have coincided, at least to some extent, with his own. He conceded he must have seen him occasionally in this company but had no clear memory of having done so.

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44. We reminded him he had told us he thought his holiday in Corsica with WATSON, Ann STEPHEN and his sister, Sean, had been in 1937. He thought this was right and recalled he and Ann had gone on to Florence where they had stayed with her grandmother. We suggested the Corsican holiday might have been earlier than 1937 pointing out that WATSON had married Susan HENDERSON in 1936, and we wondered whether he would have gone on holiday the following year with Sean. LLEWELYN DAVIES agreed that this would have been absolutely out of the question; it must have been earlier than 1936.

45. Having settled the point that this holiday had probably been in 1935, we told him we thought that at about that time he might have gone on another holiday to Europe with WATSON. As there was no immediate response, we went on to suggest that he had stayed with WATSON in Avignon. "Ah yes; I remember that now. I think I had been ill." He explained that they had had an introduction to the writer, Charles MAURON, a friend of the BELLS. "Was I alone then with Alister?" We told him we thought his sister, Sean, had been with them; he agreed she had. He thought the year must have been 1935 but he was uncertain whether it had been at Easter or in the summer of that year.

(Comment: With prompting from us, the account he gave of this holiday including the introduction to Charles MAURON accords with what WATSON said; the latter placed it at Easter, 1935.)

46. We suggested he must have been in fairly continuous contact with WATSON at that time. "Yes. I suppose I must have been."

47. Did he remember the Cranium Club? He did; he had been a member. Others he recalled as members were:

Adrian BELL "My father-in-law"

(Comment: This must have been a slip of the tongue; Ann's father was Adrian STEPHEN; it was he who was likely to have been a member of the Cranium Club. We have no knowledge of an "Adrian" in the BELL family.)

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Denis PROCTOR

Henry LINTOTT

Eddie PLAYFAIR

Alister WATSON

Roger QUIRK (King's 1928-31; PF 605,670)
- who had been President.

This Club had dined he thought, monthly; we suggested it had done so at the Reform but his recollection was that it had met to dine at L'Etoile in Charlotte Street.

(Comment: WATSON said that the Cranium Club met first at restaurants in Charlotte Street and later on at the Reform Club.)

48. We asked whether he recalled a house party in a cottage in Berkshire probably in the summer of 1936. The cottage we thought belonged to the LINTOTTs and in addition to the LINTOTTs and himself, we believed his sister, Sean, Alister WATSON and Eddie PLAYFAIR had been there. He gave this thought and said that while he could not recall any such specific occasion this sort of thing had happened - a house party of the people we had named would have been perfectly possible.

(Comment: The story of this house party comes from WATSON.)

As we continued to demolish his line that he had seen very little of WATSON in his post-Cambridge years, a noticeable sharpness came into his voice.)

49. We told him we were probing his relations with WATSON to help provide a background against which he might be able to recall the circumstances of any meeting he might have had when WATSON, BURGESS, possibly BLUNT, A. N. OTHER (a middle European) and himself had been together.

50. He said nothing came to his mind and then asked: "Anthony BLUNT - presumably Anthony was never an agent of any sort?" Before we could reply, he went on: "I wanted to talk to him after our first meeting; I refrained because I was not sure what level of confidentiality all this was supposed to have."

(Comment: As one of the main reasons for seeing LLEWELYN DAVIES was to provoke him into talking to BLUNT, at the first interview we had not given him the usual warning that he should not talk about our discussion to anyone.)

51. He made the point that if BLUNT had known about the proposition to WATSON he should have reported to the authorities at the time. Had he done so? We managed to avoid a direct answer; we told him we had discussed this matter at great length with BLUNT who, as he would know, was a wartime member of our Service. We would have no objection to his talking to BLUNT

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about this meeting; it was possible if they discussed it something might emerge which could throw further light on what is at present an incomplete and very unsatisfactory story. LLEWELYN DAVIES said he would like to do this.

