

PF 72493 / V20

CAIRNCROSS, JOHN.

FILE CLOSED

10204

FILE CLOSED

S Form 924A

PF 72493 / V20

SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER

Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date
KV2 / 4697								

S. 960 Edn2

PF 72493 / V20

Previous volume closed at serial 920a dated 20.6.73

Reference PF 72493

28.6.73

From CAIRNCROSS

922a

2.7.73

Copy of letter to BSSO

924a

2

10.7.73

Interview Report

926a

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

~~K3/C P C de W
through K3/EWT~~

1. You will wish to see the report on our most recent interview with CAIRNCROSS at serial 926a.

Stella Rimington
S Rimington

K3/8
MS Ext 654
10 July 1973

928

10.7.73

Copy of Loose Minute to K7/0

928a

929

K3/C P C de W

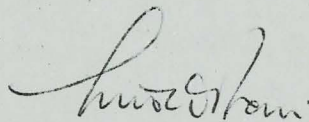
1. Minute 927.
2. Stella Rimington's report is in my opinion a most excellent compression of our long interrogation of CAIRNCROSS. Not only does it accurately summarise the cut and thrust of the arguments, it catches the atmosphere - particularly those moments when CAIRNCROSS was wriggling (knowing he was not being believed) to get out of an unexpected situation.

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ACT 1958 *February 2024*

Minute 929 cont/d

3. For the most part I am in entire agreement with the forthright conclusions Mrs Rimington has drawn; she has brought into high relief the points which matter. However, I myself take a somewhat less pessimistic view than she does in the latter half of paragraph 63. I am not altogether unhopeful that we may be in a position to create a situation in which CAIRNCROSS feels himself cornered and therefore constrained to speak. This of course largely depends on what [redacted] and BSSO are able to turn up in response to my letters at [redacted] and 924a (although [redacted] is not encouraging). And upon this depends whether or not we are in a position to apply the ultimate sanction of making it unpleasant for him in whatever country (this side of the Iron Curtain) he decides to live in retirement.

4. In my view we must go on with CAIRNCROSS. I feel sure he is continuing to conceal vital points in his story - particularly the circumstances and those involved in his recruitment - and we must do all we can to try to break down his defences however difficult this may be; this surely is what K3 is for.



E W Pratt

K3/7
MS Ext 660
13 July 1973

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ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 2024

~~KX~~

You will be interested to see 926a. I do not think we need speculate at this stage on the ultimate outcome of the case except in so far as it may affect our course of action. We cannot leave the matter here.

2. It is I think clear that we shall never be able to believe whatever further admissions CAIRNCROSS may make unless they are either supported by outside evidence or come as part of a complete and convincing collapse. We are at present trying to collect further relevant information but have no great hopes that anything produced will lead to more than very limited admissions or further denials. We have already played all our own cards except certain information about his finances. We must therefore think in terms of aiming to produce a complete collapse. CAIRNCROSS has himself indicated that this might come about if he found himself in a worse personal and financial situation than in 1964 which included the risk of a public scandal affecting his brother. I must admit that I do not see much chance that action to bring this about would prove acceptable and I therefore can only suggest that we plod on as best we can, while saying nothing to CAIRNCROSS which might reassure him about our intentions.

W. C. M. W.

C P C de Wesselow

K3/0
Ext MS 641

13 July 1973

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931

K3 *K3/EXP* PE. file the letter - your analysis. I doubt if you will think any acquaintance can now add much to your present assessment but there may be officers who knew him well when he was younger. Personally I consider the RIS would see his quick intelligence as ideal for deception work.

Thank you. I have read 926a with great interest. I shall be glad to learn from you whether the long letter from CAIRNCROSS, which you told me today had arrived, affects the conclusions; and perhaps I could have a reply to paragraph 1 of minute 869 - although I think I can deduce the answer to the second question from Mrs Rimington's observations in the report.

*1/2 letter
K3 20/7*

2. I agree that we must try to clear this case up. But I have no doubt that the final sentence of 926a is a shrewd judgement and one which CAIRNCROSS himself has probably reached.

J A Allen

J A Allen
KX

19 July 1973

932

19.7.73

Note for file attached to memorandum from CAIRNCROSS

932a

933

20.7.73

Note for File Re: Serial 932a

933a

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ACT 1958

February 2024

934

S-Form 587
20.7.73

Draft letter to CAIRNCROSS

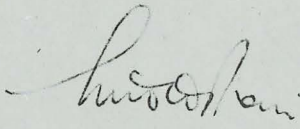
934a

K3/C P C de W

1. I invite your attention to:

- (a) Memorandum by CAIRNCROSS
serial 932a.
- (b) My observations on (a)
above at serial 933a.
- (c) Draft letter acknowledging
the memorandum.

2. I would appreciate an opportunity to discuss
these papers with you.



E W Pratt

K3/A1
MS Ext 660
20 July 1973

23.7.73	Note for File	936a
23.7.73	To SLO Washington	936b
24.7.73	Brief for DG's Meeting	936c

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ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 2024

937

KX

K3
Thank you AA 26/7

I am sorry that I did not reply to Minute 869 (Minute 931 refers). The note for file at 936a shows that we have considered other assessments of CAIRNCROSS's character and ability. I doubt whether any other acquaintances will be able to shed much more new light. It would seem that from the R.I.S. point of view CAIRNCROSS was a more suitable instrument for deception than many of their other agents.

2. However, in spite of his undoubted intellectual ability it would seem beyond his power to play this complicated game with complete effect. Whether or not there is an element of deception he has undoubtedly lost control of the situation as shown by 932a. While I believe that this is a carefully calculated document and cannot entirely subscribe to the theory that it reflects undue emotion or mental unbalance the onion peeling process continues - in spite of his claim that this method is futile. Not only does he give more details of his financial receipts from the R.I.S. but he brings in the new point that we had proof of his guilt in 1964, a point which may have a bearing on the deception theory.

La Thang

W. Carmon 2.

C P C de Wesselow

K3/0
Ext MS 640

24 July 1973

938

31.7.73.

To CAIRNCROSS

938a

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939

1.8.73.

Note for File

939a

941

3.8.73.

Loose Minute to Consultant

941b

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ACT 1958 *February 2024*

944

9.8.73.

Note for File

944a

945

13.8.73

Note for File

945a

946

15.8.73

Letter From CAIRNCROSS

946a

947

16.8.73

To CAIRNCROSS

947a

948

17.8.73

To BSSO

948a

949

20.8.73

Note for File

949a

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950

20.8.73 Voters' List

951

22.8.73 From V.L

951a

.952

24.8.73 To DHSS

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ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 2024

956

21.9.73

From BSSO(G)

956a

957

DDG
Through Director KX
Through K3/CPC de W

K3/CPC. I discussed this with KX, who is not prepared to forward it at this stage, but we pursue the source in the hope of finding out something of Gibrille. Please KX you may like to discuss this exceptional approval.

1. Recent interrogations of John CAIRNCROSS (reports are at 856a in volume 19 and 926a in volume 20) have given rise to serious doubts about his truthfulness in certain aspects of the "confession" he made in 1963 (554a in volume 14), to which over the years he has substantially adhered. These doubts relate particularly to the account he has given of his recruitment - he could well be shielding someone - and to his relationship with his Controllers. Breaches which have now been made in his story that he received no remuneration for his spying bear upon the question of his motivation and upon the crucial point of the length of time he was under RIS control; the last point could be relevant to his apparent current affluence.

2. It is therefore most desirable that we should look into CAIRNCROSS's financial affairs as closely as possible.

4. One aspect of his finances over the last six or seven years which he himself has mentioned but about which we have no direct knowledge is that relating to his wife. This could be an important element in constructing an appreciation of his overall financial

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ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 2024

position, a thorough knowledge of which could help determine the vital point whether or not he is still receiving money from the Russians and is therefore still under obligation to them. To break his story on any significant point could well lead to breaking it on others, which in turn could possibly lead to the identification of those concerned with his recruitment he may be concealing.

5. It is with this background in mind I would like to apply for a HOW (letter check and telephone check) on Gabriele Susanna CAIRNCROSS nee OPPENHEIM who is currently living at 22c Redington Road, London, NW3 telephone number 01-435-7965.

6. Gabriele, in respect of whom we have no adverse information, married CAIRNCROSS in January 1951; she seems to have left him in 1966.

8. A2A and PO/Mr Jacquest have been consulted; both have confirmed that no practical difficulties are foreseen and that they are able to undertake the checks.

9. I suggest the following short reason:

"This woman is the estranged wife of a self-confessed RIS agent who now lives abroad. It is desired to investigate his current relationship with his wife and her current contacts in pursuit of the objective of determining whether or not he is currently under RIS control."

E W Pratt

E W Pratt

K3/A1

MS Ext 660

25 September 1973

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ACT 1958 February 2024

958

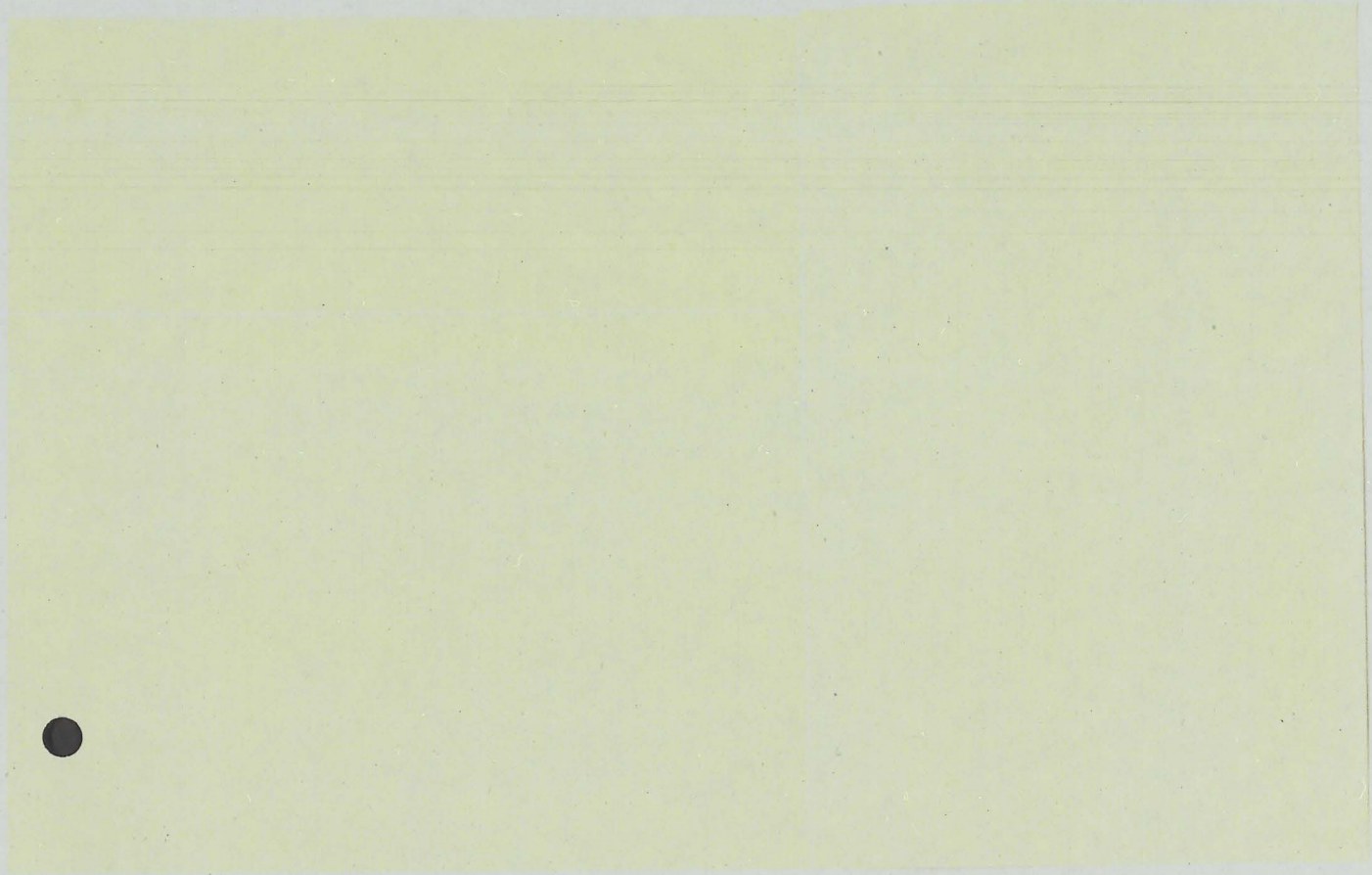
25.9.73

Copy of letter from BSSO(G)

958a



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965

12.10.73

To CAIRNCROSS

965a



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Reference PF 72493

967 - 969

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ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 2024

[REDACTED]

971

26.10.73 Copy of letter to BSSO(G)

971a

972

27.10.73 Copy of Note for File

972a

[REDACTED]

974

5.11.73 Copy of Brief for Interview with TEMBOURY

974z

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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ACT 1958. February 2024

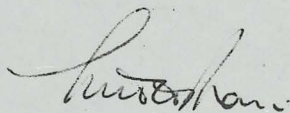
976

Director KX

1. K3 mentioned to you yesterday (15 November) that we hoped to interview Etienne TEMBOURY and Antonios RAAB. He has asked me to minute CAIRNCROSS's file direct to you to seek your concurrence to our doing so.

3. You may recall that the question of documentation for arms shipments to the Spanish Republican forces caused CAIRNCROSS considerable embarrassment when last we saw him (926a); his association with HAEPNER (now unfortunately dead) was certainly a tender spot. I think we should exploit this and I am therefore anxious to find out as much as possible from TEMBOURY and RAAB before we continue the interrogation of CAIRNCROSS whom we expect to see again in the New Year (965a).

4. I invite your attention to the brief for the interview of TEMBOURY at 974a (which K3 has seen and agreed) and for that of RAAB at cover (there are various attachments still to be added).


E W Pratt

K3/A1
MS Ext 660
16 November 1973

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ACT 1958
February 2024

K3/Mr Pratt 20.11.73.

Thank you for minute 976. You will no doubt be waiting to see whether TREPPER is able to answer any of the outstanding questions in this area before fixing up your journey, which has my approval. One point strikes me on the brief for the interview with TEMBOURY at 974z. As drafted it appears to leave open to the interviewer the putting to TEMBOURY of the fact that "the subject of the investigation is John CAIRNCROSS...." (page 2). I regard it as important that the interview with TEMBOURY avoids any suggestion of this. The interviewer can give the impression that he is looking into certain arms dealing matters connected with espionage, and any reference to CAIRNCROSS would need to be very subordinate to an apparent interest in HAEFNER. Your brief for the interview with RAAB seems to me to strike exactly the right note.

J A Allen
J A Allen

KX

19 November 1973

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981a - 988a..

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ACT 1958.

Reference PF 72493

990

6.12.73

Note for file

990a

991

12.12.73

From CAIRNCROSS

991a

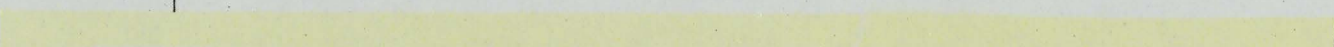
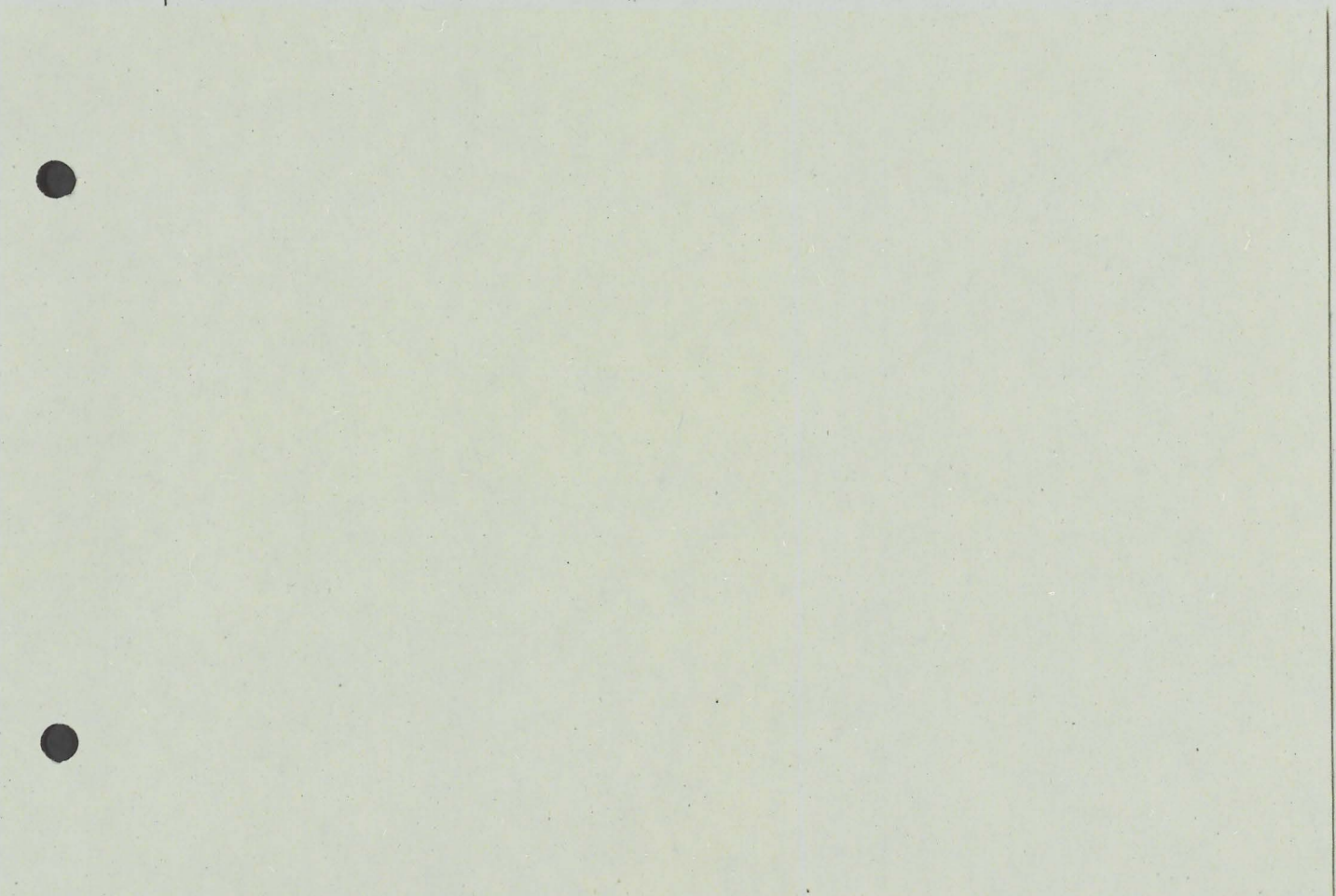
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ACT 1958 MARCH 2024



