

PF 72,493

FILE CLOSED

V18

C A I R N C R O S S , JOHN

PF 72,493  
FILE CLOSED  
V18

TRAY No.

S. 924A Edn. 2

SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER

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

S. 960 Edn2

PF 72,493

FILE CLOSED

V18

775

9.12.70

Note for File

775a

776

9.12.70

Note for file

776a

9.12.70.

Note for file

776b

777

4.1.71

Note for file

777a

778.

22.1.71

From Cairncross

778z

5.2.71.

K.3. note for file

778a

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781

30.7.71 Letter to P.M. Wright from John CAIRNCROSS

781a

782

20.8.71 Note for File

782a

783

~~23.8.71 Letter to J. CAIRNCROSS, in draft.~~ *destroyed - see 786A* 783a

784

~~K/Adviser through K502~~

Please see at 783a the suggested draft reply to 781a for which you asked me.

2. I understand that the position about O.E.C.D. is this:- The F.C.O. does not at present handle any vets for O.E.C.D. although there have been in the past some sporadic cases of vetting on its behalf. O.E.C.D. is, however, an international organisation in which N.A.T.O. takes an active interest, all N.A.T.O. countries being members of it, including the United States. If any information of a classified nature was available to O.E.C.D. it would presumably be N.A.T.O. information falling under the N.A.T.O. security umbrella.

3. It would seem that to give CAIRNCROSS any kind of positive answer to his question at all would be an infringement of the principle that Normal Vetting policy and procedure is classified, and particularly knowledge of the position as regards vetting for any specified job. On the other hand it would also seem advisable to warn him off slightly, particularly as our policy file is not clear on the subject of whether or not vetting is carried out by other countries within the organisation. An enquiry might be made in the U.S.A. about CAIRNCROSS, in which case, or indeed if this was not so and he eventually obtained a post and came into working contact with Americans, it seems very likely that the F.B.I. would become aware of the situation and difficulties might arise.

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/Continued.....

/.....

4. Provided your answer is suitably apologetic I do not think we need mind refusing to answer CAIRNCROSS's question. He was certainly not over-zealous in following his brief in the recent operation in which he took part. Moreover, it looks from 776a as though he may well have been involved in some kind of shady financial deal, making it perhaps doubly undesirable that he should have employment with an organisation such as O.E.C.D.

*B. Palliser*

B. Palliser.

23rd August, 1971

K3/6/ST

785

~~K/Adviser~~

Please see minute 784 with reference to CAIRNCROSS's letter at serial 781a. The point at issue is that O.E.C.D. does have American members. In the circumstances it seems to me that if CAIRNCROSS got a job with O.E.C.D. this would inevitably become known to the Americans there who might well take it into their heads to make some enquiries. We should be put in a position of grave embarrassment if we were asked about the circumstances in which he came to obtain this employment. On the whole I do not consider that the risk is worth it nor do I think that CAIRNCROSS warrants any special treatment. I suggest that you might reply to him in the terms of the alternative draft on the front cover.

K3/2/ST

24th August, 1971

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786

25.8.71

To CAIRNCROSS from K/Adviser

786a

787

3.9.71

Letter from CAIRNCROSS to P.M. Wright/K.Adv

787a

788

16.9.71

Loose Minute to K3

788a

17.9.71

Copy of Minute on PF.605133

788a

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~~K.3.~~ This is fine. <sup>790</sup> he will have to watch that Torrington don't not blow this up into a major issue. ~~FS 219.~~

Reference paragraph 3 of s.788z. Please now see a suggested draft at 789a.

*B. Palliser*

B. Palliser

K3/6  
20th September, 1971

~~K/Adv through K.3.~~ <sup>791</sup> ~~FS 219.~~

Please see s.788y, a suggested draft reply to CAIRNCROSS's to you at s.787a.

*B. Palliser*

B. Palliser

K3/6  
20th September, 1971

792

27.9.71

To CAIRNCROSS from K.Adv.

792a

793

5.10.71 To SB for the Attention of Chief Superintendent R.Bryan 793a

794

8.10.71. From John Cairncross to Peter Wright. 794a

795

15.10.71. From Met. Police re allegation by CAIRNCROSS of fraud  
by Peter Dover BUYERS. 795a

796

25.10.71. From CAIRNCROSS re trip to London before Christmas -  
proposed meeting. 796a

797

4.11.71. To J. CAIRNCROSS re meeting - after New Year. 797a

798

8.11.71 From Cairncross 798z

11.11.71. Note for file re CAIRNCROSS and DE CENT association. 798a

799

18.11.71. Note for file re summary of CAIRNCROSS's financial  
association with BUYERS and De CENT. 799a

800

24.11.71. Note for file re chronological list of documents for  
Highgate Police from CAIRNCROSS. 800a

801

26.11.71.

Note for file re CAIRNCROSS

801a

802

~~K.3./0.~~

Please see my note at serial 801a, particularly the last two paragraphs. It is possible that the Italian Police might yet catch up on CAIRNCROSS. All this may well explain his anxiety at the end of July, 1971 to move to Paris.

2. With reference to serial 796a, where is the "further letter" to which CAIRNCROSS refers? He had already acknowledged 792a.

3. If K/adviser is going to see CAIRNCROSS, no doubt he will show him KAMINSKY's photograph as a candidate for OTTO.

K.3/6.

*B. Palliser*  
B. PALLISER

26th November, 1971.

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30.11.71 To Cairncross

803a

804

K/Adviser

You may remember that when CAIRNCROSS was here last year our coverage of him showed that he was in touch with the Highgate police. We followed this up and you should now see, as useful background for your projected meeting with CAIRNCROSS, Miss Palliser's notes at 799a, 800a and 801a.

2. I suppose it is conceivable that during the time that he has been an international civil servant in Rome CAIRNCROSS has been able to save enough money to buy an olive grove valuable enough to stand as collateral for the raising of at least £24,000. I find it very strange, however, that if he had been swindled out of this large sum which he had genuinely and properly acquired, and if he was concerned about this, he never mentioned it in any of the meetings you or we have had with him. His reticence may have been due to the belief that the matter was nothing to do with us, or even that it demonstrated such naivete that we would not go through with our project which was so much to his advantage. It could, however, have a more sinister connotation.

3. It occurs to me that CAIRNCROSS's unwillingness to provide full details to the Rome police may be not so much because he has infringed Italian currency regulations; but because enquiries locally might show that he did not have the resources legitimately to raise the large capital sum that he did. If the money was the fruit of his past or present work for the RIS, then it is very natural that he should not have mentioned the matter to us. I think this is worth carrying further and I would welcome any ideas you may have as to how we can do this.

[we are inhibited from making enquiries in Italy because we have never come clean with the Italians about CAIRNCROSS's past and I am

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/sure.....

Minute 804 contd:

sure it would be highly impolitic to do so now. I suppose you could ask CAIRNCROSS where his olive grove is, and we could then ask if he could have a look at it and estimate its value, but this is a pretty long shot and you may have other thoughts. May we discuss?

*P. F. Stewart*

P. F. Stewart

K.3/0

6.12.71

805

7.12.71

From Cairncross

805a

806

K.3/6

Thank you for your fascinating note at 801a. I have talked this over with K/Adviser in the light of my Minute 804, and our suspicions are that there is something very odd indeed about CAIRNCROSS's financial dealings. If there is any way we can prove the oddity, then we might have an important lead to further investigation and assessment.

2. What we now need to know are:-

(a) Whether CAIRNCROSS was in a position to buy the olive grove, and

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Minute 806 contd:

raise the money on it, as he suggests. I can put preliminary enquiries to him on this in January on the basis that I had a friend, who died last year, in F.A.O. in Rome who was visited from time to time by another mutual friend from the U.N. who, not so long ago, bought himself a farmhouse and quite a lot of land in Tuscany. The values are so widely divergent that anything CAIRNCROSS says on this matter will be of interest. We may be in a position to follow up whatever he says.

(b) What were the circumstances in which Arthur Martin approached CAIRNCROSS in 1964. He was in the U.S. in the Spring of 1964 to see STRAIGHT. Was there any reason, other than his own belief that CAIRNCROSS was a spy, which motivated his questioning of him? As far as I recall there were very few people on either side of the Atlantic who knew that he had this in mind. Is it possible to list those who knew, and the degree of their knowledge?

(c) When did the possibility of approaching KLUGMANN through CAIRNCROSS first arise, and who knew of this proposal? I think very early on the present D.G. wrote a minute on the idea; but the proposal then died till it was put to CAIRNCROSS in Paris by K/Adv early last year. A chronology of the KLUGMANN aspect (with a copy on the ACRE file) would be important.

3. On the face of it there is something very strange about CAIRNCROSS's financial dealings, and I am very grateful for the enquiries you have made about them. Would you please look into 2(b) & (c) above so that we are in a position to look with a cold, dispassionate eye on anything that arises from questions I may put as suggested in 2(a).

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K.3/0

16.12.71

*P. F. Stewart*  
P. F. Stewart

806

16.12.71. To Cairncross, Rome re visit on 4 January. 806b

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

808

20.12.71. To S.B. re CAIRNCROSS's allegation of fraud against BUYERS. 808a

809

3.1.72. Note for file re Martin's interview with CAIRNCROSS, and prosecution of KLUGMAN. 809a

3.1.72. Note re list of names and photos, connection with Note for file at 811a. 809b

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K.3./0

Please refer to your minute 806.

2. Reference paragraph 2(b). The idea to re-interview CAIRNCROSS in early 1964 arose in late 1963 when CAIRNCROSS, then in Karachi, applied for an immigration visa to the United States. We wrote to C.I.A., London, in a very routine way referring to the immigration visa check and asking them to see previous correspondence ending with a TOP SECRET and PERSONAL letter to Clark Schor, of 1956. The next development was when [redacted] telephoned on 30 December, 1963, to say that he had heard from Washington that CAIRNCROSS wished to go to America and asking if we could add anything to the information already given to C.I.A. We said that we had already replied 'nothing to add'. [redacted] said that he proposed to tell [redacted] that we considered CAIRNCROSS as a possible candidate for one of KAGO's Ring of Five. It was agreed that he should do this (516a in Volume 13). About a month later [redacted] telephoned again to say he had now heard from [redacted] that Jim Angleton had asked if we would wish to reconsider the question of interrogating CAIRNCROSS, possibly in the U.S.A. Arthur Martin was consulted and was interested in the proposal (517a). From this beginning the organisation of the interview of CAIRNCROSS proceeded fairly fast. As far as the matter is concerned of making a list of those who knew of Arthur's intention I can only say the list would be quite a long one. It would include . . .

Jim Angleton  
 Charles Bates (532a)  
 Cleveland Cram  
 C.I.A. and F.B.I.  
 Washington (533a)

Malcolm Cummings  
 Ronnie Symonds  
 Arthur Martin  
 Evelyn McBarnet  
 Harry Stone (Washington)  
 John Street  
 (534a and 566y).

3. Reference paragraph 2(c), please see a note I have put at serial 809a about the history of the idea of approaching KLUGMAN through CAIRNCROSS. You will see that the first mention of interviewing KLUGMAN by means of a confrontation with CAIRNCROSS as opposed to a direct interview of KLUGMAN alone, seems to occur in the report of Peter Wright's meeting with CAIRNCROSS on 16.12.65. in Paris (the final paragraph of 675a in Volume 16). This would suggest that at that stage the idea of the project was known only to those with whom D.3./P.M.W. had discussed it.

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/4. . . . .

Min. 810 Cont.

4. I have asked for an enquiry on CAIRNCROSS, and have also written to thank Special Branch and to ask them to let us know anything more that they may have.

B. Palliser

K.3.

3 January, 1972

811

4.1.72

Note for file

811a

812

Paras 647 copied to PCF 11-55-1-13  
KA/2.

✓

I have put at serial 811a a note on the meeting which K/Adviser and I had with CAIRNCROSS on the morning of Tuesday, 4th January. Our conviction that CAIRNCROSS is deceiving us raises a number of points which I will attempt to set out as briefly as possible.

CAIRNCROSS's finances

2. You do not need to read the papers attached to the SB report at 795a except possibly the paragraph marked X in the first attachment. In this CAIRNCROSS states flatly "BUYER's (the swindler) account had been closed, and hence, there is no possibility of my recovering the loan (or rather investment) which amounts to 320,000 (three hundred and twenty thousand) Swiss francs". In his signed statement to the police CAIRNCROSS puts this at 324,000 and says that he

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Minute 812 contd:

"was obliged to borrow almost the whole of it at percentages of between 10% and 15%. I owned land in Italy to this value".

3. For whatever reason CAIRNCROSS has given us no inkling of his difficulties in this matter - and in view of his eagerness to enlist our aid and seek our advice about his employment prospects this is very odd. Instead he has spun us a yarn about the difficulty in getting payment for the sale of his olive grove, and - though we were not clear about the connection - his possession of a "millionaire's villa" on Anacapri. It may well be that the villa is the collateral on which he raised the loan of £24,000, and that the olive grove transaction is substantially the truth. The crux of the matter, of course, is how he was ever in a position to acquire land of such considerable value. I suppose it is conceivable that he could have saved the money over the years, but his various employments do not suggest that he can have had much to spare - translator in the ECAFE Secretariat 1957-61; member of the Harvard Advisory Group in Pakistan for a year; a brief academic career at Cleveland, Ohio at the beginning of 1964; and subsequently a medium seniority appointment with FAO. In addition during these years he has been supporting his wife from whom he is separated.

4. I believe we should confront CAIRNCROSS with our knowledge of his apparent affluence, but before doing so I would like to explore the possibilities of acquiring further information about his property holdings in Italy. This may not be easy because we have never revealed to the Italian authorities CAIRNCROSS's past espionage activities. I hope to discuss the problem with Dickie Franks early next week. In the meanwhile we will make further police and enquiries in the UK.

CAIRNCROSS's immunity

5. As you will see from my note CAIRNCROSS intends to apply for the Professorship of French at Surrey University (and might apply for other academic posts in the UK if this fails) and is anxious to know whether the terms of his immunity would cover permanent residence in the UK.

The gist of these were conveyed to CAIRNCROSS in Paris by K/Adviser, but he was not given a copy in writing. The minuting which preceded the formulation of these terms accepted the fact that we could not produce any gradations of time in the promises given and that they must

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/apply.....

Minute 812 contd:

apply whether he was in the jurisdiction for one day or the term of his natural life; but that they were confined to admissions which he had already made.

6. In our dealings with CAIRNCROSS, however, we bore in mind I.A.'s view [redacted] that the Attorney would not wish us to give away more than was necessary. On three occasions therefore [redacted]

we have made the point that though technically there is no bar to his coming here, there is a moral sanction in that we made our submission on the understanding that he would only be making occasional visits. CAIRNCROSS has accepted this, but if in fact he chose to ignore the moral ban and come there would be nothing we could do about it. I am far from certain in my own mind whether he is well aware of this, and is merely trying to force us to commit ourselves finally; or whether he is unsure and could still be warned off.

7. The question then arises - where would we prefer to have him? If our suspicions about him are correct he would clearly be easier to investigate and interrogate in the UK. I very much doubt if he is still active, but he may well still be on the KGB hooks and books; and if we succeed in developing more information on him it might be possible to break him. If he made further admissions we might then find ourselves in the strange position of being able to bring a prosecution on a minor issue, but having to ignore the major admissions.

8. Perhaps we could discuss this strange case when you have had time to ponder on it.

*P. F. Stewart*

P. F. Stewart

K.3/0

7 January 1972

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L.A. 813. I have now read the relevant papers. *bf*  
20/1/77

When you have read minute 812 and the papers to which it refers, I should be very grateful if you could join K.3. and me in a discussion of our best course of action.

*J.A. Allen*  
J.A. Allen

KX

10th January 1972

814

13.1.1972

Note re CAIRNCROSS' property in Italy

814a

815

20.1.72.

Note of conversation with S.B. by K.3/6

815z

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816.

K.3. through DA

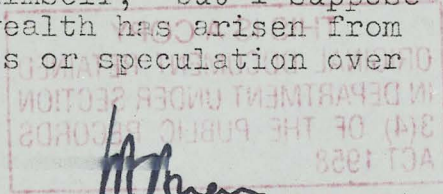
Copied to POLF 11-55-1-13

On Wednesday we discussed the points raised in paragraphs 5 - 7 of your minute 812. I see no advantage to the State in a traitor who has succeeded in avoiding all the legal consequences of his espionage activity resuming residence in the U.K.; and there would be distinct disadvantages in the event of some newspaper disclosures about Russian espionage implicating CAIRNCROSS, if he were found to be within the jurisdiction. The prospect of conducting here an investigation of CAIRNCROSS which would prove helpful to the solution of our current problems seems too slender to be worth putting on the scales.

2. In these circumstances there is nothing to be said for giving CAIRNCROSS peace of mind on the question of permanent residence. The response to his present enquiry (subject to your getting K/Adv.'s confirmation that it would not be inconsistent with what he said to CAIRNCROSS in Paris) should be that you have refreshed your memory from the papers and confirmed that the matter of immunity was originally referred up in the context of possible visits to the U.K. to assist Security Service investigations; you have no authority to give CAIRNCROSS renewed assurances. This should be conveyed to CAIRNCROSS orally and not in writing.

3. I suggest that at some point in the conversation with CAIRNCROSS it would be worth your expressing surprise that the idea of permanent residence in this country has appealed to him. Surely he must realise that there is always a chance of some newspaper publishing revelations about Russian espionage in the U.K. in which he might feature, not necessarily by name but with sufficient description to focus public attention upon him?

4. With reference to paragraph 4 of minute 812, I shall be glad to know the results of the further Police enquiries. The situation is certainly suspicious and needs probing with CAIRNCROSS himself; but I suppose it is possible that his wealth has arisen from some fortunate investments or speculation over the years.



J.A. Allen

KX  
28th January 1972

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817.  
K2/S  
Thank you  
V3/S  
1/18/78

You may wish to note para 4 of my photo of  
811a which records CARRACROSS's reactions to the  
photograph spread you were good enough to provide.  
May I have the photo back as soon as possible as  
there is still work to be done on it.

K3/S  
1-2-72.

P. J. Stewart

818.

K/A/Am.