52. Could we be more precise as to where the meeting was supposed to have taken place? We repeated what we had told him at the first interview: we thought it had probably been in BURGESS's Chester Square flat - but we could not be sure. We went through the chronology: BURGESS had lived in Chester Square from 1936 until early 1940; he had moved for a time into Flora SOLOMON's house, 32 Addison Road, Kensington, with PHILBY and Aileen FURSE. From there, later in 1940, he had moved into Bentinck Street.

53. He nodded and told us he was "practically certain" he had never been to the Chester Square flat, then added: "I think Pat might have gone there." We asked how long Pat had known BURGESS. He thought they had probably met at Cambridge and that Pat and Tess had met BURGESS at about the same time.

54. When he repeated he was "pretty shaken by all this", we took the opportunity to say he would now be able to see the reason for the importance we continued to attach to the large circle of friends BURGESS had had as we were sure he had made a pitch at some of them. He responded quickly: "Well, he never made a pitch at me". He considered BURGESS's friends and thought that Guy had been moving in a higher bracket social world than he had himself; Guy's had been a world of which he had not been a part. He illustrated this point by saying that among his close acquaintances Guy had included:

Harold ACTON (No Trace)
Clarissa CHURCHILL (No file)
Goronwy REES (PF 604,683)
Harold NICHOLSON (PF 604,870)

Then there had been a young soldier, Peter POLLOCK, and another POLLOCK, Martin; Charles RYCROFT and Hector McNEIL. About the last named, he found it quite extraordinary that McNEIL had been a great friend of BURGESS's - "it was absolutely incredible". McNEIL had been a shrewd, tough character, quite different from Guy. He thought Pat had known him quite well.

(Comment: According to Lady ROTHSCHILD, it was Pat LLEWELYN DAVIES who introduced BURGESS to McNEIL. She would have known him during the war as McNEIL worked with NOEL BAKER in the Air Ministry; Pat LLEWELYN DAVIES was Personal Assistant to NOEL BAKER.)

55. In the context of BURGESS's circle of acquaintances we showed him a photograph asking if the face meant anything to him. He looked at it for some time and then said: "This is a memorable face, I would know if I had met him. This is quite different from the picture of your "Otto" you showed me last time; this is a real face, that was a nothing face." However

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after continuing to look at it for some moments longer he said he was quite sure the face struck no chord.

(Comment: The photograph was of Rudolf @ Rolf KATZ (PF 47,638) who has an interesting history much of which is far from being resolved. He joined the Communist Party in 1921 and in his early days was involved in Comintern activities in Berlin with Boris RONIGER. He met BURGESS in Paris in 1935 and for a number of years remained in close touch with him. In 1936 BURGESS introduced KATZ to Victor ROTHSCHILD and he became, with BURGESS's assistance, financial adviser to ROTHSCHILD's mother. He was a frequent visitor to South America at that time and finally left the U.K. to settle there in 1940; he was at that time the subject of unresolved suspicions.

Interviewed by the F.B.I. in 1951, KATZ said that he met BURGESS through ROTHSCHILD and played down his association with BURGESS. Boris RONIGER, however, interviewed in 1957, said he had heard that it was KATZ who had recruited MACLEAN and BURGESS for the Russians. There is little, if anything, to support this but other sources have indicated that KATZ might have had a controlling role vis-a-vis BURGESS.)

56. We reverted to his suggestion that he should talk to BLUNT and took the opportunity to ask him how long and how well he had known him. He thought he had met him very soon after going up to Trinity; he was pretty sure BLUNT had not visited their home in Ireland before then. He had had great prestige at Cambridge and symbolised the Society probably more than anyone else; he had had great charisma. He was uncertain when BLUNT had become an Apostle but had been well established in the Society by the time LLEWELYN DAVIES had been elected.

(Comment: According to the Conversazione Society President's Book, BLUNT was elected to the Apostles in 1928.)

George THOMSON

57. We then spoke briefly about George THOMSON. LLEWELYN DAVIES enlarged on what he had said at the previous interview by going into THOMSON's "Irish period". In the late 1920s, THOMSON had visited the Blasket Islands (off the coast of Kerry) which were exclusively Gaelic speaking. He had become fascinated by the people and fell in love with a peasant girl. He learnt Gaelic and proceeded to translate the Greek classics into that language and then taught them to the local people. We asked when he thought THOMSON had first become committed to

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Communist ideology; he did not know. We said although THOMSON had not joined the Party until 1935, we thought he had become ideologically committed appreciably before then. Did he remember THOMSON's book "Aeschylus - Prometheus Bound" which was published in 1932? He knew the book well. Did he consider that it had been influential in attracting undergraduates towards intellectual Marxism? He had not thought of the book in those terms.