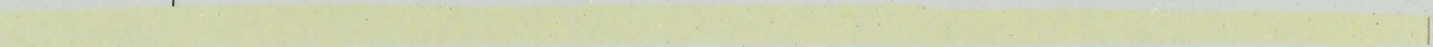
11.2.74 Copy of loose minute and interview rpt - RAAB 995b

996

5.2.74 Note for file 996a



5.3.74 Ext. from SLO Washington letter 1001ab



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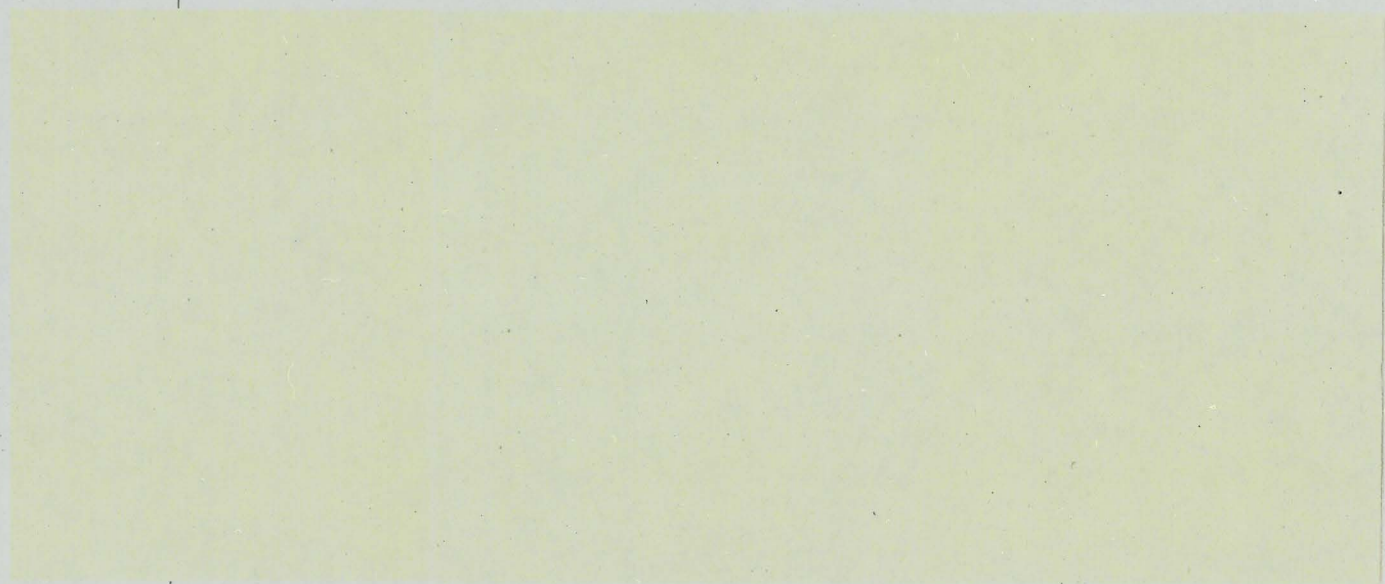
1002a
1003a.

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ACT 1958 February 324

18.3.74 IM on PF47562 1005 1005a

19.3.74 Note for file 1006 1006a

20.3.74 Note for file 1007 1007a



8.3.74 Letter from CAIRNCROSS 1011 1011a

ACT 1959
SECTION 3(1) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS
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1012a -

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ACT 1958.

1011a

~~F&O~~ Via Armando Spadini 16
Parioli
Rome

01 February 1974

Recd. about 28 March 1974.

Dear Mr Pratt,

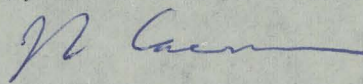
You may remember that we had some correspondence last year in which you suggested that we postpone further discussion to the present year. I am now writing to say that I expect to be in London either in the last week of April or the first week in May. The first day on which I would be available would be Wednesday. Following our former arrangements, it might be possible for you to have a further discussion on the Friday if you so wished.

I plan to go off to Nairobi for a long holiday since I am very run down. I would of course let you know my address there before leaving, but I would ask, if at all possible, to write to me on plain paper, and not necessarily ~~whibingboz~~ from an actual address. I would reply to the usual one. I imagine that all correspondence to and from Kenya is censored.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely,

John Cairncross



Mr E W ^Pratt

Sent by post - unpostmarked -
to EWP at Room 055, 4
presumably delayed by Italian
postal strikes etc.

M/S/K3A
1/4/74

K3/mms
A-4-74

1008a

1009a

1010a

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1007a

PF72493

NOTE FOR FILE

- (Western Dept.)
1. The 1937 files of the Spanish Department of the Foreign Office, which are available through Mr Mellor Head Archivist of the Foreign Office Research Department (Tel. F.O. Main A. x388), contain a certain amount of minuting by John CAIRNCROSS.
 2. From the minuting it is apparent that the claim which CAIRNCROSS made at the interview in April 1973 (S. 926a para. 6) that he had no idea what was the British Government's policy on the supply of arms to Spain, and that it was not what he and his colleagues were dealing with, was nonsense. A considerable amount of the work of the Spanish Department at that time concerned the Non-Intervention Agreement and the operating of the control system which was intended to prevent breaches of the Agreement. It is inconceivable that CAIRNCROSS, working in the Department, even at a fairly junior level, would not have known about this aspect of the Department's work. Much of the work of SHUCKBURGH who was apparently one of CAIRNCROSS's seniors at the time appears to have involved questions of the supply of arms to Spain in breach of the Non-Intervention Agreement.
 3. Attached is a copy of a file bearing minuting by CAIRNCROSS of the 12 July 1937 referring to the Non-Intervention Conference (reference Pol Western 21341, 1937 Serial 136 - 139, W.13513/7/41).
 4. Minutes by CAIRNCROSS also appear on the following files:-
 - i) Pol Western 21328, 1937 Serial 77, W.5893
Minute dated 25 March 1937 on a letter criticizing British policy in Spain.
 - ii) Pol Western 21340, 1937 Serial 245, W.12852
Minute dated 7 July 1937 on the collapse of the control system in Spain.

/ . . .

K2/mw
21.3.74

- iii) Pol Western 14176, 1937 Serial 408
W.14176 dated 23 July 1937 concerning
Brazilian reactions to the Spanish
Civil War.

Stella Rimington

S Rimington

K3/A3
20 March 1974

try } W 13513/7/41.
ber }
M } Mr RCHawkin.

Proposed mediation in Spain.
Refers to his conversation with Mr. Cairncross and puts forward proposal that the diplomatic Representatives of North, South and Central America should be invited to the Foreign Office and asked to join in urging both sides in Spain to accept an armistice, pending discussions of a proposed federal constitution for Spain between two bodies of Englishmen to be known as the Friends of Valencia and the Friends of Franco. Points out the great interest in peace in Spain of the Spanish American countries

11th July 1937.
ed } 14th July
gistry } 1937.

Spain.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

See within

3490 (W12970)

R Shuckley

4/7

References.

(Print.)

Mr. Millard of the U.S. Embassy telephoned about this yesterday. His Govt. have also heard from the I. A. L. and the Ambassador wd. like to know for inf. of his Govt. what importance as an institution we attach to it.

(How disposed of.)

Mr. Makins for obs. see W 12970/98
12970/98
MR.
15/7

(Index.)
30
W

Please attach Mr. Makins' minute about this Treaty
WR

Next Paper.

W13520
see W15033/5037/48

See

Mr. Hawkin, President of the International Arbitration League, called at the Foreign Office on the 10th July to put forward a proposal for the drawing up of a federal constitution for Spain by conference of two bodies of Englishmen called the Friends of Valencia and the Friends of Franco. He was confident that this constitution would be accepted by the great majority of Spaniards, the only exceptions being the Communist element in Barcelona and that part of the Insurgent Government which was under Italian influence.

He also alluded, among a number of other things, to part of the Portuguese Delegate's speech at the last Non-Intervention conference in which an appeal was made for the participation by the Portuguese and Spanish speaking ~~Republics~~ ^{Republics} of South America in the work of the Non-Intervention Committee. Mr. Hawkin suggested that Portugal should be taken at her word and an attempt be made to carry out this proposal.

Mr. Shuckburgh.

J. Curran
12th July, 1937.

Our latest proposals for the N. I. Cttee include an approach to Non-European Powers, which might conceivably lead in the end to their being associated more closely with the European Powers in Spanish affairs.

C. Shuckburgh
12/7

11.7.37

W 75513
28 GUNTERSTONE ROAD,
BARONS COURT, W. 14.

139

Mr. W. H. H. Secretary of State

Sir,

14 JUL 1937

Spain

Following my conversation yesterday with Mr. Cairns-Cross of the Western Dept. - my proposal is:- To invite all the diplomatic representatives of the West, South & Central America to the F. O. and ask them to join in urging both sides in Spain to accept an armistice pending discussions between the friends of Valencia & the friends of Franco here in London. The Spanish American have a great interest in peace in Spain. The Pan American Union evolved at Buenos Aires last December a plan for stopping wars. Would either party dare to reject the armistice?

Yours faithfully
K. C. Hawkins.

1806a

PF47562

PF72493

NOTE FOR FILE

1. The attached note on HAEFNER was copied from Foreign Office correspondence Vol. Pol. Central 23126 of 1939 S.424 and 425. The file reference within the volume is C1892/1892/29.

2. The volume is available through Mr Mellor, Head Archivist of the Foreign Office Research Dept. (Tel F.O. Main A x 388).

S Rimington

K3/A3

19 March 1974

K3/mw
(a. 3.74

C. 1892

14 FEB 1939

NETHERLANDS

Herr Victor Haefner's invention.

Gives account of interview with Mr. Watson Watt Director of Development and Communications at Air Ministry, who said that a German in Amsterdam named Victor Haefner had an invention in which Air Ministry were interested and that he was to be expelled from the Netherlands on 13th February. Mr. Watson Watt asked whether the Netherlands Government could be asked to stay his expulsion in order to enable Air Attaché to go from Brussels to interview him. Describes action taken through Sir Nevile Bland, as a result of which the Netherlands Government have agreed to prolong Herr Haefner's stay in Holland for a short time. Mr. Watson Watt was informed and is sending instructions to Air Attaché.

Registry } C 1892/1892/
Number } 29.
FROM Foreign Office
Minute (Mr. Coulson).

No.

Dated 13th Feb. 1939.

Received } 14th Feb.
in Registry } 1939.

C. Netherlands.

Last Paper.

(Minutes.)

References.

X

Handwritten signature

RES 17/2

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

since 13/2/39

(Index.)

W 13/2

Next Paper.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

C. 1892

14 FEB 1939

Mr. Watson Watt, the Director of Development and Communications at the Air Ministry, called on me yesterday morning. He said that there was a German living in Holland named Victor Haefner (Address Merwederphein No. 1 Amsterdam South) who had an invention which the Air Ministry thought might be of interest to them. But he was about to be expelled by the Dutch from Holland on February 13th. Mr. Watson Watt asked whether it would be possible for us to get the Dutch Government to stay his expulsion for a short time in order to enable the Air Attaché to go over from Brussels and interview him.

After consultation with Mr. Strang, I rang up Sir Nevile Bland who said he would see whether anything could be done. He added that the Air Attaché was expected to arrive at the Hague anyhow on February 14th and that a long delay would therefore not be necessary.

Sir Nevile Bland rang up this morning to say that the Dutch Government had agreed very reluctantly, as a special favour to us, to prolong Herr Haefner's stay in Holland for a short time but they hoped that we would deal with the matter as quickly as possible since they had strong objections to the individual in question. I have so informed Mr. Watson Watt who is sending instructions to the Air Attaché by bag tonight to the Hague making it clear that the interview should take place at the earliest possible opportunity.

J. Coulson
13th February 1939.

1505a

LOOSE MINUTEP2

1. We spoke on the 'phone.
2. I am anxious to trace any papers which may survive about the episode in about February 1939 when the Department of the Director of Development and Communications in the Air Ministry sponsored a visit to this country by a German living at the time in Amsterdam called Victor HAEFNER. HAEFNER's address was: Merwederplein, No 1 Amsterdam South, Holland.
3. The Dutch were intending to expel HAEFNER from Holland on 13 February 1939 but at the request of Mr Robert Watson-Watt, Director of Development and Communications in the Air Ministry, the Foreign Office got the Dutch Government to delay his expulsion for a short time to enable our Air Attaché in Brussels to interview him. HAEFNER was offering to the Air Ministry some kind of a radar device which he claimed to have invented in 1936.
4. As a result of the interview in Holland HAEFNER was brought to this country and seen at the Air Ministry by Watson-Watt on February 20 or 21 and again on February 27 by Squadron Leader Lewin and other Air Ministry officials. His invention was apparently worthless.

S RimingtonR3/A3
18 March 1974

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EXTRACT

150 lab

Extract for File No.: PF72493 Name:

Original in File No.: * PolF50-6-168-65 Link C Vol.: 9 Serial: 9013 Receipt Date: 5.3.74

Original from: SLO Washington Under Ref.: JSF:1 Dated: 1.3.74

Extracted on: 25.3.74 by: AJR Section: K6SR

Extract from letter from SLO Washington

.....
2.
.....

*

In both instances I was told that Head Office had no objection to my passing the reports to CIA and the FBI if I so wished. I decided on a number of grounds not to pass these reports. Firstly, because it seemed to me that they contained material relating to cases other than CAIRNCROSS which we should not pass gratuitously to CIA or the FBI; secondly, because I realized that investigations into the CAIRNCROSS case were still proceeding and that there might well be subsequent developments which would alter the whole aspect of the case (I believe this has in fact happened) and thirdly, because the comment was made in relation to the letter of 23 July that the comments expressed in the conclusion were those of the author and were not necessarily shared by her superior officers.

.....

.....
3. I would be grateful if you could show this letter to Bill Pratt with my apologies for not having advised him of my decision not to pass the reports at an earlier stage.

*

*If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner

* Reports on interviews with CAIRNCROSS in Jan. & April 1973 copies of which were passed to SLO W'hou at 866a in Vol 19 and 936b in (this) Vol 20 respectively.

MA

K7/mj
26.11.74

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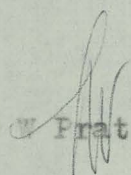
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PF 657554
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998a

NOTE FOR FILE

The intercept letter from HAEFNER to RAAB (Annex B to report at serial 26a) contains reference to OTERO. Serial 778a in SF 76-0273 states that a very reliable source reported that OTERO was the Chief Spanish Government arms purchaser at the Paris Headquarters. (NOTE: the Spanish Republican Government Purchasing Commission had its Headquarters at 55 avenue George V, Paris).


E W Pratt

K3/A1
26 February 1974



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NOTE FOR FILE

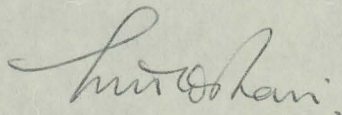
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K3/CPC de W and I discussed what further action could be taken to pursue the question of documentation of arms shipments from this country which found their way to Republican Spain; Mr de Wesselow suggested I should look for clues relating to CAIRNCROSS' involvement in the provision of such documentation in whatever records might now exist.

The Board of Trade records inherited by DoTI seemed the obvious place to start; F2 suggested I should talk to their contact in that Department, Richard Pullan, Tel: 222 7877 ext 3240.

Pullan, who was very cooperative, made enquiries following our initial conversation and came back with the information that records of the issue of arms licences were kept for a maximum of fifteen years. He added what was to me a new and interesting point: the issue of arms export licences did not become the responsibility of the Board of Trade until 1939; prior to that date, that is during the years we are interested in - 1936-39, the years of the Spanish Civil War - responsibility rested with the F.O. (when, of course, CAIRNCROSS was working there), presumably, Pullan thought, in consultation with the appropriate Service Department.

Patrick Walker kindly undertook to find out as quickly as possible whether any records of the kind I was looking for (I mentioned particularly shipments to Greece to AEKKEA and to Holland to WOLF) now existed and would let me know.



E W Pratt
K3/A1
MS Ext 660

15 February 1974

9956

K3/C I C de Wesselow

I invite your attention to the report of my interview with RAAB at serial 26a. I think you will agree that despite denials (which there are good reason to believe were lies) on important issues the interview has opened up several interesting lines of thought in relation to CAIRNCROSS. In addition to indications that CAIRNCROSS, through HAEFNER, was involved in providing documentation for arms shipments to Republican Spain, a matter we are currently pursuing, we now have the interesting thought that either by accident or by design CAIRNCROSS and RAAB were involved jointly in providing reasons to enable HAEFNER to be in this country. We shall need to take account of this in Mrs Rimington's study of the documentation of aliens in its relation to the activities of Arthur WYNN and Jenifer HART - and possibly others. We know CAIRNCROSS and Jenifer HART knew each other in the context of the LAYTON group: we should now examine whether there was any association during the time Jenifer was either DA to [redacted] or when she was responsible for aliens.

2. I would be happy to discuss any points in the report should you wish to do so.

 ratt

K3/A1
11 February 1974

Copied to: FF 72493 ✓

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Report on Interview with Antonios RAAB

1. As a result of arrangements described elsewhere (serial 22a of FF 657554) I interviewed Antonios RAAB at his home in a suburb of Genoa for a total of about five hours - for three hours on the evening of 30 November 1973 and for a further two the following morning. [redacted] accompanied me; he was ready to interpret if the interview had to be undertaken in Italian.
2. RAAB and his wife live in Flat 3 of a block at 6 Via Murcarolo in the suburb of Nervi to the south of Genoa. The flat is tiny. The bits of it we saw consisted of a small entrance hall, which appeared to double as a dining room, and a sitting room which served as RAAB's study. These rooms contained an odd collection of ill-assorted - and very modest - furniture. The most striking features were the walls. Those of the hall were totally covered with paintings of Mrs RAAB's. She later explained that painting was her hobby and that she exhibited locally from time to time. For the most part her work, thick oils, could, I suppose, be described as "after" (quite a long way after) Van Gogh - but she appeared to have a certain talent. RAAB's study walls were covered with photographs of what I took to be aeroplanes he had built.
3. We arrived at rather a difficult domestic moment for the RAABs. Genoa was in the grip of severe water shortage; supplies for domestic purposes were restricted and were only turned on for limited periods each day. It so happened we arrived at a time when the RAABs flat was in luck; RAAB, already in dressing gown, was about to have a bath. The chances are that by the time we left, although still in his dressing gown, the opportunity for a bath had long since passed.
4. One thing that struck both [redacted] and myself was the overheated and somewhat malodorous atmosphere of the flat; it was as if no window had been opened for ages to let in fresh air.
5. RAAB, despite his seventy-six years is still a powerful man - powerful both physically and mentally; photographs taken by the [redacted] surveillance team are a good likeness. He had a hard, indeed severe face; a face of someone used to getting his own way and bulldozing until he did; it was also a face of someone who had suffered in the past but who had no intention of suffering again.