You will want to read and absorb K's ruling  
in para 2 of Minute 816. Perhaps we could have  
a word about this next week to concert action should  
CARRACROSS get in touch with either of us.

K3/S  
10-2-72.

P. J. Stewart

819

18.2.72

Telegram to SIO Washington

819a

820

18.2.72

Note for file

820a

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821

22.2.72 To SLO Washington

821a

822

22.2.72 Note for file

822a

823

23.2.72 TG from Washington

823a

824

24.2.72 To Cairncross

824a

825

9.3.72 TG from Washington

825a

826

9.3.72 TG to W'ton

826a

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13.3.72

To [redacted]

828a

14.3.72.

Copy of loose minute from K.7/RP to K.3/B.P.  
[redacted]

828b.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

831

.4.72.

From CAIRNCROSS re Miss Simone CHEVALIER, for NATO  
Post..

831a,

832

.5.72.  
fr

Note for file re CAIRNCROSS standing as referee for  
friends application to NATO.

832a

833

2.5.72.

Note for file re briefs for West. Europe's visit to Italy.

833a

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834.

5.6.72.

Note for file

834a

835.

K.3/P.F.S.

Please see my note at serial 834a.

Miss CHEVALLIER is presumably about to be given access as a NATO secretary. She is a current acquaintance of CAIRNCROSS, sufficiently friendly with him to ask him for a reference. Perhaps we should warn the F.C.O. of this?

*B Palliser*

K.3/6.

B. Palliser

5th June, 1972.

836

K.3./BP

*BP. See 837a.*

As Patrick Walker has already been acquainted with CAIRNCROSS's friendship with Miss CHEVALLIER, I think it is probably right that we should let him have a short note setting out the facts on paper. I think it fair, however, to say that we are really in no position to say whether or not this reflects adversely on the lady, who seems a pretty odd fish, quite apart from her relationship with CAIRNCROSS.

*P.F. Stewart*

P.F. Stewart

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K.3./O

834A

NOTE FOR FILE

On 25th May I showed Patrick Walker of the Security Department, F.C.O., the P.V. form at 832a and asked him if he could very kindly look up this woman's P.V. papers for us and see what part, if any, CAIRNCROSS had played in her application and P.V. procedure. He telephoned me yesterday (1st June, 1972) to say that he had called for the papers. They contained no mention at all of CAIRNCROSS; her referees are the two people named on the form at serial 832a. One of these, I think Miss Nancy RALLI, had at first been somewhat unwilling to stand as referee but did eventually agree to do so. The papers contained nothing at all of an adverse nature about the applicant except that she was very obviously something of a rolling stone and that in 1968 she had gone to Czechoslovakia with a Miss Margaret ROBERTS, who worked in some United Nations Organisation in Vienna concerned with under-developed countries. The applicant, Miss CHEVALLIER, had been interviewed - a routine P.V. personal interview - presumably the one which CAIRNCROSS said she was travelling to attend in his letter at 831a. The P.V. had not yet been granted but PJW thought it would go through very shortly.

2. I asked C.3/A.2., today (2nd June) if she could find out for me how applications for employment were made to NATO in Brussels. She rang back to say that it appeared that NATO advertised in national newspapers and applicants were invited to apply direct to NATO. I can only assume that it was at this stage that CAIRNCROSS gave Miss CHEVALLIER a reference, when she wrote in to NATO. She then must have quoted the two other referees when she filled in her E.93.

\* 3. The overseas checks have now come back to C.3.A. "N.T."

B. Palliser

K.3/6.

B. Palliser

5th June, 1972.

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\* I telephoned C3A/  
today & said she could send  
back the N.T. checks to the F.C.O.  
- see para 3 of 832a. BP/K3/6  
12.6.72.

K3/6/5  
6.72.



833a

Note For File

1. K3/Mr Stewart, before he went on leave, passed me F3's Loose Minute requesting briefs for SLO Western Europe's visit to Italy in May and asked me to have an 'off the record' word with F3 about CAIRNCROSS.

3. Mr Hamblen thanked us for telling him, said he presumed that there was no action we wished him to take. I confirmed that this was so and said that we had merely wanted to put him in the picture in case the SID mentioned the matter to him as it might well be fresh in their minds.

*B. Palliser*B. Palliser

K.3./6

2 May, 1972.

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3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 *FEBRUARY 2024*

*69-72*  
*73-215*  
*65-72*

832a

Note For File

1. Reference CAIRNCROSS's statement in his letter to Patrick Stewart, at serial 831a, that he has stood as referee to a friend of his for a post in N.A.T.O., I asked C3A if they could identify this woman's vetting application. I spoke to [redacted] on the 5th April and she told me that the F.C.O. had sent us a form on the 22nd February which we had returned NRA on the 25th February. As the case appeared to be a straight NRA they had no copy of the form, but she said she would be very happy to ask her contact to let her have a copy for me. She would not indicate that she wanted it for any security purpose but merely to check some technical point.
2. As I did not receive a copy of the form for sometime I rang [redacted] again on the 26 April. She was away but her secretary told me that the form had in fact been submitted again for overseas checks to be done, namely an enquiry to SLO Washington and a cable [redacted]. She promised to copy the form this time and send it to me, and the copy is now attached to this note.
3. I asked [redacted] secretary to make a note to ensure that when the results of the overseas checks come back C3A would consult us again before replying to the F.C.O.

B. Palliser

B. Palliser

K.3./6

2 May, 1972.

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ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 24

K3/DJF  
4-7-72

K3/G.

Miss BJB Palliser

As Spoken  
is now out  
eng. to

S.L.O. WASHINGTON.

CABLE. MIAR. ROME

ID. ITALY

CSA 27 x 939  
27/4/72

TO BE COMPLETED IN BLOCK LETTERS OR TYPED

Department: FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

Proposed employment: SH/TYPIST, NATO,  
Brussels

Date of N.V. or first-stage check:

Date of information: 14.2.72

PV

For official use only

PRESENT MARRIAGE

Date:

Place:

Particulars	Subject	Spouse	Father	Mother
1. SURNAME (a) Now	CHEVALLIER		CHEVALLIER	
(b) At birth if different and any other surname(s) used — including maiden name and former married name(s)				BURTON
2. FULL CHRISTIAN/FORE NAMES	SIMONE CHRISTINE		FRANCIS TEMPLE	HILDA
ADDRESSES (a) Full permanent home address	None in U.K. via della Lungaretta 66/6 Rome		DC'd	105 Natoma Ave Santa Barbara California USA
(b) Temporary address — if any —	--		Any further details of Subject's Step-parents Guardian, etc. (from page 4 of E.93) and of any former spouse. DEPARTMENTAL STAMPS AND NOTES.	
(c) Other addresses in the United Kingdom during the last 10 years with dates	68/Jan. 69 38 Drayton Gardens, London, S.W.10 1945/47 - Sans Soucis, Douglas Rd., Cork, Ireland. 1936/45 - Convent of Sacred Heart, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.			
(d) Other addresses outside the United Kingdom AT ANY TIME for more than 6 months WITH DATES IN EACH CASE	1930-36 - Parade Ground Rd., Poona, India 1947-50 - 321 Niss St. Victoria B C. and 32 Cambridge St. "			
4. NATIONALITY (a) Now	BRITISH		BRITISH	
(b) At birth, if different. If naturalized state Number and Date of Certificate				
(c) If not of British nationality is it intended to apply for naturalization?				
5. DATE OF BIRTH	20.10.30		1888	1899
6. PLACE OF BIRTH including County, State and Country	Quetta, Pakistan		London	London
7. PRESENT OCCUPATION	Secretary		Former Indian Army	

ENCL.

23 FEB 1972

C. 3.

NOT RECORDED  
25 FEB 1972

**8. PARTICULARS OF SUBJECT'S EMPLOYMENT, WITH DATES, DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS**

Name and address of Employer	Nature of Employment	From	To
First Western Bank, Victoria, Canada	?	1948	50
Western Union, Santa Barbara, California	?	1950	51
Seaside Oil Co., Santa Barbara and San Francisco	?	1951	52
First Western Bank, Santa Barbara, California		1954	56
Miramar Hotel Resort, Santa Barbara, California	?	1956	58
Kelly Girls Service, N.York	?	1958	60
Horizons Hotel, Bermuda	?	1960	
Anchorage Hotel, Antigua	?	1961	
American Express Co., San Francisco.	?	1961	62
University of California		1962	63

& see attached

**9. H.M. FORCES**

Service : ---	Rank :	No. :
---------------	--------	-------

**10. RELATIVES LIVING ABROAD (in Communist or Fascist governed countries)**

<p>---</p>
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**11. FOREIGN TRAVEL (any visits to a country having, at the time, a Communist or Fascist Government)**

Country	Reason for visit	From	To
Czechoslovakia	Tourism	Oct. 1968	

**2. CHARACTER REFEREES :**

	(a)	(b)
Full name :	Miss Nancy Ralli	Mrs. Joan Mary Wilmott
Occupation :	None	H/Wife
Full address :	22 Brompton Square, London. S.W.3.	Farthings, Roundwood Lane, Lindfield, Haywards Heath Sussex
Telephone No.		

**3. ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION UNDER QUESTIONS 13-16 OF THE FORM E.93**

NO
----

Employment (Continued)

International Labor Org., Geneva, ?	1963 - 65
United Nations, Geneva, ?	1965 - 66
Food and Agriculture Org. of U.N. Rome ?	1966 - 68
Temp. Sec. Fines Agency, S.W.3 and Norma Skemp Agency, SW1	1968 - 69
Commission of Justice and Peace, Vatican City	1969
Pronto Secretarial Agency, Via Archimede 146, Rome	1970-71
Astra Secretarial Agency, Via XX Settembre, Rome	1971 - ?

FAO

831a

30 March 1972

Recd 5/4/72

It came to C-3.  
on 22.2.72 +  
was returned NRA  
on 25.2.72.

K3/BA BP.

hit you for a long stop out  
with Z3 so that this is  
referred to us if it crops up.

PS

Dear ~~Patrick~~,

Very many thanks for your last letter. I didn't in fact  
leave, but may be called upon in May.

Another matter I think ought to be mentioned. A friend of mine,  
Miss Simone Chevalier, is up for a post in Nato and is due to travel to  
London for an interview with the FO. She asked me originally to give her  
a reference, which I gladly did, for she is utterly reliable, and it  
would have looked strange had I refused to help. I do hope, however,  
that my endorsement will not boomerang and be used to disqualify her.  
Or, conversely, that she will not be grilled about me.

about  
F. K. H. L.

All good wishes for Easter,

Yours

John Cairncross

Mr Patrick Stewart

K3/005  
7.4.72



Mr Patrick Stewart  
Ministry of Defence  
Room 055  
Old War Office Building  
Whitehall  
London SW 1  
England.



829a.  
830a.

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

Seen by K3/6/BP 24.8.72.  
I cannot find any BURGESS reference to  
GIMPEL - though I seem to remember Claire  
GAPPER speaking of one: Could PHILBY have  
been BLUNT's source in some way?  
PF 604,582

RPP

Thank you. I suggest we might send a xerox  
copy of your note to K3/?BP and ask whether

8286

AC to see CAIRNCROSS has <sup>she</sup> might be asked about GimpeL file/RIS.

Note She might also be able to comment on the possible BURGESS  
connection suggested by BLUNT but not further evident from GimpeL's file.  
A2 27.3

On 22.6.67 BLUNT was asked by PMW what he knew about  
the GIMPEL brothers. (The subject does not appear to have  
been raised before). He said that he knew them all well.  
He had tutored all three of them as boys, in Italy. They  
were a-political then, but he had heard, possibly from  
Guy BURGESS that they had been involved with the R.I.S.  
He believed the one in France was the most interesting,  
but was unable or unwilling to give a reason. This  
interview was unfortunately not recorded.

2. There are three GIMPEL brothers:-

Ernest Richard @ Charles born 1913 PF 715,767;

Peter @ Pierre Rene born 1915 no file;

Jean born 1918 no file.

3. BLUNT presumably acted as tutor in the late twenties  
and/or early thirties, possibly in his summer vacations or  
during the year he spent abroad in 1933/34.

4. There are certainly suggestions of R.I.S. involvement  
with the GIMPELS on PF 715,767, but nothing concrete  
emerges.

5. GIMPEL père was an art dealer in Paris in the thirties.  
His wife was British, and the sons appear to have visited  
this country frequently. Ernest worked for his father  
before the war, then joined the French army. In June 1940  
he was taken prisoner, later escaped and made his way to  
Vichy, where he worked with a Resistance group. In August  
1942 after he had escaped from prison after arrest by the  
Vichy authorities he came to the U.K. (5a). He later  
(?in June 1943) joined SO2 and was parachuted into France  
in December 1943. He was captured by the Germans in 1944  
and interned in a concentration camp, presumably somewhere  
in Eastern Europe, since he was released by the Red-Army in  
1945 (113a).

6. He returned to London after the war and has made  
his home here, although he appears to retain French citi-  
zenship. In 1947, a B.I.A source reported Ernest to be  
involved in a group of 'near Communists' which also  
included John CAIRNCROSS (12a). T/C on CAIRNCROSS in 1952  
confirmed that he was a friend of GIMPEL. In 1952 the

/French ...

✓  
22972

French Surcté informed us that they had discovered a note on the 'LUCOMASTER rescau' (British agent network in France) allegedly produced by Ernest GIMPEL amongst documents in the possession of Marieta KALLOZ-KORZENIOWSKA, whom they had arrested and interrogated because of her connections with a suspected R.I.S. agent (1a). In 1945 KALLOZ-KORZENIOWSKA herself had passed information to Russian military personnel about French Units in Austria, while employed as interpreter at French Headquarters there (21a).

7. GIMPEL was interviewed by A. F. Burbridge on 23rd March 1954 (85a). He denied all knowledge of the piece of paper, but said that KALLOZ-KORZENIOWSKA was known to him as a friend of a close friend in France, Pierre Biro, whom he admitted was a Communist. GIMPEL was assessed, at the time, as truthful.

8. Ernest GIMPEL married in 1946, [redacted] who was briefly an employee of the Security Service. She was born in Edmonton, Canada on 2nd January 1914, her mother being a Canadian and her father Irish. She was educated in Canada, and attended the University of Manitoba. Her R of S does not reveal when she came to Europe, but from April 1939 until May 1940 she worked as a clerk in the British Military Attaché's office in Paris. When she applied to join the office in June 1940, having been introduced by the [redacted] who appeared to be working here, she was currently employed in R. Casualties Department, War Office. She joined on 8th July 1940, and worked in the Registry, until she resigned on 18th January 1941. At some later date she joined S.O.E., which is presumably how she met GIMPEL. Her R of S contains no reports. According to [redacted] of 11th May 1967 GIMPEL separated from his wife in 1966 and now lives with a woman of Eastern European origin (113a).

9. PF 715,767 contains a little information about the brothers. Peter apparently came to this country before the war, fought with the British army (5a), and was naturalised in 1946 (31a). He and Ernest are partners in the Art Gallery, and he was also alleged in 1947 to be a member of the same group of 'near Communists' as his brother and CAIRACROSS. Jean, 'the one in France', was according to [redacted] of 11th May 1967 in touch in the early 1950s with persons in the Nice area who were suspected of being R.I.S. agents. He also had other contacts of security interest.

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ACT 1958 February 2024

Nothing among Warbur's papers which AFB might have seen which suggested any Russian connection.  
17  
Could AFB's source re GIMPEL's R.I.S. involvement have been CAIRACROSS rather than BURGESS?  
14th March 1972

N.B. K7/EIAY suggests we ask Tony Brooks about Ernest

827a  
828a.

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THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958.

# TELEGRAM FOR DESPATCH

This telegram may be despatched by non Security Service Channels. (Departmental Cypher)

This telegram to be despatched in Security Service Cypher. (Exclusive Cypher).

Signed.....  
(Assistant Director or above ONLY)

Signed.....  
(Authorised Officer)

Date.....Section.....

Date 9.3.72 Section K3/0

Precedence.....  
**IMMEDIATE**  
**SLO WASHINGTON**

Security Classification.....  
**TOP SECRET**

To:.....  
.....  
.....

Info:.....  
.....  
.....  
**PF.72,493**  
File Nos.....

Copy to Sections.....

For B.3 Tels. use	Originators No. <u>659</u>	Date <u>9.3.72</u>
-------------------	----------------------------	--------------------

Reference ~~xxx~~ <sup>xxx</sup> your letter No. 538 of 8.3.72  
our telegram

From Stewart

1. Very grateful Angleton's offer of help, but would prefer to keep it in reserve at present.                      are already making enquiries in Italy, and we have unearthed fact that in 1961                      informed SID that CAIRNCROSS quote known to have been Communist in youth and we suspect he may have been involved in Russian espionage unquote.

2. This provides adequate peg on which to hang formal approach to SID by                      and this is now in train.

3. This may not be as fruitful as Angleton's personal contact, but essential that we avoid crossing wires and duplication of effort.

4. We will keep you informed of progress and seek Angleton's assistance if                      approach is abortive.

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ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 2024

AS

K3/0

CONFIRMATION COPY

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

Handwritten scribble or signature in the top right corner.

Precedence..... PRIORITY...... Security Classification..... TOP SECRET.

From : SLO WASHINGTON. File Nos. PF.72,493. Originator's No. 538

To ..... Date of Origin... 8.3.72.

Passed for Action to K3 Date of Receipt... 9.3.72.

Info..... Copies to..... Decyphered by... JMB.

Typed by JD.

FOR STEWART

REFERENCE YOUR PF.72,493/K3/0 OF 22 FEBRUARY.