(Comment: We have been told by Hilary WAYMENT (King's 1931-34; PF 91,479) and others that THOMSON's Marxist study of Aeschylus was responsible for attracting a number of undergraduates towards acceptance of Communist ideology in the early 1930s.)

Disengagement from Communism

58. He reverted to the question of his own disengagement from Communism. He started by saying that one of the factors which had given rise to his disillusionment was a directive which the Communist group in the A.A. had received from C.P.H.Q. This informed them that that sort of student group was being shut down; they were told to join "some street group in Camden Town". This they had done but had found the sort of activity they became involved in was futile and trivial; it had had no reality. Indeed, it had eroded his belief in reality. Another factor had been his trip to Russia. He had found it dismal. He had once visited Leeds and the incredible drabness of the Russia he had seen reminded him of Leeds. Until going to Russia he had associated Communism with a forward-looking movement in Arts but what in fact he had found had been a reaction against any forward movement. This to him had eroded the credibility of Communism. The process of erosion of his confidence in the ideology and its practical application had begun, and although for a time the external fabric remained intact, in fact his conviction was being eaten away inside - like dry rot.

59. None of the factors he had mentioned had in themselves been decisive; the process of erosion had been the result of the cumulative effect of these factors over a period of some years. Then the war had come: with the Russo-German Pact and the antics of the Party in its attitude towards the war he realised the whole thing in so far as his own commitment was concerned had collapsed; he had ceased to be a Communist.

60. We picked up the point of the King Street directive to the A.A. group but he could not remember how, when or through whom they had received it. We spoke briefly about the Student Bureau and its Secretary and Student Organiser, Jack COHEN, suggesting that the directive might have come through him but LLEWELYN DAVIES said he could not recall anything of this. What was clear was that the A.A. group had not been regarded by the Party as a student group; while they had been students, the

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A.A. had not been part of a University.

61. He then said he wondered whether any members of the A.A. group had become involved in anything sinister. He would feel "rather badly if they had" and added: "I do not think I influenced anyone very much at Cambridge but I did influence them at the A.A.; I would feel great distress if any of those had got mixed up". We asked who they had been. He repeated the names he gave us at the previous interview:

Kenneth CAPON

Frederick Lamond STURROCK

Leo de SYLLAS (who had not been at the A.A. but at U.C.L.)

and added the new name, Anthony COX. We avoided committing ourselves in answering his question by saying that for the most part the Russians had concentrated their efforts on the older universities and we then changed the subject.

(Comment:

(i) Notes on the background to CAPON, STURROCK and de SYLLAS were included in the report on the first interview.

(ii) Anthony COX must be identical with Anthony Wakefield COX who owns PF 139,920. It is not known when he joined the Party but in 1939, he was a secret member attached to the Architects' Group. He has not come to notice in a Communist capacity since the early 1950s but is a candidate for an unresolved trace of a contact with a Russian in the Trade Delegation which emerged from the FOXY case.)

Kim PHILBY

62. We reminded him he had told us previously he had only one memory of PHILBY at Cambridge; had he had any further memories? He had not. Recalling we had mentioned that PHILBY had been Treasurer of the Socialist Society, he admitted he must have seen him at Soc. Soc. meetings but could not remember having done so. He repeated he could only visualise meeting him on the one occasion he had described to us at the first interview but added he could not imagine why he remembered that incident so vividly.

63. Turning to his post-Cambridge years, we again raised the question of whether or not PHILBY had appeared at Highpoint. LLEWELYN DAVIES was sure he had never come across him there.