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6. From the outset his attitude was aggressive; he wanted to get rid of us and clearly did not take kindly to dealing with people whom he regarded (and said so) as secret police whom he therefore associated with the Gestapo and the OGPU. It was immediately evident that he suffered a degree of deafness - a disability that he put to effective use, requiring frequent repetitions; consciously or unconsciously he utilised the technique of breaking in when I was in the middle of developing a point by asking me to repeat what I had said. This is a technique which is very off-putting. I formed the impression that like many deaf people he could hear what he wanted to hear and made the most of capitalising on the disruptive effect of his disability.

7. It soon became clear that both RAAB and his wife spoke good English. His wife, a Czech, some ten years younger than her husband, was the better linguist of the two. She is clearly very protective and assumed she was to be in on whatever was going to happen and so settled herself down with us. I could see only difficulties in trying to get rid of her and so acquiesced in her presence; RAAB was able to hear whatever she said irrespective of the loudness of her voice and this was useful from time to time in helping to explain points to him.

8. In explaining the purpose of our visit I told them we were investigating a case of Russian espionage which although having its roots in the UK had overtones in other parts of Europe. I would like to focus, at least to begin with, on the Spanish Civil War as this was an important aspect of this enquiry. The fact that we were going back to something which happened so long ago might suggest that we were looking at things now only of historical interest; this was not so - the case in question had ramifications which were still of relevance, not only to the UK but also to the other countries of the Western World.

9. RAAB was clearly listening attentively but his face bore a rather hostile look and he muttered to himself from time to time. I went on to say that before I got down to asking him specific questions relating to his involvement in the Spanish Civil War it would be helpful to us if we could go back over his own life so that we could get clear the significance of events, and circumstances, which led up to that involvement. This background would enable us to put the details of, and the reasons for, that involvement more accurately into context. Could we then go back to his early life?

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10. RAAB was happy to talk about his service in the German Air Force; the difficulty was to keep him to the point. He made it clear he had been something of an ace, flying in a crack squadron for some years before being shot down by Bishop in 1918. We touched upon his acquaintance with Herman GOERING. He had known him well as a fellow pilot; a good pilot but GOERING had always been in debt. There had been a cigar manufacturer in Hamburg called Jacob WOLF who had always come to GOERING's rescue. RAAB himself loaned him money which he never got back. He came to despise GOERING because on the IOUs in question to RAAB he signed himself Kapitain whereas in the First World War, like RAAB, he had only been Ober Leutenant.

11. When the war was over RAAB worked for a short time for the English when they were supervising the disarmament of Germany. He then joined what eventually became Lufthansa and was thus one of the first German commercial air pilots. He continued to do his for about three years before turning his attention to small aircraft. He was one of the first to popularise sporting aviation in Germany. He demonstrated small aeroplanes at the Leipzig fair in 1923 before President Ebert and later, amidst great publicity, made a spectacular landing in Unter den Linden in Berlin; he showed us newspaper cuttings with photographs of this. He became an aerobatic expert and was indeed World champion for three years from 1924-1926.

12. In 1923 he became Chief Test Pilot for Stahlwerkmark at Breslau. Here he flew not only small planes but also dirigibles. (He made the point that during the war he had flown not only fixed wing aircraft but also Zepelins). He moved on as Chief Test Pilot and Vice-Director of another firm at Cassel for a short time before setting up his own firm of RAAB-KATZENSTEIN. In this he was in partnership with his father-in-law KALKOFF. He explained that his first wife had died while he was in partnership with her father who was at that time also Vice-President and Treasurer of the German Social Democratic Party.

13. At this point I encouraged him to break off his account of his career in the field of aviation and to tell me about his political activities at that time (ie during the 1920's). Like his father-in-law RAAB was becoming more and more active as a Social Democrat. He viewed with great misgiving the clandestine arrangement between Germany and Russia designed to lay the foundation of illegal German re-armament. He could see that if these arrangements, which were being implemented under the direction of General SEKT, were allowed to continue war would be inevitable; he had known that German military technologists of all kinds were secretly being trained in Russia, and because he felt that these preparations for re-armament would lead to another war he was violently opposed to SEKT's activities.

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14. Together with a number of other people of influence RAAB had been involved in the preparation of a memorandum which drew attention to the dangers arising from the secret agreement with Russia which laid the basis for German re-armament. Others involved in this included SCHNEIDERMANN, the Mayor of Cassel, and Professor JUNKERS an aeroplane designer who at about that time had been told by the German government to go to Russia to organise factories there for aircraft production; JUNKERS had refused to do so.

15. Much later RAAB wrote a book which dealt with the causes of the Second World War with particular reference to the effect of this secret arrangement with Russia; he had called it "Their Struggle"; in it he explained how SEKT's activities in Russia had influenced the course of World events leading first to the rise to power of the Nazis and eventually to the outbreak of the Second World War. I asked if he had a copy of "Their Struggle" and if so could I borrow it? RAAB had only two copies left and needed some persuasion to let me borrow one of them. He eventually produced a copy of this book (which it turned out he had had printed privately in India) which I undertook to let him have back through the British Embassy in Rome.

16. I asked him to tell me about the effect on him of the arrival in power of the Nazis in January 1933. Because of the memorandum against re-armament he was arrested and charged with High Treason. His father-in-law, KALKOFF and Professor JUNKERS were arrested at the same time. KALKOFF was killed by the SA and JUNKERS remained a prisoner for most of the rest of his days - although he was produced by the Nazis from time to time as one of Germany's most successful designers of military aircraft. RAAB himself was kept in prison for nineteen days. The basis of the High Treason charge was that he was an enemy of the Reichswehr because he had spoken out against German re-armament. He came before two courts but the judges found that neither court had jurisdiction in a High Treason case - jurisdiction lay only with the High Court at Leipzig. At that time, RAAB pointed out, there were still some judges who were not Nazis and the courts released him. This happened on Easter day 1933. On his release he got hold of an aeroplane which he flew to Cologne and from there made his way to Reval (which later became known as Tallinn) in Estonia.

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17. The RAAB-KATZENSTEIN factory was taken over by the Nazis (KATZENSTEIN escaped to South Africa). Having arrived in Reval RAAB contracted with the Estonian Government to build a factory to produce aircraft. I asked what papers he had to enable him to enter Estonia and to negotiate the contract with the Government there. He still had his German passport but this was due to expire. Soon after his arrival in Reval when he knew the German Ambassador had gone to Germany for the 1st May celebrations and the Charge d'Affairs was von ROSEN a Jew, he went to the German Embassy and von ROSEN was able to provide RAAB with a new passport.

Comment

Our records confirm this story. RAAB was released from prison on 16 April 1933 and was issued with German passport number 60 at Reval on 10 May 1933.

18. RAAB built two aircraft in the nine weeks during which he was in Estonia but was then called to Latvia. After a short stay there he went to Sweden. He explained the rapidity of these movements by saying that the Germans had been after him; they had tried to kidnap him in Estonia, an attempt he had avoided by making a dramatic escape to Latvia.

19. After building some thirty aircraft in Sweden he decided to set up his aircraft business on a permanent basis in Greece. He took with him his two chief technicians: PAVLOVSKI who came from Riga and SINOVSKI a white Russian who had been an officer in the Czarist army before the revolution.

20. RAAB set up his factory, Aekkea, near Athens in 1935 taking with him the technicians he had already mentioned together with others, most of whom had worked for him for many years. He won a contract to build aircraft for the Greek Government and, in addition, set up a small factory in Rumania in which he completed a contract for thirty aircraft.

21 I turned to the question of the circumstances in which, and the reasons why, he became involved in the Spanish Civil War. This led quite naturally to the introduction of the name Victor HAEFNER. RAAB had received a telegram from HAEFNER suggesting he should go to Spain to discuss the provision of aircraft to the Republican Government; HAEFNER suggested that RAAB should see Colonel PASTOR. RAAB added he was quite sure PASTOR was not his correct name.

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Comment

The account given by RAAB about the origins of his involvement in the Spanish Civil War differ from that given by HAEFNER in the evidence he gave in his appeal against internment in the UK in 1940. HAEFNER's story was that RAAB had written from Athens to HAEFNER in Spain offering him commission for the sale of aeroplanes RAAB produced. This letter had followed a telegram RAAB had sent to the Secretary of State for Defence in Madrid which HAEFNER had seen in the office of Colonel PASTOR. HAEFNER told the Appeal Tribunal that he told PASTOR he knew RAAB but if the latter came to Spain "they would have to watch him". RAAB however stuck to his story that the initiative in getting him to Spain was taken by HAEFNER.

22. RAAB duly went to Spain and as a result of negotiations there prepared to set up an aircraft factory at Sabadella.

23. RAAB had known HAEFNER during the First World War as a fellow pilot. After the war, like RAAB, HAEFNER had for a short time been a commercial pilot with what later became Lufthansa. He was a good pilot and from the political point of view had been in vehement opposition to the preparations for the secret re-armament of Germany; later he was strongly opposed to the Nazis. RAAB went on to say that he recalled HAEFNER had been arrested some time in the 1920s and imprisoned for High Treason. The reason for this RAAB thought was that HAEFNER had given information to French officers in Mannheim about the secret agreement between Germany and Russia.

Comment

This in general agrees with our records. Although we knew the French were involved in the incident leading to HAEFNER's arrest we were unaware of the kind of information HAEFNER had passed.

24. RAAB's difficulties in getting his factory at Sabadella going stemmed mainly from the problem of acquiring the necessary materials and components. He ordered these from around Europe to be sent to Aekkea in Athens and from there sent them by ship to Marseilles and on to Barcelona. He ordered from France, Belgium, Austria and Switzerland and supplies of one material, a light metal alloy called elektron - which he himself had originally developed - from Germany. He made and repeated the point that he had ordered nothing from the United Kingdom.

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25. I asked what part HAEFNER had played in RAAB's organisation. To begin with none. HAEFNER had been training pilots for the Republican Air Force but his activities had given rise to some criticisms as he had himself written off a couple of precious aircraft. RAAB thought it was this which had led to HAEFNER being sent to Paris as a member of the Purchasing Commission. RAAB agreed that he had used HAEFNER while he was there to arrange for the purchase of supplies and materials for the Sabadella factory. RAAB went on to say with some bitterness that it was at that time that by erasing signatures from certain documents and by forging others HAEFNER swindled RAAB out of considerable sums of money; 3000 in sterling and 6000 in US dollars. RAAB made the point that he had been using HAEFNER in the latter's capacity as a member of the Purchasing Commission; HAEFNER had never acted as the agent of ABEKEA in Paris.

26. I asked when and why HAEFNER had changed his name to BELLACASA. RAAB said this was normal practice for those joining up with the Republicans; HAEFNER could not speak Spanish - indeed he could speak nothing but German - but like most others he took a Spanish name. I pointed out that according to our records HAEFNER was issued with a passport in the name of Juan Maria Belver de la BELLACASA on 13 April 1936, that is a couple of months before the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War. At first RAAB's reaction was to say that this was not possible; as far as he could recall HAEFNER had not gone to Spain until August 1936 and therefore would not have changed his name until then. Much later in the interview, however, RAAB said that having thought about this point it had come back to him that such passports had normally been predated.

Comment

Although we have details of the place, date of issue of the passport in respect of BELLACASA and its number, it has not so far been possible to trace its issue in Spanish records.

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27. In making preparations to manufacture aircraft in the Sabadella factory, RAAB made a number of trips from Spain to other countries to arrange for the supply of materials. On one such trip, to Austria, RAAB and his party were arrested. He explained that the Austrian Government was supporting Franco against the Republicans and thus when it was discovered RAAB was buying aircraft components which would be used by the Republicans against Franco he was arrested and imprisoned. I asked who had accompanied him on this trip. Only one or two of his technicians. Was one a Mexican national called BELACIOS? RAAB was emphatic that the name meant nothing to him; he was sure he had never heard of anyone of that name. After some further thought he added that Colonel PASTOR "or whatever his real name was" had been with him on this trip to Austria.

28. Continuing his account of this episode RAAB explained that he had been put in touch with a lawyer in Vienna named FRISCHAUER who was a personal friend of SCHUSSNIG; it was FRISCHAUER who arranged for RAAB and his party to be released from prison. One of the hazards of fulfilling his contract for the Spanish Republican Government against a hostile international environment was the sort of thing which happened to him in Vienna. This led me to ask about his motivation for helping the Republicans. His contract he explained provided for some 10% profit plus the royalties on each aircraft he built, but it was not so much this as the chance the contract offered for him to contribute in practical terms towards resistance to Fascism; it was this made him as a refugee from Fascism himself do what he did for the Republicans. He added that as a result of his imprisonment in Vienna the Republican Government provided him with a diplomatic passport.

29. RAAB denied he was involved in any negotiations other than those in respect of the supply of aircraft materials and components; he had not at that or any other time been involved with the procurement and supply of arms as such.

Comment

Report dated December 1936 stated that a Mexican national Alfredo BELACIOS accompanied RAAB on his trip to Vienna. The report stated that they were negotiating not only for aircraft material but also (with the Hirtenberger and Steyr factories) for the supply of 30 million rounds of ammunition and 20 thousand rifles on the pretext that these supplies were destined for China.

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30. Bringing him back to the question of the money he made from his contract with the Republican Government I asked what physically he had done with the cash. He explained that he received payment from the Ministry. He kept a certain amount of cash for local use in safe deposit boxes; the rest he remitted to Bank accounts he operated in Paris, Vienna, Geneva. He needed to have assets in various places to keep supplies flowing to Aekkea for onward transmission to Spain. I asked if he operated any bank accounts in Spain. He said emphatically he had not and having repeated this several times asked: "why would I have wanted to do that?" Further probing did not change his answer so I told him we believed he operated an account in a bank in Valencia at that time. This he denied saying he had certainly had no bank account at all in Spain.

Comment

This is a significant point to which reference will be made again later in this report (paragraph 52 below). In our records there is a reference to a letter from HAEPNER to RAAB (regrettably the original has been destroyed) which in the context of "original papers" spoke of "a reward" being given and of "a bank account in Valencia with which CAIRNCROSS is willing to help".

RAAB seemed eager to squash the suggestion that he had held money in a Spanish bank - perhaps a little too eager.

31. From Austria he returned via Greece, where his wife continued to manage the Aekkea factory, to Spain. I asked him to tell me the circumstances which led to his imprisonment there. The main fact behind this was that the Russians wanted his aircraft for themselves. Early in 1937 they took his plans and also transported half-completed aircraft to Russia. They then denounced him to the Spaniards telling them he was a spy for the Nazis. The Spanish Republican Ministers with whom RAAB had negotiated and upon whom he depended, were committed to taking Russian advice on everything and thus they had to take the Russians' word that he was a Nazi spy. Later the Russians reintroduced his aircraft into Spain under their own names and labels.

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Comment

Our records suggest that RAAB was imprisoned because he had swindled the Republican Government out of several million pesetas in connection with the purchase of US aircraft engines; they also suggest that the aircraft he did build were unserviceable.

32. RAAB spent some eighteen months in prison. In the early days he was severely beaten and generally ill-treated. They forced him to agree that he was a Nazi spy and once he had done so the beatings ceased. Then came the time in the summer of the following year when he and others were digging trenches for the retreating Republican forces; it was then he escaped and for the next nineteen days walked through the mountains before arriving in France. He crossed the border in poor shape after his ordeal and had to go into hospital for a time before being able to pick up the threads of his life again.

33. I raised the subject of the manuscript of the book he had written while in prison: "Gefangen in Sowjet-Spanien". He asked at once; "Have you got it?" He said he was anxious to know what had happened to it; he imagined that we "had somehow got hold of it" and seemed quite unconvinced when I sought to assure him that although we were aware he had written it we did not have a copy nor did we know where one was to be found. Despite this his look remained one of patent disbelief. I asked what he had done with the manuscript; had he given it to HAEFNER? Certainly not; he had not seen HAEFNER again from before the time that he (RAAB) had been imprisoned in Spain. A copy had found its way to a Bourbon prince who was at that time an ADC to Franco; he thought it was this copy which had been taken to the US and which, in part, was published by the Hearst Press in, he thought, December 1938.

Comment

In the course of his interrogation in connection with his appeal against internment in the UK in 1940, HAEFNER said he agreed to take the manuscript of "Gefangen in Sowjet-Spanien" and to get it published for RAAB. He said he had shown it to Stern RUBATH whom he described as an editor of a press bureau.

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34. I said that I believed in his book RAAB had named a number of Ogpu agents who were operating in Spain at that time; how had he known them to be Ogpu agents? His answer was that there had been Ogpu agents everywhere in Spain; he was sure from the way they had behaved those he named would have been working for the Ogpu. He was unable to give firmer reasons for his identifications. I then asked whether he had drawn any line of demarkation between those who worked for the Ogpu and those who worked for the Russian Military Intelligence organisation, the Fourth Department. He did not; he regarded them all as one.

35. Although I went through a number of the names quoted in the extract of his book which we have he could add little of substance to the descriptions given in the extract.

Comment

In our records, attached to a letter dated 18 March 1940, there is a list purporting to be of Ogpu agents in Spain which is said to have been taken from the manuscript of RAAB's book. The records however throw no light on how, when and where we had access to the manuscript, or indeed what happened to it.

It seems likely that RAAB has a point in saying "you have got it" even if, to be accurate, he should have said "you once had it".

36. I asked Mrs RAAB to tell me what she had done during the time her husband was in prison in Spain. She had been in Greece looking after the administrative side of the Aekkea factory when she received the news that RAAB had been imprisoned. She had at once gone to Paris to be near at hand for news and to do what she could to try to get him released. She made several, unsuccessful, attempts to do so. On one occasion she was put in contact with Comte de LYROT, a Catholic Party representative in the National Assembly; he in turn put her in touch with a Communist deputy from Nevers who told her he could help her husband. At a clandestine meeting Mrs RAAB handed over 30,000 Swiss Francs to this man but heard no more. On another occasion she met someone called GUINDINI in Toulon. This was a man who had been in prison with RAAB but had escaped and once in France had contacted Mrs RAAB. Once again she provided money but without results.

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37. RAAB added that another thing happened to him while he was in prison. On 20 April 1938 his name was among the 1500 who were deprived on their nationality by decree of the German Government.

