

PF72493

FILE CLOSED /

V1

C A I R N C R O S S

JOHN  
FILE CLOSED

PF72493  
FILE CLOSED /  
V1

TRAY No.

S. 924A Edn. 2

0233

05

SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER

Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date

KV2 / 4 6 78

S. 960 Edn2

PF72493

FILE CLOSED /

V1

- 31.7.39. Ext. from letter from "VICTOR to RAAB ment. CAIRNCROSS. 1y.
- 19.3.42 Extract from file of Alexander Kirkland CAIRNCROSS. 1z
- 1.5.42. From M.1.8. re CAIRNCROSS. 1a
- 2.
- 16.5.42. From C.2. to E.5 re CAIRNCROSS. 2a
- 3.
- 20.5.42. Copy of min. from E.5. to C.2. re CAIRNCROSS. 3a
- 4.
- 26.5.42. S.B. Report re CAIRNCROSS. 4a
- 5.
- From C.2. to E.5 re CAIRNCROSS. 5a
- 6.
- 15.6.42. [redacted] re CAIRNCROSS. 6a
- 7.
- 20.6.42. To E.5. re CAIRNCROSS. 7a
- 8.
- 1.7.42. From C.2. Dy.C re CAIRNCROSS. 8a
- 9.
- 11.7.42. Extract from letter to R.O. Isle of Mann mentioning CAIRNCROSS. 9a
- 10.
- 22.7.42. Extract from letter from R.O. Isle of Mann mentioning CAIRNCROSS. 10a
- 11.
- 8.42. Extract from Letter to R.O. Cambridge mentionin CAIRNCROSS. 11a

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12.

15.8.42. From R.O. Cambridge in reply to 11a re CAIRNCROSS 12a

13

29.8.42. From R.O. Reading re CAIRNCROSS. 13a

14

15.9.42. To M.L.S. in reply to 1a re CAIRNCROSS. 14a

15

23.1.43. Ext. from Particulars of Property Sheet, ment. CAIRNCROSS. 15z.

16

6.6.43. To B.26. re CAIRNCROSS. 16a

17

3.11.47. B.1.a/4826 source report mentioning CAIRNCROSS. 17a

18.

B4c. Major Harold Knight.

*with 9/12/47*

I should be grateful if you would follow up the report at 17a. You may like to glance at the entire papers.

Ch. Lindley

B.1.A.

5.12.47.

19.

9.12.47. B4c report on CAIRNCROSS. 19a  
20.7.50. Extract from telecheck on Alexander James HALPERN ment. CAIRNCROSS. 19b

20.

9.4.51. Vetting enquiry from Min. of Supply. 20a.

16.4.51. Copy of letter to Special Branch, which was not sent, but is filed for information.

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED  
OCT 1951  
FBI - NEW YORK

MINUTE SHEET

Reference FF.72493

21.

~~20.~~  
Please see attached to this file B.l.e.'s summary and assessment in response to the Ministry of Supply vetting application at 20a. The candidate, however, is presently a Principal in the Treasury, who have never been informed about his record. D.B. ~~is~~ considers that the Treasury ought to be consulted before any reply is made to the Ministry of Supply, and that their views ought to govern the form of such reply. I do not know that I think that a great deal of significance ought to be attached to the HARTNER connection, but the reports at 17a and 19a are certainly such as would today demand a close investigation.

B.l.  
21.4.51.

*J.H. Marriott*  
J.H. Marriott.

23

30.4.51. C.3 note of discussion of CAIRNCROSS case with Treasury.

23a

24.

~~B.l.e.~~

*draft*  
Please see note at 23a. I have looked up Miss G.S. OPPENHEIM and she is N.T. I learned today in the Treasury that CAIRNCROSS' transfer to Supply was due to take effect tomorrow. After consulting with B.l.a. Mr. Morton Evans I rang Jagers this evening and told him that we had some records of CAIRNCROSS which we would shortly be sending over, but that we should be putting at the end the opinion that there would be no security objection to his taking the proposed appointment. I suggest that a short version of the vetting summary should be now prepared ending up with the above assessment.

*In the light of 23a I do not think that the reports at 17a and 19a can be regarded as should be described as coming from a reliable source.*

C.3  
30.4.51.

*G.R. Mitchell*  
G.R. Mitchell.

25

1.5.51.

B.1.e/FF note for file.

25a

26

2.5.51.

Vetting summary re John CAIRNCROSS.

26a

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[OVER

27.

8.5.51. Covering letter with B.1.e. summary at 26a re enq. at 20a.

27a.

29.

26.5.51. Letter from Min. of Supply re WILKINSON.

30.

B.1.e.

Please see Min. of Supply letter at 29a. It seems that the statements (a) and (b) therein are confirmed by the contents of this file.

Would you please advise as to a suitable reply.

*A. Knowles*

A. Knowles.

C.1.a.  
4.6.51.

31

C.1.a/A.K. *AK 13/6*

You may care to inform the Ministry of Supply, in reply to 29a, that according to our records CAIRNCROSS served in the Foreign Office from 1936 to 1938, in the Treasury from 1938 to 1940, as Private Secretary to Lord Hankey from 1940 to 1941, and in the Foreign Office from 1941 to 1943.

*F.G. Fletcher*

F.G. Fletcher.

B.1.e.

11 June 1951

32.

29.6.51 Photostat of page from Donald MACLEAN's diary.

32a.

33.

29.6.51 Request for subscriber - John CAIRNCROSS

33a.

MINUTE SHEET

Reference PF. 72493

5.7.51.

Extract from Note "Contacts of MACLEAN" ment. CAIRNCROSS.

33b

-34-

B.2

I think you should take another look at this file.

At serial 32a you will see that MACLEAN noted in his diary that he was to meet CAIRNCROSS at 5.30 on 20th April 1951. That, I suggest, is sufficient to justify us in interviewing CAIRNCROSS about his knowledge of MACLEAN.

It is, however, the earlier serials on the file which interest me more and should, I think be seen again by B.1.e, particularly since after the assessment made at serial 23a, CAIRNCROSS was shown to be in contact with Salomea HALPERN (see 25a).

I suggest that CAIRNCROSS should first be seen by a B.2 officer and questioned about serials 32a and 16a, and reminded of the earlier enquiry about HALPERN, details of which are also recorded at 16a.

*A.S. Martin*

A. S. Martin

B.2.b  
13.7.51

16.7.51

Extract from telecheck on HALPERN mentioning 'John'.

34b

35.

~~B.1.~~

Please see Minute 34, in the light of which you may wish to reconsider the security assessment of CAIRNCROSS. I think we shall in any event want to have him seen by a B.2 officer, but would like your views before this is done.

*J.C. Robertson*

J. C. Robertson.

B.2.  
16.7.51.

36.

~~B.2.~~

*B2a. Action on report (after you have consulted Mr. Mitchell).*

*Jh 20/7*

I doubt if the connection with Salomea HALPERN is particularly significant, but even so I am not very happy about this case and I agree that the security assessment may have to be reconsidered. You will presumably not interview CAIRNCROSS without reference to the Establishment Officer at the Ministry of Supply, and in explaining to the latter your reasons for wishing to interview CAIRNCROSS you will be able to warn him that pending the result of your enquiries CAIRNCROSS should as far as possible be kept off secret work.

*J.H. Marriott*

B.1.  
18.7.51.

J.H. Marriott.

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[OVER

37.

19.7.51. T/C on HALPERN ment. CAIRNCROSS.

37a

38.

23.7.51 T/C on HALPERN mentioning CAIRNCROSS.

38a

23.7.51. Extract from B.2.A Minute to B.2. at serial 115a mentioning CAIRNCROSS.

/'B.

39.

20.8.51

39.

3.8.51 Note by G.3 re arrangements for Interview with CAIRNCROSS on 8.8.51  
18.8.51 Extract from HALPERN t.c. mentioning John CAIRNCROSS  
20.8.51 Extract from HALPERN t.c. mentioning CAIRNCROSS

39

39b

39c

40.

22.8.51 Note by B.2 b - Interview with CAIRNCROSS on 22.8.51

40a

41.

22.8.51 Note by B.2.b ref. serial 40a

41a

23.8.51 Note by B.2.b ref 16a

41b

42.

23.8.51 B.2.a. note re phone number of CAIRNCROSS and information from G.P.O.

42a  
42b

42a

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MINUTE SHEET

Reference .....

43.

*23/8*

B.2. (through B.2.a. Mr. Simkins)

D.B.

D.D.G.

The subject of this file, John CAIRNCROSS, is a civil servant employed by the Ministry of Supply. He served in the Foreign Office from 1936/38, in the Treasury from 1938/40, as Private Secretary to Lord Hankey, from 1940/41, and in the Foreign Office from 1941/43 (at G.C.H.Q.). Thereafter he went to the Treasury and was transferred to the Ministry of Supply this year.

Since 1943 there has been on record the fact that a letter was addressed to him in 1938 from someone who appeared to be attempting to communicate information which seemed to have intelligence value. This letter, which is believed to have been sent from Amsterdam, ended with the greeting "fraternally". The identity of the writer was not known. It was also said that John CAIRNCROSS was known to hold Left Wing views of a fairly advanced nature.

When we obtained the office diary of Donald MACLEAN (PF.604,558), the missing diplomat, it was seen that CAIRNCROSS' name and telephone number appeared in an entry for Friday, 20th April this year. CAIRNCROSS has also come to notice as a friend of Salomea HALPERN (PFR.1620) who is a communist. Accordingly CAIRNCROSS was interviewed at the Ministry of Supply by Mr. Martin on the 21st August. A record of the interview is at 40a. As a result of this interview a course of action was decided upon at 41a, and I am therefore applying for a telephone check on PARK 7941, and an incoming and emanating letter check on CAIRNCROSS at 16 Lansdowne Court, Lansdowne Crescent, London, W.11.

With regard to HENDRY, he is the subject of C.C.307,812, and is now employed by the Control Commission in Vienna. Records of him are being obtained  
As CAIRNCROSS has alleged that HENDRY was the writer of the anonymous letter, a copy of which is filed at 16a, I am asking for a letter check to be imposed on HENDRY's home address, Cartercraigs House, 33 Kennishead Road, Pollokshaws (West), Glasgow, S.3. and on HENDRY at the British Legation in Vienna.

The necessary forms are attached.

*R.T. Reed*  
R.T. Reed.

B.2.a.  
23.8.51

Copy in CC.307,812

44.

23.8.51 Passport papers requested for Mr. and Mrs. CAIRNCROSS

45

23.8.51 To B.5 asking for Food Office particulars of Mrs. CAIRNCROSS

45a

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46.

23.8.51 H. .W. No. 11238 for John CAIRNCROSS  
23.8.51 T.C. No. 1272 on PARK 7941  
23.8.51 To GPO re t.c.

46a  
46b  
46c

48.

24.8.51 To G.P.O. re HOW 11238 on John CAIRNCROSS

48a

49.

24.8.51 Int. letter to CAIRNCROSS from DEIGHTON BELL & CO

49a

24.8.51. Int. letter to CAIRNCROSS (Gaby) from de ABARGA.

50.

25.8.51 Int. letter to CAIRNCROSS - bill for garage rent from DONALD COTTAGE & CO

50a

51.

27.8.51 Passport papers for Mr. and Mrs. CAIRNCROSS

51b

52.

28.8.51 From B.5. with Food Office particulars of Mrs. CAIRNCROSS

52a

53.

28.8.51 Int. letter to CAIRNCROSS from his Bank

53a

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28.8.51  
31.3.51

55.  
Copy of CAIRNCROSS t.c. for 27.8.51  
Extract from CAIRNCROSS t.c. mentioning his two brothers

55  
55

9.51.

56.  
Request for Ppt. Papers for Alexander CAIRNCROSS.

57.

6.9.51.

Passport Papers received for Alexander CAIRNCROSS.

57

59.

13.9.51.

Extract from Telscheck on CAIRNCROSS -o.g. call to HALPERNS.

59a

(1678)W/3941/1032  
1/51 805,000 JC&S  
Ltd. Gp736/209  
(REGIMINT)  
CODE 5-34-0

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[OVER

17.9.51

Note by B.2.b re request for CAIRNCROSS's F.O. File.

60a

61.

Copy in: CC. 307812 - HENDRY.D.B.

I think you have recently seen this file briefly. You asked however for it to be minuted to you in order that you might examine it more closely.

The main features of the case are already summarised in Minute 43.

Since that minute was written an enquiry has been made of [redacted] regarding James Findlay HENDRY, stated by CAIRNCROSS when interviewed by Martin to have been the writer of the inexplicable and suspicious anonymous letter at 16a. HENDRY has been interviewed in Vienna and has supplied a not very satisfactory explanation [redacted] This is being pursued further [redacted] The enquiry in Vienna also produced a statement [redacted] to the effect that, from his own Cambridge days, he remembered CAIRNCROSS to have been a member of the Communist Party in 1934 and 1935. This also is being followed up by further enquiry in Vienna.