(Comment: In this we were spearing more with hope than with knowledge. We know that PHILBY kept in touch with PROCTOR and that PROCTOR was friendly with the circle which included

PLAYFAIR, LINTOTT and LLEWELYN DAVIES. We also know that PHILBY, who at the material time was living with Lizzy in Acol Road in the Maida Vale area, was not very far geographically from Highgate. We have no firm indication that PROCTOR visited Highpoint but in view of his friendship with PLAYFAIR it is not unlikely that he did. It would be interesting to know whether or not PROCTOR (or anyone else) took PHILBY to Highpoint - perhaps PLAYFAIR might be able to throw more light on this.)

63a. We could get nothing new from him on this period and therefore moved on to wartime Bentinck Street. He could not recall any specific occasion when he had met PHILBY there but recalled that he was talked about particularly by BLUNT but also by BURGESS. He admitted that PHILBY had probably visited the flat but he simply had no definite memory that he did so. On the other hand he did have a definite memory of meeting Aileen with Pat and Tess.

(Comment: Although there are indications that PHILBY visited Bentinck Street there is nothing recorded relating to an association between Aileen FURSE and Tess MAYOR and Pat RAWDON SMITH (as they then were). If Aileen was friendly with them, the question arises did Flora SOLOMON have anything to do with the Bentinck Street menage. This is referred to again in the comment following the next para.)

64. We came to the main purpose of our questions about PHILBY by asking whether he recalled the air raid shelter of the Bentinck Street flat. He looked a bit surprised at the question and told us he remembered the basement shelter well; not many had taken refuge in it during the time he had lived in Bentinck Street but he thought in an earlier phase of the war when the 1940 blitz was on "everyone used to go there". We asked if he had ever met Flora SOLOMON (PF 604,692) in the Bentinck Street shelter. He said he had not and repeated that he had only met her relatively recently through his doctor, Dr. HERBERT, who was also Flora's doctor and doctor to the firm of Marks and Spencer. He appeared to be slightly mystified by the direction of these questions so we told him that we believed Flora not infrequently had taken refuge in the Bentinck Street shelter; again he said no, nor could he recall having seen Aileen there.

(Comment:

(i) Flora SOLOMON has told us that she had sometimes slept in the Bentinck Street shelter during raids and had seen there, among others, Richard LLEWELYN DAVIES and Pat. She stressed that she had known LLEWELYN DAVIES quite well at that time and that he was a close friend of PHILBY.

There seemed to be very little common

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ground between the stories of Flora on the one hand and LLEWELYN DAVIES on the other in this regard.

(ii) The 1971 Medical Directory shows a Dr. Emanuel HERBERT of 21 Devonshire Place who among other things is Medical Adviser to Marks and Spencer. BLUNT has mentioned him and has said he is a Russian. He is No Trace.)

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65. We mentioned that during the war Flora's flat in Carrington House, Hertford Street, had been a social centre of a wide cross-section of people; we thought Flora's circle had to some extent at least impinged upon, perhaps overlapped with, the Bentinck Street group. Her soirees had been well-known and we thought he might have some memory of them.

66. Again he shook his head and added: "I wonder if Pat could help you on this?" He did not think he had ever come across Flora at that time or had ever been to her flat but possibly Pat might be able to throw some light on this. We told him that one of the reasons for raising this point was that Flora was for many years a close friend of Kim PHILBY and indeed it had been Flora who had introduced Kim to Aileen.

67. We took him up on his admitted current knowledge of Flora and asked what state of health and strength she was now in. "Vigorous" was his reply. Having said he had last met her in New York, he corrected himself by saying that since that meeting Pat and he had quite recently dined with her at her flat; one of his firm's New York partners who knew Flora well had been there. He confirmed that the dinner had been in Hertford Street.

Michael STRAIGHT (Trinity 1934-37; PF 44,592)

68. LLEWELYN DAVIES said he had known STRAIGHT "hardly at all". Ann, who had been roughly a contemporary of STRAIGHT at Cambridge, had known him well. He supposed he must have met STRAIGHT in Cambridge when he returned there to visit Ann and supposed he could have seen him when he had been in the company of other Apostles. We asked who had fathered STRAIGHT into the Society; he did not know. He pointed out that after going down, an Apostle had nothing to do with the election of new brethren. An Angel might be present at an election of new brethren but if he was he played no part in it; the Society had been very strict that Angels should not be consulted in the matter of elections. The reason for this was that only Brethren (i.e. undergraduate members) had reality; Angels had disappeared from real life.