38. Having recovered from his ordeal of crossing the Pyrenees and been released from hospital, RAAB and his wife who had joined him once news reached her he had arrived in France, went to Paris. It was then he discovered that HAEFNER had swindled him of large sums of money (vide paragraph 25 above). He had been unable to trace HAEFNER but had heard he had been gaoled. RAAB said he had no idea of the reason for this or what had subsequently happened to HAEFNER; he had never seen him again. Both RAAB and his wife embarked on a vilification of HAEFNER. Mrs RAAB kept repeating she had never liked him; he was quite irresponsible and unscrupulous where money was concerned. Most of his life he had difficulty making ends meet - sometimes he had been very poor indeed - but while in Paris HAEFNER and his wife had lived it up; for one thing they lived in the George V hotel and their life was at a pace far beyond what one would expect the income of a member of the Spanish Purchasing Commission would provide. She thought he must have been up to no good. When I pursued this Mrs RAAB said she could not say more; she had not had much contact with the HAEFNERS but she had never known how they could have lived as they did.

Comment

HAEFNER was the subject of an expulsion order by the French authorities in August 1937 and as he did not leave France was imprisoned in September. He was released and deported in January 1938 after which he lived for about a year in Holland under the name BELLACASA.

Early in 1937 HAEFNER arrived in Paris to work with the Spanish Purchasing Commission which had its office at 55 Avenue George V very near the expensive hotel in which Mrs RAAB says HAEFNER and his "wife" stayed. In fact HAEFNER was not then married. From about 1930 he lived with Elsa PEPLER an opera singer whom he eventually married in the UK in 1939.

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39. I asked if RAAB had visited Majorca at that time - August or September 1938. He looked blank and shook his head. I told him I asked because I believed he was issued with a Costa Rican passport there on 1 August 1938. He said he certainly had a Costa Rican passport but he got it in Paris. I asked how he had managed to do this when the passport showed its place of issue as Palma, Majorca. RAAB explained he had got his passport through a lawyer; he had not worried how it had been obtained. I asked the lawyer's name. It was URI - RAAB spelt it out. I pressed for more details about him. Between them the RAABs recalled his other name was Albert and that his office was in Avenue Malakoff, they thought at 139; he had a wife called Yvonne and two young children. Which part of France did he come from? They were sure it was Alsace. RAAB added that he had heard that during the war URI had been shipped to Germany and had died in a concentration camp there.

40. I asked if either of them had known Etienne TEMBOURY, also a lawyer in Paris at that time, and if so did they associate him with HAEFNER? Neither RAAB nor his wife appeared to have any recollection of the name and in response to further questions they said that HAEFNER's lawyer was a man called FLORIOT; it had been through FLORIOT that HAEFNER's Spanish passport in the name of BELLACASA had been organised.

41. RAAB went on to say as something of an afterthought that he had heard his own Spanish diplomatic passport, which had been taken from him when he was in prison, had been sent to Russia.

Comment

I pressed for details of URI as there seemed to be a slight possibility because of the similarity of names, that URI and TEMBOURY might conceivably have been one and the same person. It seems however that there is little chance that this is the case: URI, apparently from Alsace is said to have died during the war; TEMBOURY we know to be from Casteljaloux in Les Landes and is known to have been alive as recently as 1968 (we await further news of him from the French).

TEMBOURY is said by CAIRNGROSS to have been HAEFNER's lawyer in Paris; we have not heard of FLORIOT before.

RAAB's account of the traffic in passports is interesting and is in line with the emphasis put on the importance of this by KRIVITSKI in the context of his account of RIS activities in Spain.

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42. I asked whether I was right in supposing that HAEFNER had acted as an agent of Aekkea in France. RAAB was emphatic that at no time had HAEFNER been an agent of his firm. He had had a man in Marseilles who looked after arrangements for onward shipments of materials to Barcelona; the Paris office was not opened until after RAAB's escape from his Spanish prison in 1938. The man in Marseilles was Marcel GIRODOL. RAAB explained GIRODOL was a Communist who had in fact been recommended for the job by the Spanish Republicans; he was a great friend of HAEFNER's and died in 1937 or 1938. When established the Paris office was run by Max AUGER, a Frenchman. This had not proved to be a great success as AUGER "was not a serious man" - he liked bright lights more than work. RAAB did not think that AUGER and HAEFNER had known each other.

43. The RAABs did not stay very long in Paris before they left for New York. They thought they had sailed some time in November 1938 on a trip the main purpose of which was that they should be present at legal hearings of a suit arising from the supply of aero engines which RAAB had ordered from the US for his factory in Sabadella (the comment following paragraph 31 might be relevant). The engines in question he referred to as Ranger products which were supplied without the required certificate of airworthiness. His lawyer in New York was Harry B LEM, who was now dead. While there RAAB was invited by LEM to address New York Freemasons on the situation in Spain. The RAABs spent some four weeks in New York and left on their return trip to Europe shortly after Christmas.

44. We worked it out that RAAB had been in Paris from sometime early in September until about mid November 1938. I asked if during that time he had travelled to Holland. He said he had not. I told him there was reason to believe he had in fact done so and had met HAEFNER there. This he strongly denied; he had not been to Holland and he had not seen HAEFNER.

Comment

In the course of his appeal against internment HAEFNER said in 1940 that RAAB had visited Holland and had met him during 1938.

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45. I asked whether he was sure he had not seen HAEFNER after, say, the end of 1936. He was quite sure he had not; when he found on his arrival in Paris in 1938 that HAEFNER had swindled him he had not wanted to see him again. I commented that I found this statement surprising and at that point produced a photostat of the credential signed by RAAB stating that HAEFNER was representative in the UK of the firm of Aekkea (a copy is at Annex A to this report). I asked why, if he had no contact with HAEFNER after the end of 1936 and moreover felt bitter about what HAEFNER had done, had he provided him in May 1939 with this credential. In any case how did he know HAEFNER was in England?

46. Both RAAB and his wife were clearly taken aback by this. After some moments RAAB said there was now something returning to his mind which suggested to him that he may in fact have received a letter from HAEFNER. So far as he recalled it had been a begging letter asking for any help RAAB could give; although he could not recall doing so, he must have sent the credential I was now showing him to give HAEFNER a helping hand. I told him that in the circumstances I found it difficult to understand why he should have done that. RAAB embarked on a lengthy explanation that as a refugee himself from Nazi Germany, and as one who had been deprived of his nationality by the Nazis RAAB was always ready to help others who were in the same plight. It must simply have been that motive which had prompted him to send HAEFNER the letter. In making this explanation he interpolated the phrase: "you couldn't understand" more than once.

47. I asked if in the light of the document I had shown him he still maintained that HAEFNER never in fact represented Aekkea and that the firm never procured materials or components - or anything else - from the UK. RAAB maintained despite the letter, that HAEFNER never represented Aekkea and that the firm never acquired anything from the UK. I commented that if this was so to send such a letter "to help" HAEFNER was rather a strange thing to do. RAAB just shrugged.

48. I said there was another thing. I had a copy of a letter dated 31 July 1939 which HAEFNER had sent from London to RAAB in Greece. I produced a xerox copy of the original in German and an English translation (Annex B to this report). What had he to say about the letter? They pored over the German which, understandably, they found difficult to read. Eventually they said the letter must be a forgery; they had certainly never received it.

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"We have never seen anything like that have we Toni?" Mrs RAAB kept asking her husband who shook his head. I said there was no reason whatever to think the letter was a forgery and pointed out it gave every appearance first that it was part of a continuing correspondence between HAEFNER and RAAB, and secondly that RAAB's firm was in fact, contrary to what he had said earlier, doing business in the UK. Further, this appeared to fit with the letter accrediting HAEFNER as Aekkea representative in the UK.

49. RAAB continued to shake his head and they both repeatedly asked how we had got hold of the letter. I side-stepped this and asked them to tell me about the people named by HAEFNER in the letter. We went through them. The first problem was convincing them that the name in the opening sentence was in fact ATKINSON. They tried all sorts of variations and alternatives. I said we were pretty sure that it was ATKINSON. Who was he and why should RAAB have written to him? RAAB maintained he knew no one called ATKINSON and was adamant he had not been in communication with the UK at that time. I told him we thought ATKINSON was involved in arms dealing and this suggested that HAEFNER and RAAB were similarly involved. RAAB denied this; he was only concerned with designing and building aircraft.

50. The next name was Colonel PASTOR whom we had discussed earlier. RAAB could not, or would not, throw any light on why PASTOR's name should crop up in this context. He had not seen or had contact with PASTOR since sometime before he (RAAB) had been imprisoned in Spain.

51. I next tried OTERO, RAAB had come across someone of that name in Spain whom he thought was a Polish Jew; he did not know what had happened to him. BELLANZ and HERZBERG apparently stirred no memories and in response to RAMOS he merely said it was a common Spanish name; he must have met many when he was in Spain. I told him I thought he might have met this particular RAMOS in Paris after his return from Spain; this RAMOS we thought had lived at an address in Avnue de Versailles. RAAB shook his head and made the point that once having escaped from Spain he had had nothing further to do with that country or its nationals.

52. Then came the name CAIRNCROSS. They both mulled the name over and finally shook their heads saying the name meant nothing. I told them that CAIRNCROSS seemed to have been fairly well known to HAEFNER from about 1937 onwards, that is from a time before HAEFNER's imprisonment in France; I thought perhaps HAEFNER might have mentioned CAIRNCROSS's name to RAAB in earlier correspondence as the inference in the letter before us was not only that RAAB would know it but also he would understand what HAEFNER was referring to. RAAB maintained the name meant nothing to him.

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Comment

RAAB's reaction to the production of these two documents was a crucial aspect of the interview - particularly in the light of the course the build-up to it had taken.

There is no doubt in my mind that both were discomfitted and that their explanations must be regarded as unsatisfactory. The more one reflects on RAAB's explanation of the reasons why he sent HAEFNER the "to whom it may concern" letter the more unconvincing it becomes. In the context of the other document, HAEFNER's letter to RAAB, in the hothouse and somewhat unreal atmosphere of their flat, their attempts to discredit the authenticity of the letter and to deny having received it were put over with such determination and skill that, as and I agreed afterwards, they carried a degree of conviction. Away from that atmosphere, however, the air of conviction which had been generated, fairly quickly dissipated.

As regards the letter itself, apart of course from CAIRNCROSS, there is little in our records about the others named.

ATKINSON

Although ATKINSON has not been fully identified, there are traces which suggest he was involved in arms dealing at the material time and operated from an address in Victoria House, London. There are indications that he had dealings with the PAPHYROS firm run by arms dealer William Henry PEASE and that he met HAEFNER through a Frenchman called SCHWARZ. SCHWARZ seems to have been Portuguese Consul somewhere in France and in addition to his proprietorship of a rubber boot factory was involved in arms dealing.

PASTOR

PASTOR is No Trace. He seems to have been a key figure in the Republican Government Ministry of Defence and in the Purchasing Commission in Paris.

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

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RAMOS

This appears to be J RAMOS a technical officer in the Spanish Purchasing Commission who in 1939 was reported to have lived at 18 Avenue de Versailles, Paris.

OTERO

BELANZ

I cannot trace.

HERZBERG

This seems to be Max HERZBERG also involved in the arms business who, like ATKINSON, met HAEFNER through SCWARZ.

53. I then put to RAAB the name Edward WEISBLAT. This did not seem to mean anything to him. I explained that WEISBLAT had been living in Paris during the time RAAB was there in 1938 after escaping from Spain. As there was still no reaction I went on to say that RAAB's name had been linked with that of WEISBLAT in that they were both reported to have been associated with the Dutch arms-dealing firm of WOLF.

54. We spent some time talking about various WOLFs who clearly were nothing to do with those in whom I was interested. I told him that Daniel WOLF was the principal of an arms firm bearing his name based in Amsterdam; he had a brother Otto WOLF who we believed represented the firm in Paris in 1937-1938. This still proved unproductive. Eventually RAAB dredged up a Daniel WOLF whom he had met, he thought, in 1936 on board a ship during a trip from Athens to Marseilles. RAAB described this man as a German/American who although a banker "was a bit of a hippy". He had not seen him since. The only Otto WOLF he could bring to mind had become head of a major West German steel firm and was currently adviser on steel to the West German Government. He was sure he had not known any WOLF in Paris, nor had he been to Amsterdam.

Comment

Edward WEISBLAT was an important figure. In the 1930s he divided his time between Paris and London, living in considerable style. In France he ran the MEULAN shipyard and the Lorraine-Dietrich aircraft manufacturing firm; in the UK he ran the firm Aero Marine Engines.

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Comment

Walter KRIVITSKI had this to say: "an important agent recruited for this particular purpose (ie organising arms for Spain) by the Ogpu was one WEISBLAT of Aero Marine Engines. WEISBLAT was employed by the Fourth Department to obtain export licences for arms to Spain particularly from French Government Departments". Thus WEISBLAT seems to have played a similar role to that which HAEFNER encouraged CAIRNCROSS to play in the context of fiddling licences, WEISBLAT in France and CAIRNCROSS in the UK.

In 1938 WEISBLAT was reported to be a member of SIRENEV's group in the RAZVEDUPR organisation in Paris. SIRENEV has been identified as Theodore KISELEV a senior Ogpu officer who under the overall control of the Ogpu Resident in Paris, operated a group of agents four of whom have been identified.

SIRENEV made frequent trips to Spain during the Civil War and was closely associated with the Spanish Purchasing Commission in Paris in which of course HAEFNER worked.

WEISBLAT is reported to have made a large fortune from the supply of armaments to the Republican Forces. He and RAAB are named in reports made in 1939 listing those associated with the WOLF group, that is the arms trafficking organisation run from Amsterdam by Daniel WOLF. After the end of the Spanish Civil War the WOLF organisation seems to have turned its attention to the Middle East; they established themselves in Cairo.

In view of the information in our records it is difficult to believe RAAB's denials that he did not know (or even know of) WEISBLAT or the WOLF organisation. But if he was lying - and on reflection I am convinced he must have been - he made a good job of it.

55. Although I tried various other angles to draw him on the subject of his involvement in arms dealing in 1938-1939, and possibly earlier, he would admit neither to involvement in, nor to knowledge of, the arms business. His story was that when he returned from the US early in 1939 he made his way via Paris back to Athens where he continued to build aircraft in his Aekkea factory.

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56. When the Germans overran Greece in 1941 RAAB said he was taken to Egypt by the British. There, according to his story, he worked in Randolph Churchill's office in Cairo helping to prepare an anti-Nazi propaganda film. This work took him from April to December 1941 when he and his wife left Egypt for India. RAAB made the point that it was while in Cairo he misguidedly handed over, and never got back, receipts he had had since the end of the First World War for loans he had made to Hermann GOERING which had never been repaid. He had given these to a man who posed as an Intelligence Officer but who was later shot by the British as a German spy. His name was LEOFOGLOU. RAAB spelt out the name and added: "you will have all about him in your records".

Comment

Once again our records tell a somewhat different story from that told by RAAB; this time however RAAB's story seems to be nearer the truth. Reports on his final year in Greece (1940/41) suggest he spied against the Greeks during the Italian invasion and that shortly before the evacuation of British Forces in April 1941 he was arrested by the British as a German spy. It was more reliably reported that he was evacuated from Greece by the British as a protected refugee and this accords with RAAB's own account.

There is nothing on record to support his claim that he worked in Randolph Churchill's office; but our records are silent on his time in Egypt. Neither are we in a position to comment on his story about LEOFOGLOU. Despite RAAB's confidence that we would know all about him, he is no trace.

57. Towards the end of the interview I showed the RAABs some photographs, without of course telling them who the subjects were. These included: Victor HAEFNER, Guy BURGESS, John CAIRNCROSS, Otto KATZ, James KLUGMANN, Henri PIECK.

58. RAAB immediately picked out HAEFNER but of the rest only lingered over two: one was of BURGESS and the other of PIECK; he was sure he had never come across any of the others. He thought BURGESS's gace familiar but could not think why. I told him he was looking at a picture of Guy BURGESS; he said at once that he of course recalled the case of the two missing diplomats and he must have seen his picture in the newspapers at the time of their defection.

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Comment

I included the BURGESS photograph on the grounds that he was a fairly frequent visitor to Paris before the war; on one occasion he made an apparently abortive attempt to meet CAIRNCROSS there. There have recently been indications (from CAIRNCROSS) that BURGESS was at least to some extent involved in the RIS effort in Spain, and thus it was interesting that RAAB should linger over his photograph, and find it familiar. On balance however I suppose RAAB's explanation that he was familiar with the face because he had seen it in the newspapers (albeit more than twenty-two years ago) has to be accepted.

59. When RAAB and his wife were lingering over the photograph of Henri PIECK I suggested that RAAB and/or his wife might have met him in Athens; the subject of the photograph visited Athens in 1936 to try to arrange to buy aircraft from the Greek Government for the Spanish Republicans. Both RAABs said that if he had come to Athens to buy aircraft he would have come to Aekkea as it was the only aircraft factory in Greece and they were building aircraft for the Greek Government. Gradually however they came to the conclusion that neither had in fact met the man and pointed out there had been another firm in Greece which although did not manufacture aircraft it dealt in aircraft components; the man in question might have had dealings with it. The name of the firm was KALEI KAOPEION which was run by a man called BADOSAKIS. They did not associate the man in the picture with anyone they had met in Paris.

Comment

In September 1936, on the orders of KRIVITSKI, PIECK who was himself a fairly important RIS agent, flew from Paris to Greece to negotiate with the Greek Government for the supply of aircraft to the Spanish Republican Government; he was unsuccessful in his mission. There is nothing to suggest that PIECK had dealings on this trip with individual firms.

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60. When we came to take our leave RAAB told us he was to fly that day to Berlin; he was still negotiating there about compensation for the factory which the Nazis had taken over in 1933. In thanking him for talking to us I made the point that it might prove necessary for us to see him again; RAAB agreed, but without much enthusiasm, that he would be ready to receive us. We left the hothouse atmosphere of the RAABs' flat having established better relations than I thought likely at the outset of our first session with them. I had the distinct impression however that they were very pleased to see us go.

CONCLUSIONS

61. My main purpose in seeing RAAB was to try to get nearer the truth about CAIRNCROSS's involvement with HAEFNER, particularly as this related to activities in the context of assisting the RIS effort in Spain. We know CAIRNCROSS was approached by HAEFNER to help in the documentation of illegal arms shipments to Spain. So much CAIRNCROSS has admitted, but he denies having played any part in it. The importance of resolving this aspect of his story lies in the fact that to break him on it would let us into a world he has been at pains to conceal; I feel there could be a rich prize for us here if we can get at it.