1. I HAVE NOW DISCUSSED YOUR LETTER WITH ANGLETON. HE WAS EXTREMELY INTERESTED AND COMMENTED THAT IN HIS VIEW YOU WERE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT TO RE-OPEN THE CASE. HE IS INCLINED TO FAVOUR THE IDEA THAT THE 1964 CONFESSIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF CAIRNCROSS AND STRAIGHT, MIGHT HAVE BEEN QUOTE PUT UP JOBS UNQUOTE.
2. ANGLETON COULD NOT HELP ON THE QUESTION OF HOW THE SUGGESTION THAT CAIRNCROSS SHOULD BE SEEN IN 1964 AROSE. HE BELIEVES HOWEVER THAT THE INITIATIVE CAME FROM THE BRITISH.
3. ANGLETON VOLUNTEERED TO MAKE FULL ENQUIRIES THROUGH QUOTE AN OLD FRIEND IN THE ITALIAN SERVICE WHO OWES ME A NUMBER OF FAVOURS UNQUOTE INTO CAIRNCROSS'S FINANCES AND MODE OF LIVING IN ITALY. HE SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY FOR HIM TO TELL HIS CONTACT ANY MORE OF THE CAIRNCROSS STORY THAN THAT IT IS BELIEVED THAT HE MAY HAVE HAD CONNECTIONS WITH THE RIS IN THE PAST. ONE OF ANGLETON'S STAFF IS GOING TO ITALY IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND IF YOU WISH TO TAKE HIM UP ON HIS OFFER HE WOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO HAVE ALL THAT IS KNOWN ABOUT CAIRNCROSS'S PROPERTY, ADDRESSES, FRIENDS ETC. AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



EXCLUSIVE CYPHER

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 ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 20 24

Handwritten notes and a checkmark in the bottom right corner.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
ROOM 055  
OLD WAR OFFICE BUILDING,  
WHITEHALL, S.W.1

PF.72493/K3/0

24 February 1972

Dear John,

I have made enquiries about  
the matter we discussed on the  
telephone. You should have no trouble.  
I hope you enjoy the trip.

J. Cairncross, Esq.,  
F.A.O.,  
Via delle Terme di Caracalla,  
00100 Rome

---

✓  
K3/A  
2/27/72

CONFIRMATION COPY  
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

8230

Precedence IMMEDIATE Security Classification TOP SECRET

From: SLO WASHINGTON File Nos. PF. 72,493 Originator's No. 525

To: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Origin 23.2.72

Passed for  
Action to K3 Date of Receipt 23.2.72

Info \_\_\_\_\_ Copies to \_\_\_\_\_ Decyphered by EAM

PERSONAL FOR STEWART.

Reference your telegram 651 of 18th February.

Angleton agrees that it is most unlikely that any adverse assessment would be passed to the Liberians. He is reluctant to take steps to ensure that his view is correct as this would only draw attention to the case here. He therefor suggests that he should only intervene if things go wrong.

EXCLUSIVE CYPHER

163/1/1  
24/2/72



8220

NOTE FOR FILE

I spoke to E.2/John Day and C3C/Fitz Fletcher in order to find out whether CAIRNCROSS was likely to have his visa referred if he transitted Accra on his way to Liberia. Day thought it highly unlikely that in the present situation in Ghana much interest would be taken in a transient visitor, and Fletcher said that CAIRNCROSS was unlikely to come into the category of persons whose visas were referred. I considered therefore that there was no reason to alert SLO Ghana to CAIRNCROSS's overnight stop in his territory and that it might indeed be counter-productive to draw his attention to CAIRNCROSS's presence.

*P. F. Stewart*

P. F. Stewart

K.3/0

22.2.72

✓  
13/1/72  
24/2/72  
23/2/72

82/a

PF.72,493/K3/0

22 February 1972

Dear C.

John CAIRNCROSS

In my telegram No.651 of 18th February I promised to write to you setting out our new thoughts on the CAIRNCROSS case.

2. You may recall that when you and K/Adviser saw CAIRNCROSS in Rome in May 1969 you were struck by the marked change in his attitude, and you considered that there could be three possible explanations for this:

- (a) that he had finally got rid of his guilt complex;
- (b) that he had finally got off the RIS hook or
- (c) that he was once again under RIS control.

We have, of course, borne these three possibilities in mind in our various dealings with CAIRNCROSS over the last two years.

3. We were therefore considerably interested to find that at the time of CAIRNCROSS's co-operation with us in Operation ACRE he was in touch with the Highgate police. He made no mention of this contact to us and it was not till some time afterwards that we learned from the police that CAIRNCROSS had visited them in order to lodge a complaint against a man called BUYERS who had persuaded him to invest £24,000 in/import/export deal concerned with the sale of Nigerian oil. CAIRNCROSS said that he had raised this money by mortgaging a property he possessed in Italy at an interest rate of 10% - 15%. In the end BUYERS had paid him back with a dud cheque for 320,000 Swiss Francs, supposedly paid through a Swiss bank account. It struck us as extremely odd that CAIRNCROSS who was eager to ask our advice on various other matters should not even have mentioned the very considerable sum of money which he had been swindled out of. It occurred to us therefore that he

113/11  
03/2/72

/an

- 2 -

might well have come by this money by some illegal means and that indeed it might represent a reward, payment or pension from the RIS.

4. CAIRNCROSS visited the UK early this year and we took the opportunity of seeing him and giving him every opportunity to come clean about his financial affairs. We reminded him that he had told K/Adviser and yourself that some years ago he had purchased a small olive grove and we wondered if this was all the property he possessed. CAIRNCROSS then spun us a very strange and confusing story to the effect that he had sold the olive grove to an English couple who had failed to pay him and that he was now trying to sequester some land near Rome belonging to this couple in order to compensate himself. In the course of this story he mentioned that he also owned a "millionaire's villa" in Anacapri. He did not go into details as to how he had acquired this presumably valuable property and we did not feel it politic to press him at that particular moment. It is possible, of course, that the villa at Anacapri is the security on which he raised the £24,000 out of which he was swindled but the question still remains how CAIRNCROSS came by such a valuable property because his various employments since he left the public service do not appear to have been such as to enable him to put money by in savings. He is, moreover, still supporting his wife from whom he is now separated.

5. Our suspicions were further aroused during our recent interview as a result of CAIRNCROSS's reaction to a photograph which we showed him as part of a spread. This photograph was of Venyamin Semenovich BELETSKY, a well known OGPU agent in Paris before the war whom we have now identified as having served in the UK for a brief period in 1942 under the name of KAMINSKY. We strongly suspect that he was one of the controllers of the Ring of Five. CAIRNCROSS's reaction was one of immediate recognition but after a pause he said that it was a photograph of the man who was his last controller and who was PNG'd after he left the Civil Service. This is clearly nonsense, not only because KAMINSKY was not in the UK at the time but because CAIRNCROSS had already identified his last controller as the KUZNETSOV who was PNG'd after the MARSHALL case.

- 3 -

6.

If, however, it transpires that there is no adequate explanation of how CAIRNCROSS acquired this sizeable sum of money apart from receiving it from the RIS we must surely ask ourselves what was behind his confession to Arthur Martin in the Spring of 1964. We have looked at the circumstances which led to the proposal that CAIRNCROSS should have been seen and it rather looks as if the suggestion was put to

by Jim Angleton in the early months of 1964. I gather that K/Adviser mentioned our worries to Angleton on his recent visit and that the latter said that he had some vague recollection of the circumstances which prompted him to make the suggestion. I wonder, therefore, if you would be good enough to tell Angleton the reasons for our renewed doubts about CAIRNCROSS and ask him if he has any record or can recollect the background to the proposal that CAIRNCROSS should be interrogated. I am sure that it is important that we get the background to CAIRNCROSS's confession clearly on the record.

7. All this, of course, may be a mare's nest. I was talking to [redacted] the other day and he told me that he had shared an office during the war with CAIRNCROSS and that either at that time or at some period later on CAIRNCROSS had been engaged in some fiddle concerned with the export of whisky. It may therefore be that this outwardly timid and scholarly figure is a financial wizard like his brother but operates on the wrong side of the law.

Yours

AS

P. F. Stewart

C. O. Shipp, Esq., O.B.E.,  
SIO Washington

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3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 2024

HST/1 c/d

DF.72,493

820a

Copied to POL-11-55-1-13

NOTE FOR FILE

Wright

K/Adviser spoke to me yesterday about KX's Minute 816. He said that when he saw CAIRNCROSS in Paris he had read out to him the Form of Assurance as agreed by L.A. and filed at 42a in CAIRNCROSS's Link B. Although CAIRNCROSS did not write this down he paid great attention, and K/Adviser believes that he will have remembered the terms. Although the first sentence mentions "a particular operation", the assurance in the second cannot be interpreted as being qualified by it.

2. We did not think it feasible therefore to adopt the formula suggested in para 2 of KX's minute, and that our best policy lay in adopting the line suggested in para 3 - i.e. stressing the risks both to himself and his brother, Alexander, of undesirable publicity if by any chance further spy revelations were to be published in the Press.

3. While we were discussing this K/Adviser heard from his home that a telegram had arrived from CAIRNCROSS asking him to telephone. I undertook to deal with the matter.

4. I subsequently discussed the matter with KX and LA who agreed with the proposed line. LA asked me to make it clear to CAIRNCROSS that his immunity was limited to the espionage already admitted and to nothing else.

5. When I rang CAIRNCROSS in Rome I found that he was not exercised about his immunity when visiting the UK, but about the problems which might arise from a visit he was due to make on 6th or 7th March to Liberia. He was concerned lest, as a result of American influence, his visa application might be processed in the United States and he would receive adverse publicity. He asked me if I could take any action to stop this, and I said that I would do what I could; and that I would let him know. I also suggested that he should travel to Monrovia via Accra, bearing in mind that I could warn the SLO. CAIRNCROSS

/would.....

113/114  
2/17/52

would arrive there at 1945 on Sunday 5th March and leave the following morning.

6. Incidentally, CAIRNCROSS asked again for my home telephone number. I did not give it to him.

P. F. Stewart.

P. F. Stewart

K.3/0

---

18.2.72

TELEGRAM FOR DESPATCH

819A

This telegram may be despatched by non Security Service Channels. (Departmental Cypher)

This telegram to be despatched in Security Service Cypher. (Exclusive Cypher).

Signed.....  
(Assistant Director or above ONLY)

Signed.....  
(Authorised Officer)

AS

P.F. Stewart

Date..... Section.....

Date 18.2.72..... Section K.3.....

Precedence... IMMEDIATE .....

Security Classification. TOP SECRET

To: S.L.O. WASHINGTON .....

Info:.....

File Nos... PF.72,493 .....

Copy to Sections.....

For B.3 Tels. use	Originators No. .... 651 .....	Date 18.2.72
-------------------	--------------------------------	--------------

Reference your letter No..... of.....  
our telegram

Personal from Stewart

1. John CAIRNCROSS has just telephoned from Rome to say he is due to visit Liberia for four weeks from 6 March. He is concerned lest as a result of American influence his visa may be processed in Washington and he will receive adverse assessment.

2. We think this unlikely, but would be grateful if you could check with C.I.A. If CAIRNCROSS's concern is valid can Angleton assist by ensuring no adverse information passed.

3. Reason for asking is that we are once more highly suspicious of CAIRNCROSS and have re-opened investigation. It would help us considerably if his Liberian trip did not blow case open in advance.

4. I will write shortly about our reasons for suspicion.

5. Grateful for a reply soonest.

Kyse  
18.2.72

815a.

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



8152

NOTE FOR FILE

Reference my letter to Special Branch of 20th December, 1971, I telephoned today to Chief Superintendent Bryan (extension 25), repeated our thanks for what they had sent us and stressed again what I had said in my paragraph 3 that we were most interested to know if anything more had happened in the matter of CAIRNCROSS's and Mrs de CENT's complaint against BUYERS. Chief Superintendent Bryan promised to look into this for me.

2. Shortly afterwards Detective Constable Daines (extension 29) telephoned me to say that it was he who had compiled the report about CAIRNCROSS and that Chief Superintendent Bryan had asked him to get in touch with me. He confirmed that nothing more whatsoever had been heard from either CAIRNCROSS or Mrs de CENT and that no further action was being taken by the Police at the moment. It seemed to them that CAIRNCROSS, Mrs de CENT and BUYERS had all been involved together in the dubious financial dealings and that if CAIRNCROSS and Mrs de CENT had lost £30,000 each without any fault of their own they would surely have taken much stronger steps to have their case pursued. Mrs de CENT he thought was probably in Lagos and in touch with BUYERS in spite of their allegations against him. She had provided documentary proof of BUYERS' misdemeanours, but CAIRNCROSS had not. Detective Constable Daines also confirmed that he had sent us all the documents which CAIRNCROSS had submitted to the Police.

*B. Palliser*B. PalliserK.3./6

20th January, 1972.

SECRET

Copy of note for PA on  
PF.72,493 handed by K7/AOE  
to [redacted] on 13.1.72

814a

John CAIRNCROSS

When CAIRNCROSS was in the UK in the autumn of 1970 our coverage of him revealed that he was in touch with the Highgate police. Subsequent enquiries showed that he had approached them to lodge a complaint against a man called BUYERS who had persuaded him to invest £24,000 in an import/export deal concerned with Nigerian oil, and who had paid him back with a dud cheque for 320,000 Swiss francs. CAIRNCROSS told the police that he had borrowed the money on the security of some property he owned in Italy.

2. At the time we wondered how CAIRNCROSS had been able to acquire property of such value, and his failure to mention the swindle to us suggested that his affluence had not been attained by legitimate means. CAIRNCROSS was therefore seen again on a recent visit to the UK and he was given every opportunity to come clean about his property transactions. He was reminded that he had told us some years ago that he had an olive grove in Italy, and this provoked him into saying that he had sold this to an English couple who had not paid him because they needed the money to buy a house in London; and CAIRNCROSS was therefore trying to get his hands on some land near Rome owned by this couple in order to compensate himself. In the course of this story he mentioned that he had a "millionaire's villa" at Anacapri - which he would never live in himself, but under which he was building a small apartment for himself.

3. It is possible that the villa at Anacapri is the security on which he raised the £24,000 - at 10% to 15% - but the question of how he came by such a valuable property still remains. CAIRNCROSS's employments since he left the public service have not been such as to enable him to save much; and he is still supporting his wife from whom he is separated. There must at least be a suspicion that his money represents a payment, pension, or reward from the RIS.

4. It would be useful to know what the value of CAIRNCROSS's villa at Anacapri is; when and for how much he purchased it; and if in fact it is currently mortgaged. (If it is not, then he presumably at one time had both the villa and the £24,000 out of which he was swindled). We are inhibited from asking the

See 843a

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/Italian.....

SECRET

8142

- 2 -

Italian authorities to make enquiries on our behalf because we have never told them about CAIRNCROSS's past espionage activities. Although a request could be limited to an enquiry about CAIRNCROSS's financial activities, - he has probably broken currency regulations somewhere along the line - if our suspicions are correct such enquiries might throw up some kind of RIS background. The Italians would legitimately have a grievance that we had not been frank with them in the first place.

AS

P. F. Stewart

K.3/0

13.1.72

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SECRET

8/1a

Paras 1 & 7 ext'd to PCF 88-55-1-13  
4/2

NOTE FOR FILE - see serial 8096.

K/Adviser and I saw John CAIRNCROSS at Browns Hotel this morning, a sitting room having been booked for us by [redacted] The object of the interview was:-

- (a) to see whether CAIRNCROSS could be induced to tell us the truth about his financial affairs;
- (b) to show him a spread of photographs in the hope that he could help to identify OTTO and others of his controllers, and
- (c) to see if he recognised a wartime report by U.35 which had been marked to CAIRNCROSS by PHILBY but apparently initialled by his secretary.

2. I attempted to lead in to CAIRNCROSS's financial affairs by saying that I had hoped to visit Italy this summer where a friend of mine had bought a property in Tuscany. This friend who had been a colleague of CAIRNCROSS's in FAO had recently died and therefore this plan could not be fulfilled. I suggested jokingly that perhaps I might call upon CAIRNCROSS instead because I understood that he had a small plot of land somewhere in Italy which he had mentioned to Peter Wright and Cecil Shipp two or three years ago. CAIRNCROSS's reaction was to say that he was in some difficulties over his Italian property, and he launched into a complicated story about a property transaction in which he was engaged which was causing him sleepless nights. As far as we understood it he had sold his olive grove to a couple who had reneged on the bargain because they wished to purchase a house in London. CAIRNCROSS was now hoping to get his hands on some land near Rome belonging to this couple to recoup his losses. Connected in some way with these property transactions was a large villa ("a millionaires' villa") which CAIRNCROSS owned on Anacapri which he said he could never afford to live in himself, but under which he is building a small apartment for himself. This story makes remarkably little sense and of course bears no relation to the information we have had from the police about the swindle practised on CAIRNCROSS; and provides no explanation of the means whereby he had acquired either the money to lose or the millionaire's villa. We did not consider that this was the right moment to press him for more precise details.

see stories re  
here in press  
in 1982

K/Adviser did, however, ask CAIRNCROSS what his

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/plans.....

Handwritten initials or signature in the bottom right corner.

plans were for the future and whether he was financially reasonably well off. CAIRNCROSS gave the impression that he was under no financial pressures and that he was perfectly well able to make both ends meet while plodding on at FAO. In the course of this discussion he told us that he was still married and that he made his wife a generous allowance; and that he did not feel in a position to divorce her because thereby she would lose her claim to half his FAO pension when and if he died. CAIRNCROSS told us of various literary exercises in which he was engaged but none of these seemed likely to be particularly remunerative. Indeed he pointed out that his translations of the French Classics for the BBC were carried out purely for their academic prestige.

Exord to  
RL8/3598  
link A  
K3/6

See 809b

4. As it seemed quite clear that CAIRNCROSS had no intention of revealing to us any details of his true financial situation, we moved on to an examination of the 40 photographs which had been provided for us by K3/5. A list of these is attached to this note. The only significant reactions of CAIRNCROSS were to the following photographs:-

No.3: Arnold DEUTSCH. CAIRNCROSS asked whether he had been shown this photograph before and when told that he had said that he considered it was a starter for "OTTO". He later qualified this by saying that in fact DEUTSCH was not big enough and heavy enough for "OTTO" who had a big head, black hair and more of it.

No.4: KAMINSKY. CAIRNCROSS immediately recognised this photograph, but then identified it as that of his last controller who was PNG'd. He dated this as just before or just after he left the Civil Service, i.e. in 1952. He said that the man spoke faultless English but with an American accent.

Exord to  
RL8/3598  
link A  
K3/6

No.10: AKHMEROV. CAIRNCROSS paused for a long time before saying he did not recognise the photograph.

No.11: REISS. His reactions were the same as with AKHMEROV.