(Comment: It has not been spelt out to us before that only undergraduate Apostles elected new members. Assuming this to be so an interesting point emerges: LLEWELYN DAVIES has confirmed

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that during the time he was up only he and BURGESS were elected to the Society as undergraduates (vide para 31 above). It follows that these two must have been primarily responsible for electing the next generation of brethren. We did not make this point to him but he did say in the course of the first interview that he could not remember that he himself had fathered anyone into the Society. What makes this situation of interest is that we know at least three of the next generation (STRAIGHT, LONG, ASTBURY) were recruited as spies.)

69. He thought he must have met STRAIGHT at Conversazione Dinners but had no particular memories of having done so.

70. In this context we asked whether Conversazione Dinners had continued during the war and, if so, for how long. He thought about this but was uncertain; he said his impression was that they had not continued but we seemed to think they had and we might be right.

(Comment: We raised the question of wartime Conversazione Dinners in order to probe further the accuracy of the statement made by Grey WALTER considered in para. 48 of the report on the first interview.

A number of sources - including WATSON - have told us that the Dinners lapsed during the war, which accords with LLEWELYN DAVIES's memory. Recently URG has had further confirmation on this point from Matthew HODGART (Pembroke 1935-38/39; PF 703,839) who thinks that after 1939 the Society did not dine again until 1946 when WATSON himself was the organiser. HODGART must be regarded as a fairly authoritative source on this subject as it was he, with Eric HOBSBAWM (King's 1936-39; PF 211,764), who resuscitated the Apostles at Cambridge after the war. Against this, however, the Conversazione Society's Presidents' Book lists Presidents for dinners throughout the war, although we have no positive indication that the dinners themselves took place.

I think Grey WALTER must be confused over this; he may well have been involved in parties during the war which could have included fellow Apostles but that these were probably not associated with Conversazione Dinners. This is to some extent supported by his introduction of the name Deryk CHESTERMAN in this context.)

71. Reminiscing about the Dinners, he recalled that each year they had had a different President. He had not been a

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regular attender but had been invited to be President of the 1951 Dinner. This Dinner had taken place just about the night after BURGESS had defected; in his speech he had had to refer to absent friends but in his reference to Guy he genuinely believed he could not have done anything wrong.

72. This led to a further discussion of BURGESS. In the course of some rather disjointed thoughts, LLEWELYN DAVIES made the point that though many people had come to dislike BURGESS, BLUNT had always defended him. He illustrated what he meant by saying that Victor ROTHSCHILD and he both thought it a mistake to have BURGESS in the Bentinck Street flat and they had made strong representations to Tess to get rid of him "but Anthony defended him to the last". He explained: "that is why it has been so difficult for me to believe Guy was an agent - it would have been such a betrayal of Anthony". Whenever BURGESS had been criticised for his behaviour in Bentinck Street, BLUNT had always come to his defence by saying that underneath Guy was really a marvellous person. "It was because of that Guy stayed."

73. We asked if BURGESS had cultivated any particular members of the Apostles in the early days of his membership. LLEWELYN DAVIES said that since we had made the point at the first interview, that BURGESS had worshipped WATSON, he had thought about this; it would be true to say that BURGESS had taken a great interest in WATSON and he now remembered that BURGESS had said what a marvellous person Alister was.

(Comment: This is in marked contrast to what LLEWELYN DAVIES said about WATSON ("a miserable little man; a weak and ineffective personality") recorded in para 56 of the report on the first interview.)

The End of the Interview

74. LLEWELYN DAVIES accepted a drink but declined our offer of lunch on the grounds of pressure of other commitments. He hoped he had been some help to us; we assured him he had. Reverting to the question of his wife, he confirmed that she would be willing to talk to us - she knew so much more about Bentinck Street and its visitors than he did. We said we appreciated the offer of his wife's help and would very much like to talk to her; would he himself wish to be present? He did not think so: "Pat would be quite happy to come by herself".