62. Although the interview with RAAB threw no direct light on CAIRNCROSS's involvement in this regard, on reflection its usefulness lay in what RAAB did not say and in what he denied.

63. RAAB's line that he had no dealings with HAEFNER after he (RAAB) was imprisoned in February 1937 must be regarded as unacceptable; there are simply too many and too strong indications that he was in fact in contact with HAEFNER for them all to be wrong (although I accept that not all our early information can be regarded as wholly reliable). I base my thinking on this on the following:

- a) HAEFNER's evidence to the Appeal Tribunal in 1940. Although much of what he told the Tribunal was clearly special pleading, and he had some fairly sharp things to say about RAAB, I do not think there is any reason to doubt his statements about his continuing association with RAAB; he must have been aware that this would be known from the mass of papers which came into the possession of the UK authorities at the time of his arrest.

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This is supported in practical terms by:

- b) RAAB's letter accrediting HAEFNER as UK representative of Aekkea.
- c) HAEFNER's letter to RAAB which gives every impression of being one in a continuing correspondence.

64. Quite apart from the question of a continuing relationship between RAAB and HAEFNER the above points in my view also give the lie to RAAB's statements:

- a. that he was not involved in arms dealing;
- b. that he had no further contact with the Spanish War after his escape from prison;
- c. that he conducted no business in the UK.

65. There is a further point, but this arises from reports, the reliability of which is uncertain and we cannot now test, which concerns his involvement with the WOLF organisation and his association with WEISBLAT. In the light of what must be regarded as lies on the other points listed above, it seems reasonable to suppose he was also lying in this regard.

66. The question arises why should he go to considerable lengths to draw a veil over his 1938/1939 activities?

67. I suspect that one factor in this might be that our interest in HAEFNER suggested to him that we had got on to something sinister that HAEFNER had been up to in the UK. RAAB, who probably has anything but a clear conscience in this regard, therefore decided to take the line that the safest plan would be to deny all association with HAEFNER after his escape from Spain, particularly during 1938/1939.

68. If indeed RAAB was worried at the thought that we had got on to HAEFNER, it seems possible - indeed likely - that RAAB had a good idea of what in fact HAEFNER had been up to both in Holland and in the UK. After all one would hardly think that someone with RAAB's background would be inhibited about admitting to have been in some way involved in arms trafficking thirty-five years ago and thus his attitude suggests he knew what HAEFNER was doing and that this, from our point of view, was something worse.

69. Taking this reasoning a step further, HAEFNER was in touch with CAIRNCROSS from at least the middle of 1937 (probably about June), and later it was CAIRNCROSS who was responsible for sponsoring HAEFNER's visit to the UK in January 1939. Moreover CAIRNCROSS's name occurs in HAEFNER's correspondence with RAAB on two occasions that we know of; regrettably much other correspondence from HAEFNER has been weeded from his file and destroyed.

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CAIRNCROSS must therefore have been known, at least by name, to RAAB and thus it would not perhaps be unreasonable to think that at our interview RAAB was protecting (in addition to himself) HAEFNER's contacts, particularly someone like CAIRNCROSS.

70. The next question is: what was the real reason for HAEFNER (with CAIRNCROSS's sponsorship and RAAB's accreditation) coming to this country in January 1939? The so-called invention can I think be ruled out as nothing more than a pretext. His arrival here could have been simply in the context of the arms business, or there could have been other reasons. We should I think look at the circles in which he moved. Although his name is associated with such arms dealers as William Henry PEASE and others, and he was no doubt involved in this field, he also made a number of contacts in the world of aviation; apart from having met Robert Watson WATT (through CAIRNCROSS) he made a number of contacts through being introduced to the Royal Aero Club. In addition he moved, not unnaturally, in refugee circles. He was a frequent visitor to the Refugee Centre in Bloomsbury House where he would have known the principal figures, all of whom are of interest to us: Eva KOHLMER, the BRODAs, the LOW BEERS and the NEMARKs, to name just a few. There could be something of significance in this.

71. RAAB's accreditation of HAEFNER as his firm's representative in this country makes no sense as RAAB explained it, but it could have been a material element in achieving HAEFNER's alien's documentation; this brings us into an interesting field we are currently studying.

72. It is difficult to see what all this adds up to, and as HAEFNER is dead, we have to look elsewhere for answers to our problems. One of the few people we might turn to is Etienne TEMBOURY - if he is alive and accessible. If, as CAIRNCROSS says, it was TEMBOURY who was HAEFNER's lawyer, and who introduced HAEFNER to CAIRNCROSS and if he will talk, he may be able to fill in some important gaps in the story. Among other things he may be able to throw light on the other lawyers mentioned by RAAB - both new names to us; FLORIOT and Albert URI. Each seems to have been in a position to get hold of passports; FLORIOT is said to have produced a pre-dated Spanish passport for HAEFNER in the name of BELLACASA and URI a Costa Rican passport for RAAB, supposedly issued in Majorca.


73. If my reflections on this interview are on about the right lines, then RAAB is an accomplished liar. And so is his wife. The areas on which they (apparently) chose to lie puts them in a suspicious light. However to have attempted to break RAAB's story would have been difficult.

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In the circumstances of the interview I did not think it prudent to turn it into an interrogation. At the outset we had explained our purpose as "to seek his help" and he was a non-British subject and we were on foreign soil. I am, however, convinced he was lying on important aspects of the interview, but perhaps by doing so he has nevertheless been unwittingly helpful in that he has put HAEFNER's activities in the UK in 1939 - which are very much tied up with his relations with CAERNACROSS - in a new and perhaps more sinister light.



E W Pratt

K3/A1
8 February 1974

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"AEKKEA,"

TELÉGR. ROFELAG, PIRÉE

Annex A 2

SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME DE FABRICATION ET EXPLOITATION D'AVIONS

R A A B
LE PIRÉE (GRÈCE)

Bureaux:

Athènes, Vieux Phalère, 10.5.39.
Rue Possidonos 19

to whom it may concern.

Mister Victor H a e f n e r, Aviator,
born May 18th at Erenden,

whose photo is attached to this letter, is in charge to represent our Greek Company in England and to buy various kinds of raw materials for the construction of aeroplanes. He will stay as our representative in England, for about one year.

SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME DE FABRICATION & EXPLOITATION D'AVIONS
LE PIRÉE (GRÈCE)

A. Paab

Vu à la Chambre de commerce et d'industrie d'Athènes pour légalisation de la signature ci-contre apposée par Mr.

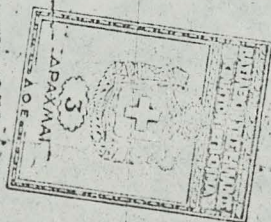
A. Paab, signant pour la Société Anonyme de Fabrication et exploitation d'avions.

Athènes, le 26 ~~Janvier~~ ~~1939~~ 1939

Le Directeur

de la Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie

d'Athènes



TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

Jan 21. 1939

C. Raab
 steekten
 v.H.

Lida Antonina,

Prins Boris Alexandrovich van 19. 2. 39

op het Kees-buis gesamen mees. Was souwe
 makende van Papageno in en schiedst
 vells!

Prins Genesht "E 1931 vanan aendel
 besin trevel met van, -.

Prins Boris van 13. nov 17. best
 mit beantwoordet.

Wie stelt er mit de Abrechnung?

Wollen wir die Sache nicht mal regeln?

Wentelin, Peter hat ja. wotet, das

er net besin besten willen de Sache nicht

nicht rechtens, wenn wenn er nicht ent-

reuen würde, es nicht freie Kocumb.

Er will nichts mehr von der jungen

Sache wissen.

Ofero hat nicht geantwortet, wir

und nicht antworten.

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Somit gibt es nichts von Bulang zu
berichten. Ich hoffe, dass du mich
ein bisschen in der Sache da in Griechenland
lässt doch.

Hier ist alles klar in bereit, das haben
wir vorgearbeitet. Es braucht nicht per
fekte Daten in die Bedingungen ge-
stellt zu werden, die von hier aus Ver-
langt werden.

Im übrigen hat man sich über die
so eindeutig, nicht sage den Leuten
in Griechenland, sie sollen nicht so
Gang werden!

Leute Pöbel von Ramo. - Bitte zu
warten bei der Zeichnung, ausserdem ist,
aber du soll. Richtlinie gibt.

Da steht bei der Wager Mündigen
Sache - keine Verteidigung in Prozess
aufhalten mit Leuten, die sich.

TOP SECRET

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3/ bezug auf Kowman - Von jtz hat sich
das griechische Konsulat nicht mehr
gemeldet. Hat er irgendwas bean-
tragt? - Erfahre heute. Auf Reysberg
auf 2 Monate auf allen Kontinent ge-
fahren ist. Kon ... + ...
... ..

Laf hat Kowman in sein nächstes
Dossier original Kowman von ...
den ich sprach ... auch nicht mehr
... ..

Aber dann von mir besetzen

Gut für

Kita

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

Translated from German

LONDON
W2

A. RAAB Esq
"Aekkea"
ATHENS
Palaia-Phaleres

31.Vii.39

Dear Antonius

Your letter to ATKINSON has been noted. We were still with Papyries(?) and he is writing to you himself.

Price gun £4.19.0 and nothing will alter that.

You have not answered my letters of 13 and 17.

How is the Account standing? Do we not want to settle the affair? Further, Pastor has replied that with the best will he can no longer recollect the matter, and if he were able to recollect it, he does not want to have anything more to do with it.

Otero(?) has not replied, and we are not answering either. Moreover there is nothing to report of/from Belanz(?). I hope that you really understand about it, and that you are even taking heed of how the affair in Greece turns.

Here all is clear and ready, we have worked that beforehand. It needs only a fixed order, and the conditions to be arranged, that will be demanded from here.

By the way they have been making so many enquiries about you, and the people in Greece say that they should not talk such stupid stuff.

Enclosed letter from Ramos, please let me have it back. Besides a newspaper cutting that should be on the right lines for you. With the munitions affair, you must try to line up your defence and proofs with people who possibly can testify - up to now the Greek Consulate has not reported. Have you proposed anything? I discovered yesterday that Herzberg(?) is travelling for two months on the continent. Comes back (two illegible words).

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

With best greeting from
us both,

(Signed) V I C T O R

TOP SECRET

992a - 995a

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

VIA ARMANDO SPADINI, 16
ROMA

Received ~~12/12/73~~
7.1.74 99/a

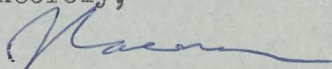
24 October 1973

Dear Mr Pratt,

Many thanks for your letter of 12
October which reached me yesterday.

The postponement suits me very well, as I am
rather hard pressed at the moment. As soon as I see
my programme more clearly, I shall drop you a line.

Yours sincerely,


John Cairncross

Mr E W Pratt



Mr E W Pratt
Ministry of Defence
Room 055, Old War Office
Building
Whitehall
London SW1
England

Permanence

990a

NOTE FOR FILE

K3Z/Miss Small has kindly drawn my attention to serials 18a, 19a and 20a in PF 604300. A copy of 18a is attached hereto.

2. Mikhail Nikoleevich KLIMOV who owns PF 604300 served in London as an Assistant Military Attache. Although there are strong suspicions that he was an IO this has never been confirmed.

3. The report of the surveillance team on KLIMOV's movements on 23 May 1950 is interesting as it could be interpreted as an adumbration of CAIRNCROSS's movements on the evening of 6 April 1952 when, according to his post-confession story he had activated procedures for an emergency meet with his controller (? KUZNETSOV). In the course of the evening in question CAIRNCROSS made his way by a circuitous route to Gunnersbury Park where for twenty five minutes or so, although usually a non-smoker, chain smoked during the time he was there.

4. It seems possible therefore that what in fact KLIMOV was up to was a dry run - trying out a procedure an agent could be briefed to use in difficult circumstances.

5. There is another point. It is unlikely that anyone other than an IO would have acted as he did on that occasion - and indeed on others. Thus assuming he was an IO the next question is: was he KGB or GRU? As an AMA on the face of it the odds are he was GRU - but one should not be carried away on this as there have been cases where Military Attache posts have been used as cover for the KGB. However, the fact is he could well have been GRU and this provides yet another suggestion (and the effect of these suggestions is cumulative) that at least at some points in his espionage career CAIRNCROSS was involved with the GRU, and its predecessor, rather than with the KGB and its. Thus in a number of ways it has emerged that CAIRNCROSS is a different kind of animal from those whom we, somewhat loosely, regard as coming within the ramifications of the Ring of Five.

6. We shall look for further indications of association between KLIMOV and CAIRNCROSS and at our next encounter show CAIRNCROSS KLIMOV's photograph.

E W Pratt
E W Pratt

K3/A1
6 December 1973

*for
3/1/74*

Very Interesting
Jck has seen.

Min Crocker PA.

B.2.A. (Miss F.M. Small)

24.5.50

18a
For Poudov read.
KLIMOV.

Victor POUDOV

VS
5/6

23.5.50

Observation was taken up on Kensington Palace Gardens at noon and at 1.15 p.m. POUDOV left by the York House passage and travelled home by 'bus KLIMOV

He came out again alone at 2.30 p.m. walked to a grocer's (Buckle & Cross) in Earls Court Road, bought some goods and on leaving met a woman and a small child who were waiting a few yards down the road to whom he handed his purchases.

He next went by 'bus up Earls Court Road as far as the Kensington Odeon where he joined another 'bus queue. After allowing more than a dozen vehicles to pass he boarded one and travelled as far as Hammersmith where he repeated the performance in another queue. He took his third 'bus, travelled as far as Chiswick and walked thence into Gunnersbury Park.

He carefully surveyed the area then sat under a tree at 4 p.m. At 4.20 p.m. he walked all round the Park and sat under another tree. He was chain-smoking and very much on the alert.

At 5 p.m. he left the Park, went by 'bus to Chiswick, walked for a while and eventually boarded another 'bus which took him to Kensington Palace Gardens. It was now shortly after 6 p.m. He went into No. 5. Between 6.15 and 6.20 p.m. he came out and walked to No. 16.

At 10 p.m. he was seen in the York House passage area, walked to Church Street and went home by a 31 'bus.

/Contd.

25/5/50

The three possible reasons for his Gunnersbury Park visit seem to be:-

- (a) To test for followers.
- (b) To reconnoitre the area for future operations.
- (c) To meet a contact who failed to appear.

My personal view is that (c) is the least likely. I am, in view of his behaviour in the past few days, inclined to favour (a). On the other hand I don't think he spotted our man in Gunnersbury Park, which, perhaps, points to (b) as the more likely of these two.

It is interesting to note that both on the outward and inward journeys he passed, ^(on foot) just within sight of Shag's Pillar - but not near enough to see a mark.

B.5.
24.5.50.
F.70/104.

John Hachney
for
D. Storrier

975a - 975b.

978a - 981a.

984a - 989a.

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ACT 1958.

SECRET

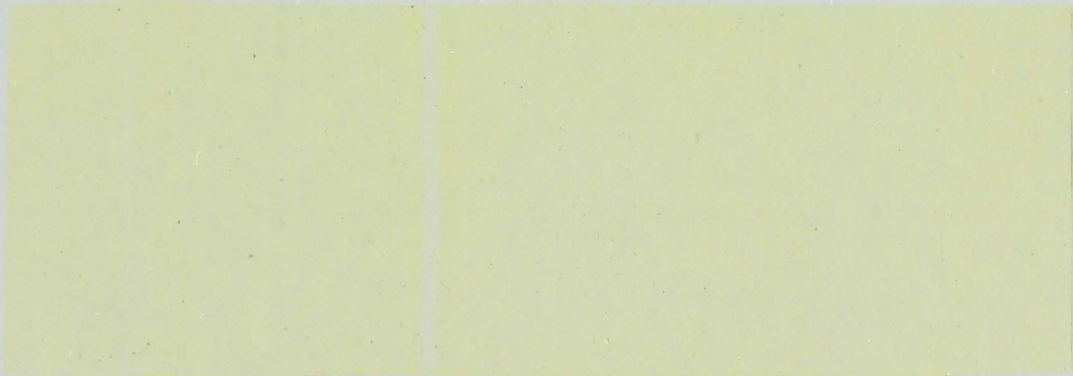
974a

Loose Minute

Copy: K3 Gen (TEMBOURY)
PF 72493

K3/CPC de W

Etienne TEMBOURY



2. In the meantime I have prepared a brief for the interview which I hope will serve whichever way the DST choose to play it. I attach a copy hereto which I would be happy to discuss should you wish to do so.

E W Pratt
E W Pratt

K3/EWP

The questions are very comprehensive + based on the minimum revelations. I agree them, though the last may need modification if TREPPER talks.

I wonder if we need quite quite such a full biography of CARNCROSS. Perhaps a word on this?

K3/A1
MS Ext 660
7 November 1973

*2-6-73
K3 has now agreed to terms of the note on (AM2NS203)*

11-11-73

*11-11-73
K3 8/4*

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

SECRET

Brief for Interview with
Etienne TEMBOURY

9742

OBJECT

To seek TEMBOURY's help in throwing light on certain aspects of the activities of a self-confessed Russian spy.

BACKGROUND

In 1935 TEMBOURY, having qualified as a lawyer visited England for some months to improve his English. He stayed in Cambridge and lodged with Mrs Camille PRIOR, widow of a former Professor of French.

During his stay he met John CAIRNCROSS who from 1934-36 studied Modern Languages at Trinity College, Cambridge. They became friendly and later, after TEMBOURY had returned to legal practise, CAIRNCROSS stayed with him in Paris on a number of occasions.

According to CAIRNCROSS it was TEMBOURY who put him in touch with Viktor HAEPNER who made various approaches to CAIRNCROSS, initially, in 1937 to seek CAIRNCROSS's assistance in obtaining necessary documents for supplying arms to the Republican Forces in Spain, and later, in 1939 he persuaded CAIRNCROSS to put him in touch with a key figure in the field of radiolocation development on the pretext that he (HAEPNER) had an invention relevant to this development.

Notes on the careers of:

- (a) John CAIRNCROSS
- (b) Viktor HAEPNER
- (c) Antonius RAAB

are at Annexures 'A', 'B' and 'C'.

THE INTERVIEW

Begin by explaining that the UK authorities are investigating a case of espionage for the Russians which started before the war but could have ramifications relevant to current security.

✓

In such an investigation it is necessary to look at all aspects of the activities of those involved; to do this it is necessary to seek co-operation and assistance of many people and to ask them to cast their minds back many years.

The subject of the investigation is John CAIRNCROSS whom he met in Cambridge in 1935 and with whom he seems to have kept in touch until the war.

up by 985a

In order to put his memories into proper context it would be helpful to have some background of his own life, particularly of his own political development and affiliations.