No.12: BIBRING. He said that the photograph reminded him of a German who worked with him in FAO, but he presumed the two were not identical.

No.15: GROMOV. CAIRNCROSS recognised him at once under his correct name.

No.18: The unknown man. As on a previous occasion he very quickly put this aside saying that he did not recognise the photograph.

No.24: KROTOV. CAIRNCROSS paused for some time before saying he did not recognise the photograph.

No.25: RADO. CAIRNCROSS said that the photograph was similar to GROMOV, but he did not recognise it.

No.31: The unknown man. CAIRNCROSS paused for a long time examining this photograph and finally said that it was a possible starter for "OTTO". The man had the heavy appearance of "OTTO" but he was not prepared to be definite. He later said that he could not rule him out as a possibility. CAIRNCROSS subsequently identified both Nos.35 and 39 correctly as GROMOV.

5. In an effort to stimulate CAIRNCROSS's memory we then ran through his controllers as far as he remembered them. These were, first, "OTTO"; then Robert whom he identified as GROMOV; then possibly the Georgian who may have come before or overlapped with the man with the military bearing. CAIRNCROSS commented that not only did the man have a military bearing, but that he had actually seen him in uniform on one occasion in the War Office. He was unable to specify his rank but guessed that he might have been a Captain. The military man was followed by a young man who blended better than any of the others into the London background and who spoke good English. His final controller was the man who was thrown out and whom he identified as KAMINSKY.

6. As we clearly were going to get no further with CAIRNCROSS on the identifications from the photographs, K/Adviser showed him the U.35 report which CAIRNCROSS read with some attention. He said that it rang no bells in his mind and that unless he had a hole in his memory he had never seen the report in his life. He pointed out that at the material time there was a civilian, whose name he could not recall, working in the section with him and it could well be that the report was merely marked to him for action in his section. He pointed out that if he had seen the report he would almost certainly have initialled it off. CAIRNCROSS's initials are not in fact on the report and it seems unlikely therefore that he did see it. We therefore dropped that subject.

7. CAIRNCROSS raised the subject of possible jobs if he decided to leave FAO before his term of employment

8/11a

expires. We made it clear to him that if he applied for a job in an international organisation, such as UNO or UNESCO, we could not guarantee that a check would not be made with the Americans and we could not therefore control what was said about him. CAIRNCROSS said he fully accepted this point, but wondered whether any objection would be entered to his coming to the UK to take up a professorship here if one were offered to him. In this context he told us that he intended to apply on or before 15th February for the job of Professor of French at Surrey University. It became obvious that he wished us to state categorically whether or not he would be able to take up this post if it were offered to him. We made it clear, as we have done on a previous occasion, that though there was no legal bar to CAIRNCROSS's coming to the UK we had a moral obligation to go back to our superiors because his immunity had originally been procured on the understanding that he would only be visiting rather than living in the UK. We suggested that CAIRNCROSS should go ahead and make his application to Surrey University and we, for our part, promised to take up the matter of his permanent residence in the UK.

8. Finally CAIRNCROSS told us that he was leaving this afternoon for Geneva, and after two or three days there would be travelling on to Rome. He said that he did not expect to be back in the UK before May - though he might have to attend for an interview at Surrey University. He said he would let K/Adviser know in advance, possibly by telegram, if he was visiting this country. He added that we could always contact him at home in the evenings - his new number being 3600689.

9. K/Adviser and I are in no doubt that CAIRNCROSS is concealing something of importance from us. He lied about his financial affairs, and his woolly story about his property transactions seemed deliberately designed to obfuscate the issue. He immediately recognised the photograph of KAMINSKY @ BELETSKIY, but placed his period in the UK as after 1950. And he was studiously unforthcoming about his activities in the UK during the past fortnight. His behaviour must give rise to the suspicion that the money which he acquired to purchase his property (and out of which he has been swindled) was given to him by the Russians - and that his confession was agreed to or connived at by the KGB. It is clearly of considerable importance to establish more precisely the details of CAIRNCROSS's property deals in Italy,

Escrd to  
RA8/3598  
Lub A  
12/3/6.

*P. F. Stewart*

P. F. Stewart

K.3/0

4.1.72

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- 811a
1. Josef LEPPIN
  2. Vassili ZUBILIN
  3. Arnold DEUTSCH
  4. Vassili KAMINSKIY @ Venyamin BELETSKIY
  5. Germina RABINOVICH
  6. Josef ISURIN
  7. Aleksandr ORLOV
  8. Henri PIECK
  9. Willy BRANDES
  10. Ishkak AKHMEROV
  11. Ignace REISS
  12. David BIBRING
  13. Carl NEBENFUHR
  14. Venyamin BELETSKIY @ Vassili KAMINSKIY
  15. Anatoli GROMOV
  16. Edith TUDOR-HART
  17. Ivan CHICHAYEV
  18. Unknown Man
  19. David ROSENTHAL
  20. Arnold GROSOVSKIY
  21. Wolf LEVIT
  22. Paul HARDT @ Theodore MALY
  23. Venyamin BELETSKIY @ Vassili KAMINSKIY
  24. Boris KROTOV
  25. Alexander RADO
  26. David BIBRING
  27. Andrey GRAOUR
  28. Arnold GROSOVSKIY
  29. Edith TUDOR-HART
  30. Vassili ZUBILIN
  31. Unknown Man
  32. Venyamin BELETSKIY @ Vassili KAMINSKIY
  33. Roland ABBIATE
  34. Ivan CHICHAYEV
  35. Anatoli GROMOV
  36. Grigori GRAPPEN
  37. Roland ABBIATE
  38. Germina RABINOVICH
  39. Anatoli GROMOV
  40. Walter KRIVITSKY



John Carrachios  
0772493

see serial 811a

Otto's head - <sup>Big</sup> Black.  
5-6"-8" <sup>more</sup> hair.

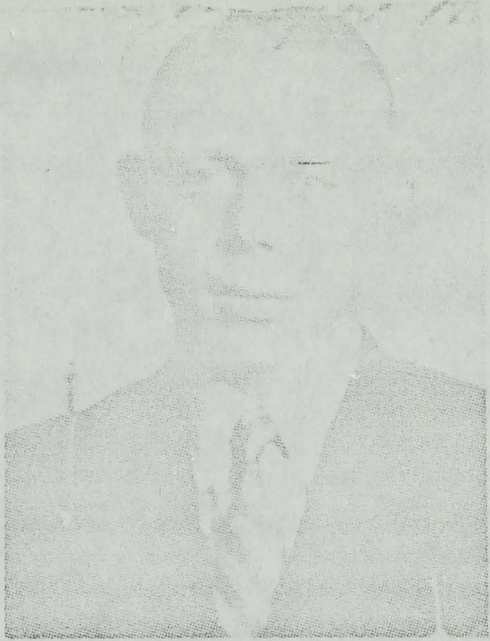
8096

1. Josef LEPPIN no
2. Vassili ZUBILIN xho. possibly, no
3. Arnold DEUTSCH Stator. for Otto no
4. Vassili KAMINSKIY @ Venyamin BELETSKIY ?
5. Germina RABINOVICH no
6. Josef ISURIN no
7. Aleksandr ORLOV no
8. Henri PIECK no
9. Willy BRANDES no
10. Ishkak AKHMEROV long frame no
11. Ignace REISS " " no
12. David BIBRING like gamma in FAD. no
13. Carl NEBENFUHR no
14. Venyamin BELETSKIY @ Vassili KAMINSKIY no
15. Anatoli GROMOV Yes
16. Edith TUDOR-HART no
17. Ivan CHICHAYEV no
18. Unknown Man no spink
19. David ROSENTHAL no
20. Arnold GROSOVSKIY no
21. Wolf LEVIT no
22. Paul HARDT @ Theodore MALY no
23. Venyamin BELETSKIY @ Vassili KAMINSKIY no.
24. Boris KROTOV Pause no
25. Alexander RADO like Gromov no
26. David BIBRING no
27. Andrey GRAOUR no
28. Arnold GROSOVSKIY no
29. Edith TUDOR-HART no
30. Vassili ZUBILIN no
31. Unknown Man Pause - Pause ? Otto. Possible. Not rule out.
32. Venyamin BELETSKIY @ Vassili KAMINSKIY no.
33. Roland ABBIATE no
34. Ivan CHICHAYEV no
35. Anatoli GROMOV Pause like Gromov.
36. Grigori GRAFFEN no
37. Roland ABBIATE no
38. Germina RABINOVICH no
39. Anatoli GROMOV ✓
40. Walter KRIVITSKY no.

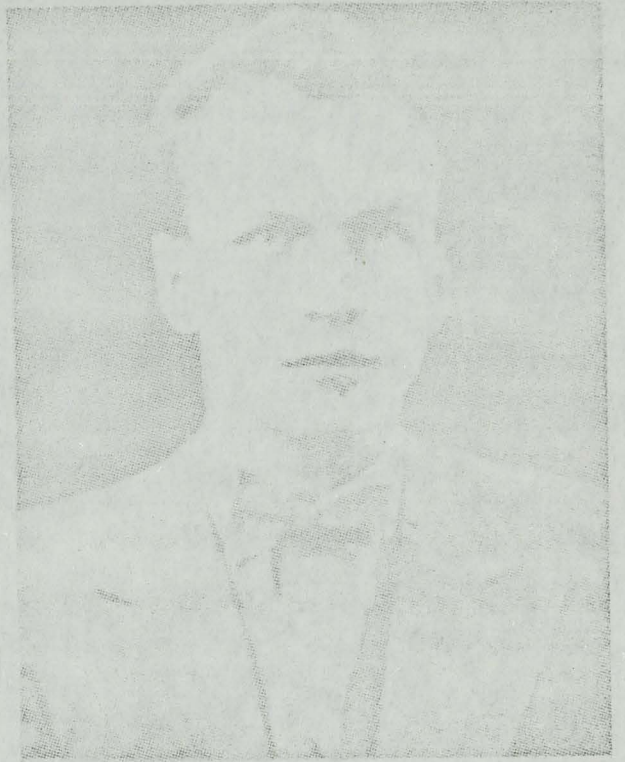
man checked out, American accent, familiar English, but American accent.

1  
Guy on Otto's boss.  
Mammans!

man in military bearing - in uniform - seen in how office.  
? Capt. -



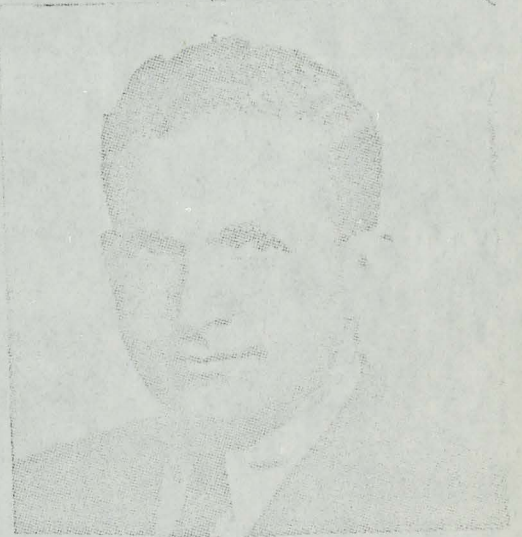
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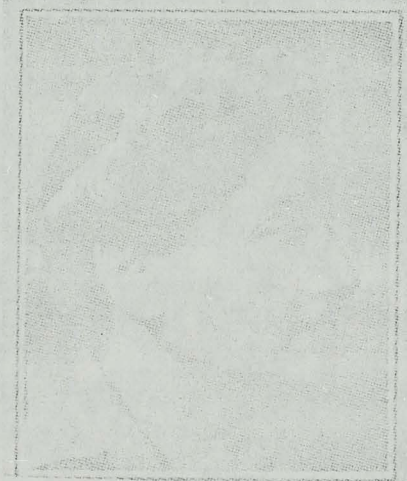
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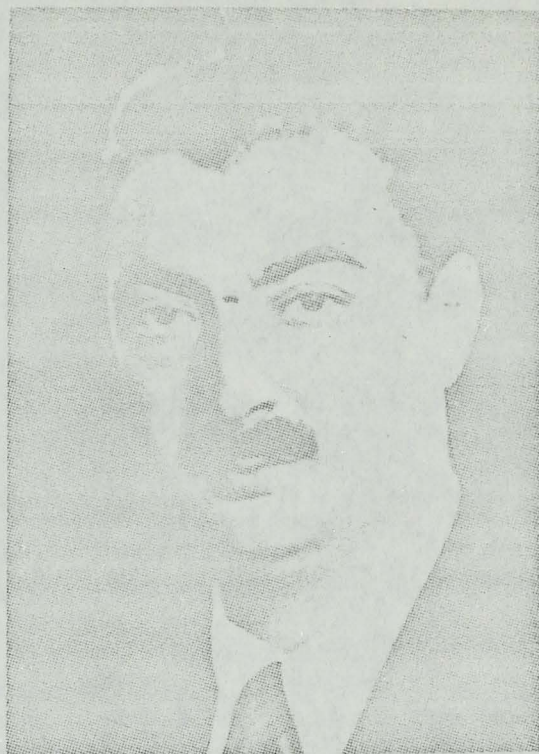
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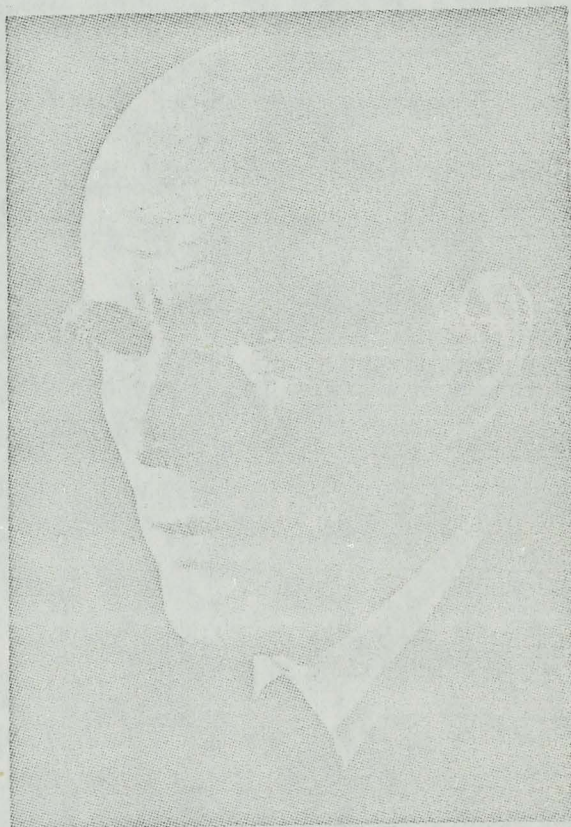
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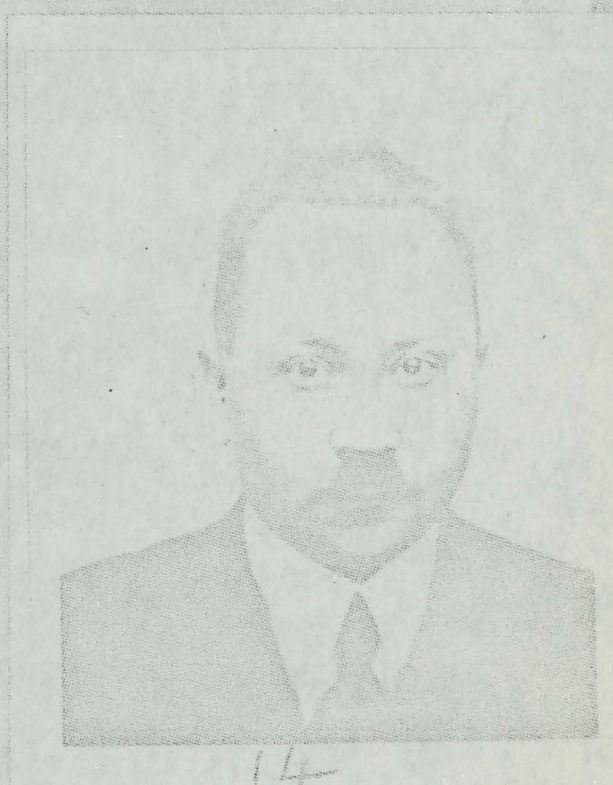
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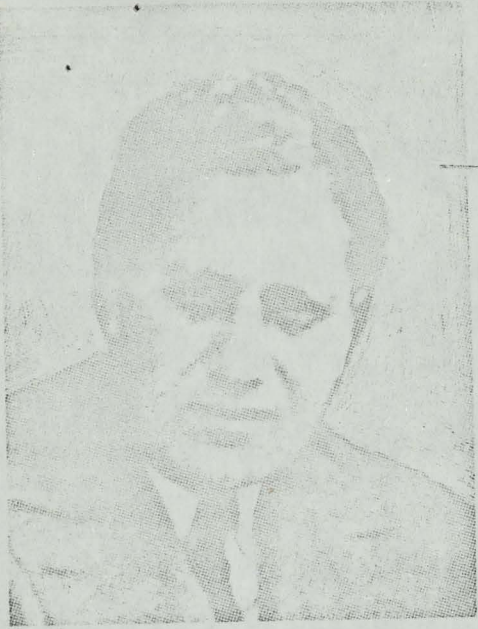
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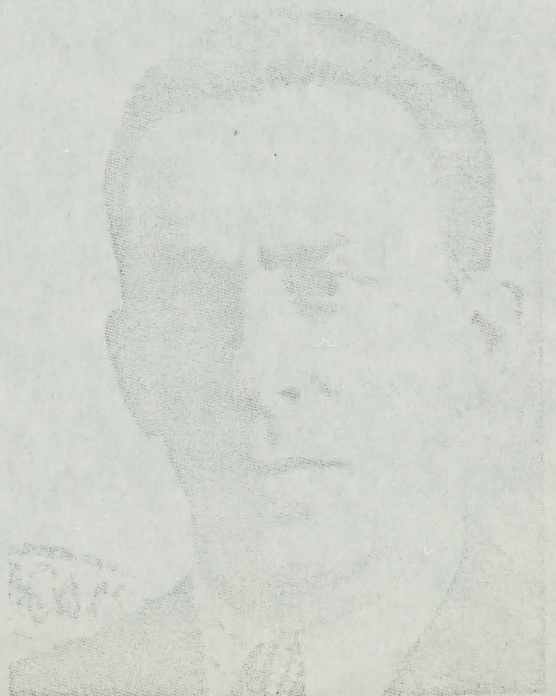
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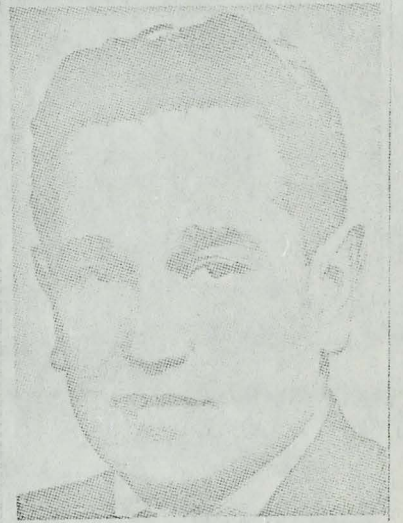
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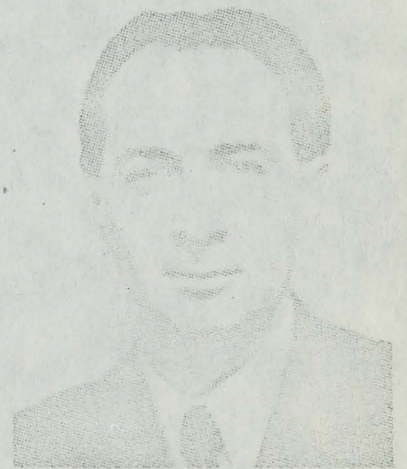
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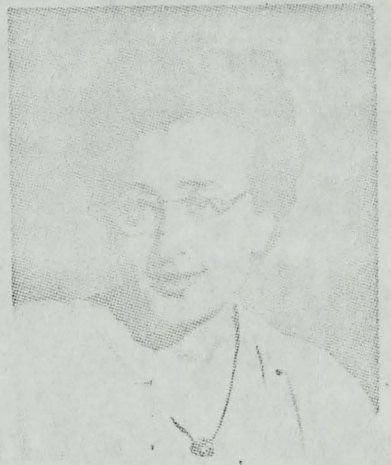
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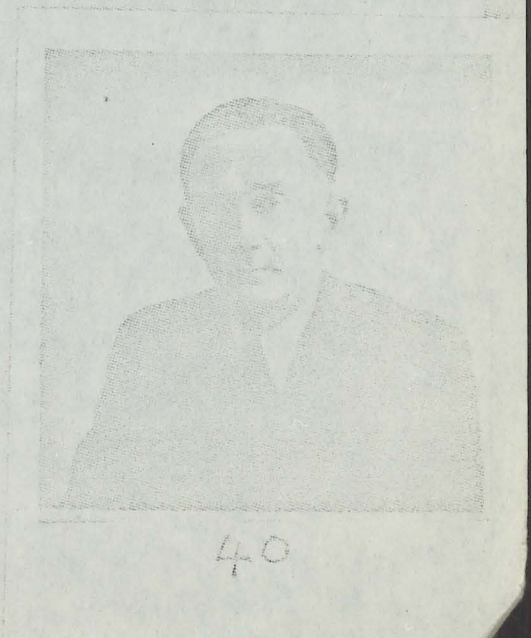
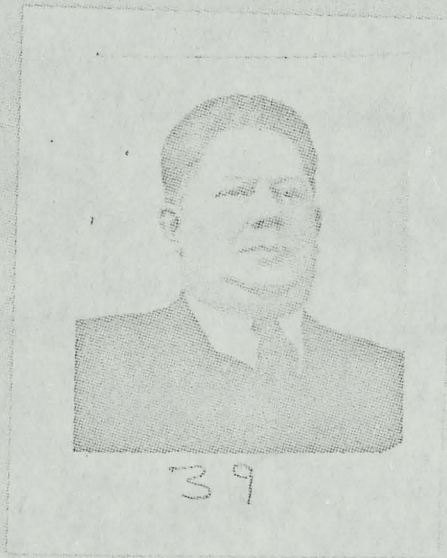
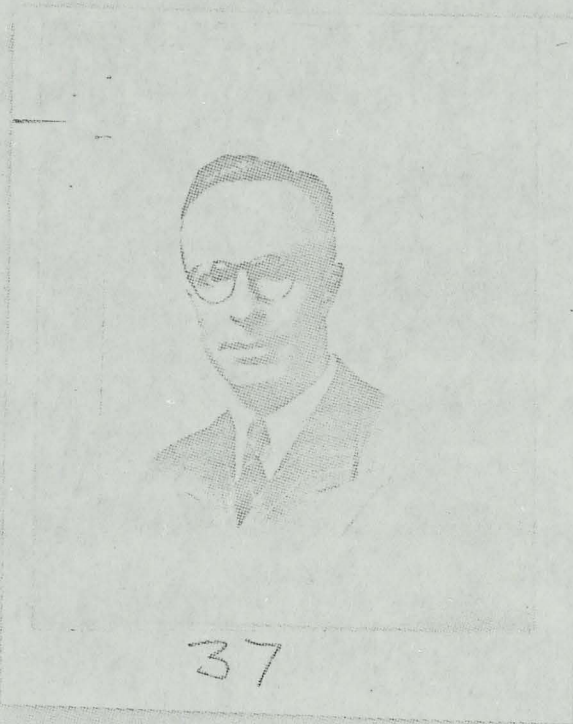
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Hostile Cl d