The H.O.W. on HENDRY himself has shown that he is now in this country, and we hope shortly to arrange to interview him either in London (since it is possible that he may call officially at the Foreign Office, whose employee he is as a member of the Interpreters Pool in the Legation at Vienna), or at his home address in Glasgow. If the decision is to interview him in Scotland, we shall take advantage of the presence in London of Mr. Mann, who can conveniently be briefed here.

It seems to me that the crux of this case lies in the statement [redacted] that CAIRNCROSS was a member of the Communist Party in 1934/35, and that the case is therefore primarily one to be handled by B.1.e. With your agreement I intend to have it passed to that section as soon as B.2.a. have:-

- (a) Interviewed HENDRY.
- (b) Obtained [redacted] any amplification which may be obtainable [redacted] in Vienna of the statement that CAIRNCROSS was a Communist in his Cambridge days.

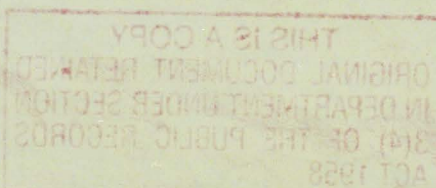
*J. C. Robertson*  
J. C. Robertson.

B.2.  
19.9.51.

19.9.51 Extract from F.O. file for John CAIRNCROSS  
19.9.51 Extract from RALEIGH t.c. mentioning CAIRNCROSS  
21.9.51 To F.O. returning files for CAIRNCROSS  
21.9.51 To G.P.O. suspending CAIRNCROSS t.c.

61b  
61ba

61d  
61e



MINUTE SHEET

Reference.....

P.F. 154,163  
KING.

The 24.9.51 B.2. B.2.a. Cairncross' F.c. file shows him to have been at Trinity, Cambridge as well as Glasgow Univ.  
62. Will you pl. get the answer to X below?

I should be interested to know ~~of~~ the result of the further enquiries

in Vienna. It seems to me that there may be a case of mistaken identity here - the last para. of the Vienna telegram at 51a implies that CAIRNCROSS was at Cambridge but 23a and 40a show that he went to Glasgow University and, so far as I can see, we have no information that he was ever at Cambridge.

X

D.B. D.G. White.  
22.9.51.

24.9.51.

Ext. from Telecheck on MacGIBBON, menti CAIRNCROSS.

62b

65.

30.9.51

Ext. from B.2.a. note mentioning CAIRNCROSS.

65b

(1460)Wey40147/968  
500,000 1/50 C&S  
Ltd Gp736/209  
(REGIMENT)  
CODE 5-340

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[OVER

66a  
67a  
68a  
70a  
72a  
73a

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37

65 B

EXTRACT.

B2A 8/11

Extract for File No.: FF. 72,493 Name: CAIRNCROSS, John.

Original in File No.: FF. 604,558 Supp. B. Serial: 1a Receipt Date: .....

Original from: B.2.A. note. Under Ref.: - Dated: September 1951

Extracted on: 15.11.51. by: EJS Section: B.5.

Extract from B2A note re. property belonging to Donald MACLEAN (missing member of the Foreign Office) which was found at the Foreign Office, mentioning CAIRNCROSS.

.....

An entry in MACLEAN's diary dated 20.4.51 :

"Park 7941 Lansdowne Crescent - J. CAIRNCROSS"

.....

WARNING  
REFER TO APPROPRIATE  
OFFICER BEFORE USING

*Handwritten notes:*  
25 72 n  
H/D/L  
2/11/51

65a.

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**SECRET**  
**EXTRACT.**

626

Extract for File No.: P.F. 72493. Name: CAIRNCROSS.

Original in File No.: P.F. 51559 Supp. Vol. 8. Serial: 655 Receipt Date: 24.9.51.

Original from: T/C on MACGIBBON Under Ref.: T.C. No: 1791. Dated: 22.9.51.

Extracted on: 26.9.51. by: MVB Section: B.2.a.

Extract from T/C on James MacGIBBON mentioning CAIRNCROSS.

.....

*Bronnell (probably)  
has cc.*

4) i/c Sonia rings Jean.

Social talk. They talk about getting translator for a book and Jean says that James thought of a young friend of HALPEN's (HALPERN) - an old man in the Foreign Office and a great linguist, a very wise person - who had been in the Army during the war, and was now in the Foreign Office, about 30 to 35 called John COHEN CROSS (CAIRNCROSS), not the B.B.C. one of a name very liked that.

Sonia says that she knows him, and he was in the Treasury, but she thought he was too **academic** for the book.

(n.t.s.)

.....

*perhaps  
John Keir Cross  
BBC*

*he is the  
bbc one.  
HB*

*June 22/9*

**WARNING**

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OFFICER BEFORE USING.**

*is meant here*

*John Keir Cross  
28*



Copy for \*B.4.B./FILE

61E

Telecommunications Dept., G.P.O., have been asked to take the action specified in connection with the T.C. mentioned below :

Suspend

2179

22.9.51.

14.10.51.

*Handwritten initials*

21.9.51.

B.2.a.

(C. A. G. Simkins)

HP. 72,493.

\*Delete as necessary.

1320/000  
25/9/51

File

61D

TOP SECRET AND PERSONAL.

21st September, 1951.

PF.72493/B.2.b/ASM

Dear

I enclose the personal file for John CAIRNCROSS  
from which I have made extracts.

Yours sincerely,

*AS*  
A.S. Martin

G.A. Carey-Foster Esq., D.F.C., A.F.C.,  
Foreign Office.

Enc.

/NLM

✓  
132A/ML  
25/9/51

61c.

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## EXTRACT.

61BA

Extract for File No. .... PF. 72,493 ..... Name: ..... CAIRNCROSS.

Original in File No. .... PF. 604,583/Supp. .... Serial: 78 ..... Receipt Date: 20.9.51.

Original from: **Telecheck on RALEIGH.** ..... Under Ref.: **Sonning.** ..... Dated: 19.9.51.

Extracted on: 20.9.51 ..... by: EMN ..... Section: B2a.

.....

??  
T.S. 5/21

Incoming call from JOHN CAIRNCROSS to RALEIGH = *Coraway*  
About a finished version (of a play?) he was *REES*  
sending in to ELLIOTT. He said that he was  
rather wondering about the old one whether  
it was sent to ELLIOTT direct or to the firm  
of FABER. RALEIGH spoke of feeling very guilty  
about it (not clear in which way he means)  
He said he rather thought that it was sent  
to the firm and presumably was still with  
FABER. CAIRNCROSS asked if he could possibly  
recover them. RALEIGH would do his best - he  
thought it would be possible - it might take  
about a week. CAIRNCROSS presumed that the  
fact that FABER had just "sat on them" meant  
that they were not interested. RALEIGH imagined  
so. CAIRNCROSS seemed very anxious to get  
them back, chiefly it appears so that ELLIOTT  
could see them.

21.20

132° / 25/9/51

EXTRACT FROM FOREIGN OFFICE FILE FOR JOHN CAIRNCROSS.

616

Education: 1928 - 1930 Hamilton Academy.  
 1930 - 1932 Glasgow University.  
 1932 - 1934 Sorbonne, Paris.  
 1934 - 1936 Trinity College, Cambridge.

Languages: French & German - perfect.  
 Italian )  
 Spanish ) - fluent.  
 Swedish )  
 Russian - being studied.

Father: A.K. Cairncross Esq., Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire, Scotland

Career: 6.10.36 Appointed 3rd Secretary in H.M. Diplomatic Service.  
 28.11.36 Severely reprimanded for having left a cupboard containing Most Secret documents unlocked.  
 25.6.37 Received an adverse annual report.  
 3.1.38 Received further adverse annual report.  
 26.7.38 Transferred to Treasury.  
 24.11.39 Wrote to Foreign Office applying for re-employment  
 1.12.39 Foreign Office replied that his application had been rejected.

B.2.b  
 19.9.51

A.S. Martin

60a

PF.72493 - CAIRNCROSS

Copy CC.307812 - HENDRY

NOTE

I telephoned Mr. Carey-Foster (Foreign Office) this morning and asked him -

- (1) whether I could see the Foreign Office personal file for John CAIRNCROSS, giving him such identification particulars as required;
- (2) whether he could confirm that James Findlay HENDRY, employed as an interpreter at the British Legation in Vienna, was now on leave in Scotland and if so whether he was due to visit London before his return to Austria. I explained that, if he would be available in London, we would wish to interview him.

Carey-Foster promised to provide answers to both questions.

B.2.b  
17.9.51

*A.S. Martin*  
A.S. Martin

*Bob/May  
18957*

**WARNING**REFER TO APPROPRIATE  
OFFICE BEFORE**EXTRACT.**

Extract File No.: PF. 72,493 Name: CAIRNCROSS.  
 Original in File No.: PF. 72,493/Supp. Serial: 15 Receipt Date: 13.9.51.  
 Original from: Telecheck on CAIRNCROSS. Under Ref.: PARK 7941 Dated: 11.9.51.  
 Extracted on: 18.9.51 by: EMN B.2.a.

Outgoing call CAIRNCROSS to FLA 0373 (HALPERN) to SALOME. She said she had been intending to phone him as she wanted to find out how they were getting on. She accepted an invitation to dinner on Friday for herself and ALEX. CAIRNCROSS mentioned that they had invited a Friend as well. SALOME said that they would be along at about 7.15. ALEX came to the phone and asked CAIRNCROSS whether JAMES MacGUINNESS? (does not sound like MacGIBBON) had phoned him. CAIRNCROSS said yes, he phoned him this morning. He had it seems asked ALEX whether CAIRNCROSS "could". ALEX had apparently said that he thought "he could" but did not know whether he would be interested. CAIRNCROSS said that he was quite interested to have been consulted about it and mentioned that (JAMES Mac....) would be sending him the book, he would be having a look at it and see, and, if he did not feel like doing it he would try and get someone else. (They appear to be well acquainted).

N.T.S.

590

58a.

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BOX No. 500,  
PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

REQUEST FOR PASSPORT OR PERMIT PAPERS.

576

PASSPORT AND PERMIT OFFICE,  
DARTMOUTH STREET, S.W.1.

May we please borrow:—LATEST PASSPORT FILE  LATEST PERMIT FILE

(Mark item(s) required.)

for the following:—

OUR FILE No.: HF.72,493/B2a/RTR.

SURNAME: CAIRNCROSS.

CHRISTIAN NAMES: Alexander Kirkland.

PLACE AND DATE  
OF BIRTH: -

PROFESSION: Civil Servant (1940).

ADDRESS: 1940: 76, Warwick Square, S.W.1.

\*PARTICULARS OF

TRAVEL ABROAD: -

\*NUMBER AND DATE  
OF PASSPORT: -

Section.....B.2.a.....

Signature Alan M. Noble  
(For R. T. Reed)

Date.....4.9.51.....

\* Where known.

*Plan  
FO 1110752/49  
which may be  
subsequent to  
11/2/51*

ENCL file  
- 6 SEP 1951  
TO B2A  
REF PF72493

56a -  
57a.

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

EXTRACT.

see 59A 55

Extract for File No.: PF.72,493 Name: CAIRNCROSS.  
 Original in File No.: PF.72,493/Supp. Serial: 6b Receipt Date: 31.8.51.  
 Original from: Telecheck on CAIRNCROSS. Under Ref.: PARK 7941 Dated: 30.8.51.  
 Extracted on: 18.9.51 by: EMN Section: B.2.a.

..... taken DF710205  
 I/c call from Arthur PROPPER (N.T.) to Gaby CAIRNCROSS.

Arthur talked about his young brother who was running a very successful holiday centre for young people. He mentioned the Felixstowe one, which was quite well known. He intended it seems, to launch out on a new campaign next year by taking on Americans. He wished to meet CAIRNCROSS so as to discuss questions to do with accommodation in and around Edinburgh. CAIRNCROSS did not think that he himself would be of much assistance but he might consult one of his two brothers, ALEC or ANDREW.

.....

1320/1986  
25/9/51

**SECRET**

55A

NAME: CAIRNCROSS

T.C. No.: 2179

Tel. No.: PARK 7941

Date: 27.8.51

Responsible Section: B.P.a



28 AUG 1951



Incoming call from Mrs BAER for GABY.  
(CAIRNCROSS answered the phone).  
To ask if she had had news from her mother.  
Yes, she had. She wanted to confirm her  
address - was it still 29, Over? Street.  
GABY suggested sending - writing - to her  
brother because she did not know how long  
they would be staying out there. She gave  
the address - could she send it c/o PETER's  
Music Shop, 1719, ~~MA~~ MASS Avenue, Lexington 73.  
She said that this was 15 miles outside Boston.  
Mrs BAER questioned this shop - she asked if  
he actually had this shop. GABY said no, but  
it still went under that name. He did not live  
at that address but went there every day.  
GABY asked whether she had had any news from  
Paris from her nephew. Mrs BAER said she had  
heard that he was in Cannes at the moment.  
She mentioned that her cousin ARLETTE was with  
her. GABY said she remembered her quite well,  
and, mentioned that she took her out in Paris  
when she was 17. She was about 10 years older  
than GABY.  
20.58

Outgoing call CAIRNCROSS to WES 2247 to a man  
whom he seemed to address as (VITOK??) (has an  
accent - might be French)  
CAIRNCROSS said that he had tried to get them  
about a fortnight ago but failed. (VITOK) explained  
that they were away, he himself was in Ireland,  
and EILEEN was in Brighton.  
CAIRNCROSS asked him how things were. (VITOK)  
thought they were quite hopeful in a few directions.  
CAIRNCROSS invited them to come over on Monday  
evening about 8.30. He gave directions for getting  
there. (VITOK) mentioned that EILEEN was started  
some rehearsals for television.  
22.16

L.E.