(a) Influences in boyhood

- at Home
- at School
- at University

It would be interesting to have details of his time at the University, particularly in the context of his political activities and the circles in which he moved.

(b) His stay in Cambridge.

- how long was he in the UK?
- did he already have any contacts either in Cambridge or elsewhere eg London, if so, who?
- did he get caught up in the upsurge of left-wing politics while in Cambridge?

(NOTE: According to CAIRNCROSS, TEMBOURY, although not a member of the university mixed in university circles - particularly with those studying Modern Languages.

Until November 1935 there were two left-wing organisations at Cambridge: the Socialist Society and the Labour Club; in November they came together as the Cambridge University Socialist Club. In addition the Cambridge University Student Branch of the Communist Party, formed in 1933, was very active and exercised an influence in the university disproportionate to its numerical size.)

- how did he meet CAIRNCROSS?
- what friends of CAIRNCROSS did he meet?
- what is his assessment of CAIRNCROSS's politics at that time?

- did he visit rooms of graduates/undergraduates at the university?
- who? at which Colleges?
- did he meet Guy BURGESS?
- did he become involved in any homosexual circles
 - who was in it?
- did he meet James KLUGMANN?

(NOTE: KLUGMANN also at Trinity College was a leading influence in the Cambridge University Student Branch of the Communist Party. From December 1935 until the war he worked for the Comintern in Paris as Secretary of the World Student Association.)

- what was TEMBOURY's social circle at Cambridge?
- did he retain contacts made at Cambridge with anyone other than CAIRNCROSS? Who?

PARIS

- when did he return to Paris?
- did he set up a legal practise straightaway?
- what was his office address?
- what was his private address?
- did he belong to (or support) any political party?
(or body associated with a political party?)
- did he see KLUGMANN in Paris?
- did he visit KLUGMANN's WSA office (1 Cite Paradis then from January 1938 97 Bd. Arago)?
- did he meet other Comintern operatives

eg Otto KATZ
(@ Andre SIMON)
Andre VICTOR
Lucy HALPERN
Andre HOCHSCHILLER

- was he in sympathy with the aims and objectives of the Comintern organisation?
- what were his reactions on the reasons behind the Spanish Civil War?

(NOTE: Although CAIRNCROSS knew KLUGMANN at Cambridge, has described him as one of the two major influences which led him to Communism, and claims it was he who introduced him to 'Otto' (at a time when KLUGMANN was working in Paris) he denies knowing that KLUGMANN was in fact working in Paris. This is hardly credible.)

- when, where, through whom and in what circumstances did he meet Viktor HAEFNER?
- what did he know about HAEFNER's background? (eg how much did he know about HAEFNER's various prison sentences?)
- when did he put HAEFNER in touch with CAIRNCROSS?
- for what purpose?

(NOTE: CAIRNCROSS has said that in about June 1937, while working on the Spanish desk in the Foreign Office, he received a letter from HAEFNER which in effect said: "We are trying to help the cause and get arms to Spain. We need a permit for this, will you please help us to get one". According to CAIRNCROSS the letter might have gone on to say: "If you help us there will be a reward".

The explanation that CAIRNCROSS has given about the origins of HAEFNER's approach is that TEMBOURY had probably mentioned to him that he had a client, HAEFNER, who might be getting in touch with him.

CAIRNCROSS maintains he took no action to obtain the permits for which HAEFNER asked. The Note a Annex 'D' could be relevant to this.)

- what can TEMBOURY tell us about HAEFNER's activities in connection with the Spanish Civil War?

- did he know him by any name other than Viktor HAEFNER?

(NOTE: HAEFNER obtained a Spanish passport in Paris on 13 April 1936 (No: 327) in the name of Juan Maria Bellver de la BELLACASA, a name which he used not only in Spain but later, 1938-39, in Holland. Further, this was, presumably, the name he used when in 1937 he came from Spain to Paris as a member of a purchasing commission for the Spanish Republican Government; it could well have been then that HAEFNER asked TEMBOURY to put him in touch with someone in the UK to help with documentation for arms.

CAIRNCROSS's passport shows he was in France at the following times in 1937:

28.2.1937 - 15.3.1937
25.9.1937 - 27.9.1937
? - 6.12.1937)

- did he have professional contact with the firm HAEFNER represented?

(NOTE: HAEFNER represented the firm of AEKKEA based in Greece, the principal of which was Antonius RAAB.)

- did he meet Antonius RAAB?
(ask for details)

(NOTE: RAAB having been imprisoned by the GPU in Spain from March 1937 entered France in August 1938; also in 1938 it is reported that he was expelled from or denied access to Germany on suspicion of collusion with RIS.)

- did he meet Else PEPLER, HAEFNER's mistress?

(NOTE: She was an opera singer nee GRAMLICH @ PROSPDKT; she is reported to have been associated with German Intelligence.)

- what benefits (eg financial rewards) does he think CAIRNCROSS enjoyed as a result of his dealings with HAEFNER?

- how would such benefits have been organised?

(NOTE: A letter from HAEPNER to RAAB in 1939 referred to a bank account in Valencia about which CAIRNCROSS was ready to help; the letter said CAIRNCROSS would be told what reward he would get for his help.)

- did TEMBOURY, as Legal Adviser, handle, or advise on, the financial affairs of AEKKEA in France, or of HAEPNER himself?
- what does he recall of the financial arrangements which operated, particularly in the context of their Spanish interests?
- did TEMBOURY play any part in advising HAEPNER in his capacity as member of the Republican Purchasing Commission which operated in France in 1937 to arrange the purchase of munitions, particularly aeroplanes?

(NOTE: Purchasing Committee for Spanish Republican Forces had its headquarters at 55 Avenue George V, Paris.)

- what does he recall about the circumstances which led up
 - (a) to an expulsion order for HAEPNER in August 1937, and
 - (b) arrest and sentence to imprisonment in September 1937.
- did TEMBOURY act as his legal adviser?
- if so, HAEPNER must have confided in him about the real purpose of his arms dealings.

- did CAIRNCROSS visit him at about that time? Did he have any personal contact with HAEPNER?
- what are TEMBOURY's impressions of CAIRNCROSS
 - (a) when they knew each other in Cambridge
 - (b) when he visited TEMBOURY in Paris
- were any changes apparent during the time he knew him
 - (a) in CAIRNCROSS's political views and sympathies
 - (b) in his behaviour
- whom did CAIRNCROSS see in Paris?
 - eg KLUGMANN
 - Guy BURGESS

(NOTE: CAIRNCROSS has admitted he had an appointment to meet BURGESS in Paris - at, we think, Le Selecte, a cafe frequented by homosexuals in Bd. Montparnasse - which he claims he did not keep. We have placed this tentatively in March 1937 when we know both BURGESS and CAIRNCROSS were visiting Paris.)

- what sort of things did TEMBOURY and CAIRNCROSS do when they were together?
- did TEMBOURY keep in touch with HAEPNER after the latter's release from prison and departure from France?

(NOTE: HAEFNER left France to live in Holland as BELLACASA on 1 January 1938.)

- what can TEMBOURY tell us about HAEFNER's activities during 1938 and early 1939 in Holland?

(NOTE: At some point, probably towards the end of 1938, HAEFNER, possibly through TEMBOURY, was again in touch with CAIRNCROSS. He wrote to say he had an invention which he thought would help in the development of radiolocation. CAIRNCROSS contacted the scientist in charge of this development programme in the Air Ministry, Sir Robert WATSON WATT, as a result of which HAEFNER was invited to the UK to discuss his invention; CAIRNCROSS acted as sponsor of this visit. The invention proved to be valueless but HAEFNER and Else PEPPLER, whom he married during his visit to the UK, continued to stay in the UK until the outbreak of war. They were then interned for the duration and returned to Germany in 1945. The business of the invention has all the hallmarks of a ruse for HAEFNER to get alongside the leading authority in the then new field of radiolocation.)

- did TEMBOURY know Raymond PICARD?
 - when
 - how
- does he associate PICARD with CAIRNCROSS?

(NOTE: PICARD was born in 1917 and therefore at the material time - say 1937 - would probably have been a student at the Sorbonne (he is now a professor there).

CAIRNCROSS says he met PICARD after the war in London. PICARD was teaching in the Lycee in London and CAIRNCROSS met him through Alexander HALPERN, who at that time was closely associated with Guy BURGESS.

In April 1952 CAIRNCROSS, who had by then been identified as the author of some notes found among BURGESS's papers, as we now know set in motion emergency procedure for a meet with his

controller. At that time he was under surveillance and to account for his strange behaviour he told a story that he was having an affair with a French woman, "Marcelline ROBERTSON" and on the evening in question he had had an assignation with her. To support his story he said PICARD knew about his affair with "Marcelline" and would corroborate what he had said. PICARD was not seen. After his "confession" in 1964 CAIRNCROSS admitted the story about "Marcelline" was an invention; he had gone to meet his controller (probably Pavel KUZNETSOV) who had not kept the meet. CAIRNCROSS has given no satisfactory explanation why he introduced PICARD's name in this matter.)

- what happened to TEMBOURY during the war?
- when was the last occasion he met, or had news of CAIRNCROSS?

(NOTE: CAIRNCROSS says that he had a holiday in the South of France - at Les Baux - in the early summer of 1940. On his way back through Paris he helped his old friend Donald MACLEAN burn papers in the Embassy ahead of the German occupation of France. It is possible he might have seen TEMBOURY then.

CAIRNCROSS says that after the war he tried to make contact with TEMBOURY - or his family - in Paris and in Casteljaloux, but without success.)

- did TEMBOURY's activities in the context of eg HALTNER bring him into contact with the Red Orchestra?

(NOTE: This is a very long shot, but something which perhaps should be explored.)

K3/A1

5/11/73

John CAIRNCROSS

25.7.1913 Born, Lesmahgow, Scotland.

1929-1932 Glasgow University.

1932-1934 Sorbonne (read French and German).

1933 Spent summer vacation in Vienna.

1934-1936 Trinity College, Cambridge.

1935 Met TEMBOURY in Cambridge.

1936 October Entered Foreign Office.
According to his 'confession' in 1964, CAIRNCROSS was approached by 'Otto', after introduction by KLUGMANN, to work for the RIS during the autumn of 1936.

1937 28 February - 15 March
CAIRNCROSS in France; stayed with TEMBOURY; did not keep an appointment at Le Selecte with Guy BURGESS.
c June
CAIRNCROSS, then working on the Spanish desk of the Foreign Office received a letter from HAEFNER asking for help in documentation of arms for Spain.

1938 'Otto' disappears.
Guy BURGESS apparently assumes his control.
August: CAIRNCROSS transferred from Foreign Office to Treasury.

1939 CAIRNCROSS handed over from BURGESS to 'ROBERT' (possibly GROMOV @ GORSKIY).
Mentioned in letter HAEFNER/RAAB in context of "original papers" and "reward" and again in context of a bank account in Valencia with which CAIRNCROSS was willing to help.
January: Received letter from HAEFNER about his radio-location invention.
Referred this to Sir Robert WATSON WATT and "sponsored" HAEFNER's visit to UK.

- 1940 Transferred to Private Office of Lord HANKEY.
- 1942 Transferred to special duties at Bletchley: visited London regularly to pass information to 'ROBERT'.
- 1943 June: Transferred to MI6; worked in Section V under PHILBY.
- 1944 Transferred to MI6 Section I.
'ROBERT' handed him over to tall well-built Russian, possibly Military Attache.
- 1945 Returned to Treasury.
Controlled by a swarthy man, possibly a Georgian.
- c 1949 Controlled by (probably) Pavel KUSNETSOV.
In touch with Raymond PICARD (teacher at London Lycee) through Alexander HALPERN.
- 1951 January: Married Gabriele Susanna nee OPPENHEIM.
May: Defection of Donald MACLEAN and Guy BURGESS.
Notes found in CAIRNCROSS's handwriting among BURGESS's papers.
Transferred from Treasury to Ministry of Supply.
- 1952 Under investigation.
April: Unsuccessfully operated emergency procedure to meet his controller (? KUSNETSOV) while under surveillance. Explained this by saying he was meeting his mistress "Marcelline ROBERTSON"; PICARD would confirm he had been having an affair with her.
(Note: Later, after his 'confession' admitted that no such person as "Marcelline ROBERTSON" had existed.)
Resigned from Civil Service.
Left UK with wife to live in Rome. His wife was employed by FAO as a Secretary. CAIRNCROSS did some translation work and freelance journalism.

- 1955 To Geneva; appointed as Consultant to UN Technical Assistance.
- 1957 To Bangkok; Chief Editor of Documents, UN Economic Commission of Asia and the Far East.
- 1961 Back to Rome; appointed to Management Consultant firm of Italconsult.
- 1963 To Pakistan; with Harvard University team on Ford Foundation Aid scheme.
- 1964 To Cleveland, Ohio, United States. Chairman, Department of Romance Languages, Western Reserve University, Ohio.
- February: Interviewed on arrival and made 'confession'.
- September: Returned to Rome; joined FAO.
- (Note: After his 'confession' which was regarded generally as being sincere, as was his expressed desire to co-operate, CAIRNCROSS was seen many times but primarily the purpose of these interviews was to use him as a source.)
- 1973 Growing doubts about his sincerity led to a series of interrogations in the course of which certain things emerged which strongly suggested certain basic aspects of his 'confession' could be untrue eg the circumstances of his recruitment; the type of work he performed for the Russians, and the length of time he worked under their control.

Viktor Hermann HAEFNER

18 May 1896 Born, Brenden, Germany.

1914-1918 Served as a pilot in the German Air Force. Became personal friend of Hermann GOERING.

post war Continued to be associated with aviation in Germany.

1923 or 1925 Convicted in Germany and sentenced to five years imprisonment for espionage for France (was released after serving two years).

Late 1920s Convicted for cheque frauds.

1930 Started to live with Else PEPPLER, an opera singer (he married her in UK in 1939). There are indications which suggest she was associated with German Intelligence.

1931 Arrested at Constance for dropping anti-Fascist leaflets from a plane, but was acquitted.

1933 Arrested in Germany by Nazis; was released after ten days.
(NOTE: There might have been special conditions to his release.)
Fled to Switzerland; expelled later the same year.
May: Entered France.
Worked in Paris as an aviation journalist. Remained in touch with German authorities.

1935 Became representative of RAAB's firm AEKKBA, based at Piraeus, Greece (branch at 25 rue des Phares, Marseilles). Was in touch with firm la Compagnie Generale de Radiologie about an invention.

1936 Issued in Paris with Spanish passport No: 327 on 13 April 1936 under the name of Juan Maria Bellver de la BELLACASA.
Served as flying instructor to the Republican forces.

- 1937
- Took Spanish nationality.
- Returned to France with a purchasing commission of the Spanish Republican Government; was arranging to buy aircraft from RAAB.
- (NOTE: It was probably in the course of this trip that TEMBOURY put HAEFNER in touch with CAIRNCROSS; CAIRNCROSS was working at that time, with Donald MACLEAN, on the Spanish desk of the Foreign Office.)
- August: Was subject of an expulsion order from France.
- September: Was arrested; sentenced to four months imprisonment.
- 1938
- January: Released from prison expelled from France.
- Lived in Holland under the name of BELLACASA.
- 1939
- Again contacted CAIRNCROSS claiming to have an invention relevant to the development of radiolocation; CAIRNCROSS contacted Sir Robert WATSON WATT and "sponsored" HAEFNER's visit to the UK. The "invention" proved to be valueless.
- When war broke out was arrested in UK as an enemy alien and interned; was sent to Canada.
- 1944
- Returned to UK.
- 1945
- Returned to Germany. Applied to join British Control Commission.
- 1967
- 5 September: death recorded at Nurnberg Registration Office.

Antonios RAAB

30.4.1897

Born at Neuss Germany.

Parents: father Antoine RAAB,
Swedish.
mother Antoinette nee
SORGENICHT, Belgian.

(NOTE: One (or both) parents was
Jewish)

26.12.1906

Wife Hildegarde nee FELINER-FELDEGG
born at Drabang.

Education: studied Engineering
and Law at Berlin and
Breslau Universities.

1914-1918

Served in German Air Force. Said
to have been a friend of Herman
GOERING.

c1921

Founded firm manufacturing aero
engines RAAB-KATZENSTEN.

From 1927

Worked in German Democratic circles.
Owned a factory known as RAAB
RATZEUSTEN FLUGZEUG.

1933

Arrested by Nazis together with:

H KALKOFF, member German
Democratic Party.
Prof. JUNKERS (Junkers aero-
planes).

(NOTE: KALKOFF has been named as
RAAB's father-in-law, but
this does not square with
his wife's maiden name of
FELINER-FELDEGG; it is, of
course possible he had more
than one wife.)

April: Released from prison; left
Germany.

Travelled widely, tried to set up
aircraft factories in Estonia,
Latvia and Austria.

Claims to have sold his story about
GOERING to a Swedish newspaper for
which he lost his German nationality
and sentenced to death in absentia.

1934

To Greece; set up aircraft factory
and repair workshop, AEKKA (Societe
Anonyme de Fabrication et Exploitation
d'avions RAAB) Palais Faleron,
Poseidons 19, Athens.

He is reported to have set up another, similar company in Roumania.

1936

September: to Spain. Negotiated with Spanish Minister for Air and Marine for material to set up aircraft factory near Madrid.

Went to Vienna with Mexican Alfredo BALACIOS to negotiate for arms and aircraft material, claiming they were for China. Departed from Austria. There is also a report that he was a member of the Communist Party.

Returned to Spain. Factory built at Sabadell.

1937

Arrested for fraud and sabotage on instructions of GPU. Reported that he had swindled Republican government out of several million pesetas; the aeroplanes he made were unserviceable.

Kept in solitary confinement at Convento de Santa Ursula.

Wrote manuscript of book "Gefangen in Sowjet-Spanien" (published in 1940) which listed OGPU agents in Spain.

(NOTE: RAAB entrusted these papers to HAEFNER and the latter was instructed to get them published.)

1938

Released from prison. Took Costa Rican nationality; issued with Costa Rican passport 182/13/38 on 1 August 1938 in Palma de Mallorca.

September: To Paris Presented himself to British Embassy; claimed to have proof of Russian involvement in Civil War; asked for half a million francs silence money.

Reported that he was expelled (or possibly denied access to) Germany as it was suspected he was in collusion with the RIG.

(NOTE: His name appears in two volumes of the Reich Sicherheit Haupt Amt Sonderfahndungsliste:

(a) in the volume relating to France, Belgium Luxemburg, Holland and Switzerland. His address is given as 120 Avenue Malakoff, Paris and it is indicated he was of interest to the Gestapo;

(b) in the volume relating to the USSR which indicates that he was wanted by sections of the RSHA dealing with RIS agents.)