Reference PF 72,493

Copied to: PF 45,597 L.D

809a

NOTE FOR FILE

Shortly after Arthur Martin's successful interview with CAIRNCROSS in America in February, 1964, SLO Washington cabled and asked whether consideration had been given to the possibility of prosecuting KLUGMAN, using CAIRNCROSS to give evidence for the Crown (578a, Volume 14). On 16 March, 1964, Evelyn McBarnet noted on KLUGMAN's file that whereas it would not be possible to prosecute KLUGMAN, it might be possible to interview him (minute 577 in Vol 12 of KLUGMAN's PF 45597).

2. There followed in Volume 12 of KLUGMAN's file a long series of minuting in which the suggestion that KLUGMAN should be interviewed was discussed between D.I., D.I./Investigation, LA, DDG and DG. At this stage it was not proposed so much to confront KLUGMAN with CAIRNCROSS as to use CAIRNCROSS's information against him. It was considered, however, that CAIRNCROSS's confession was too delicate to be disclosed to either KLUGMAN or the public and finally, F.I. also being brought into the discussion, it was decided to leave KLUGMAN alone for the time being (minutes 584 and 585 in KLUGMAN's file, dated 23 April, and 4 May, 1964 - these are all copied and to be found at lz of KLUGMAN, Link D).

3. Some 18 months later, on 16 December, 1965, Peter Wright saw CAIRNCROSS in Paris and discussed with him a possible confrontation of KLUGMAN. (675a in Volume 16 of CAIRNCROSS). D brought this serial to the attention of the DDG and the DG in his minute 677 of 11 January, 1966 and the DG said that while he agreed with D that KLUGMAN would be unlikely to speak, a successful operation would be a very great prize indeed. He pointed out that F Branch should be consulted. No minuting to F Branch, however, was undertaken and the matter seemed to rest there. It was mentioned again by Peter Wright in his minute 708 of 16 May, 1967. It was finally acted upon only with the beginnings of ACRE, which grew out of a meeting between K3/PMW, F2/URG/C.O.S. and F4/G.H.L. on 5.5.69. (3a in PF 45,597 Link D).

B. Palliser  
B. Palliser

3 January, 1972.

K.3.

bpd  
1/2/72  
K3/PMW  
3172.

SECRET

808a

642

PF 72,493/K3/6

RF 320/NAZ/223

The Deputy Assistant Commissioner,  
Special Branch.

(FOR THE ATTENTION OF CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT R. BRYAN)

John CAIRNCROSS

1. Please refer to previous correspondence resting with your RF 320/NAZ/223 of 14 October, 1971, in reply to my letter of 5 October, 1971.
2. We are most grateful for the account you sent us of CAIRNCROSS's allegation of fraud against Peter BUYERS and also for all the enclosures to your letter. This has proved most helpful to us.
3. It would seem likely from what you say at the end of your report that nothing more will have transpired in this matter, at least as far as CAIRNCROSS is concerned. Should you have acquired any further information however, for instance if Mrs de CENT's complaint against BUYERS has been taken any further or if CAIRNCROSS has been in touch with the Highgate Police again, we should be most grateful if you could let us know.

BP.  
B. Palliser

20 December, 1971.

BP/DJS

SECRET

K3/DJS  
20.12.71

807a.

THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT  
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THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958.

8066

Butlers,  
Littley Green,  
Great Waltham,  
Essex

16 December 1971

✓PF.72,493/K/Adv

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter dated (whether with foresight or hindsight I do not know) 7th January 1970! Patrick and I will be happy to see you on the morning of 4th January 1971, and we will of course not keep you so that you cannot catch your flight. Please ring me on 3rd January and I will tell you where we can meet.

1972  
surely

PETER M. WRIGHT

P. M. Wright

J. Cairncross, Esq.,  
F.A.O.,  
Via delle Terme di Caracalla,  
00100 Rome

✓  
K3/D5  
17.13.71

Reference

80-20

FAO(RoomA 353)  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
Rome

7 January 1970

Dear Peter,

Many thanks for your note of 30 November which reached me yesterday. I look forward to seeing you on 4 January, and will ring you before that as to time and place. However, I would very much like it to be in the evening. I'm planning to leave London about 2. I had just booked before I saw yours. If this is unsatisfactory, please let me know and I'll modify my plans. However, I very much hope that the morning will be adequate for you.

Yours ever,

John

Butlers,  
Littley Green,  
Great Waltham,  
Essex

8034

30 November 1971

PF.72,493/K/Adviser

Dear John,

7982

Thank you for your letter of  
8th November. As far as I am concerned,  
Tuesday 4 January would be the most  
convenient date for us to meet. Please  
give me a ring on the day before and we  
will fix up a place and time.

PETER M. WRIGHT

P. M. Wright

J. Cairncross, Esq.,  
F.A.O.  
Via delle Terme di Caracalla,  
00100 Rome

✓  
163/1/1  
30/11/71

Note for File

Reference the letter at 795a about CAIRNCROSS's money dealings with Peter BUYERS and Gillian de CENT, my note at 798a about Gillian de CENT and my two notes at 799a and 800a setting out the story of the financial transactions such as we have had it and listing the documents which were supplied to the Police, the following points arise:-

749b 2. It is interesting to note from 799a and 800a that the dates of CAIRNCROSS's negotiations with BUYERS fit in very well with facts which emerge in Volume 17 of the file, which covers the 1969 dates. The time (May, 1969) that he implied to Peter Wright and Cecil Shipp that he was planning to leave FAO and the dates when he could have done this correspond to the time that he invested with BUYERS and was hopeful of getting a very good return on his money six months later. Again, it was at this same interview they noticed a change in him, his apparent affluence and his having probably a new girl-friend, all this coinciding with the date of his investment. The girl-friend is presumably the person referred to in BUYERS' and Mrs. de CENT's letters as "Liselotte". On one of CAIRNCROSS's letters at 795a, there is scribbled a hotel address for her in Italy. If it was ever necessary to try to identify her we might perhaps do so through the Italian liaison (although this might be difficult as we have never declared our interest in CAIRNCROSS to them).

795a 3. The first item listed at 800a, the earliest letter we have from BUYERS to CAIRNCROSS, is interesting in that it recommends him to try and find "further" money for "more" investment. This suggests that it is very likely that by March, 1969, BUYERS had allowed CAIRNCROSS to make quite a bit of profit out of some investment with him, and it was in this second venture that he swindled him so heavily. Mrs. de CENT's own part in this is not necessarily straight-forward. The Police make the point that her association with BUYERS was probably more than a business one, and the tone of her and BUYERS' letters to CAIRNCROSS rather suggests this also. CAIRNCROSS's last letter to the Police of July this year indicates that he has lost touch with her and that she appears to have moved. (Her address in London is 60 North Hill Highgate - that from which many of her and BUYERS' letters are written. The Police in their report call it 62 North Hill, Highgate. This is presumably a slip - unless she has moved to the next door house!) Although she herself has tried to have BUYERS prosecuted it is just possible that she was a party to the swindle. The Police commented that she told them recently that she had seen BUYERS in London, but too late for them to do anything about arresting him. She apparently made no attempt to contact CAIRNCROSS although she must have known that he was anxious for any news of BUYERS' whereabouts.

759a 4. It is interesting that Mrs. de CENT's address, 60 North Hill, Highgate, was given by Mrs. Gabrielle CAIRNCROSS when she applied for an American visa in August, 1969, as her address in

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 *February 2024*



806a

495a

England (November, 1965 - September, 1966) after she had left CAIRNCROSS. We know from a letter to John and Gabi dated 1962 that Gill de CENT was, as she put it, "installed in my house again" and she presumably had Gabi to stay or lent her the house in 1965/66.

5. The Police are at the moment hesitating to pursue their investigation "until CAIRNCROSS provides further documentary proof to support his allegation". Certainly the accounts of what has happened, as given in his letters to the Police, in his statement made before them, and in the evidence of the documents he has produced are all slightly at variance. For instance, in his statement, he gave an account of the money he invested (this is briefly set out in the central paragraph of page 1 of 799a) but he has certainly not provided full documentary evidence to support it. The only sums which are explicitly shown in the documents as having been transferred to BUYERS by CAIRNCROSS are one of £3,800 transferred from one London bank to another and a cheque for £350 which BUYERS acknowledged. (In contrast, Mrs. de CENT apparently was able to produce for them full documentary evidence to support her claim of embezzlement of about £30,000.) The Highgate Police suspect CAIRNCROSS of having infringed Italian currency regulations. It may be partly for this reason that he has not produced more documentary evidence and almost certainly for this reason that he has been unwilling to deal in any detail with the Italian Police. (It is not clear who Mrs. Joan ROSIO may be, who has transferred money to CAIRNCROSS's bank in London for him subsequently to transfer to BUYERS, or what her part is in the transaction.)

6. The letters from BUYERS to CAIRNCROSS attached to 795a make really amusing reading and quite an object lesson in how to build up a notional investment company with nothing more solid than the ability to brazen it out. CAIRNCROSS seems to have been incredibly naive. What seems the most important factor in his part in all this is how he in fact raised the £24,000 of capital. He told the Police he raised it by borrowing on the land he owned in Italy. Our only information about this is what he told Peter Wright and Cecil Shipp in May, 1969, namely that he had just bought an olive grove (perhaps with some of the proceeds of his early investment with BUYERS). Depending on the size of the olive grove it could presumably be sufficient security for £24,000. If this is true, he must now be quite hard put to it to pay the money back. It is no wonder that he has decided to retain his job in FAO and not retire just yet. Presumably it is just possible that the capital in part represented an accumulation of R.I.S. pension, or even perhaps payment for some current work.

*B. Palliser*  
B. Palliser

K.3/6

26th November, 1971

800a

NOTE FOR FILEChronological List of the Copies of Documents  
Supplied by CAIRNCROSS to Highgate Police,  
which are attached to 795a

- 18.3.69. Letter from Peter BUYERS from Mrs de CENT's address in Highgate to CAIRNCROSS in Rome, recommending him to try and find further 10 to 15 thousand dollars for more investment in a project to last about 6 months with a 15% profit, after which the money would be free for further investment. He or Gillian de CENT would be coming to Rome soon on way back from Lagos and would discuss it then. Also advising him about B.B.C. tax problem and a better insurance arrangement. Sends his and Gillian's love to 'Liselotte'.
- 14.4.69. Letter from Peter BUYERS from Gillian de CENT's Highgate address, setting out the investment proposition (in Nigerian oil) again in slightly different form and with much boasting about the prospects.
- 21.4.69. Letter to CAIRNCROSS from Barclay's Bank W.12. advising of receipt of cheque for £2,000 from Mrs Joan ROSIO.
- 13.5.69. Letter from Gillian de CENT from Highgate to CAIRNCROSS in Rome. 'Cheque received and paid in'. Investment advice. 'Please give my love to Liselotte when you see or talk to her'.
- 6.6.69. Letter to CAIRNCROSS from Barclay's W.12., advising of receipt of £4,000. ('J. ROSIO - BUYERS' written in in CAIRNCROSS's writing).
- 9.6.69. Letter to CAIRNCROSS from Barclay's W.12., confirming £4,000 received and £3,800 transferred to BUYERS at Lloyd's Bank.
- 27.6.69. Letter to CAIRNCROSS from BUYERS. Advice about tax on CAIRNCROSS's B.B.C. royalties. Acknowledges receipt of money from CAIRNCROSS's bank. Says 'will . . . arrange transfer of my account to yours' apparently in Geneva. Asks CAIRNCROSS for ideas as to how to get money out of Italy for investment purposes.
- 24.7.69. Letter to CAIRNCROSS from BUYERS, in Highgate. Thanks for cheque for £350. More about insurance.
- 3.11.69. Letter to CAIRNCROSS from BUYERS in Lagos, announcing Gillian's coming to Rome. She'll discuss insurance and give him cheque for \$ 6,000

(to be presented after reference to BUYERS)  
Does CAIRNCROSS want his money back now plus 35% profit? (i.e. about £32,000) or would he like to stay in. BUYERS recommends staying in. He is still hungry for capital - so many projects to pursue. He can offer better interest percentage on Italian lire.

- 15.12.69.           Cheque on Swiss Bank for 320,000 francs, made out to John CAIRNCROSS
- 25.1.70.            Cheque from BUYERS to CAIRNCROSS (for about £130 in lire) returned by bank marked 'Sans Provision' (no funds).
- Date obliterated        Cheque on BUYER's Swiss bank for illegible sum in Italian lire.
- Presumably            Cable to CAIRNCROSS in Rome from 'Peter' at March, 1970. Lagos saying 'Have stopped payment all cheques (date obscure following theft' in document, but this is the date CAIRNCROSS gave to it).
- Presumably about    Cable to CAIRNCROSS in Rome from London (presumably same as above. from Mrs de CENT), saying partnership with BUYERS dissolved and she has no contact. 'Inform Liselotte'
- 12.5.70.            Letter to CAIRNCROSS from Banque Populaire Suisse, Geneva, saying they have never received BUYER's cheque.
- 11.8.70.            Letter to CAIRNCROSS from Swiss Bank acknowledging CAIRNCROSS's letter of 3.8.70. They have investigated carefully. The cheque for 320,000 Swiss Francs never reached them - nor did any letter from CAIRNCROSS in month of April. BUYERS' account closed in spring of '70. Suggest he ask the Italian post office.