75. He then turned to the question of his sister Sean. He thought she would remember much more about Alister WATSON than he did and if we wished he would ask her to talk to us. He added: "My sister is a bit of an odd fish; she lives in Edinburgh alone with a cat - a bit of a recluse - and might be very shy". If we thought she could help he would tell her she should do so. In thanking him we said that if we decided it

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was necessary for us to see her, and she was willing to see us, we would of course go to Edinburgh and not trouble her to come to London. We would let him know.

76. He enquired whether we would wish to see him again; we told him that it was probable that we would; he was quite prepared to have a further talk.

77. He then left. As I walked with him towards his car he said he had to thank us once again "for the way in which we had handled this difficult task".

Conclusion

78. In certain respects this second interview had its surprises.

79. A point on which we were prepared to press LLEWELYN DAVIES hard was the line he maintained at the first interview that he had seen little of WATSON after he himself had come down from Cambridge - although he did start to change his tune towards the end of that interview. In the event we did not have to press him: he accepted our chapter and verse examples which showed we knew he had had continuing, and close, contact with WATSON. In his acceptance of this we thought he showed definite signs of discomfiture but from his point of view the effect of acceptance was to remove our reason to challenge him and to call in question the sincerity of his co-operation. To that extent he succeeded in drawing some the teeth of the brief which formed the basis of the interview.

80. While his original line of having lost touch post-Cambridge with WATSON could perhaps be put down to bad memory after the passing of some thirty-five years, that explanation does not really hold water; from his eventual admissions he clearly knew WATSON far too well to forget - he must have been trying it on. The question is why. It could be argued that as our interest in his association with WATSON stems basically from the latter's story about the meeting with "Otto", his denial of post-Cambridge contact, if successful, would have provided the groundwork for discrediting the whole story. Whether or not LLEWELYN DAVIES was involved, we would expect a denial of knowledge of that occasion; that he has now been forced to admit continuing contact with WATSON at least gives the fact of the meeting greater credibility. At no time was there a firm denial of his involvement in that meeting; it was always a question of having "no memory" of it; the implication of this must be that he does not rule out it could have taken place. At the moment we have no more ammunition to throw at him in this regard - it is a pity WATSON's story is so insubstantial. We can only hope we may learn something more if and when LLEWELYN DAVIES talks about it to BLUNT.

81. Although we were able successfully to demolish his no-contact with WATSON line, we had less hard information and

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(possibly on that account) were less successful in establishing continuing contacts with BURGESS and PHILBY.

82. In the case of BURGESS we were left with a number of unresolved (and possibly important) points relating to what went on at Highpoint. We need to know a lot more about the activities of the occupants of and visitors to that block of flats. It is possible to read some significance into the fact that having denied knowledge (or indeed likelihood) of BURGESS's presence in Highpoint and knowledge of left wing activities there (although some of these, including visits by BURGESS, according to PLAYFAIR took place in the flat LLEWELYN DAVIES shared with him) he asked to be permitted to talk to PLAYFAIR. Having taken the line that he knew of no political activities in Highpoint he could be anxious to know just what PLAYFAIR has told us - particularly in so far as BURGESS, MARR VEVERS and COOKE are concerned. It will be interesting to see what, if any, changes in his account of Highpoint LLEWELYN DAVIES may make when we next see him. In this connection there seem to be cogent reasons for reverting to PLAYFAIR ourselves and for talking to COOKE.

83. In the case of PHILBY we are left with the conflict between what Flora SOLOMON told us and what LLEWELYN DAVIES has said. In the context of her knowledge of and acquaintance with Bentinck Street and its occupants, Flora made the point that during the war she knew LLEWELYN DAVIES and Pat and described LLEWELYN DAVIES as a close friend of PHILBY. LLEWELYN DAVIES himself says he only met Flora a matter of a few years ago; does not remember her in the context of Bentinck Street or its air raid shelter; does not know about her wartime soirees and does not remember PHILBY at Bentinck Street. It is not easy to see why if it is untrue Flora invented her story. She was a long-term and intimate friend of PHILBY and is likely to have known PHILBY's associates pretty well.