1939

RAAB reported to be a member of the WOLF organisation (Daniel WOLF & Co., Shippers of Amsterdam) which at the end of the Spanish war was based in Cairo.

(NOTE: Although this organisation was suspected of being in touch with German SS there are reasons to think certain members of it (eg Edward WEISBLAT) in fact were working for the RIS.)

March: RAAB and his wife deported from France.

1940

In Greece. Suspected of spying against Greece.

1941

April: Arrested by the British as a German spy, then evacuated to Cairo.

Transferred to internment camp in India.

1946

August: released from internment.

1948

Deported from India. Tried unsuccessfully to enter Greece. Then entered Italy.

(NOTE: Not much is known about his post-war activities but reports indicate he continued to traffick in arms and other war material to various countries including Cuba (through the Russians) Algeria and the Yemen.)

1960

Exports Director of firm Solothurn,
part of Swiss firm Soleure.

1973

Now in Genoa owner of motor spare
parts business.

In the chapter "Stalin's hand in Spain" in his book "I was Stalin's Agent" KRIVITSKY describes the way in which he organized arms shipments to republican Spain from European countries during the Spanish Civil War.

2. He says that in August 1936 Stalin decided to intervene in Spain by providing aid for the Republicans. He decided, however, that such aid must be unofficial and handled covertly. Consequently KRIVITSKY, who was put in charge of the foreign end of the business, mobilized all his agents and facilities to create a system for the purchasing and transporting to Spain of arms. Soviet orders were that there was to be no possibility of the Soviet Government becoming associated in the arms traffic. KRIVITSKY's group of head agents met in Paris on September 21 1936. They decided that all cargoes must be handled privately through business firms created for the purpose. They established a chain of import/export firms in various European cities but the difficulty was to get licences for shipment of the arms to Spain. Their first plan was to consign them to France and trans-ship them from there to Loyalist ports but they could not get clearance papers from the French Foreign Office. Another way was to secure consular papers from overseas Governments certifying that the arms had been purchased for import into their countries. KRIVITSKY was able to secure large numbers of certificates from certain Latin American Consulates and with these he obtained clearance papers from the countries of origin of the arms. Then, instead of the ships going to South America, they went to Loyalist Spanish ports.

3. KRIVITSKY says that success in this whole operation depended on getting the right men. He had such men at his disposal, numbers of them were in the societies allied with the various Communist Party centres abroad, for example the FSU and the Leagues for Peace and Democracy. Both the CCPU and the military intelligence looked upon certain members of these societies as reserves of civilian auxiliaries of the Soviet defence system.

4. KRIVITSKY's account seems to make nonsense of CAIRNCROSS's claim that his 1937 involvement with HAEFNER and TAMBOURI in an attempt to cause arms to be shipped to Spain and his involvement in 1939 with HAEFNER, RAIB and the Greek arms firm of AEKKA had nothing to do with his work for the R.I.S.

973a.

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ACT 1958.

972A


PF 657554

COPY: PF 72493 ✓

NOTE FOR FILE

971a

1. After discussion with K3/CPC de W I showed Os/Mr Caldow (until recently Director BSSO(G)) the letter at serial 10a before it was despatched. He apologised for the inadequacy of the reply (serial 4a) to my earlier letter (3a) and thought that as a result of my latest letter the right sort of digging and delving into BfV records would be undertaken. In addition as BSSO was due to be with him on Monday 29 October, he would take the opportunity of having a word with him to underline what should be done and to emphasise the importance of this matter.


E W Pratt

K3/A1
MS Ext 660
26 October 1973

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ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 2024

660

N C C Girardot Esq
 Director BSSO(G)
 BPO 40

S/18447/6/Annex A/CBB

PF 657554/X3/A1/ENP

26 October 1973

Antonios RAAB

1. Would you please refer to [redacted] letter dated 19 September 1973?
2. I am uncertain how much progress has been made in indexing pre-war Abwehr records passed back by CIA to the BfV; perhaps with some additional information which I have just come across it might be possible to ask the BfV if they would have another look. We have copies of various volumes of the RSHA Sonderfahndungsliste (produced, we think, about 1940). The volume relating to Belgium, France, Holland, Luxembourg and Switzerland contains the entry:

RAAB Antonius. 30.4.37 Neuss. Resident
 in Paris, 120 Avenue Malakoff (III A).
3. Our information indicates that after release from GPU imprisonment in Spain, RAAB entered France on a Puerto Rican passport (No: 182/13/38 issued in Palma de Mallorca on 1 August 1938) in September 1938. The symbol (III A) apparently means that RAAB was then of interest to the Gestapo.
4. The Sonderfahndungsliste relating to the USSR also contains his name:


RAAB Antonius. 30.4.37 Neuss. RSHA
 IVA1 IIB3 398/38.
5. We are unable to throw light on the particular responsibilities exercised by Section IVA1 and IIB3 of the RSHA, but the fact that his name was put on the Russian list supports a report we have that he was expelled from Germany in 1938 on suspicion of collusion with the SIS. A rather strange state of affairs as he had apparently only recently been released from imprisonment on charges brought against him by the GPU.

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6. We have recently learnt that RAAB is still alive and is living in Genoa; we hope to interview him as he may be able to throw light on certain aspects of the case of John CAIRNCROSS. It is therefore important that we should be aware of whatever information there may be about him tucked away in the pre-war Abwehr records. They may help us to determine which side he was really on!

7. The re-investigation of CAIRNCROSS's case has reached a point of some delicacy, which is why this letter is TOP SECRET AND PERSONAL; it would be appreciated if without embarrassment to your liaison you could avoid giving the BfV the information that our interest in RAAB stems from CAIRNCROSS.

8. Any help you may be able to give will be very much appreciated.


S. W. Pratt

968a
969a
970a.

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ACT 1958.


965A
File ✓
Float
LB
Room 055

J Cairncross Esq
Via Armando Spadini 16
Parioli
Rome

PF 72493/K3/A1/EWP

12 October 1973

946a
+ 947a
In our most recent exchange of letters (your letter of 6 August) you said you had it in mind to come and have a talk in October or November. As things are we would prefer to leave things for a bit - unless you particularly want to talk to us; sometime in the New Year would suit us better.


E W Pratt

960a - 964a

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958A

TEL: RHINE ARMY EXT 2258

HEADQUARTERS
BRITISH SERVICES SECURITY
ORGANISATION (GERMANY)
BRITISH FORCES POST OFFICE 40

OUR REF: S/18447/6/AnnexA/CEB

YOUR REF: PF 72493/K3/A1/EWP

Copied: PF 72493 ✓

E W PRATT Esq (K3)
Box 500
Parliament Street BO
LONDON SW1

19 September 1973

Subject: Antonios RAAB
born 30 April 1897 in NEUSS

Please refer to your correspondence dated 17 Aug 73 addressed to
W J CALDOW Esq.

1. The BfV have reported that they have no trace of records concerning this person.
2. However on perusal of the telephone directory we have discovered an entry for "Aloys RAABE" with the address NEUSS, BergheimerStr 463. Do you wish us to pursue the enquiry further?

for Director BSSO(G)

Ru
25 SEP 1973
TO K3
REF. PF 72493
PF 657554

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ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 2024

26/2/K3/A1

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

956a

TEL: RHINE ARMY EXT 2258

HEADQUARTERS
BRITISH SERVICES SECURITY
ORGANISATION (GERMANY)
BRITISH FORCES POST OFFICE 40

OUR REF: S/18447/6/Annex A/CEB

YOUR REF: PF 47562/K3/7/EWP

Box 500 (K3/7)
Parliament Street BO
LONDON SWL
For the attention of E W PRATT Esq

17 September 1973

Subject: Viktor Hermann HAEFNER

Please refer to your correspondence dated 2 July 1973 addressed to W J CALDOW Esq.

1. We have received notification from the BfV that HAEFNER died on 5.9.1967. The death is recorded at the NURNBERG registration office.
2. No record is held at BRENDEN to indicate when he moved to NURNBERG. It is assumed that he left BRENDEN prior to 1902. No other information is available.

21 SEP 1973
K3
PF 47562
copied to PF 72493 ✓

for Director BSSO(G)

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ACT 1958 FEBRUARY 2024

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

84/7/K3/A1

953a
954a
955a

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ACT 1968.

A.4 Voters List Enquiry

Nº 11609

951A

(L.C.C. to 1964; G.L.C. 1964 onwards including current Register; England, Wales and Northern Ireland 1937/38 to last year's Registers—war years are excluded.)

Ref.: PF 72493/K3/A1/EWP

S. P. Osborn pp.

Section K3/A1

Officer E W Pratt

Date 20 August 1973

Nº 11609

Please obtain particulars of all voters* ~~XXXXXX~~ voters named.....

at the following address on the qualifying dates(s) 10th October, 1972..to 1973..inclusive.

Address:

22 Redington Road
London
NW3

Candee

*Delete as necessary.

ENCE

22 AUG 1973

K3

REF

PP 72493

10.10.72

At 22 A

GURNEY-TAYLOR

NATALIE. (Juror)

KRAUPL-TAYLOR - FREDERICK.

WRIGHT - MARGARET.

At 22 B

BEHR - ARNOLD. (Juror) and LIDA.

At 22 C

CAIRNCROSS - GABRIEL S.

A.4

21.8.73.

[Signature]

950a

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ACT 1958.

949A

PF 72493

NOTE FOR FILE

1. Further to paragraph 2 (vii) of my Note at 945a the London Telephone Directory contains the following entry:-

CAIRNCROSS G
22 Redington Road
NW3

01-435-7965

E W Pratt

E W Pratt

K3/A1
MS Ext 660
20 August 1973

*Notes with
has been enquired.*



Copy: PF 657554

660

W J Caldwell Esq
 Director BOSO(G)
 BFPO 40

PF 72493/K3/A1/EWP

17 August 1973

Antonios RAAB

- 924a.
1. Would you please refer to my letter dated 2 July 1973 on the subject of Victor HAEFNER - I wonder whether you have had any luck in picking up his trail?
 2. I have another favour to ask in connection with someone closely associated with HAEFNER: Antonios RAAB. I only mentioned him in passing in my earlier letter (in paragraph four) as we have no reason to think that having left Germany in 1933 or 1934, he ever returned. However it occurs to me that for reasons which I think will become apparent from his pre-war history summarised below, it may well be that traces relating to him exist in old Abwehr records which I believe have been returned by CIA to the BfV.
 3. Recently Peter Wright kindly undertook (I believe in company with) to arrange with the BfV for a search to be made in these records in respect of certain other characters in whom we are interested; would it be possible for arrangements to be made for a similar search in the case of RAAB?
 4. Antonios RAAB (his first name also appears as Antonio, Antonius, Antoine; he was also known as Alfred or Alois) was born at Neuss, Germany, on 30 April 1897. He was a pilot in the German Air Force in the First World War and is reported to have been a close personal friend of Herman GOERING.
 5. After the war he became an aircraft manufacturer but his factory is said to have been confiscated soon after the Nazis came to power in 1933. After moving around Europe for a year or so he arrived in Athens from Vienna on 24 December 1935 in possession of German passport number sixty issued at Reval on

* ||

* 954a from the date of 184 December 1944.

TOP SECRET & PERSONAL

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10 May 1933. In Greece he founded what seems to have been a munitions (primarily aircraft) manufacturing and supply firm called AEBKEA of which Victor HAEFNER became a representative.

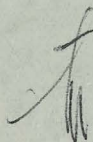
6. In September 1936 RAAB went to Madrid and by arrangement with the appropriate Minister of the Republican Government set up a factory near Madrid for the manufacture of aircraft for the Republican forces.

7. In 1937, however, he was arrested by the OGPU and imprisoned. We have the following alternative accounts of the reason for this. First the aircraft he provided were useless; secondly RAAB was thought to have been a member of the WOLF organisation (his name was linked with that of Edward WEISBLAT) which was believed to be in touch with the German SS.

8. While in prison he produced a manuscript of a book "Gefangen in Sowjet-Spanien" in which he named a number of OGPU agents operating in Spain at that time.

9. What we are particularly interested in learning is which side he was really on: was he simply a German agent or a double agent working in fact for the OGPU? It is possible that old Abwehr records could help us on this. It is important for us to know all we can about RAAB because, like that of HAEFNER, his case is relevant to John CAIRNCROSS.

10. Any help you may be able to give will be much appreciated.



E W Pratt

File ✓
Float
LB
Room 055

947A


J Cairncross Esq
Via Armando Spadini 16
Parioli
Rome

PF 72493/K3/A1

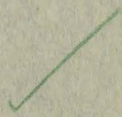
16 August 1973

Many thanks for your letter
of 6 August and for letting me
know you might be coming here
either in October or November.
I look forward to hearing from you
again should you definitely decide
to do so.

946a


E. W. Pratt

per 965a



946a

Via Armando Spadini 16
Parioli
Rome

6 August 1973

Received: 15/8/73
Copied: K3 GEN
(TEMBOURY)

Dear Mr Pratt,

K

938a

Many thanks for your letter of 31 July. I am relieved to learn that my letter reached you, that your reference to it is couched in such urbane terms and that you feel that I have misunderstood your intentions. I ask nothing better than to believe that this is so. But there has certainly not so far been a meeting of minds!

I would like to add that I can supplement the information on Temboury. When looking at a recent article on surrealism, it suddenly occurred to me that I had been an admirer of Andre Breton, had espoused the somewhat unorthodox theories of that writer, and had accordingly been hostile to the standard views. In fact, as I have always stressed, his strictly political views were never very marked, nor did we discuss them much. He approached the matter from the angle of French literature not from that of a student of politics or a political fanatic. The reason why this particular has returned to me only now is precisely that such discussions occupied only a tiny part of our conversation!

I was not planning to come over to England for some time, but, in view of the issues involved, I have in mind to turn up in either October, or, more probably early November, and hope that we can place the discussion on a rather firmer basis than has been the case hitherto!

Yours sincerely,

John Cairncross

John Cairncross

Mr E W Pratt

See 947a
& 961a

Discussed with K3/CPC de W
who agreed better at 947
11.8.73.

✓

PF 72493

NOTE FOR FILE

1. At the invitation of the Consultant I have had discussions on the CAIRNCROSS case on 2 August, when Mrs Rimington was present, and on 6 and 10 August.

2. In the course of these discussions the following points emerged and should be recorded:

(i) We agreed that indications suggested it was unlikely CAIRNCROSS operated strictly within the framework of the Ring of Five - despite the fact that he was (so he says) controlled by BURGESS in 1938-1939. It is possible that his readiness to "confess" - and presumably be paid for it - in 1964 could well have been to take the heat off a Ring of Five member who was still operating.

(ii) It was the Consultant's view that

(a) CAIRNCROSS is the weak link in the chain; he is liable to be broken;

(b) Mrs Rimington and I were on the right lines in our April interrogation; this should be continued, reinforced by whatever new information can be dug up.

(iii) The Consultant made the point that on those occasions when he had had had general conversation with him, not during interviews but eg over dinner, he had formed the impression that CAIRNCROSS was still very left wing. Both Mrs Rimington and I feel this comes through in the memorandum he prepared at 932a.

(iv) The Consultant had spoken this week to Marcel Chalet of the DST about the CAIRNCROSS case. In the context of CAIRNCROSS's time at the Sorbonne, the DST have no pre-war records; they do, however, have sources there but this would mean giving not only CAIRNCROSS's name but also some background. The Consultant and I agreed that at this stage this was not desirable.



- (v) Chalet thought that the HAEFNER/RAAB set up sounded very much like an RIS cover firm. This accords with our view.
- (vi) The Consultant referred to the point CAIRNCROSS makes in his memorandum at 932a that he assumed Arthur Martin had new evidence against him when they met in Cleveland in 1964, and it was this which made him "confess". The point here is why should CAIRNCROSS think there was new evidence? The inference is that someone had told him and in this the most obvious thought is that it was his controller.
- (vii) The Consultant thought we should talk to Gabrielye, CAIRNCROSS's estranged wife. He suggested we should consider a HOW and in the light of what that produced an enquiry to see just how much CAIRNCROSS was contributing to her support.

949a

E W Pratt

E W Pratt
K3/A1
MS Ext 660
13 August 1973

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944a

NOTE FOR FILE

PF72493

I asked [redacted] to study recent developments in the CAIRNCROSS case as reflected in the last two volumes of his file, primarily to familiarise herself but also, as she brings a new mind to its complexities, to let me have any impressions she might form.

2. She has the following to say on CAIRNCROSS's effusion at 932a:

"My impressions on reading the memorandum at 932a are that it has a rambling air of disordered unreality.

I would suggest that this could be the result of the influence of a soft drug, possibly marijuana, which inhibits the reasoning faculties of a person's mind without that person being conscious of the external effect.

Fellow students at university who enjoyed arguing when "stoned" in fact invariably put forward naive superficialities, convinced of the profound depth of these same arguments."

3. I find this interesting. What she has to say is by no means incompatible with thoughts I was trying to express in paragraph 9 of my Note at 933a. If [redacted] has put her finger on something which has certainly been eluding me, it could not only account for the aura of unreality about 932a but also the strangeness of some aspects of CAIRNCROSS's behaviour which puzzled Mrs. Rimington and myself when he was with us in April.

E W Pratt

E W Pratt
K3/Al
Ext MS 660
9 August 1973

I discussed it above with the Controller. Far from dissenting from [redacted] suggestion he thought there was a real possibility she might be right. He suggested several points on explanation of the impression made, particularly in §1 but also in §24 & 25 of the report at 7493 (Vol. 17).

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Note also the writing in the attachment to 76ka.

E W Pratt

K3/Al

[Handwritten initials]

940a - 943a

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NOTE FOR FILE

939a

PF604129
Copy on PF72493

K3Z/Miss Small has pointed out that the comment by Bridget Palliser in Part III of the Source Report form at 332a is the only indication on KUZNETSOV's file that he was associated with John CAIRNCROSS.

2. That they were associated is suggested on PF72493 at:

a. Serial 554a, paragraphs 11 to 13:

"11.Soon afterwards (note: he was transferred to the Ministry of Supply on 23rd May 1951) he was turned over to the last of his Russian controllers.

12. This man was big and burly and spoke with an American accent. Neither his name nor nickname are known to CAIRNCROSS but CAIRNCROSS believes (again from a press photograph) that he was expelled from the U.K. as a result of the prosecution of William MARSHALL, the D.W.S. operator.

13. His meetings with his last controller were rare - not more than three or four times a year. His last meeting was shortly after the flight to Russia of BURGESS and MACLEAN. CAIRNCROSS himself had been interviewed by the Security Service and was frightened that he had been compromised. But his controller assured him that he had nothing to worry about and that they could go on meeting as before. Arrangements were made for the next meeting and for a reserve one month later. CAIRNCROSS duly turned up on both occasions but was not met. He did not try again".


b. Serial 585a paragraph 3:

".....
Sixth controller = Declared p.n.g.
in connection with William MARSHALL.