Also attached to S.B.'s letter at 795a are:

Copies of letters from CAIRNCROSS to the Highgate Police, dated 1.9.70., 8.6.71., 14.7.71.

A copy of the signed statement which he made at Highgate Police Station on 5.12.70.

And a copy of the signed statement which he made at a Rome Police Station on 7.6.71.

K.3/6

24.11.71.

NOTE FOR FILE

799a

Summary of Information at 795a re CAIRNCROSS's financial association with Peter Dover BUYERS and Mrs Gillian DE CENT, compiled from Police Report, CAIRNCROSS's own statement to Police and documents he supplied.

- 1967 Mrs DE CENT met BUYERS when they were both working as consultants for a company - went into financial partnership (his expertise and her money) and bought up the company.
- About 1967 CAIRNCROSS introduced to BUYERS by Mrs DE CENT in Rome.
- About 1968 CAIRNCROSS received a letter (with her signature forged, according to Mrs DE CENT) purporting to come from Mrs DE CENT, informing him of a business proposition and inviting him to invest in it.
- About March/  
April, 1969 CAIRNCROSS again met Mrs DE CENT and BUYERS in Rome and discussed investment possibilities with BUYERS, particularly one concerning disposal of quantities of Nigerian oil. After this conversation and later correspondence with BUYERS, CAIRNCROSS agreed to invest about £20,000. He gave him in two instalments in Italian currency over £10,000; he paid to him through his bank in Geneva Swiss cheques worth over £4,000; also to BUYERS' London bank through his own bank in London about £10,000 (total i.e. over £24,000). He was promised a return of 20% to 30% on his capital. He raised the capital by borrowing at 10% to 15% on the security of land he owned in Italy.
- End June,  
1969. CAIRNCROSS received as receipt from BUYERS a cheque on a Swiss bank for a sum representing his capital and some interest (dated 15.12.69.) (about £31,000 in Swiss francs).
- After March/  
April, 1969 CAIRNCROSS met BUYERS (alone) 8 or 9 times socially in Rome. Lent him a total of about £350 in Italian currency, in return for which he was given cheques. One, English one, was returned marked 'Payment Countermanded'. 2 Swiss ones were returned marked 'No funds'.
- 3.11.69. Letter to CAIRNCROSS from BUYERS re activities in Nigeria. Asks if CAIRNCROSS wants his money back now, plus 35%, or would he prefer to stay in. BUYERS recommends staying in.

✓  
K3/BJ5  
27.11.71

- 2 -

- March 1970            Cable from BUYERS saying 'Stopped all cheques following theft'. After this CAIRNCROSS never heard from BUYERS again.
- April 1970            CAIRNCROSS sent cheque (dated 15.12.69.) to Swiss bank. On hearing nothing from them he wrote again.
- 12.5.70.              Letter to CAIRNCROSS from BUYER'S Swiss Bank to say the cheque never received.
- 3.8.70.                CAIRNCROSS wrote to Swiss bank again.
- 11.8.70.              Letter from BUYERS' Swiss bank to say BUYERS' account closed in 'Spring' 1970. CAIRNCROSS's letter of April 1970 enclosing BUYERS' cheque never reached them - they suggested he take this up with the Italian Post Office.
- 1.9.70.                CAIRNCROSS wrote to Highgate Police, alleging fraud against BUYERS. Message forwarded to Rome Police as the offences took place in Rome. CAIRNCROSS would not disclose any details to them and referred them back to London.
- 5.12.70.              CAIRNCROSS made statement to Highgate Police.
- 7.6.71.                CAIRNCROSS made statement to Rome Police to whom he had been summoned because of message forwarded to them from Highgate. (see item of 1.9.70. above) In this he merely identified a photograph as being one of Peter Dover BUYERS, by whom he had been defrauded, and added that full details had been given to the English Police and that he intended to ask them to forward the relevant documents to the Rome Police.
- 8.6.71.                CAIRNCROSS wrote to Highgate Police, complaining that the Rome Police had asked him about his original letter of 1.9.70., which was now out of date and asking Highgate to bring Rome up to date so that they could arrest BUYERS if he went to Rome.
- 14.7.71.              CAIRNCROSS wrote to Highgate Police. Asking for news of his last letter. Has lost touch with Mrs DE CENT who appears to have moved. What is her new address?

798a

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

797a  
Butlers,  
Littley Green,  
Great Waltham,  
Essex.

4 November 1971

✓ PF.72,493/K3/0

Dear John,

Peter is away sick at the present time but he has sent me your letter of 20th October and asked me to reply to it. Peter says that he would prefer to have a meeting with you after the New Year rather than before and he would appreciate it if you could drop him a line some days in advance of your arrival in London.

Yours sincerely,

PS

P. F. Stewart  
(for P. M. Wright)

J. Cairncross, Esq.,  
F.A.O.  
Via delle Terme di Caracalla,  
00100 Rome

K3/055  
10.11.71.

796a

Rome

20 October 1971

Recd: 21/10/71

~~K/A/W~~

This clearly expects a reply. Do you want to see him before or after the New Year?

after please pm

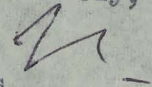
Dear Peter,

Many thanks for your further letter which was a considerable relief I gather from Patrick that you would like to see me, and I am writing to say that I plan to be passing through London both just before Christmas and just after the New Year. Perhaps 20 December and from 2 to 7 January would be my dates. It might be useful if you could give me some idea whether either of the possibilities is acceptable to you so that I can plan my trip. In both dates I would be at home in Scotland and could reach you or you me.

Incidentally, although my office number is still the most reliable should mention that my home number has been changed (address still the same) to 3600689.

All best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



John Cairncross

Mr Peter M Wright



4657/1 c/d  
795<sub>a</sub>

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**(COPY)**

S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy)

**METROPOLITAN POLICE**

*B. Palmer*

Special Report }  
}

ENCL. *Num. pages*

**SPECIAL BRANCH**

15 OCT 1971  
TO *PF 72,493*  
REF *K3*

14th day of October 19 71

**SUBJECT**.....

**John CAIRNCROSS**.....

Reference to Papers

REF. 320/NAZ/223

493/K3/6

**BOX 500**

1. Box 500 letter of 5 October 1971, reference PF 72,493/K3/6, asks for further information concerning an allegation made by John CAIRNCROSS of fraud, committed by Peter Dover BUYERS. This matter was stated to have been reported to the CID at Highgate Police Station and that CAIRNCROSS was joined in this complaint by Mrs Gillian DESCENT.

2. My enquiries have shown that Mrs Gillian DESCENT is, in fact, Mrs Gillian Alice de CENT, a company director, of 62 North Hill, Highgate, N6.

3. Peter Dover BUYERS is well known to us as a persistent and elusive criminal (the subject of CRO No 1488/51), whose convictions go back to 1950. He is at present wanted on warrant for fraud alleged to have been committed against Mrs de CENT.

4. John CAIRNCROSS was born on 25.7.1913 in Lesmahgow, Scotland, and is at present living at Via Amando Spadini 16 Parioli, Rome, Italy. He is the subject of the marginally quoted files.

5. The allegation of fraud made by CAIRNCROSS mentioned above, is still being investigated by Detective Sergeant Hawken at Highgate Police Station and by the Police in Rome. Mrs de CENT has made a separate allegation against BUYERS of fraud and this too is still being investigated by the police at Highgate.

6. It may be of some assistance to summarize the details of the association between Mrs de CENT and BUYERS before dealing with the involvement of CAIRNCROSS. Mrs de CENT stated to police that she first met BUYERS in 1967 when they were both working as consultants for a company called M.S. Research Company, 15 New Burlington Street, W1. She was extremely impressed by his apparent grasp of financial detail and with his active encouragement and her money, they acquired the shares, assets and eventually the control of the above company. Although she has made no mention of the fact, there seems to be little doubt that her involvement with BUYERS was more than just a business arrangement.

7. It was at this time that CAIRNCROSS was first introduced to BUYERS in Rome by Mrs de CENT; CAIRNCROSS claimed to have known Mrs de CENT for many years. Nothing further happened for a year, until, in 1968, CAIRNCROSS said he received a letter purporting to come from Mrs de CENT, later discovered to be a forgery,

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K3/DJS  
22.10.71

39/13/K3/6

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outlining a business deal being arranged by BUYERS, which would have involved the disposal of large quantities of Nigerian oil. CAIRNCROSS was persuaded to back the venture with £20,000, £10,000 of which was in Italian currency. These transactions took place in Rome and CAIRNCROSS later found that cheques given to him by BUYERS would not be met by BUYERS's various Banks.

8. Mrs de CENT had by this time made an allegation of fraud against BUYERS, involving £30,000. She was able to produce documentary evidence to the Police at Highgate and a warrant was issued for his arrest. It may be of interest to record here that during a short visit to this country recently, she stated that she saw BUYERS in London but she took no action to have him arrested or even inform police until some 4 hours after the event.

9. On 1 September 1970 CAIRNCROSS wrote to Detective Sergeant Hawken, who is also dealing with the allegation made by Mrs de CENT, outlining his initial allegation of fraud against BUYERS (copy attached). Although the allegation has been recorded here, the alleged offences were committed in Rome and consequently a message was forwarded to the Rome Police outlining the allegation. However CAIRNCROSS was apparently reluctant to disclose any details to them and referred them back to London. He was then asked to make a written statement and so he came to London and on 5 December 1970 made a statement to Sergeant Hawken at Highgate Police Station (copy attached). Since that time he has again been interviewed by the Rome police (copy attached) and again he referred them to London for any details. This was followed by two letters to Sergeant Hawken, the last written in July of this year, since when he has not been in contact with Police.

10. I have spoken to Sergeant Hawken and he is understandably reluctant to proceed further with his investigations until CAIRNCROSS provides further documentary proof to support his allegation. There is also a suspicion that CAIRNCROSS is, himself, involved in dubious financial dealings and hence his reluctance to go into any detail with the Rome Police. It is possible that the £10,000 of Italian currency, referred to previously, was transferred out of the country in a manner that may have breached Italian Exchange Control Regulations, and he is anxious to avoid giving any details of this to the Rome authorities.

11. Apart from the references mentioned in the above report none of the persons or organisations mentioned have come to the notice of Special Branch, in a security context.

*C Daines*  
C Daines  
Constable

Submitted: *[Signature]*  
Chief Inspector

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

CONFIDENTIAL

Special Report  
SUBJECT  
Reference to Papers  
FOX 308

F/P only 9/d HST/1

(207)

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Via Armando Spadini 16  
Parioli  
Rome

2 September 1970

Dear Sir,

I should like to bring to your attention a series of facts which appear to me to constitute deliberate embezzlement.

Early in 1969 I was approached by Mr Dover Buyers with a proposal for investment in an export import series of transactions. As Mr Dove Buyers was at that time working in partnership with an old and trusted friend of mine, Mrs Gillian de Cent, I felt that I had no reason to doubt his honesty. For my payments to him I received by way of a receipt a Swiss cheque for the amount advanced together with a small rate of interest. It was understood that, when repayment of the advances was effected with interest, I would accept sterling for that part of the investment made in that currency, and in Swiss francs for the rest.

I also made certain cash loans to him to be repaid in the currency in question (two loans in lire and one in sterling).

As you will see from the copy of a telegram received from him in Lagos, he suspended payment on all his accounts. I have not heard from him since and have no idea of his whereabouts. However, even before that date, three of his cheques had bounced. I enclose particulars of all three. I also enclose photocopy of the cheque and relevant letter from a Swiss Bank showing that Buyers' account had been closed, and hence there is no possibility of my recovering the loan (or rather investment) which amount to 320,000 (three hundred and twenty thousand) Swiss francs.

In view of this evidence, I would hope that you can issue a warrant for the arrest of this individual.

If there is any further evidence you would like me to produce, should be happy to try to oblige.

Naturally, the contents of this letter are solely for official use and are highly confidential.

Yours faithfully,

John Cairncross

Sergeant Hawkins  
CID  
Highgate Palace Station  
Archway Road  
London N 6

PS I enclose as a sample a letter showing that I paid Mr Dover Buyers 2380

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STATEMENT OF WITNESS

(C.J. Act, 1967, ss. 2, 9; M.C. Rules, 1968, r. 58)

Statement of MR. JOHN CAIRNCROSS

Age of Witness (if over 21 enter "over 21") Over 21. (25.7.13)

Occupation of Witness United Nations Civil Servant.

Address and Telephone Number Via ARMANDO SPADINI 16,  
PARIOLI, ROME.

804575 (Rc) 5797 x 3024 (Business)

This statement\*, consisting of \_\_\_\_\_ pages each signed by me, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated the 5th day of December, 1970

Signed [Signature]

Signature witnessed by [Signature]

I am a married man. For the last twenty eight years or so I have known Mrs. Gillian De CENT. About <sup>three</sup> two years ago, I was in Rome, when Mrs. De Cent called on me in connection with a business matter. At the time she was accompanied by a man giving the name Peter DOVER BOYERS. I was under the impression they were working together in a partnership. I had known that Mrs. De Cent was a person of the highest integrity - but I knew nothing about the man. About two years ago I received a letter which purported to have been signed by Mrs. De Cent - she claims it is a forged signature - informing me of a certain business proposition and invited me to invest capital.

Signed [Signature] Signature witnessed by [Signature]

\*Delete as applicable.

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2  
CONFIDENTIAL

No. 991F

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Continuation of statement of.....

At this time I cannot produce this letter I wrote to Mrs. De Cent informing her that I was interested. I would say that in about March or April 1969 I again met Mrs De Cent and Dover-Buyers in Rome. At this time I discussed investment possibilities with Dover-Buyers. My impression of him was that he was a skilful financial operator & in view of his obvious close association with Mrs De Cent. I thought he was bona vide & that his genuineness had been checked & cleared. Dover-Buyers spoke of one investment which was based on an authorisation by the Nigerian authorities to dispose of large quantities of Nigerian oil, which would result in considerable profit. I was told by him, in Mrs De Cent's presence, that he had been to Japan to negotiate for the chartering of tankers to transport this oil. I believed this. He did not tell or speak of what amount of money I should invest, he was anxious for it to be a considerable amount because of the heavy over-head expenses involved in his work. As a result of this conversation and subsequent exchanges of letters between Dover-Buyers & myself I agreed to invest about £20,000 with Dover-Buyers. I gave to him personally in two instalments in Italian currency a sum of £10,000 the equivalent of £10,000.

Signed.....

Signature witnessed by.....

3  
CONFIDENTIAL

No. 991F

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Continuation of statement of.....

I also had paid in, for or through my bank account in Geneva - Swiss cheques to a total value of over the equivalent of £4,000, to Dorey-Buyers Swiss bank accounts, the last of which was the Banque Populaire Suisse, Geneva. Last, by I paid into his account at Clays Bank, Southampton Row, London, through my bank, Barclays of 54 Abchurch Lane, London, W.12, the sum of approximately £10,000. The total investment was in the region of £24,000. The return I was promised by Dorey-Buyers on this investment was a minimum of 20% per year - but would ~~be~~ be almost certainly be over 30%. I have in my possession a letter dated ..... in which this man offers to "Buy me out" at a figure which he regarded as ..... percent per annum. At this stage I can say that in order to invest this capital I was obliged to borrow almost the whole of it at percentages of between 10% & 15%. I owned land in Italy to this value. Upon finally parting with my investment Dorey-Buyers gave to me a cheque, dated 15th December 1969, drawn on the Banque Populaire Suisse Geneva, No T. 147019, made payable to myself for the sum of three hundred & twenty thousand Swiss francs, which is equivalent to about £31,000. I would say this was given to

Signed *[Signature]* Signature witnessed by *[Signature]*

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL  
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No. 991F

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Continuation of statement of.....

and by Dove-Buyers towards the end of June 1969. This cheque was given by way of a receipt for the money I had invested & included an element of return on my funds, but it was not intended by Dove-Buyers to limit the profit on my investment to that profit element. I forwarded the original cheque to ~~his~~ his bank before doing so I made a photostat copy, and at this stage I cannot produce the original, only the copy. His bank informed me by letter dated 11th August 1970 that Dove-Buyers had closed the account in the Spring of 1970.

From time to time, after my investment, I met Dove-Buyers in Rome - it would have been on eight or nine occasions and he was alone. He was passing through & these visits were on a social plane. During such visits he would reassure me everything was all right. I had no reason to believe that my investment was other than safe. I can say on such visits he induced me to loan him sums of Italian currency and I think his total debt for such loans was about £350 - and he gave me cheques which were in one case returned from ~~to~~ bank in England marked "Payment counter marked" and on two other occasions from banks in Switzerland they were returned marked "No funds".

cont  
and

M.P.-67-80733

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Signed *[Signature]* Signature witnessed by *[Signature]*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

No. 991F

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Continuation of statement of.....

I corresponded with Dover-Buyers pressing for payment. I received no satisfaction & finally received a telegram stating "Have stopped payment all cheques following theft". I think this was in March 1970.

I have had no communication from him since and I do not know of his whereabouts. I later learned from Mrs DeCent that the antecedent history given to her by Dover-Buyers was false and that I now have reason to believe he is fraudulent. I am willing to attend Court to give evidence if & when necessary.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Signed.....

*Flanagan*

Signature witnessed by.....

*W. J. Lawton*

cont  
and



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ROME POLICE HEADQUARTERS

In the year 1971, on the 7th day of June, at 18.30 hours, in the Porta del Popolo Police Station, Rome. -----

Before us, the undersigned C.I.D. officer, is present CAIRNCROSS John, the son of Alexander, born in LESMAHAGOW, Scotland, on 25.7.1913, an F.A.O. official, residing here at Via Armando Spadini no. 16, who makes the following statement in connection with the report made on 1.9.1970 to the English Police : -----

In the photograph that you show me here I recognise the person by whom I was swindled, identified as BUYER Peter Dover. -----

I declare that further particulars concerning the swindle of which I was the victim were supplied by me to the English Police after they had received another statement that was the basis of the case in question. I would further add that I have already decided to write to the English Police with a view to requesting the communication of the documents to the Italian Police, as they contain full details of the manner and circumstances in which the swindle was committed. -----

Answer to question I have nothing further to add.