J. Cairncross Esq.,

16, Lansdowne Court

Lansdowne Crescent,

W.11.

97174 S

28 AUG 1951

Barclays Bank Limited. 53A

ALL COMMUNICATIONS  
TO BE ADDRESSED TO  
THE MANAGER.

227, Holland Park Avenue, W.11. *Branch*

27th August 19 51

H/MW

J. Cairncross Esq.,  
16, Lansdowne Court,  
Lansdowne Crescent,  
London, W.11.

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 25th instant enclosing a cheque value £370., which has been duly placed to the credit of your account.

We also acknowledge receipt of twelve Units National Savings Certificates, which we shall be pleased to hold on your behalf.

Yours faithfully,

*C. G. Auer*

Manager.

*Presumably the  
money he received  
for his car he  
was selling. M.*

7174 S

27th August 1951

Re:- Gabrielle Susan CAIRNCROSS  
16 Lansdowne Court,  
Lansdowne Crescent, W.11.

52A

National Registration particulars of the above-named woman are:-

N.R.No.                      A.M.A. 9705052  
Born                         23.4.1914  
Nationality                British

Cairncross left the U.K., on 25.4.1950. She returned on 17.1.1951 and re-registered at the National Registration Office on 2.2.1951.

fo.

B.2.A. (Mr R.T. Reed)

nr 148

Your memo., PF. 72493 of 23.8.1951 refers.

*Storrier*

D. Storrier

B.5.  
28.8.1951  
1527

628/13

BOX No. 500,  
PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

REQUEST FOR PASSPORT OR PERMIT PAPERS.

51B

PASSPORT AND PERMIT OFFICE,  
DARTMOUTH STREET, S.W.1.

May we please borrow:—LATEST PASSPORT FILE  LATEST PERMIT FILE

(Mark item(s) required.)

for the following:—

OUR FILE No.: PF. 72493/B2a/RTR

SURNAME: CAIRNCROSS,

CHRISTIAN NAMES: John

PLACE AND DATE

OF BIRTH: Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire 25.7.1913

PROFESSION: Official of Ministry of Supply

ADDRESS: 16 Lansdowne Court, Lansdowne Crescent, W.11.

\*PARTICULARS OF

TRAVEL ABROAD:

\*NUMBER AND DATE

OF PASSPORT:

Section... B.2.a......

Signature..... A.H. Crooks  
B.T. Reed......

Date..... 23.8.51.....

\* Where known.

*Please see  
Fo 1531406/50  
file attached  
sent for  
whole 27/8*

*✓*

*32  
29/8/51*

ENCL 1 file

27 AUG 1951

B2A

REF PF 72493



BOX No. 500,  
PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

REQUEST FOR PASSPORT OR PERMIT PAPERS.

51B

PASSPORT AND PERMIT OFFICE,  
DARTMOUTH STREET, S.W.1.

May we please borrow:—LATEST PASSPORT FILE  LATEST PERMIT FILE

(Mark item(s) required.)

for the following:—

OUR FILE No.: PF. 72493/B2a/RTR

SURNAME: CAIRNCROSS

CHRISTIAN NAMES: Gabrielle Susan nee OPENHEIM

Please see  
FOI 21729/81  
file attached  
W 21

PLACE AND DATE  
OF BIRTH:

ENCL 1 file

27 AUG 1951

PROFESSION: Wife of John CAIRNCROSS

ADDRESS: 16 Lansdowne Court, Lansdowne Crescent, W.11.

TO B2A

REF PF 72493

\*PARTICULARS OF  
TRAVEL ABROAD:

\*NUMBER AND DATE  
OF PASSPORT:

Section.....B.2.a......

Signature.....A.H. Crooks for R.T. Reed......

Date.....23.8.51.....

\* Where known.

51A

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
RETAINED IN DEPARTMENT  
UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF  
THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1968.



J. Cairncross Esq.,  
16, Lansdowne Court,  
Lansdowne Crescent,  
W.11.

50A

PA.  
Cairncross  
M  
2/18

36963 S

B2A

25 AUG 1951

# DONALD COTTAGE & Co.

(DONALD COTTAGE, P.A.S.I. A.A.I)

ESTATE MANAGEMENT  
and INVESTMENT  
SPECIALISTS.

*Chartered Surveyors, Auctioneers, Valuers and Estate Agents.*

*In Account with*

45, ~~xxx~~ SLOANE AVENUE,

LONDON, S.W.3.

Telephone: KEN 3638-9.

J. Cairncross Esq.,  
16, Lansdowne Court,

23rd August, 1951.

1951	Garage No.4, 64, Clarendon Road			
Aug. 21	To quarter's rent,	11	7	6
	" Agreement,	1	1	-
		£12	8	6

With compliments.

3 6963 S

49  
24 AUG 1951

M. & M. de Abancó "El Valle"  
C/8 Comercial  
San Domingo  
Caymaná

Inglaterra



Sra. Grä Gabi Oppenheim de Cairncross  
16 Lansdowne Court  
Lansdowne Crescent  
London W. 11.

2 6956 H

✓  
E. J. H.  
10-11-51

"El Valle"

El Barrial

San Lorenzo - 18-VIII - 1954

Queridísima Gati: Mucho, muchísimo he agradecido tu carta, que por estar en este pueblo veraneando en la finca "El Valle" que es de una muy buena amiga, recibí con retraso el día 15. A Margot se la envié ayer, para que avise y te conteste: por ella supe la muerte de tu padre por el que tenía grandes simpatías, ya que al terminar nuestra guerra escribió una carísimísima carta a Margot invitándola a pasar una temporada a Alemania con ellos y le envió un cajón con cosas deliciosas: son cosas que siempre se recuerdan y agradecen: ¿cómo está tu madre? ¿en donde está? También me dijo te habías casado y no sabes la ilusión que me hace volver a verte y conocer a tu marido.

Esta amiga mía Sr<sup>a</sup> Luisa Fz de Velasco viuda de Drake, me dice que vendrá un día aquí desde Madrid y aquí podéis coger el tren para Santander: lo decís con tiempo para poder conseguir ya que es difícil un permiso especial para ver "Los Preservados" que son habitaciones que por las maderas finas y el trabajo que tienen se enseñan a raras personas y son muy solicitados dichos permisos: venís por la mañana y

podéis ver la Sacristía del Monasterio que solo se ve por las mañanas y lo que se pueda ver del Monasterio etc; almorzáis aquí en 'el Valle' M<sup>o</sup> Divisa que dice os invite y regresais a Madrid, o seguis a Santander; tu con tiempo me lo dices y haremos el itinerario para a ver lo que os conviene hacer.

Mi padre estuvo gravísimo este invierno, los médicos están asombrados de su resistencia. Le dieron dos ataques al corazón en tres días; ha ido a Hazas a veranear con Aris, tiene la mujer de Aris y el hijo de estos que tiene 9 años y es un encanto de chico; ¿te acuerdas de mi sobrina Marisa que vivía con nosotros y no tiene madre? se casó el año pasado y tiene un niño maravilloso que hará un año en octubre y para entonces espera el segundo.

Bueno Gabi, no dejes de contestarme pronto, caso de que no pudieras venir, Madrid de aquí es una hora e irá a verte, pero espero os animeis lo ip acceptis la invitación de M<sup>o</sup> Divisa.

Un saludo a tu marido, recibe un abrazo muy fuerte de  
tu amigo  
M<sup>o</sup> Divisa

(No copy  
class)  
17-11

Translation.

El Valle.

El Escorial.

18.8.51.

Dearest Gabi,

①  
Spanish  
Civil War

Thank you very, very much for your letter. I only received it on the 15th owing to the fact that it had to be forwarded to me here where I am staying with a friend. I sent it on to Margot yesterday so that she can reply to you. Through her I knew of your father's death, I always had a great regard for him ever since he wrote a charming letter to Margot after our war and invited her to visit them in Germany, he also sent a case of delicacies. We shall always remember these kindnesses with gratitude. How is your mother and where is she? I heard of your wedding and you know how delighted I shall be to see you again and make the acquaintance of your husband.

My friend Maria Luisa, Mrs. Drake, tells me to invite you to come and spend a day here from Madrid and you can catch a train to Santander from here. I am telling you in good time as it is difficult to get a permit to see 'Los Reservados' as, owing to the fine wood and work in these rooms they are only shown to a few people and the permits are very much sought after. Come in the morning and see all you can in the Monastery and then come to lunch here at El Valle with Maria Luisa and me. You can then either return to Madrid or go to Santander. Let me know in good time and we will arrange your timetable accordingly.

My father was very ill last winter and all the doctors were astonished at his resistance, he had two heart attacks in three days. He has gone to spend the summer at Hazas with Aris, his wife and little boy of 9, a delightful child. Do you remember my niece, Marisa, who used to live with us and had no mother? She got married last year and has a lovely baby boy who will be a year old in October and is now expecting another.

Well, Gabi, don't forget to reply to this quickly and if you could not come here I will go to Madrid to see you but I very much hope you will decide to accept Maria Luisa's invitation.

Kind regards to your husband and much love to yourself



SECRET

48A

Copy on CC. 307,812

24 August 1951.

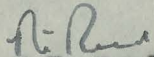
FF. 72493/B2a/RTR

Dear Allan,

I am applying for a letter check on John CAIRNCROSS, a civil servant employed by the Ministry of Supply. CAIRNCROSS is suspected of being a communist and is known to have met Donald MACLEAN in April of this year. Some years ago, a letter couched in rather odd terms and signed in a manner which suggested that the anonymous writer was a communist, was addressed to CAIRNCROSS, and CAIRNCROSS, who has now been interviewed, says that the letter was probably written by a certain James Findlay HENDRY. I am anxious to see all letters addressed to John CAIRNCROSS and in particular any letters which he may receive from abroad. His address is 16 Lansdowne Court, Lansdowne Crescent, London, W.11.

James Findlay HENDRY, whom I am making the subject of another H.O.W., is at present employed by the Control Commission in Vienna, and I should like a letter check to be imposed on him there and on his home address, Cartercraigs House, 33 Kennishead Road, Pollokshaws (West), Glasgow, S.3.

Yours sincerely,

  
R.T. Reed.

Colonel M.F. Allan, M.B.E.,  
G.P.O.



J. Cairncross, Esq.,  
16 Lansdowne Court,  
Lansdowne Crescent,  
London.W.11

*PA.*  
*m 2/8*

**24 AUG 1951**

2 | 6955 H

New, Old & Rare Books  
& Autographs.  
Libraries Purchased.  
Licensed Valuers for Probate.

ESTABLISHED 1700.

OUR REF. FR/GS

J. Cairncross, Esq.,  
16 Lansdowne Court,  
Lansdowne Crescent,  
London. W.11

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 10th inst,  
we wish to state that the only reference we find to an article  
by E.C. Knights in SCRUTINY year 1940 - 1941 is entitled "Prince  
Hamlet" contained in no. 2 Vol. IX (Sept. 1940).

Should this not fit the work required, we request that  
you direct further enquiries to the Editorial Office, Downing College,  
or direct to 6, Chesterton Hall Crescent, Cambridge.

We are only the distributors, the publishers are  
The Editors, chief Editor being Dr. F. R. Leavis. We can say however  
that all issues of SCRUTINY until you reach vol. XV are out of print  
with the exception of three issues of the early years 1933/4.

Yours faithfully,  
Deighton, Bell & Co., Ltd.,

Deighton, Bell & Co., Ltd.  
H. A. WEBB. L. E. SMITH. F. W. WEBB.  
Incorporating Elijah Johnson.  
13, Trinity Street,  
Cambridge.

TEL. 3939. TELEGRAMS: DEIGHTONS, CAMBRIDGE.

August 22nd 1951.

47A

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

SECRET

460

23 August 1951.

PF. 72493/B2a/RTR

Dear Saffery,

I am applying for a telephone check on PARK 7941, the subscriber to which is John CAIRNCROSS, the telephone being installed at 16 Lansdowne Court, Lansdowne Crescent, London, W.11., and I should be grateful if the check could be operated fully.

Yours sincerely,

*R. T. Reed*  
R. T. Reed.

G. F. Saffery, Esq.,  
G.P.O.

SECRET.

1272  
23 August 1951.  
46B

To THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL, and all others whom it may concern :

I hereby authorize and require you to record all telephone conversations on the telephone line number :

PARK 7941

and to produce the record for my inspection.

For so doing this shall be your sufficient Warrant.