84. It was noticeable that whenever there was an opportunity to do so he embarked on what appeared to be prepared set pieces about the ethos and modus operandi of the Apostles. Knowing our interest in the Apostles and knowing he was on safe ground, such expositions provided effective diversions - or at least respites - from matters which he might have found more difficult to talk about. This same tendency was apparent in his account of his 1945 trip to Germany (much compressed in this report) and that of George THOMSON's life in the Blaskett Islands.

85. It is not possible to draw any realistic conclusions from these and other unresolved points which have emerged in the course of the two interviews. We have, however, by keeping up the pressure, but not pressing too hard, kept the door wide open. For his part, LLEWELYN DAVIES, presumably as an earnest of his pledge to co-operate, has told us his wife would be willing to see us and that he would encourage his sister to do so if we wished.

86. We cannot, however, be other than concerned about the number and nature of the unresolved points. The circumstances

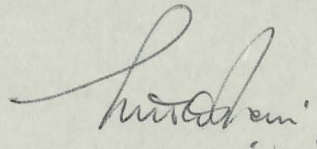
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of his case make it difficult to accept that he was not approached; the second interview, notwithstanding his apparent sincerity and his repeated protestations of a real desire to help, did little - if anything - to lessen this feeling. We have not as yet judged it opportune to make this point to him as it has been more important to lay the groundwork upon which a continuing dialogue might be established - in any case we have a lot more homework to do before we can expect to be able effectively to challenge him on this.

K.3/7



E. W. Pratt

22nd May, 1972

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EXTRACT

Extract for File No.: PF 604,604 Name: LLEWELYN DAVIES
 From file No.: PF 604,582 Supp D Vol: Serial: 585 Date of Despatch: 16.5.72
 Responsible Section: K.7/6 A2 A Reference: XJB/3
 Date of Contents: 11.5.72 A2A Transcriber:
 Extracted on: 19.6.72 by: RC Section: K.3

PETER went on - there was one thing he must tell JB. and that was that they had talked to RICHARD (L.D.) Oh had they, JB. replied (sounding slightly surprised). PETER reported that RICHARD had in effect asked ^{if he could} ~~them~~ to talk to JB. and ^{we said that he might} ~~so he may talk to JB. as well.~~ JB. asked what his line was to be? PETER thought he should not admit anything and just see what RICHARD had to say. They had not told RICHARD that they knew JB. was involved or anything else. The thing that PETER found worrying about the discussion with RICHARD was that - using the old Communist trick of twisting the weapon in order to avoid giving a straight answer, they had questioned him as to whether he was approached by anyone....(inaudible again) .. and he had started to debate as to whether ~~it/had~~ ^{it} was a recognised approach. Did JB. see what he meant? PETER added he was somehow suspicious of people who did that. (Both laughed and spoke at once). PETER then added that one or two other people who he had no doubt were involved used this particular technique. ^{S.B. said he had learnt it from ALISTER.} JB. said he could not remember ^{whether he} ~~had~~ ^{got} any clear idea as to who would have made the approach? ^{ALISTER.} Was it GUY, GEORGE or - PETER broke in to say that what they did know was that ^(RICHARD) ~~was that~~ ^{to}

ALISTER and said that he was the man who took him out in Chester Square.

JB. had forgotten that. It was one of the few things that ALISTER had talked about and ^{S.B. commented that ALISTER had said that S.B. was present at Chester Square.} ~~he continued on this (drowned by noises from s.p.)...~~ PETER ended with observation that it was curious. Very, admitted JB. adding that that was the occasion when ^(ALISTER) he was supposed to have been approached. (Both spoke at once so again inaudible and unintelligible.) PETER reminded JB. that ALISTER had described the ^{house in} ~~route through~~ Chester Square and JB. had said that this was obviously the place. Laughter as they remembered another awful night evening - etc. ~~Think there was mention of ANDREAS (ph) but as they were both laughing and talking at same time this was difficult to make out. There was also some mention of what JB. had commented on this occasion and further laughter as they recalled all this.~~

13.34. JB. went out then to get lunch (?).

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185a.

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K.7/Mr. Cradock

(Separate copies)

You may wish to see my report on the first interview Patrick Stewart and I had with LLEWELYN DAVIES.

K.3/7

E. W. Pratt

28th April, 1972

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28.4.72