Read, confirmed and signed.

(signed)

J Cairncross

(signed)

(police officer's  
signature not  
clearly legible)

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CONFIDENTIAL

Via Armando Spadini 16

Carioli  
Rome

8 June 1971

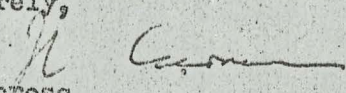
Dear Sergeant Inspector Hawkin,

I fear I have had no success so far with the various points you asked me to clear up, but as a last resort I am writing to one of my creditors(ex) for help in getting some documentary proof. The originals of the documents shown you can of course be produced at any trial, and I would be prepared to give evidence or help in any other way that might secure the conviction (or even the arrest) of Mr Dover Byers.

I would like to add that I was summoned to the Italian police on the basis of a translation of my original letter to you which goes back several light years in time and is now out of date. I explained to the Italians (who had been asked to deal with the case 'urgently') that I had since provided exhaustive details to you. They would like to have the fullest details from you so that they can possibly arrest him when he comes to Italy. I imagine that this can be done with rather less bureaucratic delay than in the case of my earlier letter (for which of course I am certain that you are in no way to blame):

Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
John Cairncross

Detective Inspector Hawkin

PS I gather from Mrs De Cent that you have taken the case to the point at which some action can now be taken. If I obtain any further details, I will of course send them to you.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

FAO (Room A 353)  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
Rome

14 July 1971

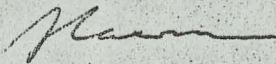
Dear Inspector Hawkin,

Did you get my letter reporting about the reaction of the Italian police? And can I do anything further about this?

In addition, I gather that Mrs de Cent has changed her London address. As I want to get in touch with her, I'd be grateful if you would let me know her new address and telephone number.

Kindest regards,

Yours sincerely



John Cairncross

Detective Inspector Hawkin

CONFIDENTIAL


CONFIDENTIAL

NNNI  
92 L DONLBTF 5805/CUR910/AGM570/TLB2713 17 10 1735

LT  
CARA OSS FOODAGRI  
ROME

PART SHIP DECENT DOVERBUYERS DISSOLVED HAVE NO CONTACT  
BUYE INFORM LISELOTTE STOP WRITING

COL

 BANQUE POPULAIRE SUISSE  
SCHWEIZERISCHE VOLKSBANK  
BANCA POPOLARE SVIZZERA  
SWISS VOLKSBANK

Geneva le 12.5.70

Veuillez trouver ci-joint

Sie erhalten anbei

Ricevete accluso

- A titre d'information  
Zur Orientierung  
A titolo d'informazione  
For your information
- Retour avec remerciements  
Mit bestem Dank zurück  
Di ritorno con ringraziamenti  
Returned with thanks
- Pour vos dossiers  
Für Ihre Akten  
Per i vostri atti  
For your files
- Selon notre entretien tél.  
Gemäss unserer tel. Unterredung  
Come da nostra conversazione tel.  
As per our telephonic conversation
- [Illegible]*

du vom del of 4.5.70

we have to inform you that the cheque mentioned by you and established  
Dr Dover Buyers has never reached us.

Vos dévoués / Schachtungsvoll / Con distinta stima / Yours very truly  
BANQUE POPULAIRE SUISSE - SCHWEIZERISCHE VOLKSBANK  
BANCA POPOLARE SVIZZERA - SWISS VOLKSBANK

Monsieur John Cairncross  
c/o F.A.O. Room A 354  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
I-00100 Rome

A.34

CONFIDENTIAL

Populaire Suisse

Pay against this check

er of  
*Lire Italiana*

*Sorante Finz*  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

147023  
Pay this check after verification

*[Handwritten signature]*

Paper MONEY BUYERS  
No 100,110

to the order of *John [unclear]*  
France *Paris - [unclear]*  
No T 147019  
Any bank will pay this check after verification  
Pay against this  
Banque Populaire Suisse Geneva  
Place, date *15 December 1962*  
Fr. 3.00

*25 T* *Lire* *Fr. 20,000*

COMMERCIALE ITALIANA  
IPRESENTARE  
GIRATA IRREGOLARE  
FIRMA DI TRAENZA IRREGOLARE  
*Scas Novisese*  
*[unclear] 6/2-70*

neva  
Pay against this check  
*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten signature]*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Cont  
and*

CONFIDENTIAL

ZCZC 38/5441/CFTA60/CRO079

LAGOSSUB 11 27 1005

FOODAGRI

ROME

PROCAIRNCROSS HAVE STOPPED PAYMENT ALL CHEQUES  
FOLLOWING THEFT

PETER

COL PETER

CONFIDENTIAL

*Cont  
and*

CONFIDENTIAL

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED

HOLLAND PARK BRANCH  
54 UXBRIDGE ROAD, LONDON, W.12  
TELEPHONE: 01-749 1581

RAW/PAS

9th June, 1969.

J. Cairncross, Esq.,  
F.A.O. (Room L336),  
Via delle Terme di Caracalla,  
ROME,  
Italy.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your letter dated  
24th May 1969 we confirm that the  
£4,000.0.0. has been received and  
that as instructed we have transferred  
£3,800.0.0. to Mr. Dover Buyers  
account at Lloyds Bank, Southampton  
Row.

Yours faithfully,

*[Handwritten Signature]*

MANAGER

CONFIDENTIAL

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED

HOLLAND PARK BRANCH

54 UXBIDGE ROAD, LONDON, W.12

TELEPHONE: 01-749 1581

MM/LJH

6th June, 1969

J. Cairncross Esq.,  
FAO Room L336,  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, Rome.

Dear Sir,

We would advise you that we have today received for  
collection and credit of your current  
account £4000.0.00. *J. Borio*

Yours faithfully,

For Barclays Bank Limited,

*S. Bar*

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED

HOLLAND PARK BRANCH

54 UXBIDGE ROAD, LONDON, W.12

TELEPHONE: 01-749 1581

MDK/CW.

21st April, 1969

J. Cairncross Esq.,  
FAO (Room L336)  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla,  
ROME,  
Italy,

Dear Sir,

We would advise you that we have today received for  
collection and credit of your Current  
account Cheque Valued, £2,000. 0. 0.

received from Mrs. Joan Tosio.

Yours faithfully,

For Barclays Bank Limited,

*J. Cairncross*

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

Ikoyi Hotel,  
Lagos.

3rd November, 1969

Dear John,

My plan to return via Rome has been partly torpedoed by the fact that I can't get to Bucharest by leaving an hour after I get in from Lagos. Since Cecilia will stay overnight, however, she hopes to see you.

She will sort out the various questions you have on insurance and give you a cheque for \$6,000 (to be presented only after reference to me as we arranged). We are now up to our ears in a very big cement deal which will yield us substantial profits both in Europe and in Nigeria. The Nigerian money is, of course, frozen as far as international use is concerned but we have ample opportunities for investment here. (The criterion we use for Nigerian investment is whether we can treble our money in a year).

The European cement profits could be used, in part, to pay off some or all of your borrowings or you may prefer to stay on this curiously constituted band-wagon. If you want out we would pay you about £30,000 which represents about 35% profit on the transaction. My advice is to stay with it since with profits of about £10 a ton to be made on cement (and orders for 74,000 tons at present), plus fishy profits (frozen of course) from our little plastics factory here we seem to be doing very nicely. (The plastics factory should net us £75,000 a year profit on an investment of £7,200). Quite apart from mines, oil and assorted oddments.

Despite this we are still hungry for capital, mostly for bridging finance in Europe. We would be quite happy now to pay 20% per annum since we can swap lire for Nigerian pounds and make 14% on the process before we even start. An effective rate of less than 6% is not unattractive to you. You can, once again, discuss this with Gill.

Hope to see you very soon,

*Best regards*  
*[Signature]*

CONFIDENTIAL

Phone: 340 5437

CONFIDENTIAL

60 North Hill,  
Highgate, N.G.

24th July, 1969

Dear John,

Thank you for the cheque (for £350).

At present I am retaining money here rather than in Switzerland temporarily because I am on top of the market and in a better position to watch hour to hour movements. I will, however, switch the money to Switzerland in about two weeks once the mining situation is a little clearer.

I have had some correspondence about the insurance with Mari Beck: the costs are very high by U.K. standards so we are exploring the possibility of doing a deal in England. The Bank of England is often very helpful about this kind of arrangement). Gill will contact you in due course. The company's insistence that you come to England for a medical check-up is a stumbling block, at present, seems to be the English company's insistence that you come to England for a medical check-up. Unless we can get round this problem there seems little prospect of success in trying to arrange cheaper insurance in Britain since the cost of the air fare would virtually cancel out the premium advantage.

I hope you enjoyed your sick leave!

Yours ever,

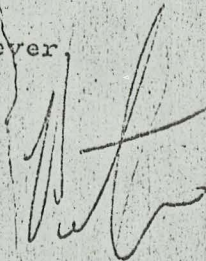
*W. J. ...*

*W. J. ...*

*July 27-28*

*Regina Palace*

*Port of ...*



*sent out*

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

24th June, 1969

Dear John,

We only received your cable sent Monday (the second one) but until this morning we did not know which crisis to ignore since the first one has still not arrived. I think, however, that I now know what you want us to do since various letters from you (some of them must have arrived in the last 48 hours).

Simple things first: John Chown says the BBC has no right to withhold tax. I have sent the photostat to him. He thinks you should write back to the BBC telling them to pay the fee in full to overseas Rpyalties. If necessary, John would claim tax back but it would obviously be easier administratively for everyone if the BBC stopped playing at tax collectors.

I returned a key to the hotel; it could have been a wrong one. I do have another one which looks as though it could be a hotel so I'll mail that to them and see if they fits the lock!

I found out, by chance, only a day or two ago that the remittance from your bank to mine had been received. Mine (which relies on computers) had neglected to tell me that it had come. I expect to see Fricker in a day or two and will then arrange the transfer of my account to yours. If, for some reason, my Geneva trip is held up I shall give the instructions by mail. The card with my signature has gone this morning.

We had a series of traumatic meetings with one of the biggest oil companies. While it was not a heated exchange, emotive words like 'blackmail', 'imperialism', etc. were voiced. Since we hold a <sup>win</sup> contract the oil company cannot ~~lose~~ anyway, so the whole thing has now been settled to our advantage.

We have now started buying securities again: the prices had dropped to the lowest since 1967 and we found some bargains.

The mining takeover is being worked out so we may see some results by September/October. This will be a major factor in deciding return on capital invested!

We are all racking our collective brains to find a legal (or semi legal) manner of getting some of the hot Italian money out of Italy or Switzerland into a new unit trust we are setting up - partly, of course, to finance our own expansion too. Any ideas? Since it appears difficult for an Italian to get much more than 4% in Italy and since he could get 10% plus, together with capital growth, outside Italy a solution to the problem appears desirable. In addition, Italy is almost the sole source of large-scale capital now.

Gill sends her love. Doubtless we shall both see you sooner than we expect.

CONFIDENTIAL

*J. G. G. G.*  
*[Handwritten signature]*

CONFIDENTIAL

Telephone: 340 5437

60 North Hill,  
Highgate, N.G.

13th May, 1969

Dear John,

I am replying to both your letters at once, since my uncle died last week, I have been out of town, burying him.

Your cheque received safely and paid in; many thanks.

Regarding the company you mention, which would appear to be Vectis Stone - not Vectis - it is now selling at 16/-, almost the top of the market over the last two years. It has improved slowly, but steadily, since 1967. It would appear a reasonable buy, but nothing spectacular unless you have inside information of a takeover; if you do, please wire me. 'Yes' would be sufficient. The other company I mentioned was J.W. French, now temporarily suspended. If, when they reopen dealings, you can buy at about 14/- or 15/-, that would be worthwhile, but ask me before buying higher. Don't pass this information on, since it might spoil the market for us.

I enquire about your car. There is a young man I expect to see next week in Paris who might be interested in driving it out for you, so speak to him. However, I must warn you that the secondhand car market is depressed in England at present.

Paul is still in Nigeria, but expected back Thursday night. We shall be in Paris over Whitsun, then Zuerich, and might possibly rush down to Rome for Suliptis in (I believe) Norma.

Please give my love to Liselotte when you see or talk to her.

Yours,

*John*

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

60 North Hill,  
Highgate,  
London, N.6.

14th April, 1969

*John*

What is the latest state of play? It is fairly important to us since we are now forced into the unhappy - indeed heart-breaking - exercise of shifting large sums in Swiss francs back to England. I am on my way to Geneva tomorrow, whence I shall certainly have to bring back at least five thousand pounds back to England, with the certainty of having to move another five thousand by the middle of next week unless I can find a way of stopping this outflow from Switzerland.

The big oil deal is certainly coming off now - the outlay is considerable but the profits are measurable in millions per annum so we are happy, even though we end up with only about 22% in our own pockets and a sticky Swiss paws. (Us means Gillian and I).

The mechanics of the deal are this (I know I outlined them to you at the Aerogare, but it is as well to have them on paper).

A cheque or cheques should be sent to me. I then send you the equivalent in the Swiss franc or sterling equivalent on the account of the Bank S.A. at the Banque Populaire Suisse in Geneva. The cheque will be dated 30th November and will be for the precise Swiss franc equivalent of the sterling. You can either elect to have the money at the best rate of 15% per annum (i.e. about 8% for the period since we say, April 30th and November 30th) or you can elect to have the flat sum back plus our estimate of what the earnings on the money has been. My guess - not a commitment - would be that this would be a more profitable course to follow, but it is also a riskier one in those circumstances beyond our control. We force us to decide that, in fact, we have only been able to get about 8% per annum benefit from it.

*sent out*

Bank S.A. has assets - in terms of crude oil not yet piped out of the ground which are almost beyond measurement (unless you are an oil company and used to dealing in the kind of astronomical figures which even the small ones use). Even a bank the size of Banque Pop. Suisse blanches slightly at the sight of our country's foreign currency earnings (though none of the profits) which would be in England - we proposed it to two, saying that if they would lend us 250,000 on the security of a 106,000 ton oil tanker and 100,000 tons of crude oil (jointly worth about \$12 million), then we would pay off the overdraft in Swiss francs or dollars. Officially, no, the Bank of England won't let us. If Alec had a hand in the kind of financial/economic policy we ought to try him for treason.

See you soon. Love from Gillian and Nicholas

*Carol me  
Gillian  
Nicholas*

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

60 North Hill,  
Highgate,  
LONDON, N.6.

18th March, 1969

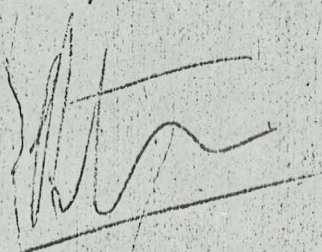
Dear John

It was good to see you again; my next visit to Italy may well be about 27th/28th March, on my way back from yet another visit to Lagos.

I am writing separately about your BBC tax problem and have still not succeeded in finishing enquiries about a suitable substitute for your present insurance arrangement. No doubt I shall have some kind of answer by the time I see you.

As far as further investment is concerned I think you would find it potentially very profitable to lay your hands on about \$10,000 to \$15,000 as soon as possible. I can give you details, except that you could count on a minimum 15% per annum - I am so sure of this as a minimum figure that Gillian and I would even guarantee it! The particular scheme which we have in mind would last about six months: the money would be freed for further investment. I'll tell you about it in Rome.

Gill joins me in sending love to you and  
Liselotte,



P.S. It is just possible that Gillian may make the London trip instead of me - so don't be too surprised if she turns up to come in my place!

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL



BANQUE POPULAIRE SUISSE  
SCHWEIZERISCHE VOLKSBANK  
BANCA POPOLARE SVIZZERA  
SWISS VOLKSBANK

PLACE ST-GERVAIS 27  
QUAI DES BERGUES 1  
CASE POSTALE 109  
1211 GENEVE 11

Mr. John CAIRCROSS  
FAO (Room A 354)  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
I - 00100 ROMA

Geneva, 11th August, 1970

Dear Sir,

We acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 3rd August, receipt of which a very careful investigation has been made.

We can only confirm the contents of our note dated 12th May, according to which the cheque of Sw.Fr. 320.000.-, of which you sent us a photocopy, has never reached us. As a matter of fact, we are unable to trace the receipt at our bank of a letter from you in the month of April 1970.

In reply to your specific inquiry in connection with the necessary cover for this cheque, we inform you that Mr. Dover's account with us has been closed during the spring of this year.

We regret not to be able to give you a more favourable answer but leave it to you to place a claim for investigation with the Italian postal authorities as to your letter of April, which has apparently gone astray in the mail.

Yours faithfully,

SWISS VOLKSBANK

*per M. G...*  
*[Signature]*

CONFIDENTIAL

Reference

794a

Telephone number from 8 October  
(same address) 3600689

Via Armando Spadini 16  
Parioli  
Rome 00197

but office phone preferable

~~SP.~~ Will you pl. ltr

4 October 1971

PA: PF72,493.

Recd: c. 8.10.71

Dear Peter,

Many thanks for your letter <sup>792a</sup> with its reassuring message. I have cancelled my application to Paris.

The position is that I am all right here, but that the Roman summer bothers me terribly with its scirocco. However, the more I hear about Paris, the less attractive it sounds. So I've come round to staying on here where I have no real problems, and indeed I may be able to pull out to a kind of retirement if all goes well, next summer.

I had an excellent ten days in the south by the seaside, but came back with food poisoning from the fish eaten on my last evening there. There is brilliant sunshine just now, but it's rather an unhealthy kind of sun, I fear.

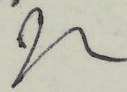
I imagine you are wildly busy just now, but life appears interesting, to say the least. I may be dashing over early next week on a quick visit, and will phone you when in London. I'll be there for a longer time in the first half of January next on home leave.