*One of His Majesty's  
Principal Secretaries of State.*

John CAIRNCROSS, the subscriber to this number, is an official of the Ministry of Supply and is known to have been a friend of Donald LEAN, the missing diplomat. CAIRNCROSS is believed to be a communist and it is desired to know more about his associates and activities.

FF. 72493/B2a/RTR

SECRET.

46A 11238  
23 August 1951.

To THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL, and all others whom it may concern :

I hereby authorize and require you to detain, open and produce for my inspection all postal packets and telegrams addressed to :— and emanating from: —

John CAIRNCROSS,  
16 Lansdowne Court,  
Lansdowne Crescent,  
LONDON, W.11.

or any name at that or any other address if there is reasonable ground to believe that they are intended for the said

John CAIRNCROSS

and for so doing this shall be your sufficient Warrant.

This man is an official of the Ministry of Supply and is known to have been a friend of Donald MACLEAN, the missing diplomat. CAIRNCROSS is believed to be a communist and it is desired to know more about his associates and activities.

One of His Majesty's  
Principal Secretaries of State.

PP. 72493/B2a/RTR

45A

B.5.

PP.72493

I should be grateful if you could get me the Food Office particulars of: -

Mrs. John CAIRNCROSS, nee Gabrielle Susan OPPENHEIM  
16 Lansdowne Court,  
Lansdowne Crescent,  
LONDON, W.11.

B.2.a.  
23.8.51

*R.T. Reed*  
R.T. Reed.



Copy in CC. 307,812

42A

Note for PF.72493

I confirmed with Mr. Saffery that the telephone number PAR<sup>K</sup> 7941 was still the registered number for John CAIRNCROSS at 16 Lansdowne Court, Lansdowne Crescent, London, W.11.

*R. T. Reed*  
R.T. Reed.

B.2.a.  
23.8.51

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3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 *November 2022*

NOTE

On 22.8.51 I asked Special Branch whether they could trace the original of the anonymous letter addressed to Mr. CAIRNCROSS dated 5.8.38 (See 16a ). Special Branch later informed me that the original of this letter had been sent to this office immediately after it was received by the police. All that Special Branch has on its files is a typewritten copy similar to our own. Since there is no trace of the original in our own records, it must be assumed that it has been destroyed.

Having discussed the matter further with Mr. Marriott I saw [redacted] late in the evening of the same day. He agreed

[redacted] locate J.F. HENDRY and question him on the authorship of the letter. The telegram as finally drafted contained only a short summary of the contents of the anonymous letter, but this [redacted] said was the most he could do

B.2.b  
23.8.51

A.S. Martin  
A.S. Martin

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ACT 1958 JANUARY 2024

41a

NOTE

I discussed the report at 40a with B.1 /Mr. Marriott and B.1.e / Mr. Battersby on 22.8.51. It was agreed that although the case was of equal interest to B.2 and B.1, it should for the moment remain in B.2 for the purposes of identifying the writer of the anonymous letter. Mr. Marriott agreed that the following investigative action should be taken :

- (a) A telephone check should be imposed on CAIRNCROSS;
- (b) A letter check should be imposed on CAIRNCROSS;
- (c) A letter check should be imposed on HENDRY at his address in Glasgow;

B.2.b  
22.8.51

*A.S. Martin*  
A.S. Martin

*B.2.b*  
*22.8.51*

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IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 *September 2023*

NOTE

INTERVIEW WITH Mr. JOHN CAIRNCROSS ON 21.8.51

By arrangement with Mr. Anderson, the Security Officer at the Ministry of Supply, I interviewed John CAIRNCROSS in the presence of Mr. Anderson who introduced me by my own name as a representative of the Security authorities.

I began by explaining that I was making enquiries arising from the disappearance of MACLEAN and BURGESS and that, since I understood that CAIRNCROSS was a friend of MACLEAN's I hoped that he would be able to give me information which might help in piecing together MACLEAN's movements and activities immediately prior to his disappearance. CAIRNCROSS agreed that he had known MACLEAN but said that the friendship was only casual. He explained that he had been a colleague of MACLEAN's at a time which he placed as 1937 or 1938 in the Spanish Section of the Foreign Office. He described him then as being a studious and rather reticent person. He said that he had never discussed politics with MACLEAN but had always regarded him as a discreet and cautious person who, as a diplomat, had schooled himself not to commit himself on such subjects. CAIRNCROSS said that he had met MACLEAN again in Paris in 1939 or 1940 during frequent trips which he then paid to France; at this time he had met also MACLEAN's wife.

During and after the war CAIRNCROSS said that he had lost touch with MACLEAN although he was vaguely aware of his whereabouts. He said that he had met MACLEAN again by chance in about November 1950 at the Traveller's Club of which they were both members. At this point I asked CAIRNCROSS when he had last seen MACLEAN and he said that as far as he could recollect the last occasion would have been in the middle of April 1951. I asked him to explain the circumstances and he described how, having himself married in January 1951, he had given a series of parties in April. To one of these parties he had invited Donald MACLEAN, largely, he said, because he thought he would be interesting since he was intimately concerned with American affairs at the Foreign Office, to an American doctor whom he had also invited. CAIRNCROSS said that he saw very little of MACLEAN at this party since MACLEAN and the American doctor had spent most of the evening in a corner apparently discussing American politics.

I asked CAIRNCROSS whether he had noticed any great change in MACLEAN when he re-met him in 1950. He said that he had not, but in discussing the matter after MACLEAN's disappearance with various friends, he found that most of them had remarked on the astonishing deterioration in MACLEAN's mental abilities. He himself was unable to confirm this which he put down to his own lack of perception.

CAIRNCROSS volunteered that he had also known Guy BURGESS vaguely since about 1937. He had not counted him among his friends and regarded him as a glib talker who was unlikely to have any interests in common with his own.

I thanked CAIRNCROSS for this account and then said that there were one or two matters about himself which I would like to discuss with him. I reminded him that he had been interviewed during the war concerning Victor HAEFNER and since this matter appeared never to have been properly cleared up, I invited him to explain again his association with HAEFNER. CAIRNCROSS said that he had a great friend in Paris named Etien TAMBOURY, a lawyer, whom he visited on one occasion TAMBOURY had told him about HAEFNER who had served in the International Brigade in Spain, but had later joined the Communist Press of being a

Ext to  
K3 sel  
TAMBOURY

Nazi spy. CAIRNCROSS also learnt from TAMBOURY that HAEFNER's presence was unwelcome in practically every European country. TAMBOURY apparently was defending HAEFNER in some legal action, the nature of which CAIRNCROSS claimed not to know. As the result of this legal case TAMBOURY had learnt that HAEFNER claimed to have invented some contraption connected with radar and TAMBOURY passed this information on to CAIRNCROSS in case the British Government wished to hear more about this invention. CAIRNCROSS said that he therefore got in touch with the Air Ministry and was seen by Watson-Watt. Watson-Watt, according to CAIRNCROSS, decided to have HAEFNER brought over to this country. There, as far as CAIRNCROSS was concerned, the matter was closed. However, according to CAIRNCROSS, after the Air Ministry had turned down HAEFNER's invention, HAEFNER began to pester CAIRNCROSS for help. I asked CAIRNCROSS what sort of help HAEFNER wanted - money for instance - but CAIRNCROSS said that HAEFNER made no particular proposal to him but obviously regarded him as a useful ally in helping him to remain in the U.K. CAIRNCROSS said that he became tired of HAEFNER's visits and refused to help him in any way. I asked CAIRNCROSS whether he had ever taken the initiative in visiting HAEFNER, whether he had arranged HAEFNER's accomodation in London and whether he had visited him or attempted to visit him after his interment. CAIRNCROSS gave an emphatic "No" to each of these questions.

CAIRNCROSS added that he had not seen HAEFNER since he was released from interment, nor had he seen TAMBOURY since the war; he thought that TAMBOURY had died.

8. I then passed CAIRNCROSS a copy of the anonymous letter attached to this report and without giving any explanation of how I had acquired it asked him if he could identify the writer. After a very long pause, during which he read the letter with his head buried in his hands, CAIRNCROSS looked up and said he did not know the identity of the writer. He appeared, however, to have no doubts that the letter was intended for him. I later explained how the letter had come into my possession and he then explicitly agreed that he was the intended recipient. I pointed out that the letter implied that it was only one of a series, that the contents were to say the least unusual and that the greeting "fraternally" had inevitably led us to surmise that the writer was a Communist. CAIRNCROSS for some time maintained his attitude of being completely mystified, but then suddenly suggested that the writer might have been a friend now in Vienna whose name he could not remember but who had edited a series of Penguin books.

CAIRNCROSS then looked at the letter again and said that he now thought the writer could not have been this person because he would not have addressed him as "Mr. Cairncross" nor would he have used the phrase "fraternally".

9. After further abortive questioning I asked CAIRNCROSS whether he would care to say what were his present political views. CAIRNCROSS said at once that he had no objection and that the best definition he could give would be that they approximated to those of The Economist. I then asked him whether he had ever in his youth been a Communist or associated with them. He said emphatically that he had not, although he agreed that while at the University his views might have been slightly more to the left than they were now.

When it had become apparent that further questioning was unlikely to be productive CAIRNCROSS left the room having been told that I would continue in my efforts to identify the writer of the letter. I then compared my impressions with those of Mr. Anderson and we both agreed that -

(a) CAIRNCROSS had shown considerable discomforture when confronted with the anonymous letter, and

(b) that he had seemed far from happy when talking t Donald MACLEAN.

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3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 *September 2023*

On leaving Mr. Anderson's office I was at once button-holed by CAIRNCROSS who said he now had some more information he wished to give me. We returned to Mr. Anderson's room and CAIRNCROSS then said that he had remembered the name of the person now in Vienna who might have been the writer of the letter. He gave the name as James F. HENDRY, who had been a student with him at Glasgow University, who had a Slovene wife and who was at the present time an interpreter with the Control Commission in Vienna. I thanked CAIRNCROSS for this information and said I would make the appropriate enquiries. CAIRNCROSS then asked whether he would be informed if these enquiries proved that HENDRY was the writer. I said that I had no doubt that I would be seeing him again and that of course we would discuss this matter further. At this second interview when he gave HENDRY's name CAIRNCROSS seemed suddenly to have gained confidence which he did not show during the earlier session.

On the following day (22.8.51) Mr. Anderson telephoned me to say that CAIRNCROSS had been to see him immediately on arrival at the office to ask whether he might be told the country in which the anonymous letter was posted and also how the envelope was addressed. CAIRNCROSS had explained that he was making this request because it had struck him that if the letter had been posted in a Nazi controlled country the writer might well have omitted his name in case the letter was censored. I asked Mr. Anderson not to reply to these questions until I telephoned him again.

B.2.b  
22.8.51

*A.S. Martin*  
A.S. Martin

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3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 November 2022

5th August, 1938.

Dear Mr. CAIRNCROSS,

I have just heard the following piece of news which I think quite important:

A highly placed Italian visitor making an auto-tour of inspection through Germany. One of Himmler's Chiefs of Staff is in charge of the tour. Himmler's Staff Officer found dead, either in the car or in hotel at Frankfurt am Main.

Every effort being made to keep matter secret.

As far as I know the Italian visitor is missing and the intelligence and Gestapo are working at the top speed to solve the problem.

Supposed cause of death: poison.

I have had no chance of exactly proving this news but taking into consideration from where I obtained the information I have every reason for believing its authenticity.

I want to get this off quick and so will write you again later regarding things generally. Fraternally.



## EXTRACT.

39c

Extract for File No.: PF 72493 Name: CAIRNCROSS  
 Original in File No.: PF. R. 1620/Supp. Serial: 74 Receipt Date: 20.8.51.  
 Original from: Telecheck on HALPERN, Under Ref: Line 1875 Dated: "  
Communist sympathiser.  
 Extracted on: 22.8.51 by: EMN Section: B.2.A.

- 1) o/g To GER. 6933. Mrs. HALPERN asks for CAIRNCROSS - operator asks for his extension . HALPERN does not know it. She is put on to enquiries. The extension is 680. She is put through. CAIRNCROSS is out of his office. HALPERN asks distant to ask CAIRNCROSS to telephone her before 5.30. p.m. 16.05.
- 2) i/c CAIRNCROSS asks HALPERN how things are. HALPERN says apart from politics all is well. Distant remarks that politics " will be perpetually bad, I imagine". HALPERN thinks things will be worse in the near future. HALPERN asks if CAIRNCROSS can come tomorrow. Unfortunately ne - they are doing their " after marriage rounds" and cannot put these particular people off again. CAIRNCROSS hopes to see the HALPERNS next week. ( HALPERN rather off-hand.) 16.50.

## EXTRACT.

39B

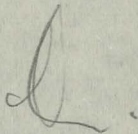
Extract for File No.: PF. 72,493 Name: John CAIRNCROSS.  
 Original in File No.: PF. R. 1620/Supp. Serial: 73 Receipt Date: 18.8.51  
 Original from: Telecheck on HALPERN. Under Ref.: Dated: "  
 Extracted on: 24.8.51 by: EMN Section: B.2.a.