Nothing much is happening, which is all to the good. I'll be very tied during our Conference in November but after that things should be calm again.

Again, many many thanks for your letter, and all good wishes.

Yours ever,

John Cairncross



Mr Peter M Wright

ES/DJS  
22.10.71



642

PF.72,493/K3/6

The Deputy Assistant Commissioner,  
Special Branch.

(FOR THE ATTENTION OF CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT R. BRYAN)

John CAIRNCROSS

Resident in Rome.  
Employed by the F.A.O.

s.776a  
In December, 1970 the above-named called at Highgate Police Station, alleging fraud against one Peter Dover BUYERS @ Peter BURGESS. He was joined in this complaint by Mrs. Gillian DESCENT, who was said to have lost £32,000 in an enterprise with BUYERS.

2. CAIRNCROSS was worried both about loss of money (£30,000 in his case) and the possibility of having broken the Exchange Control Regulations.

3. You very kindly offered (Chief Inspector Torrington's telephone message 9th December, 1970 refers) to supply us with more information on this matter, through the good offices of the sergeant at Highgate. At the time we declined this offer because we did not feel we needed more information on this particular affair. Now, however, we find that it might be helpful to us and should be most grateful if you could provide full details of the case.

4. We are sorry to bother you with this so long after the event. We would stress that our interest in CAIRNCROSS is a very delicate one indeed and we are most anxious that neither he nor the other parties in the affair should become aware of our interest.

BP

B. Palliser

SECRET

5th October, 1971

K310AC  
5/10/71

FROM: Peter M. Wright, Esq.  
Butlers, Littley Green  
Great Waltham, Chelmsford  
Essex.

PF 72493 (CAIRNCROSS)

27 September 1971.

792A

Dear John,

787a

Thank you for your letter of 1 September. My answer was keyed to the job (and jobs of a similar kind) rather than the place. You seem, incidentally, from what you say to be really quite keen on a move to Paris. May I ask what particularly is troubling you in Rome - is it the job or the place? If you stayed on there what would your prospects be in your present employment?

I hope you have a good holiday in the south of Italy - and am trying to time this to reach you on your return.

Yours ever,

PETER M. WRIGHT

J. Cairncross, Esq.  
Via Armando Spadini 16  
Parioli  
Rome.

K. Adv. Sec  
27-9-71

7880a

PF.605,133 (YOUNG)

FLOAT

LB

56

✓ Copied to: PF.72,493 (CAIRNCROSS)

K6B/2

Reference minute 53, I am very sorry to pass this back to you again after such a very long interval.

2. CAIRNCROSS was asked in May, 1969 whether he remembered Elizabeth Mabel YOUNG who, it was believed, had stayed with him and his wife in Rome in the 1950's. He said he knew an Elizabeth YOUNG who was in the Civil Service Commission. She had come through Rome more than once and might well have stayed with them. It was essentially his wife rather than he himself who was her friend. CAIRNCROSS and his wife separated in 1965 and she moved back to London.

3. I do not think we ourselves would want to see Elizabeth YOUNG but if you still intend to try and see her we should be very grateful if you could include a question on our behalf, namely, how did she come to know Mrs. CAIRNCROSS and what can she tell us about her and her husband.

4. If you do arrange an interview with YOUNG and if you would be prepared to put this question for us, I would brief you in more detail.

BP.

B. Palliser

K3/6

17th September, 1971

163/14  
12/9/71

7882

K.3.

K3/6

Please see CAIRNCROSS's letter to Peter at s.787a. I attach a suggested draft reply. - 788y

2. You may think it would be better merely to answer his question. Presumably we would not really mind his moving to Paris providing he found himself completely private employment. I worded my draft as I did, however, because it does seem that it would be useful to know what is going on in his mind about all this.

I have added an answer to ~~his~~ his question which I think we must give.

3. You may also like in this connection to see my note at 782a. Would you agree to our following up with the police the matter of CAIRNCROSS's enquiry to them about his money worries? He seems to have quite a lot of different projects on his plate and to change his mind quite often about what he wants to do, and perhaps we need to know a little more about all this.

Yes, lets take this further. May I see a draft.

4. In his letter to Peter at 781a he mentioned phoning you when he was on a visit here. Was this since his visit in December last?

No: in about June or July. I've had made a note. It was purely social.

5. One other matter outstanding is whether or not he should be shown the photograph of KAMINSKY as a candidate for his OTTO. Would it be possible to do this by post?

Presumably not. In post. I am sure he will be in touch again.

B. Palliser

B. Palliser

K3/10Ae  
20/9/71

FIP only / cl Hestell

787a

FAO (Room A 353)  
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
Rome

1 September 1971

Received: 8.9.71.  
PA: PF.72,493

Dear Peter,

Many thanks for your helpful and wise letter. I will certainly not follow up my Paris idea, and I only hope that my previous soundings have not already caused complications. Incidentally, am I correct in thinking that a move to Paris as such, might be complicated, or is this thought of only within the OECD framework? Sorry to add to your homework, but the point is pretty important for me.

After a torrid summer (apparently the worst for ages) we had a glorious cloudburst yesterday, and are now beginning to breathe. But I can well understand your desire for somewhat more sun than is current in London! I'm off on holiday to the south of Italy for a fortnight on the 7th, but look forward to receiving a line from you some time thereafter.

Kindest regards,

Yours ever,

John Cairncross

Mr Peter M Wright

K3/KCA  
16/9



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS



K3/6.

Will you pl arrange filing.

~~B~~

Mr Peter Mc Wright

BUTLERS

Littley Green

Great Waltham

Chelmsford

ESSEX

England

Airmail letter sent by K/Adviser  
from his home address.

ref: PF 72,493  
(CAIRNCROSS)

HIS/1 E/c

786A

25 August 1971.

Dear John,

I am sorry to learn that you are not too happy in Rome and are thinking of moving on to Paris. Having given some thought to the problem and made some local enquiries I fear that the O.E.C.D. job would entail a risk of embarrassment all round and my advice is that you let it drop. I am sorry to be so discouraging but there is more than a fair chance that difficulties would arise over your move to Paris.

With the sort of weather we are having here some Roman sunshine would not go amiss.

Yours ever,

PETER M. WRIGHT

J. Cairncross, Esq.  
Via Armando Spadini 16  
Parioli  
Rome.

K6A/EAH  
25.8.71

Note for File

In connection with 776a it is interesting to look back at the conclusions on p.12 and 13 of 749b, the report of Peter Wright's and Cecil Shipp's interview of CAIRNCROSS on 13th May, 1969, particularly the reference to his apparent financial prosperity. At the time it was wondered what change in his life had caused this;

Perhaps the business proposition mentioned at 776a, from which CAIRNCROSS eventually lost money, originally had made him some. Possibly this matter should now be pursued further with the Police. If he indeed lost £30,000 this may account for his anxiety now to find a job and not retire to Switzerland on an F.A.O. pension and earnings from his writing (paragraph 1 of 749b). We do not know for certain that he has indeed yet retired from F.A.O. - he has used one of their envelopes for his recent letter! Nor do we appear to know the real reason why he is unwilling or unable to continue with the F.A.O.

*B. Palliser*

B. Palliser

K3/6

20th August, 1971

CODE 18-78

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 *FEBRUARY 2024*

*K3/MAC  
20/8/71*



781A

Via Armando Spadini 16  
Parioli  
Rome

22 July 1971  
received c. 30/7/71

Dear Peter,

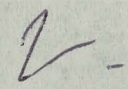
I hope you are still thriving and also having your summer holidays! Apart from a quick two days visit I ve not been back to London for some time. I phoned Patrick but there were no developments over which I could help.

I d be very grateful if you could possibly help me on another score. I ve taken soundings with OECD in Paris as I d rather like to move there from Rome. I m not at all happy abo t the political climate of Italy at the present time. However, I notice that the OECD applicati form contains a long list of residences abroad (rather like the US visa applicati on form), and I don t want to press my application there (which I would plan to do around Christmas) if I am likely to come up against a obstacle, with embarrassment all round. WOULD it be at all possible to let me know whether this kind of implied clearance comes from the UK side only or whether all countries of residence are consulted . More specifically, I don t expect a precise answer on thatpoint, but only guid ance as to whether I can safely press my case or had better let it drop.

All goes well otherwise. Rome is like an oven, but we survive thanks to a slow pace of work, and evening spent lifeless on the terrace

Yours ever,

John Cairncross



Mr Peter M Wright

140/109C  
20/8/71



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Via delle Terme di Caracalla - 00100 ROME, ITALY

AIR MAIL  
PAR AVION  
VIA AEREA



Mr Peter M Wright

Butler

Little Green

Great Waltham

Chelmsford

Essex

England

779a.  
780a.

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

Copy to: PF.72,493 (CAIRNCROSS)

PF.47,638 (KATZ)

Paras. 1-4 extracted to: PF.604,582 (BLUNT)

Note for File

In the undated letter which BLUNT wrote to BURGESS from an address in Faringdon, Berkshire when he was staying there one Easter (75b in volume 2 of BLUNT's file and at item 374 in the BURGESS correspondence), BLUNT commented that there was still no word from "George" and he wondered if "John" would know his movements at all.

2. It is just possible that BLUNT was referring to his and BURGESS's controller, "George", in which case "John" may well have been John CAIRNCROSS.

3. From evidence in the letter it must have been dated Easter 1937 or Easter 1938 and more probably 1938. From the various conflicting statements which CAIRNCROSS has made about his first controller "Otto", it would seem that the date of Otto's final departure from the country was some time between August, 1937 and May, 1938. If he was, in fact, the same person as BLUNT's and BURGESS's "George", it would not be unreasonable for BLUNT, in April, 1938, to be commenting to BURGESS that he had not heard from George and suggesting asking John CAIRNCROSS if he had news of him. We also have it from CAIRNCROSS that at some time shortly after the disappearance of Otto, BURGESS met him and told him to pass to him, BURGESS, the information which he had up to that time been passing to Otto until such time as Otto's successor arrived. BURGESS would see that it reached Otto's boss. This interregnum, according to CAIRNCROSS, lasted about eighteen months. The papers of CAIRNCROSS which we found in BURGESS's possession, tend to confirm this story, or at least do not refute it: they date from March/April, 1939.

4. We have no knowledge of the method BURGESS used at this period to pass on to the Russians his own information and that which he was obtaining from CAIRNCROSS. BLUNT has told us of the channel used when he and BURGESS were out of touch in 1940, through Lizy PHILBY and Bob STEWART, but this method was in operation as early as 1938, at which date Lizy PHILBY was living in Paris.

5. In this connection it is interesting to study the records which we have of Rolf KATZ (PF.47,638). He came to this country from France at the end of 1936 and by the beginning of 1937 BURGESS had introduced him by way of Victor ROTHSCHILD to Victor's mother, Mrs. N.C. ROTHSCHILD and BURGESS and KATZ between them (KATZ by then in the Argentine) were providing her with an information service on financial/political matters. There are numerous letters in the BURGESS correspondence between BURGESS and KATZ on this subject, including one particularly interesting one in which KATZ answers a suggestion of BURGESS that they should both go into the ROTHSCHILD Bank and form a kind of investment research group within it. KATZ tells

it seems  
unlikely  
that

- 2 -

BURGESS that the time is not ripe for this and it is better to continue as independent, though paid, advisers to Mrs. ROTHSCHILD. KATZ is thus seen as, to some extent, in control of BURGESS's activities in this field. This may be compared with what Geronwy REES has said about KATZ, namely that he suspected him of having some sort of controlling role, vis a vis BURGESS, i.e. in BURGESS's espionage activity.

6. At the supposed date of BURGESS's handling CAIRNCROSS, namely 1938/1939, KATZ was back in this country. It seems not unlikely that it was to him that BURGESS reported at this stage.

7. A certain Boris RONIGER, a Czech refugee, who had been engaged in Comintern activities in Berlin in the 1920's with Rolf KATZ, interviewed by Pat Hughes in 1957, declared that he had heard that it was KATZ who had recruited MACLEAN and BURGESS for the Russians. KATZ himself, interviewed in 1951 by the F.B.I. on our behalf, after the disappearance of BURGESS and MACLEAN, told (though somewhat inaccurately) about his association with BURGESS over advising the ROTHSCHILDS, but maintained that he had never met or heard of MACLEAN before the disappearance. It is interesting to compare RONIGER's vague assertion with RECTIFY's report that the illegal who recruited PHILBY, BURGESS and MACLEAN died when the ship in which he was travelling to S. America was torpedoed in 1940: KATZ travelled to S. America by sea in 1940. However, his ship, the Andalucia Star, arrived safely; a sister ship, the Arandorra Star, was torpedoed en route to Canada in the same year! As far as the suggestion is concerned that KATZ might have recruited BURGESS, it is interesting to note that the earliest letter of his to BURGESS, from Paris, which mentions his pleasure at making BURGESS's acquaintance, is dated April, 1935, just about a month after the date at which, as far as we can tell, BURGESS was most probably recruited. Moreover, Geronwy REES, when telling us about BURGESS's espionage involvement, let slip the information that he thought BURGESS's controller was in Paris. This could, however, have been a reference to GEORGE/OTTO and not to KATZ - who are presumably not one and the same as KATZ was in this country at exactly the period when OTTO, at least CAIRNCROSS's OTTO, was supposed to be absent.

BP.

B. Palliser

K.3.  
5th February, 1971

12 January 1971

*had answered at the time  
because of the Postal Service  
PS*

*782*

Dear Peter,

I was sorry that the visit to London appears to have given such scanty results. But I hope that something may still emerge.

I have put in an application to OECD in Paris, but I see that the form contains an item calling for details on all countries visited except for pleasure. I do hope that the returns on this item will be examined by the country of the applicant and not by the US, although no doubt inquiries are bound to cover my stay in the latter country. In any case I refer the matter to you in case there is anything that can be done.

Things go on here much as usual. I shall either stay on in Rome if there is no upset, or, if the Paris gambit succeeds, move to there, which is what I would prefer. But of course there is no absolute need for the move.

I hope all is well with you, and that you are not overwhelmed with work.

My best regards to Patrick and you,

Yours ever,

*[Signature]*  
John Cairncross

Mr P M Wright

*PS What is the bank's bank (Taiwan?)  
where I might be sent. (China)*

H1571 rfd

PF.72,493

*[Handwritten initials]*

Copied to REC-11-55-1-13

NOTE FOR FILE

In connection with the proposal that CAIRNCROSS should assist us with Operation ACRE, Bernard Sheldon discussed with the Attorney General and the DPP the question of CAIRNCROSS's immunity from prosecution in the event of his coming to the UK. A record of that discussion is at serial 25a in PF.72,493 Link B.

2. The Form of Assurance which the DPP agreed could be given to CAIRNCROSS is attached.



K.3

4.1.71

Enc

*[Handwritten signature/initials]*

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~~111a~~  
77a

Form of assurance

You will remember that when you signified your willingness to assist us in a particular operation in the United Kingdom you were worried about your own position if you went there. In the circumstances I can now assure you that you will not be prosecuted in respect of the espionage already admitted by you.

If CAIRNCROSS enquires he can be told that we have the authority of the Director of Public Prosecutions for giving him this assurance.

If CAIRNCROSS enquires whether he would be named as a witness in any consequent court proceedings he must be told that we cannot give him any categorical assurance as these matters are solely within the discretion of the judge. On the assumption that he is likely to continue to be a Security Service source he can be told that we would use our best endeavours to see that his name did not come out by asking for evidence to be taken in camera or by making such other arrangements as seemed to be appropriate and possible.

30th September, 1970

✓  
Szedorn  
30.9.70



776b  
aa  
5

PF.72,493 Link B

NOTE FOR FILE

When CAIRNCROSS telephoned me on Friday afternoon after my meeting with him in the morning to ask whether he would be required any further he made a point of asking me not only for the Room 055 telephone number but also for my own home telephone number. Although this struck me as rather odd, there seemed to be no point in not giving my number to CAIRNCROSS as he had only to enquire at the hotel where I had left it for him on the previous Wednesday. In any case if I am blown to the Russians they will have no great trouble in finding my name in the telephone directory.

P. F. Stewart

P. F. Stewart

K.3

9.12.70

13/11  
9/12/70

Loose Minute

K.3./H.W.A.

Feb 9/70

HWA

*Many thanks. do not think we need pursue this further with the Police. The main point of interest is where did C get £30,000 to lose?*

CAIRNCROSS

We spoke.

2. Further to your inquiry of Mets SB via Mr. Tilling, Ch.Insp. Torrington telephoned this morning. The circumstances of CAIRNCROSS' call at Highgate Police Station are as follows :

3. CAIRNCROSS, who has resided in Rome for 7 years, working for a UN organisation (UNFAO), is alleging fraud against Peter Dover BUYERS, @ Peter BURGESS, subject of a CRO file.

4. A friend of the CAIRNCROSS family, Mrs. Gillian DESCENT, and BUYERS set up as financial consultants and market advisers. Mrs. DESCENT lost £32,000 in the enterprise and has complained to the Police at Highgate, near where she lives. CAIRNCROSS has realised that he himself has lost £30,000 the same way and has no idea where BUYERS is. He therefore made a complaint to the Highgate Police, who were already dealing with Mrs. DESCENT's complaint.

5. CAIRNCROSS is worried not only about his loss but because he fears he may have broken the Exchange Control Regulations.

6. The sergeant at Highgate has offered to try to supply any further information that may be required.

GS9/2/k3

Sect(PLS)

9.12.70

*Handwritten initials/signature*

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775A

PF.72493 Link B

Copy to: PF.72,493 ✓

NOTE FOR FILE

When I saw CAIRNCROSS on the morning of Friday 4th December he raised with me once again the question of his immunity. On the previous occasion he had asked whether there would be any objection to him taking up a post in the UK and I pointed out to him that although there appeared to be no technical legal reason why he should not, I had a moral obligation to my superiors to consult them as I had put forward the proposal for CAIRNCROSS's immunity on the grounds that he was only likely to make periodic visits to the UK. On this occasion CAIRNCROSS said that there was a possibility that he might be offered a job in a publishing house in Hong Kong and he asked if there was any objection to him accepting an offer if one was made. I told him that the same considerations applied and that he should let me know if the situation arose.

PS

P. F. Stewart

K.3

9.12.70

K3/

7752.

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