- 1) o/g To PAR. 7941. Mrs. HALPERN accuses John of having completely forgotten her. SALOMEA thought distant and Gaby must have gone away. SALOMEA has friends from Paris staying with her. She wants distant to come and spend the evening on Tuesday. Distant is engaged all this week. His sister-in-law - the wife of his brother Alex - is coming on Wednesday. SALOMEA would like distant to meet the Boris SCHLESSERS (phon) of whom he has heard from her, and has possibly read about him. SALOMEA would like her friend to meet "an Englishman like you". Distant was in Salisbury all day yesterday. Distant says they were going to meet some of Gaby's friends that he has not yet met. If these people can be put off he would like to come to come to the HALPERNS on Tuesday. He will consult Gaby and will communicate with SALOMEA. distant will be less busy after next week - the rush of work will be over. SALOMEA says they are going to spend their leave at home. She asks distant if they have found somewhere to live. No. they are going to look at something today. Distant asks if the HALPERNS are going to be forced to leave their house. SALOMEA says yes, unless things change within the next few months. ( Conversation in French.)

Mr. Reed to see please, before p.a. in

PF.72,493 (CAIRNCROSS).

Wm PA.  
2/18



39a

B.2.c. Mr. Martin.

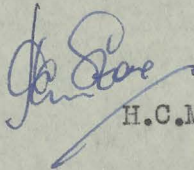
John CAIRNCROSS.

I have arranged for your interview with CAIRNCROSS at the Ministry of Supply, Shell Mex House, on Wednesday next 8th August.

CAIRNCROSS will be told to call on Mr. R. Anderson (John Jagers' successor) in his room at 3 p.m. on that afternoon. He will, of course, not be given any idea of the reason for the invitation.

Anderson is most anxious that you should be present in his room before CAIRNCROSS arrives!

If there is any alteration to this arrangement I will let you know.



H.C.M. Stone.

C.3.  
3.8.51.

p.a. for PF 72,493. B2A. 10/11/51.

CUA by B2A 24/2

38B

Extract from B.2.A. minute to B.2. at serial 115a in P.F.R. 1620 mentioning CAIRNCROSS.

I think D.B. will find serial 79a in HALPERN's P.F. of some value as providing a useful background to HALPERN and his wife, Salomea's views and associates. You will see that Salomea is wildly pro-communist and certainly knew Guy BURGESS very well. They appear to have met through the Countess BUDBERG and may well indeed have met at some party at the latter's place.

Paragraph 6 of 79a also mentions John CAIRNCROSS, the subject of PF 72,493 about whom HALPERN may be able to give us some useful information.

(+ A.S.M. does not think this would be wise).  
R.T.R.

.....

B.2.A.  
23.7.51.

R.T. Reed.

CRS  
6/3/53

FR. KF. 72493 (Cairncross)

B2b/1/50m to see

Line 1875.

**SECRET**

(Original in FR. 1620/Supp, 50)

SECRET.

Flaxman 0373.

39, Chelsea Park Gardens.

23.7.51..

- 1) o/g Exchange and number not recorded. SALOMEA asks John (? CAIRNCROSS ) if he and "Gaby" can come to her place on Wednesday "at drink time". John says they will be delighted - they will be there at 6.30.p.m. 10.43. (Distant must be on an extension - operator says "you are through").
- 2)
- 3) i/c "Niuta" asks SALOMEA what she is doing. SALOMEA tells distant about VIRUBOV's departure, says MELIKOVA is still with her and adds that she has just received a letter from Milita RAFALOVICH asking if she can come and stay in 10 days time, but does not say for how long. SALOMEA has told the SCHLETTERS (phon) that they can come and stay in August. They have not let her know when they are coming. SALOMEA appears to be getting a domestic servant from abroad. She hopes to have her by September. SALOMEA is worried about MELIKOVA, Moura and Liza (? MONTGOMERY ). SALOMEA tells distant that the McGIBBONS, the CAIRNCROSS and a Mr. CLARK (phon) of Chicago are coming to her for drinks on Wednesday. CLARK is an Englishman. She adds that it will be a very dull party. Distant asks SALOMEA if she had heard that Tamara CRICK (phon) had died. Distant returned from the country only yesterday. She may go to Italy some time in August. Her friends are returning to America from Italy in September. HALPERN suggests distant should go and stay with Douglas at "Aix". Distant will dine with the HALPERNS on Friday. (SALOMEA was telephoning from her bed - HALPERN was on the extension.) 21.37.
- 4)

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UR/B2  
1-8-51

VA. VF. 72493 (Cairncross)  
(Original in: PR1620/Supp. Serials)  
Line 4875.

B2b/ASU to

37A

**SECRET**

SECRET.

Flaxman 0373.

39, Chelsea Park Gardens.

19.7.51

A. HALPERN.

R.09.

- 1) o/g To PAR. 6554. HALPERN tells "Niuta" that he telephoned her at her office yesterday and was told that she was not well and had gone home. Distant asks how MELIKOVA is and how long she is remaining. Until the end of next week. SALOMEA then comes to the telephone. In course of conversation SALOMEA tells distant that "my John CAIRNCROSS of whom and from whom I had not heard for about 3 months suddenly descended on my head - he will telephone me Monday. He said they were returning to town and we will arrange for them to come". SALOMEA wants "Niuta" to come and see her and says "we will arrange for you not to be there at the same time as they (the CAIRNCROSS's)". "Niuta" says she does not mind meeting them. SALOMEA says it would be too many if they all came at the same time. "I thought perhaps he was going to live at your place - that he and his wife had been divorced - (both laugh) - everything is possible!" They ring off.

9.14.

R.10.

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ACT 1958 NOVEMBER 2022

UR/B...  
1-8-51

B.2.b. Mr. Martin.

## EXTRACT.

34b

RJM  
20.7.51

Extract for File No.: PF. 72493. Name: CAIRNGROSS.  
 Original in File No.: PF. 1620. Supp. Serial: 47. Receipt Date: .....  
 Original from: Telecheck on HALPERN. Under Ref.: ..... Dated: 16.7.51.  
 Extracted on: 19.7.51. by: P. B.C. Section: B.2.a

- 2) i/c John TURNGROSS (phon) tells SALOMEA that they "locked in" at SALOMEA's house the other evening but she was out. SALOMEA says she has just heard from Raymond from Paris who gave her news of distant - said distant was well, had changed his minister, that he had gone to Edgware. Raymond had also given SALOMEA distant's Edgware telephone and told her of his new place of work. Distant says they will return to town in a few days time. They agree that "John" will telephone SALOMEA next Monday and they will arrange to meet. SALOMEA asks how "Gaby" is. She is well and working temporarily in an Art Gallery. 15.11.

Raymond Pearce?  
see Vol. 10

B2b/MNY  
19.7.51



33B

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No. P.F. 72493 Name: CAIRNCROSS  
 Original in File No. P.F. 604558 - CURZON Serial: 296c Receipt Date: -  
 Original from: B.2./JCR Under Ref.: - Dated: 5.7.51.  
 Extracted on: 30.7.51. by: VB Section: B2a/AFB

CONTACTS OF MACLEAN.Note of Further Action to be taken.

It is recognized that the existing lists of contacts of BURGESS and MACLEAN are by no means comprehensive. For this reason one of the principal matters to be decided is that of the further measures (including interrogation) which have now to be taken, in order in due course to obtain as complete information as possible about the whole range of the significant contacts of both men.

\*\*\*\*\*

CAIRNCROSS, John. (PP.72493).

MACLEAN's office diary contains CAIRNCROSS's telephone number and name, referring to an appointment at 5.30 on 20.4.51. *see 32a*

CAIRNCROSS is a Ministry of Supply employee, formerly Treasury, and is known to have had left-wing views. Recently vetted, Ministry of Supply decision in May 1951 being to proceed with his employment. *UP/502 1-8-51*

File appears unsatisfactory, and connection with MACLEAN is being brought to early attention of B.1 by B.2.b.

Register No.

Minute Sheet No.

33a

Date: 29.6.51.

Number: PARK 7941

Section: B. 2. b. /NH

Reference:

Subscriber:

L6 reg 3/7  
JOHN CAIRNCROSS  
16 LANSDOWNE COURT  
LANSDOWNE CRESCENT  
W11.

S. Form 312.

32a

APRIL

THURSDAY 19

? Lees. 6:30

H. or. Theodori

*[Handwritten scribbles]*

FRIDAY 20

H

Park 7941

Leedsme Crescent

*[Handwritten scribble]*

J Carrington

5:30 Concord House  
State N Parsells

Went Ma

SATURDAY 21

SUNDAY 22

~~32a~~

14. June 1951.

FF. 72,493/C1A/SH.

Dear J

John CAIRNCROSS.

With regard to your letter B.M. 1618 of 25th May, our records show that CAIRNCROSS served in the Foreign Office from 1936 to 1938 ; in the Treasury from 1938 to 1940; as Private Secretary to Lord Hankey from 1940 to 1941, and in the Foreign Office from 1941 to 1943.

Remarks: He was also employed at GCS at Woodley Park in 1942.

Yours sincerely,

*Ak*

A. Knowles.

J.A. Jagers, Esq.,  
Ministry of Supply, See 13a  
Shell Mex House,  
London, W.C.2.

RRB  
15/6

~~Sumner~~  
~~10/6/51~~  
C.M.  
15/6/51

L.H. 158

SECRET AND PERSONAL

Telegrams : SPLYMIN, WIRE, LONDON.

Tel. No. : GERrard 6933.

Extn. 759

MINISTRY OF SUPPLY



SHELL MEX HOUSE,  
STRAND,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

Our Ref. EM.1618

Your Ref. ....

ENCL

*all 2/16*  
*Ent.* 26 MAY 1951

25th May, 1951.

*29a*  
*Recd. BIE. 6/6 pf.*

TO CIA.

Dear Knowles,

REF. PF. 72,453.

*BIE 23/5*

I have discussed your report PF.72,493/C.l.a of 8th May with Wilkinson. After careful consideration, it has been decided to proceed with the transfer of this officer to the Ministry of Supply.

Wilkinson has the impression that when interviewing this man he was told :

- (a) that he had served for two years in the Foreign Office from 1936;
- (b) that he had been employed on security work during the war years.

If this can be checked without any great difficulty from your records, I would be most grateful for confirmation.

Yours sincerely,

*See 13a. Encl.*

*C.C.C.S.*

*Bletchley K.*

*M 1942*

*(John. Jagers)*

A. Knowles, Esq.,  
Box 500,  
Parliament Street,  
S.W.1.

*CIA/BH*  
*2/6/51*  
*14/6/51*

SECRET AND PERSONAL

28a

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
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THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958.

"v"

SECRET AND PERSONAL

*Ha*

PF. 72,493/C. 1. a.

8 May, 1951.

Dear McFadden,

*W.S. q/s*

John CAIRNCROSS.

Reference your enquiry 09967, we attach a summary of our information on the above-named.

Will you please notify us of your decision as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

*P. A.K.*

A. Knowles.

J.S. McFadden, Esq.,  
Ministry of Supply,  
Shell Mex House,  
London, W.C. 2.

Encl: 2.

SECRET AND PERSONAL

*Summ  
12/6/51  
CIA/ST  
8/15/51*

26a

PP-72493

db SL. 20 B  
Institute for

John CAIRNCROSS

CAIRNCROSS came to notice from 1937 to 1939 during which time he was on friendly terms with a German named Haefner, sponsoring his visit to this country in the latter year. Haefner, in addition to having a criminal record, appears to have engaged in espionage on behalf of various Governments from 1923 onwards, but it is not possible to say what political views he held at the time of his association with CAIRNCROSS.

CAIRNCROSS next came to notice in 1947, when he was reported by a delicate source of unknown reliability to belong to a group of near Communists, and to hold left-wing views of a fairly advanced nature. He has not come to notice since that date, and there is no evidence which would suggest that he was ever an actual member of the Communist Party. On the other hand, in a recent report about him by a reliable source he is described as a very good public servant whose discretion can be relied on.

It is not considered that there would be any objection on security grounds to his taking the proposed appointment.

RMS  
7/5

BIE/PP.  
2/5/51

Sublime  
- the  
J. H. H. H.  
BIE/PP.  
2-5-51



25a

PF. 72493 - John CAIRNCROSS

Note for file

Reference 19b, Salomea HALPERN, the wife of Alexander James HALPERN (PFR.1620), is a woman of Russian birth, with pro-Soviet sympathies.

*F. G. Fletcher*

F.G. Fletcher.

B.1.e.

1 May 1951

*supe  
K/ans*

BIE/EVW  
1.5.51

Hist/1 c/d

23a

I today saw Mr.R.C.Griffiths, the Establishment Officer in the Treasury, about the case of CAIRNCROSS, explaining that we had records of him which we had never yet told the Treasury about and saying that we now wanted to consult the Treasury before replying to the Ministry of Supply vet. I told Griffiths in general terms what we had against CAIRNCROSS.

why  
was?

Griffiths said that CAIRNCROSS was one of five brothers of humble Scottish origin. He had been educated at Glasgow University and had had a brilliant academic record, especially in modern languages. He entered the Civil Service in 1936, having come out top in the Civil Service examination. He was posted to the Foreign Office. He did not very well suit the Foreign Office because of his slightly unkempt appearance and the fact that he was not quite the type the Foreign Office needs for "representation". In 1938 he came to the Treasury and has been there ever since. He has been a Principal since 1942. Despite his intellectual gifts, CAIRNCROSS has not quite made the grade in the Treasury. I gathered that his manner was sometimes a little tactless and that in some liaison work with the Services which he did in the war he somewhat antagonised his opposite numbers. The Treasury nevertheless wish him extremely well and hope that in his new post in the Ministry of Supply it will soon be found possible to promote him.

Griffiths said that CAIRNCROSS was a very nice man indeed and this opinion was later echoed by Jupe. He is of a social disposition, taking great pleasure in intercourse with his fellows and always very friendly and kind to newcomers. (This trait seems significant for his relations with the HAEFNERs). He takes a prominent part in the Treasury Dramatic Society in which he acts not very well but intelligently. He is apt to express strong opinions on every sort of topic, but is believed to have no special interest in politics. He has many interests and, according to both Griffiths and Jupe, might well have some very queer friends since he is interested in all sorts of people. It would not be surprising if left-wingers were numbered among his friends. His discretion, however, can be relied on and he is regarded as "a very good public servant".

On 26.1.51. CAIRNCROSS married Gabrielle Suzanne OPPENHEIM who was previously British by naturalisation and presumably a German Jewess before that.

G.R. Mitchell

Janner  
re/oh

C.3.  
30.4.51.

G.R.Mitchell.

Griffiths left it open to us what to say to the Ministry of Supply, merely expressing the hope that the arrangement of transferring CAIRNCROSS would not fall through. He does not think that CAIRNCROSS constitutes a security risk - an opinion which I share.

curr  
1.51

22a

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
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THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958

20 B

Hcst/old

Not sent.This copy is filed for information.  
B.1.e/evwu/25 April 1951.

FF.72493/E.1.c/FF.

Commander,  
Special BranchJohn CAIRNCROSS16 Lansdowne Court, Lansdowne Crescent, W.11.  
Born: 25.7.1913, at Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire.

The above is employed as a Principal in the Treasury, and he is the subject of a vetting enquiry from the Ministry of Supply. His wife, formerly Gabrielle Susan OPPENHEIM, is a naturalised British subject.

We have the following record of CAIRNCROSS. During 1937, whilst employed at the Foreign Office, CAIRNCROSS received a communication from a German named Victor Hermann Haefner, who was then in Spain, asking him to intervene with a view to causing arms to be supplied to the Republicans in Spain. Haefner will be known to you, and your reference is 79/H/2201. Early in 1939 CAIRNCROSS sponsored Haefner's journey to England, and was on friendly terms with him and his wife until the internment of the Haefners as enemy aliens on the outbreak of war. In addition to having a criminal record, Haefner was in 1923 convicted in Germany of espionage on behalf of France. About 1937, when in the service of the Republican Government of Spain, he was expelled from France on suspicion of espionage on behalf of General Franco. It is not possible to say what political views were held by Haefner at that time, but in 1945 he was considered to be decidedly anti-British. During that year he applied for a job on the Control Commission. He has not come to notice since.

CAIRNCROSS was aware of Haefner's criminal background, and of the unsavoury reputation which he enjoyed on the Continent; it is therefore surprising that he should not only have arranged his journey to England, but should also have actively befriended Haefner and his wife after their arrival.

CAIRNCROSS next came to notice in 1947, when he was reported by a reliable and delicate source to belong to a group of near Communists, and to hold left-wing views of a fairly advanced nature. This group included Andrew Cowan, who was employed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in this country. CAIRNCROSS has not come to notice since that date, and there is no evidence which would suggest that he was ever an actual member of the Communist Party.

In view of the fact that CAIRNCROSS is the subject of a current vetting enquiry and is already employed in a position where he may have access to secret information, I should be most grateful if you would have some discreet enquiries made about him, as a matter of urgency. I am, of course, anxious that neither he nor his Department should become aware that he is the subject of investigation.

ff.

F.G. Fletcher.

16 April 1951  
FF/evwu.BIE/evwu  
25.4.51

MINISTRY OF SUPPLY

ENCL

CONFIDENTIAL

29 APR 1951

Candidate for employment: Nationality.

to CIA/BIC

Ref. No:

200

Surname: (BLOCK Letters) <u>CAIRNCROSS</u>	Full Christian Names: <u>JOHN</u>	
Surname at birth (if different)	Date of birth: <u>25th July 1913</u>	Place of birth: <u>Lesmahagow Lanarkshire</u>
Nationality at birth: <u>British</u>	Nationality at present: (if different)	

Full Name of:-	Place of birth:	Nationalty at birth:
Father: Alexander Kirkland CAIRNCROSS	Lesmahagow	British
Mother (Maiden Name): Not Known	Neilston	
Husband:	Renfrewshire	British
(Maiden Name): Gabrielle Susan Oppenheim	<u>British subject by naturalization</u>	

If applicant or parents naturalised, state number, date and name in which certificate granted.

Permanent (home) address, (since ..... ) <u>16. Lansdowne Court, Lansdowne Crescent, W.11.</u>	Present (temporary) address, (since ..... )
---	---

National Regn. No. <u>Not Known</u>	Aliens Regn. No.
-------------------------------------	------------------

Particulars of proposed employment or duty: <u>Principal</u>	Where to be employed: <u>H.Q. Ministry of Supply</u>
--	--

Particulars of employment during last three years with dates:  
  
Employed as a Prihicipal in the Treasury.

Technical qualifications and special experience:

Whether attempts to secure other applicants have failed.

Establishment	Date	Signature:
---------------	------	------------

FOR USE AT HEADQUARTERS:  
  
S. Form 233.  
  
CIA/BIC  
11/1/51

79A

The HALPERN Case.

The investigation of Alexander HALPERN has produced a certain amount of information about his wife, SALOMEA, but very little about HALPERN himself. SALOMEA seems to be on affectionate terms with her husband. (See the telegram of reassurance about her health which she sent to him on 8th July 1950 (Supp. Vol. 4a).

There are a number of calls to and from acquaintances in Paris whom we have been unable to identify, and a large number of social calls from SALOMEA to her friends, many of whom are Russian emigres. None of the calls appear to have any significance from a security point of view. Her principal friends appear to be Marie, Countess BUDBERG, and Vera TRAILL.

Marie BUDBERG (PFR. 3736) is wellknown to us and is once more the subject of a current investigation through her connection with James MacGIBBON. She has since 1920 frequently been reported to be connected with Soviet Intelligence. She was involved with Bruce LOCKHART in Russia in 1920. She then became secretary to Maxim GORKI. She came to the U.K. in the 1930's to work as a literary agent and is now employed by Sir Alexander KORDA. She has a very wide circle of acquaintances and has been the subject of investigation in the past without any conclusive result.

Vera TRAILL (RL. 3/434) is of Russian parentage. She was married to Robert TRAILL, a British communist who was killed in the Spanish Civil War. She was reported to be an active member of the French Communist Party and to have been an associate of the sister of Roland ABBATE who was implicated in the assassination of Ignace REISS. She appears to have visited Moscow in 1937. She was in touch with POLLITT in 1946. In 1947 she was reported by the Surete to have worked with two Soviet agents in Paris and to have been employed on a Comintern mission in March 1948. She appears to be a communist sympathiser of the same type as Salomea HALPERN, but acted as an interpreter for KRAVCHENKO during his lawsuit in Paris.

SALOMEA seems to hold pro-Russian views. She has had numerous conversations with Vera TRAILL who appears to share her opinions relating to the Peace Congress and the visit to the U.K. of Ilya EHRENBURG. Her views on the Korean war are in accordance with the communist party line (Supp. Vol. 15a) and she appears to have little sympathy with England (Supp. Vol. 19). She attended the meeting in Trafalgar Square, insisted on signing the Peace Petition and greeted EHRENBURG. Since then she has met EHRENBURG on more than one occasion, has been shopping with him and entertained him to lunch. She even went to considerable trouble to try and purchase a sealyham puppy for EHRENBURG to take back to Russia with him. There is no evidence of connections with officials of the British communist party, of participation in party activities, or of membership of the party.

She appears to have two connections in official positions. One is a certain "Guy", who is probably Guy BURGESS of the Foreign Office who has come to notice through his acquaintance with Marie BUDBERG. Another is a certain John KERR, CAIRN or CROSS at the Treasury, whom we have not yet identified.

Alexander HALPERN has not voiced political opinions similar to those of his wife. Many of his calls relate to the conduct of his business, e.g. calls from Paris dealing with litigation (See Supp. Vol. 8a and 19). When asked if he had attended the meeting in Trafalgar Square to which his wife went, he replied rather curtly that he had not, and he does not appear to share his wife's passionate interest in Ilya EHRENBURG. He was probably not present when she entertained him to lunch.

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ACT 1958

van den Heuvel ?

\* Not now identified as probably J. Cairncross

/Apart from Vera TRAILL

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3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 OCTober 2023

Apart from Vera TRAILL and BUDBERG the only friends of the HALPERNs who have any significant traces are Felix TOPOLSKI (RL.451/506), the wellknown artist, about whom there is one Special Branch report referring to communist sympathies and who had at one time a mistress, Marian EVERALL, who was reported to be an ardent communist; and a certain Prince Mikhail Alexandrovich SOUMBATOV (PER.4370) a Russian emigre who has come under very vague suspicion at various times but concerning whom there are no really adverse records. A certain RIVLIN (PF.132491) made an appointment to see HALPERN, but there are no real grounds at present for regarding either RIVLIN himself or his contact with HALPERN with suspicion.

Conclusion:

Mrs. HALPERN appears to be an emotional, intellectually callow, Russian sympathiser, but in view of the unguarded way in which she indulges in foolish feminine chatter about her political opinions, I think it unlikely that she is really a dangerous woman. There is no positive evidence to show that her husband holds similar views.

B.2.a  
10.8.50

*D. H. Whyte*  
D.H. Whyte.



EXTRACT

198

Extract for File No.: PF.72493 Name: John CAIRNCROSS

Original in File No.: P.F.R. 1620/Supp. Serial: 13a Receipt Date: 20

Original from: Telecheck on FLA 0375 Under Ref: Line 1875 Dated: 20

Extracted on: 30 April 1951 by: EVWL Section: B.1.a.

20/7/50 U

3. o/g call to WHI 1234 (Treasury). SAL (Salomea HALPERN) rings John CAIRN (?KERR) CROSS(?), (speaks excellent French). They arrange that JOHN should take PERTCHA tonight to the film show of the Italian Institute given at a little cinema in Charing Cross Road.

.....

Note for PFR.1620/Supp.

Reference 13a, call 3.

The Treasury telephone directory shows a J. CAIRNCROSS employed as Principal in the Defence (Materiel) Department at the Treas.

B.2.a.  
11 August 1950

(Sgd.) D. H. WHYTE.

BIE/E  
130

19a

Mr. Simkins, B.l.a.

With reference to CAIRNCROSS, all that can be ascertained at the moment is that this man definitely holds Left Wing views of a fairly advanced nature. He is closely associated with Andrew COWAN, who is undoubtedly a "fellow traveller." COWAN is the head of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in this country.

PF 72,492

B.4.c.  
9th December 1947

*Maxwell Knight*

Maxwell Knight  
Major

*12/21/47*

HUST/1190

3a

17a

According to B.1.A/4826 dated 3.11.47., John CAIRNCROSS, who was originally in the Foreign Office and is now in the Treasury, is a member of a group of near communists, including Andrew COWAN of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, George WEILENFELDT of Contact Books Ltd. and [Charles and Peter GIMPELL] who have a picture gallery in Grosvenor Square. PF. 715767

Note.

The 1947 Imperial Calendar shows J. CAIRNCROSS as a Principal at the Treasury.

We appear to have no previous record of the other people mentioned.

B.4.C. have been asked to get this report amplified.

Original report at 2a in PF 72,492 COWAN.

Alh  
Stewart  
22/1/47

16a.  
~~345A~~

PF 47562/C.S.

6 June, 1945.

John CAINECROSS.

In February, 1939, John CAINECROSS, then employed by the Treasury, sponsored the journey to this country of Victor Herman HANFNER, subject of

The purpose of HANFNER's visit was to demonstrate an invention to the Air Ministry which proved valueless. As he was persona non grata in practically every European country owing to his alleged espionage activities, he managed to hang on in England on various pretexts until he was interned in September, 1939. He was afterwards sent to Canada where he remains in internment. His wife Risa HANFNER had come to the notice of the French Deuxieme Bureau on her own account as a probable spy and she is also interned in the Isle of Man. The evidence against her is somewhat flimsy.

CAINECROSS explained his connection with the HANFNERS as follows. He stated he was a personal friend of Etienne TAMBOURI, a French lawyer in Paris, and frequently heard of the HANFNERS in letters he received from TAMBOURI. From the correspondence he had with his friend, CAINECROSS gathered that TAMBOURI was friendly with HANFNER and his wife but inclined to be suspicious of their activities and intentions.

During 1937 whilst he was employed at the Foreign Office, CAINECROSS received a communication from HANFNER who was then in Spain, asking him to intervene with a view to causing arms to be supplied to the Republicans. CAINECROSS, of course, was not in a position to do anything to help, even if he had been inclined to do so, and he ignored the letter. Early in 1939, CAINECROSS received a further communication from HANFNER in which the latter said that he was in fear of expulsion from Holland and mentioning that he was in possession of a remarkable invention relating to radio-location. As far as expulsion from Holland was concerned Mr. CAINECROSS knew he was

*Handwritten initials and scribbles*

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100  
unable to help but he did mention the so called invention to Mr. [redacted] WATTS who was in charge of radio location at the Air Ministry. WATTS and his wife came to this country in February, 1939 and were seen by [redacted] WATTS-WATTS, the invention was investigated but found to be useless. Upon arrival in this country, WATTS and his wife stayed for a short time at the Strand Palace Hotel and then CAIRNCROSS gave them the [redacted] of a boarding house in the Paddington District. WATTS's only source of income at that time appeared to be about a week which he drew from a Catholic Relief organisation and Mrs. WATTS endeavoured to obtain a position with the British Broadcasting Corporation, but with success. [redacted]

CAIRNCROSS visited these people socially a few times until they were interned but had heard nothing from or of them since that date. Whenever he was in the company of WATTS and his wife, the latter always expressed strong anti-Nazi feelings but CAIRNCROSS stated that he had not known the WATTS long enough or intimately enough to express an opinion as to their reliability. He did state, however, that WATTS had a bad reputation on the continent and he understood that he had been convicted on at least one criminal charge.

CAIRNCROSS's story of his dealings with the WATTS's has been largely corroborated by Mrs. WATTS. It seems strange, however, that knowing WATTS's bad reputation on the continent, CAIRNCROSS should befriend him to the extent of assisting his passage to this country, housing him on arrival and visiting him socially until internment.

Our only other record of CAIRNCROSS concerns an anonymous letter posted in Amsterdam on 7.5.39 and addressed to Mr. John CARY (phonetic) 16, Warwick Square, S.W.1. As CAIRNCROSS was then living at 76, Warwick Square, S.W.1., the letter never reached him and was opened by the householder at 16, Warwick Square. In view of its contents the letter was forwarded to Scotland Yard who sent it on to us. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

D.L.R. Osborn.

(Sgd) D.L.R. Osborn

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ACT 1958 November 2022

COPY.A

16a

at/ 16a

5th August, 1933.

Dear Mr. CALINCROSS,

I have just heard the following piece of news which I think quite important:

A highly placed Italian visitor making an auto-tour of inspection through Germany. One of Himmler's Chiefs of Staff is in charge of the tour. Himmler's Staff Officer found dead, either in the car or in hotel at Frankfurt am Main.

Every effort being made to keep matter secret.

As far as I know the Italian visitor is missing and the intelligence and Gestapo are working at the top speed to solve the problem.

Supposed cause of death: poison.

I have had no chance of exactly proving this news but taking into consideration from where I obtained the information I have every reason for believing its authenticity.

I want to get this off quick and so will write you again later regarding things generally. Externally.

15a.

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THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958.

## EXTRACT.

152

Extract for File No.: PF 72,493 Name: CAIRNCROSS, JohnOriginal in File No.: \* PF 47,562 Serial: 340a Vol: 2 Receipt Date: 23.1.43Original from: Particulars of Property Sheet Under Ref.: 198 Dated: .....Extracted on: 3.3.52 by: E.S. Section: B.2.b.

Extract from Particulars of Property Sheet, the owner being Viktor HAEFNER of 24, Norfolk Square, London, W., mentioning CAIRNCROSS.

Details of Property.

1. Folder of letters to Antonius RAAB, 'Aekkea' Societé Anonyme de fabrications et exploitation d'Avions from 17.4.39 to 3.8.39.

(They deal with supply of aircraft and also 5-15,000 Mauser rifles to Greek Government through RAAB, from Holland or England. There is a Paris branch of Aekkea, in office of Maurice Max AUGER, and correspondents in Holland, also an account in Valencia is mentioned, about which CAIRNCROSS is ready to help and is to be told what reward he will get for his help.

A scheme connected with Ecuador is mentioned. The Catholic Committee for Refugees appears also and HAEFNER gets £2.10 p.w. from it. HAEFNER makes a good many anti-semitic remarks. HAEFNER used the name of Juan Maria de la Bellacasa).

2. Quantities of papers referring to traffic in arms etc.

*Handwritten:* 25/2/52  
10.3.52

*Note:* All HAEFNER's property was destroyed on instructions issued 31.8.45.



SECRET.

14a ~~329a~~

M.I.8 (b).

John CAIRNCROSS.

The delay in this case is regretted, but certain enquiries were essential.

These have now been completed, and the Security Service raise no objection to the proposed employment of Mr. CAIRNCROSS.

M.I.5.

19.9.42.

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten stamp: 19/9/42]*

unc/cra/19.9.42

Receipt date 29.8.42.

13e

Original in P.F.47562 vol2. HAEFNER 327a

Copy for P.F. 72,493

Ref. C.274.

Box No. 500,  
Reading.

C.G. Hardie Esq. E.5.4.

I would refer to your P.F.47562 of 7.8.42. addressed to Dixon regarding Victor Hermann HAEFNER and John CAIRNCROSS, which was forwarded to me when it was discovered that the latter's address is now in Bucks.

I have had some enquiries made by the Bucks Constabulary, and attach a copy of their report regarding John CAIRNCROSS who seems to confirm very largely the information which Mrs. HAEFNER has given to the Intelligence Officer at the Internment Camp.

You will see that CAIRNCROSS is now employed at the Government Communications Centre, Bletchley Park, Bletchley, and if you want you may get an independent report on him through that Channel.

Signed Major M. Ryde.

28.8.42.  
MR/KPS

*MR/KPS*  
*20/11/47*

BUCKS CONSTABULARY.

Tel.No. Bletchley 32

Southern Division

Ref. No. CC/1696/4/1133

Bletchley Police Station

Your Ref. C.274.

25th August 1942

Sir,

John CAIRNCROSS.

With refernce to letter dated 17th August 1942, from M.1.5. Reading relating to the above named I have to report that Mr. CAIRNCROSS is now resident at 76 Stratford Road, Wolverton, Bucks., and is employed at the Government Communications Centre, Bletchley Park, Bletchley.

CAIRNCROSS states that he is a personal friend of Etienne TAMBOURI, a lawyer of Paris, and first heard of the HAEFNERs in letters received from TAMBOURI who frequently referred to them. From the correspondence he had with his friend CAIRNCROSS gathered that TAMBOURI was friendly with HAEFNER and his wife but inclined to be suspicious of their activities and intentions.

During 1937 whilst he was employed at the Foreign Office, CAIRNCROSS received a communication from HAEFNER who was then in Spain asking him to intervene with a view to causing arms to be supplied to the Republicans. CAIRNCROSS of course was not in a position to do anything to help, even if he had been inclined to do so, and he ignored the letter. Early in 1939, CAIRNCROSS received a further communication from HAEFNER in which the latter said that he was in fear of expulsion from Holland and mentioning that he was in possession of a remarkable invention relating to radio-location. As far as expulsion from Holland was concerned Mr CAIRNCROSS knew he was unable to help but he did mention the so called invention to Mr. WATSON-WATTS who was in charge of Radio location at the Air Ministry. HAEFNER and his wife came to this country in Feb. 1939 and were seen by Mr. WATSON-WATTS, the invention was investigated but found to be useless. Upon arrival in this country HAEFNER and his wife stayed for a short time at the Strand Palace Hotel and then CAIRNCROSS gave them the address of a boarding house in the Paddington District. HAEFNER's only source of income at that time appeared to be about a pound a week which he drew from a Catholic Refugee organisation and Mrs. Haefner endeavoured to obtain a position with the British Broadcasting Corporation, but without success.

CAIRNCROSS visited these people socially a few times until they were interned but has heard nothing from of of them since that date. Whenever he was in the company of HAEFNER and his wife the latter always expressed strong anti-Nazi feelings but CAIRNCROSS states that he has not known the HAEFNERs long enough or intimately enough to express an opinion as to their reliability. He did state, however, that HAEFNER had a bad reputation on the continent and he understood that he had been convicted on at least one criminal charge.

Supt. F. Bryant  
The Chief Constable.

Signed Detective Constable  
Superintendent.

SECRET

12a 225a

Telephone No.  
CAMBRIDGE 54237.

BOX No. 500,  
CAMBRIDGE.

H.A./291

15th August, 1942.

ENCL.....

17 AUG 1942

TO..... ES

REF.....

Reg.

Ken Hardie

cut  
24.8.42

I have forwarded your letter  
 P.F.47562/E.5.4 of 7th August, 1942,  
 concerning Victor Hermann HAEFNER to  
 Michael Ryde, as John CAIRNCROSS,  
 whose N.R.I.C. No. is D.P.B.843809,  
 left Bedford last month for Prebend  
 Cottage, Hunters Street, Buckingham. X

Yours sincerely,

Michael Hughes

(4)  
 (Captain C.M. Hughes)  
 Major C.E. Dixon

C.G. Hardie, Esq.,  
 Box No. 500,  
 Oxford.

✓  
 AM/26  
 25/7/42

## EXTRACT.

11a

Extract for File No.: P.F. 72,493 Name: CAIRNCROSS, John  
 Original in File No.: P.F. 47562 Serial: 323a. Receipt Date: 7.8.42.  
 Original from: To R.O. Cambridge Under Ref.: - Dated: 7.8.42.  
 Extracted on: 21.11.47. by: AK Section: R.4.

Extract from Letter to R.O. Cambridge re HAEFNER, Victor  
mentioning CAIRNCROSS, John.

.....

When Haefner came to this country he said that through a French lawyer he had got into touch with John CAIRNCROSS employed in the British Treasury. Mrs. HAEFNER's account is that they had not met CAIRNCROSS before they came to London, but were acquainted with a French lawyer resident in Paris, (where the HAEFNER's were living) of the name of TAMBOURI. This man was an intimate friend of CAIRNCROSS, but was prevented from doing so by an important law-suit. CAIRNCROSS used frequently to visit TAMBOURI in France.

CAIRNCROSS looked them up directly they arrived in Feb. 1939 at their hotel (The Strand Palace) and produced an inexpensive flat for them. He frequently visited them in this flat, and HAEFNER told me she could see him growing more and more nervy as the year went on. He had made a comfortable home and was depressed at the thought of war upsetting his life.

Neither she nor her husband have heard of him since they were interned; her husband wrote to him from Brixton Prison but HAEFNER thinks the letter never reached him. She is under the impression that he is now serving in the Forces, and she well understood that in these circumstances

he would not be able to correspond with internees. She spoke with warmth and freindleness of him, and said how kind he had been to them. HAEFFNER's journey to England was suggested by the British Embassy in Amsterdam; their passage expensies were paid and an 'officer' was sent over with them.

CAIRNCROSS was until recently in the Treasury, but he has left it for a job a job in the War Office, and is said to be at 28 Alexandra Road, Bedford. Would you please ask the Police to interview him about the HAEFFNERS....

.....

## EXTRACT.

100

Extract for File No.: P.F. 72,493 Name: CAIRNCROSS, John  
 Original in File No.: P.F. 47562 Serial: 319a Receipt Date: 22.7.42  
 Original from: R.O., I.O.M. Under Ref.: HG/2/14 Dated: 17.7.42.  
 Extracted on: 21.11.47. by: AK Section: R.A.

Extract from letter from R.O., Isle of Mann re HAEFNER, Elasa mentioning CAIRNCROSS, John.

I interviewed the above internee as requested by Mr. Edward's and brought the conversation round to Mr. John CAIRNCROSS.

They had not met CAIRNCROSS before they came to London, but were acquainted with a French Lawyer resident in Paris, (where the HAEFNER's were living) of the name of TAMBOURI. This man was an intimate friend of CAIRNCROSS, and spent a great deal of his spare time with him in England, in fact, he had had the intention to come over when the HAEFNER's came to introduce them to CAIRNCROSS, but was prevented from doing so by an important law-suit. CAIRNCROSS used frequently to visit TAMBOURI in France.

CAIRNCROSS looked them up directly they arrived in Feb. 1939 at their Hotel (The Strand Palace) and procured an inexpensive flat from the. He frequently visited them in this flat, and HAEFNER told me she could

see him growing more and more nervy as the year went on. He had made himself a comfortable home and was depressed at the thought of war upsetting his life.

Neither she nor her husband have heard of him since they were intened, her husband wrote to him from Brixton Prison, but HAEFFNER thinks the letter never reached him. She is under the impression that he is now serving in the Forces, and she well understood that in those circumstances he would not be able to correspond with internees. She spoke with warmth and friendliness of him, and said how kind he had been to them.

.....



9a

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No.: P.F. 72,493 Name: CAIRNCROSS  
 Original in File No.: P.F. 47562 Serial: 318a Receipt Date: 11.7.42.  
 Original from: To R.O., I.O.M. Under Ref.: - Dated: 11.7.42.  
 Extracted on: 21.11.47. by: AK Section: R.I.

Extract from letter to R.O., Isle of Mann re HAEFNER, Elsa mentioning CAIRNCROSS, John.

.....

When HAEFNER came to this country he said that through a French Lawyer he had got into touch with a John CAIRNCROSS employed in the British Treasury. The relations between HAEFNER and CAIRNCROSS seem to have been rather closer than the above would seem to imply. CAIRNCROSS arranged for the HAEFNERS accomodation in London. Soon after HAEFNER's arrest on 1st. September 1939 CAIRNCROSS tried to communicate with him by telephone.

CAIRNCROSS is now being vetted for an Intelligence post with M.1.8. and we are rather concerned about his connection with HAEFNER. Apart from the above, however, we do not know how close the connection is. Before the Advisory Committee on 17.10. Mrs. HAEFNER readily admitted that it was CAIRNCROSS who invited HAEFNER to come to England.

Could you kindly interrogate her regarding the connection between HAEFNER and CAIRNCROSS? Had they ever met or corresponded with him before Feb. 1939, how they first got in touch, and why; how often they

they

met after HAEFNER's arrival in England, whether CARCROSS has ever written to her in internment or to her husband, and so on. The story that a French lawyer put HAEFNER into touch with CAIRNCROSS is rather improbable in view of the purpose of his visit and of the fact that CAIRNCROSS had no connection with the Air Ministry.

We have to watch our step on this case, as CAIRNCROSS's father is working in some capacity in the War Cabinet.

.....

.....

ms 11 12  
8a 3160  
Reference.....

Dy.C.  
X

by C spoke  
4/8  
X

John CAIRNCROSS, a Civil Servant employed at the Treasury, is a candidate for employment by M.I.8. on Intelligence duties with Special Wireless units.

The following is a summary of the information in our records regarding him. In the main it is his connection with HAEFNER which requires consideration in connection with the proposed employment. HAEFNER is a "bad hat" with a pretty shady past, and apart from being an "adventurer" is very strongly suspected of being a Nazi agent. Both HAEFNER and his wife are interned and their appeals for release have been refused.

In August 1938, a misdirected letter addressed to CAIRNCROSS from Amsterdam, contained an unsigned note regarding the death of a Himmler staff officer for which a highly-placed Italian visitor to Germany was responsible.

(In this connection it was thought - as the result of present enquiries - that he might have been doing [redacted] work, but [redacted] know nothing about him.)

CAIRNCROSS appears to have taken a great interest in HAEFNER and his wife.

In February 1939 he is reported as a fairy godfather to the HAEFNERS. He arranged for their passage to England and their accommodation on arrival. HAEFNER was supposedly coming here in connection with aeronautical inventions, but his presence here was looked upon by the Air Ministry as an "in-fliction."

In September 1939 CAIRNCROSS endeavoured to communicate with HAEFNER after his arrest. (52a.)

At 65a. in a memo on HAEFNER it is stated that possibly CAIRNCROSS would be able to throw more light on HAEFNER'S activities.

In a report on the interrogation of HAEFNER he states that he wrote to CAIRNCROSS, whose name had apparently been given him by a French lawyer, and arrangements were made for him to come to England to demonstrate to the Air Ministry

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2,000,000 4/40  
JC&SLtd. 644/230  
(REGIMITE)  
Code 5.35.0

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a new aeroplane landing device. This invention was not accepted by the Air Ministry.

When before the Advisory Committee on appeal against internment Mrs. HAEFNER, in reply to a question: "Did you know that your husband was invited by a gentleman of the Treasury to come to England?" She replied: "Yes, Mr. CAIRNCROSS." (74k.)

When HAEFNER was before the Advisory Committee on appeal against internment, he stated that one of his references was Mr. CAIRNCROSS. (76a.)

At 79y. it is again stated that HAEFNER and his wife in Holland obtained through Mr. CAIRNCROSS a permit for England.

(O)C.2.

1.7.42.

*G. G. H. W.*

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INTERNAL MEMORANDUM.

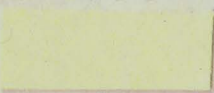
*20.6.42*

To *(O) C 2*  
From .....

from *E 5 (H)*  
To *Mr. Hardie*

*C.G.H.  
26.6.42*

*Please see reply from*



*G.S. Hoff*

*20.6.42*

*My brother was unable to get a line  
on Cairncross as he has left the  
Treasury - some time ago.*

*C.G. Hardie*

*26.6.42*

*20.6.42  
H.P.S.*

te.....

Signature.....

Form 161/B.P./10000/12.41.

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TELEPRINTER FORM.

Note.

- 1 = Surname.
- 2 = Christian names.
- 3 = Place and date of birth.
- 4 = Nationality.
- 5 = Last address.
- 6 = Other particulars.

Serial No. SBO 21891/T/10027/667  
 (To be inserted by Teleprinter Operator).

Message.

QUERY 1 CAIRNCROSS 2 John.  
 3 25.7.13. Lesmahacow, Lanarkshire. 4 British.  
 5 16 (?76) Warwick Square, London, S.W.1. 1938.  
 6 Civil Servant. (H.M. Treasury)

Our Reference.....(O)C.2.A./G.E.H.

From.....G.E. Hogg, Lieut...... Section.....(O)C.2.A. Date.....15.6.42.....

For use of Teleprinter Section. Sent: Date.....15 JUN 1942..... Time.....1709G.....

ATTACH REPLY HERE.

SNUFFBOX  
NR. 870.  
TO M.1.5.

DATE 15.6.42.  
SECTION (O) C.2.A/G.E.H.  
YOUR 1391/T N.T.  
SENT AT 17.32.  
EER.  
++++

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- QUERY = Have you any particulars of
- ZZZ = Not available
- NT = We have no trace of
- LF = We have traces and letter follows

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

*313 SA  
CAH  
10.6.42*

From (O) C.2

To E.5(4) (Mr. Hardie)

*Please see result of our reference to S.B.  
We would be glad if any further assistance  
you can give as suggested.*

*9.6.42*

*G.E. Hogg*

To:- (O) C.2. (Lieut. G.E. Hogg)

From:- E.5.(4)

I shall have asked my brother in the Treasury if he knows  
CAIRNCROSS. Would it not be as well to ask [redacted] if they have em-  
ploy him as the Police report of 8-8-39 suggests?

Date: 12-6-42

Signature: *C.G. Hardie*  
C.G. Hardie.

n 161/B.P./15000/3.42.

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ACT 1958 *October 2022*

**SECRET**

6

~~38~~  
49

**BOX No. 500,**

**G.P.O.,**

**OXFORD.**

In reply please quote the following number:—

(0) C.2.a./G.E.H.

26th. May, 1942.

John CAIRNCROSS.

Born: 25.7.13. Lesmahew, Lanarkshire, Scotland.  
Address: 409, Keyes House, Dolphin Square, S.W.1.  
Occupation: Civil Servant. (H.M. Treasury)

BRIGADIER SIR DAVID PETRIE presents his compliments to Mr. Canning,

and with reference to the above-named person, will be much obliged if he may be informed in confidence, and without direct inquiry, whether the information at your disposal contains anything which would establish

- (a) the presence or absence of foreign origin or associations,
- (b) any past or present connection with, or interest in, H.M. Naval, Military, Air or other Government Services,
- (c) any criminal record or subversive activity or association which would render the employment of this person in a position of official confidence inadvisable, and
- ~~(d) if the name or address given above is correct at the present time.~~

An addressed envelope, *to be used as the outer cover*, is enclosed for the favour of a reply at the earliest convenience.

A. Canning Esq., M.V.O., O.B.E.,  
Deputy Assistant Commissioner,  
Special Branch.

25/5/42  
14/100-



M.I.5.

7 1938  
John CAIRNCROSS may be identical with a man of the same name, of 16 War Square, London, S.W.1., subject of Special Branch report of the 8th August 1939, copy of which was forwarded to M.I.5 on the 9th of that month.

*Blascock*

Inspector.



145T/19d

3a

Copy of Min. from E.5.4. to O C2 mentioning CAIRNCROSS.

Original in P.F. 47562 311a.

(O) C.2. (Lt. G.E.HOGG)

CAIRNCROSS appears to know HAFFNER quite well, if he obtained a permit for him to come to England and tried to communicate with him after his arrest. The French lawyer, however, may have given CAIRNCROSS's name to HAFFNER and the connection may be entirely official and due to a common interest in aircraft. The letter in L.258(27) 416a, misdirected to 16 instead of 76. shows that CAIRNCROSS had in hand what looks like secret service work. So I imagine that he is perfectly all right, but I should like to know what CAIRNCROSS knows of HAFFNER, who is a difficult case. If CAIRNCROSS could be asked about HAFFNER it would throw light on ~~or~~ CAIRNCROSS too, incidently. I could ask my brother in the Treasury if he knows CAIRNCROSS.

E.5.(4).  
20.5.42.

Signed C.G.Hardie.

Hardie  
22/4

2a  
~~3100~~  
20.5.42  
E.H.

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

From (O) C 2

To E 5 (Mr. Harris)

Please see attached particulars of Mr. John CAIRNCROSS who is a candidate for employment with Special Wireless Operating units, work of a secret & confidential nature.

In P.F. 47562 his name appears several times in connection with HAEFNER and his wife. (— see 8a)

B97

Do you consider his contact with these people is in any way detrimental to the employment for which he is now being considered.

Date 16.5.42

Signature G. E. Hoyle

20/5/42  
H.E.

Cameron.

~~30/10~~

20/6. E5(4).

L. 168(1) 47x .549.

L. 258(27) 416a.

P.F. 47562, N. 1+2, Haefner.

THOMAS

'C' Branch.

~~SEARCHED~~

Date

Look-up asked for:.....

~~2/15~~

~~2/15~~

~~6/6~~

(Army  
(E.O.

~~18/5~~

(or other Department papers asked for:.....

Police report asked for:.....

SR 13/6

Awaiting reply from:.....

~~Handwritten scribbles~~

Awaiting traces:.....

~~CC 109 789~~

~~Handwritten scribbles~~

Surname..... CAIRNCROSS  
 Full Christian Names..... X JOHN  
 Date of Birth..... 25.7.13 Place of Birth..... Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire  
 Nationality..... British Nationality at Birth..... Scotland  
 Army or Nat. Reg. Number..... WLB 3978 Rank..... Med. Category.....  
 Corps or Regiment. (not applicable to Civilians).....  
 409, Keyes House, Dolphin Square, S.W.1.

Private Address.....  
 Present Address (Unit, etc.)..... X Cairncross X Alexander Kirkland

Father's Surname..... British Christian Name(s).....  
 Nationality..... British  
 (Nationality at Birth).....  
 (If naturalised, state date).....  
 Address..... 8, Cairncross Road, Lesmahagow, Lanarkshire.

Mother's Maiden Name..... Wishart Christian Name(s)..... Elizabeth  
 Nationality..... British  
 (Nationality at Birth).....  
 (If naturalised, state date)..... as father's  
 Address.....

Wife's  
 Husband's  
 Surname..... Christian Name(s).....  
 (Maiden Name in case of Wife).....  
 Nationality.....  
 (Nationality at Birth, (If naturalised, state date).....  
 Address.....

Civil Employment..... Civil Servant (H.M. Treasury)

Applicant for employment on..... Intelligence Duties.....

To: M. I. 5. (Lieut. Hogg)

Forwarded for report. Please check individual and family.

M. I. 58(b).  
 Ext: 1040  
 5/42.

*John Watt*  
 for Captain, G. S.

*W. J. Watt*

List 168 (1) 47x.

54A

12

TO BE RETURNED TO R.3.X.

EXTRACT FROM BOXED FILE.

(N.B. Particulars at foot of form must be completed if the extract is to be incorporated in a new file.)

The following information is extracted from the original which it is desired to keep on file in the Registry in order that ready reference can be made to other names contained therein.

SUBJECT: CAIRNCROSS, Alexander Kirkland.

From Offices of the War Cabinet

dated 31.1.40.

ADDITIONAL STAFF ENGAGED.

CAIRNCROSS, Alexander Kirkland, 76, Warwick Square, S.W.1.

MI5 dated 19.3.40. "We know nothing to the detriment of the persons named on the attached list of Staff."

Original in; List 168(1) 47x.54a.  
Extracted by; P.W.

Date: As above.

Date: 19.3.42.

Bracketed out by:  
Filed by:

For Registry use in case of need only.

Amendment made by:

Date:

S. Form 194.

326/AMM  
3352

14

P.F.72,493.

? HAEFNER

Extract from letter from "VICTOR" to A. RAAB,  
dated 31st July 1939. ment. CAIRNCROSS.  
Original letter in German and translation at  
Serial 42x on P.F.47,562 Vol. 1 for HAEFNER.

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"Let us hear from you soon, and with your next  
letter original papers from CAIRNCROSS of which I  
spoke, and he too, has undertaken/attempted nothing  
more."

B.2.b.  
10.3.52.

*EG/SFB*  
10.3.52