He positively identified this controller as Pavel KUZNETSOV".

/.....
K3/12
1/19/51

3. CAIRNCROSS set up his emergency meet with his controller (presumably KUZNETSOV) for the evening of Monday, 6th April 1952. Serial 157a of KUZNETSOV's file shows that he arranged to meet "BILL" at "that station" at 6 p.m. on 7th April 1952. Depending on the length of time KUZNETSOV spent with "BILL" - and where "that station" was - his meet then does not necessarily preclude a later meeting with CAIRNCROSS.


E W Pratt

K3/A1
Ext MS 660

1 August 1973

File 938a
Float
L.B.
Room 055

J Cairncross Esq
Via Armando Spadini 16
Parioli
Rome

PF72493/K3/7/EWP

31 July 1973

932a.
Thank you very much indeed for taking the trouble you obviously have to prepare and to send us through the channel I suggested a record of the thoughts you have had since we last met.

I am sure you will not take it amiss when I say that in many cases the inferences you have drawn from points arising in our discussions are well wide of the mark. It is nevertheless useful to us to know your thinking and I hope that when we next meet having this knowledge will help clarify those aspects of the past which remain unresolved. This is I know something we both want.

I look forward to seeing you again when you are next here.

E W Pratt

See 946a.

TOP SECRET

HC5711 c' d

Copy: EX 72493 ✓

Brief for DG's Meeting

936c

24 July 1973

John CAIRNCROSS

1. As a result of the interrogation of CAIRNCROSS in April this year, K3/E W Pratt received a letter from him saying he was preparing some notes for us; could we suggest a safe channel for their transmission? This was arranged [redacted]
2. The notes duly arrived; they consisted of twelve closely typed sheets. Essentially they boil down to saying that as he told the whole truth in 1964 there is nothing else of significance to tell, the implication being that there are no grounds to justify our continuing the interrogation of him - although there is no suggestion that he wishes to break off his relationship with us.
3. The fact is that as a result of the interrogation significant points have crept out which show that he certainly did not tell the whole truth in 1964. The question of remuneration he received from the Russians serves to illustrate this. From 1964 he has steadfastly maintained that he received money from the Russians on one occasion only - a present in 1943. We now know that in addition he received dollars from BURGESS and cash payments from his other controllers for the following purposes: to join the Travellers' Club; to buy a typewriter, furniture for his Warwick Square flat and a car. Contrary to what he has always maintained therefore it is now evident that he did not do badly out of his spying. Of itself this new information puts the nature of his relationship with his controllers in a new light - and perhaps raises broader questions in the context of the relationship of so-called ideological spies and their controllers.
4. For the rest the document seeks to play down the significance of those aspects of the interrogation which seemed at the time to cause him most concern - particularly his association with Victor HAEFNER (twice convicted for espionage) who in 1936/1937 was running arms to Spain. There seems little doubt CAIRNCROSS is trying to deflect us from pursuing these matters.
5. There is no doubt he is a worried man.

E W Pratt

K3/A1

MS Ext 661

24 July 1973

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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

936b

C O Shipp Esq OBE
SLO Washington

PF 72493/K3/A3/SR

23 July 1973

John CAIRNCROSS

1. I enclose three copies of my report on our most recent interviews with CAIRNCROSS.

2. We have no objection to your passing these to CIA and FBI if you wish to do so but I ought perhaps to say that the opinions expressed in the conclusions are my own and are not all necessarily shared by my superior officers.

S Rimington

Enc (3)

SR/SDO

*NR passed to
Harris on: see
5/3/74 (100196)*

TOP SECRET

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PF 72493

NOTE FOR FILE

1. Paragraph one of Director KX's Minute 869 raises the question whether there is anyone we can go to for a reliable reading of CAIRNCROSS's character and abilities.

2. As a result, over the last months I have discussed this at length with [redacted] who knew CAIRNCROSS well when they were both working in Section V; indeed they shared an office for upwards of a year. During this time he did not find him a particularly congenial companion. [redacted] says that he always recognised CAIRNCROSS's academic ability but felt that he lacked the ability to apply this to his work. Thus [redacted] does not find CAIRNCROSS's lack of success in his Civil Service career in any way surprising. Rather the reverse; it is the sort of thing he would have expected. Despite his intellectual brilliance he was impractical and did not have his feet on the ground; he was therefore ineffective.

3. [redacted] view is borne out by the view formed by his superiors both in the Foreign Office and in the Treasury (John Street's account of his Foreign Office performance is at 560a and my summary of his Treasury papers is at 875a).

4. But perhaps this does not give anything like the whole story. I am sure there are other sides to his character. There is a strong sense of self-preservation and there are undoubted signs of mental toughness. It is true that there were signs of panic in 1952 when he tried to set up an emergency meet and again in 1964 when, thinking Arthur Martin had additional information, he confessed (what he has said in page two of serial 932a has thrown new light on this); perhaps the document he has prepared at 932a also reflects some form of mental panic. But these occurrences are few and far between - in my view he is mentally tough; he has also shown a disregard for the truth and the ability to live with - and indeed to live - a lie. These qualities could be relevant to any decision the KGB might have made to continue to use him in the sense of the possible deception on which I speculated in paragraph 87 of 856a.

E W Pratt

E W Pratt

K3/A1
MS Ext. 660
23 July 1973

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

Draft Letter/~~Minute~~ to J Cairncross, Esq
Via Armando Spadini 16
Parioli
Rome

Copies to -

For Signature by K3/E W Pratt

934a
Grading -
Date 20 July 1973
Our Ref. -
Their Ref. -
Approved by K3/C P C de W

Thank you very much indeed for taking the trouble you obviously have to prepare and to send us through the channel I suggested a record of the thoughts you have had since we last met.

I am sure you will not take it amiss when I say that in many cases the inferences you have drawn from points arising in our discussions are well wide of the mark. It is nevertheless useful to us to know your thinking and I hope that when next we meet having this knowledge will help clarify those aspects of the past which remain unresolved. This is I know something we both want.

I look forward to seeing you again when you are next here.

PF 72493

NOTE FOR FILE

Observations on the Memorandum
by CAIRNCROSS
at serial 932a

1. The notes on his thoughts since our April interrogation promised by CAIRNCROSS at serial 905a, have now duly arrived

2. Having studied what he has written I think that his purpose in writing at such length was to make the following points:-

- (i) To stress that in 1964 he told the whole truth and therefore there is nothing else to tell.
- (ii) We (Stella Rimington and I) have changed the nature of his relationship with this Service; he does not like being interrogated.
- (iii) To play down the significance of his dealings with HAEFNER.
- (iv) To denigrate the depth of our knowledge about his activities and in so doing to denigrate the scope and depth of our resources and our capacity to use them.

3. The document, an extremely emotional outburst, gives the impression that CAIRNCROSS is seriously frightened and is striving to play down the importance of those aspects of our interrogation (serial 926a) which caused him most concern. He seems to have decided that attack is the best form of defence and in this he is making a play to sheer away from:

- (i) His pre-Cambridge activities in Europe
and
- (ii) The implications of his association with HAEFNER, TEMBOURY (as he spells it; we have hitherto had it as TAMBOURI) and others involved in:
 - (a) Shipping arms to Spain
 - (b) Dabbling in the initial stages of the implications of the development of Radiolocation.

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4. In his attempts to do this he draws wild inferences from some of the questions we asked particularly by accusing us of accusing him of all kinds of things. Mercifully the tape of the interview gives the lie to these inferences (in addition I am pleased that two of us were there so that there is corroboration of the rebuttal of the attacks he makes on our motives and our modus operandi). At no time in the course of our interrogation did we adopt the "when did you stop beating your wife?" technique as he suggests we did. What he is really objecting to is that when we asked for explanations, if these were not satisfactory, or not forthcoming at all, we probed, sometimes with success. He did not like this.

5. The leitmotif of this document^{is} that he maintains that in 1964 he told the whole truth; unlike that of others, his was not a story which, like the onion analogy, you could continue to peel off layers; there were no layers to peel off.

6. There are two things here, the first is that it is clear from what he says that when Arthur Martin turned up in Cleveland CAIRNCROSS assumed he had new (and vital) information. That was why he felt himself cornered and therefore confessed. The strong implication of this is that if he had not felt that Martin had had this new information he would not have confessed - and this fits in with his general thesis that he would only tell the truth if it was to his own positive advantage. This makes one wonder what information he thought Arthur Martin had got. The second point about there being no onion to be peeled is that we have in fact done just that - both at our interview in January and in the course of our long interrogation in April we have succeeded in peeling off significant new layers:

- (i) In the context of remuneration for his spying we have learnt quite a lot. From 1964 he has maintained he only received one payment from the Russians, a present from them in appreciation of the information he acquired from Bletchley in 1943 about German intentions to mount a large-scale air attack on Kursk. As he has frequently repeated, he could be "absolutely categorical" (a favourite phrase) that there was "no question" of there having been any other payment to him.

However in trying to resolve the BLUNT story of £100 from Michael STRAIGHT's mother we have now learnt that CAIRNCROSS received dollars from BURGESS for entertaining purposes.

This was perhaps the toe in the door. In addition he has now told us that he received money from his controllers:

- (a) To join the Travellers Club (whom did he get to put him up?)

- (b) For a typewriter.
- (c) For a car.
- (d) For furniture for his Warwick Square flat.

Peeling off the layers is therefore possible and this peeling is beginning to show that contrary to what he has always maintained he did not do badly out of his spying.

Furthermore it would be most interesting to know when he was given the money to buy a car. He has not mentioned having had a car pre-war; indeed he has harped on the fact he led a very modest life and it was only on the strength of occasional £50 gifts from his sister that he was able to make ends meet. It is unlikely he got a car during the war; in response to my specific question in the context of reimbursement of expenses he incurred (he denied he claimed anything from his controllers) it was established that the frequent journeys he made from Bletchley to London to see Robert were made by train. We know, however, that he had a car post-war and that in 1952 he sold it for something over £500. The point here is if the Russians gave him the money for a car after the war it makes his story that between the time he returned from MI6 to the Treasury and his resignation in April 1952 he passed nothing of consequence sound a little silly.

- (ii) In the context of his association with BURGESS although in 1952 he admitted he had seen him fairly frequently, from the time of his confession onwards he has maintained that he only met him on three or four occasions. We have now learnt that BURGESS must have been in fairly frequent contact with him during the time of his control - meetings which included visits to CAIRNCROSS's flat and lunches a deux.

7. The matter of his financial remuneration is particularly important. For one thing, of itself, it changes the nature of his involvement as he described it in 1964 (a description from which until now he has not materially departed); for another as there are certainly layers to be peeled off in this regard it follows it is likely that there are other parts of his story which are vulnerable. I have in mind particularly the story of his recruitment. We go round and round the various versions but still for example cannot reconcile what BLUNT has told us with the story (and its variations) told by CAIRNCROSS - and KLUGMANN's contribution (despite what CAIRNCROSS says in page four of his memorandum) does not help at all. I am sure there is something basically wrong with this story.

8. It could be that CAIRNCROSS has written what he has because he feels the need to regain the initiative he has lost in his relationship with this Service. To do so he has chosen the course of providing arguments which purport to show there are no grounds to justify our continuing the interrogation of him. That he has chosen to make such a pitch strongly suggests to me that he was evidently shaken by various points in our attack in April; in continuing our relationship - which he seems to want to do, but on his own terms - he would prefer it if we confined ourselves to the well-trodden path rather than to do as we did and explore new ones.

9. I have another reaction to the memorandum. We know CAIRNCROSS to be (or to have been) an academic of considerable stature, but in his memorandum both in concept and detail (not to mention accuracy) there is much quite unworthy of such an academic background. To him, I am convinced, truth means little; his mind becomes confused. This can perhaps be illustrated by the example of the difference between his attitude when face to face with us (as recorded in paragraph 56 of serial 926a) and the general tenor of his memorandum. When he was with us he said he had been miraculously well treated and had always found us very competent and thorough (there was no doubt in this he was thinking in terms not only of his past association but also his association with us). Such sentiments hardly square with the emotional, querulous memorandum he has sent. Perhaps, being confused, he lives on various levels and if this is so, I fear that he may no longer be soundly balanced mentally - if indeed he ever has been.

See also serial 946a

E W Pratt

E W Pratt
K3/A1
MS Ext 661
20 July 1973

1 a full.

*the locale in heema-
kopow, where he was
born, always thought
him eccentric or
'ouched'.*

*Tim A
1976
24.8.82*

932a

PF 72493

NOTE FOR FILE

1. The attached papers were collected by my secretary [redacted] on 13 July 1973.

E W Pratt

E W Pratt

K3/A1
MS Ext 660
19 July 1973

(i) 933a
See (ii) 938a.

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H157/19d

Address as usual

932a

Dear Mr ~~ratt~~,
~~ratt~~

I am grateful to you for agreeing to my sending this letter by safe channels and to the expression of interest in my remarks :

I must state at the outset that I have found it difficult to find as much time as I should have liked to devote to a matter of this importance since I have been under very heavy pressure at the office. The letter will therefore not be as well presented as I would have wished. However, all the points that have occurred to me are here, and I hope it will help us all to get closer to the truth in which I have obviously at least as great an interest as you.

It may help if I first of all set out my reactions to the four talks we have had. Previously to these talks, my relations with your Service had been, I think I am right in saying, those of someone who is collaborating with an organization in increasing and checking information. I felt that it was admitted that I had made a full statement, that I had amplified it as new questions came up, that I had been frank in providing names and details and that my statements were regarded as being made in good faith. I myself was happy to think that, in a very small way, I was making at least token amends for my heinous offences, and was endlessly grateful for being allowed to come to the UK again, partly as an acknowledgement of my willingness to help over Klugman. I had fully expected, after my statement in 1964, to be shipped back to England for trial, and was astounded when I learned that this would not take place. I fully realized that the explanation of my offences (or rather the start of them) was in no way a justification and merely explained what happened psychologically, that is, why I committed the horrible error I did. I was ready in 1964 to pay for these crimes, and, if it is ever decided that I am called to account for them again, I fully realize that this is just. What I am not prepared to do, however, is to admit to offences of which I am suspected, and which I have always denied, an always will, regardless of any decision on the authorities' part as to my future.

When I rang up your office to ask if I could do anything, it was in the expectation that there might be some small matter on which I could help. I had a clear conscience then, as I have now on all matters apart from my connection with the RIS. I was at first puzzled by the questions, and a little surprised at the change in attitude. I could not even see where the questions were leading. However, I replied to them as best I could, even though this meant that I was asked to cover a wide range of questions, many of them very detailed, ranging over a period of some forty years. I never prepare any replies (since 1964) and reply in the light of my memory. Naturally there are some contradictions in what I say. But it would, I suggest, be much more suspicious if there were never any. I would really have to be a genius to think up all sorts of answers quickly in such conditions, and I have never pretended to be so. I should have thought that this was a guarantee that I was trying to give honest answers. At worst, I could be accused of concealing evidence. However, given the extent of my answers, what is surprising is that I should remember so much. The process is that I can remember a detail, but often not the time sequence of related details. I find this perfectly natural. Yet, I regret to say that I find myself accused of not telling the complete truth, of concealing facts, of shielding someone (who?) and of giving a completely false picture of eg the Hefner episode. And my explanations of my motives are swept aside with patent scepticism.

21

It was only in the second set of interrogations that I learned what lay behind this new attitude. And I was staggered at the accusations which are simply unfounded. Many of your charges you cannot prove, and I cannot disprove many of them for my part. But I do know that I am innocent of them. I had hoped that by coming to London (mainly for the purpose) I could remove what were clearly misunderstandings (rather gross ones). I see that this was extremely naive on my part, since your beliefs are deeply rooted.

In this connection, I would add that I had previously believed that all my statements, actions, bank balances, telephone conversations etc were known to the service, and hence that I had merely to refer to these in order to clarify matters. I now find that this is not so, that your information on eg my land transactions is patchy in the extreme, and, what is just as serious, that the palpably false statements of gentlemen such as Hefner are accepted as evidence against me, while my denials are ignored. Much of the analysis, I fear (and I apologize if this offends you) was mechanical and weak. You stressed the resources at your disposal. As noted above, I always assumed them to be such that you had all the relevant information at your disposal. (This is very relevant to my statement in 1964). This was precisely why I felt confident that I could convince you that there was a misunderstanding. Now that I see how things stand, the best I can do is to analyse the charges one by one.

First of all, I repeat that there is, for me, a clear distinction between my activity with the RIS and Burgess and all my other activities. My offences are connected solely with the former. You say that the two are connected. No doubt they are in your mind and your suspicions. But this proves nothing as to the facts, merely as to your approach. They are connected because you make them connected.

The RIS would never have allowed me to indulge in such amateurish antics as you credit me with (or so it seems), antics moreover in which the most elementary security precautions (on which the RIS was always adamant) were neglected. I never mentioned Hefner or the anonymous letter to RIS as they would most certainly merely have made trouble for me on that score.

But the main point I wish to make before I go into detail is that there is no analogy between my ~~confessions in 1964~~ denials before 1964 and my present denials. On the former occasions, there were documents in my handwriting, and I had been seen in a pretty obvious contact point. All I could do was to stall, which I did. I never made such straightforward and vigorous denials as I now do. I was then shielding not only myself but my relatives and friends (from disgrace). In 1964, I was convinced that proof of my guilt must have come into your hands and was ready from the start to confess. Arthur Martin's very skilful handling of the situation of course helped too. And I was frankly relieved to get the matter off my chest after all these years. On a more practical basis, I knew that you had only to report the known facts (ie the Burgess papers and so on) to the university where I was teaching to create a terrific scandal. I wished to avoid that at all costs. If I did, I hoped to have the trial in England where I would not have to face my American friends, or (as was much more probable) to commit suicide and hope that the horrid truth would not be made public. To my immense surprise, I was told I could probably stay on the States (which proved wrong) but that HMG would take no action provided I avoided the UK. You will appreciate that, faced as I was with the possibility of either trial or death I did not hold anything back. Ruin is ruin whether one tells three quarters of the story or the whole. I was silent only on one particular which affects me alone, and which is dealt with later on in this note. I was silent because I was particularly ashamed of the detail. But, I repeat, I said then, and repeat now that I am absolutely innocent as regards Hefner and the anonymous letter.

Ext. to
PF 47,562, PF 657554
K3 GEN

Of course, you are at liberty to reject my description of my ~~state of mind~~ state of mind. I notice that you frequently do. But I am the only one who knows what my state of mind was, and scepticism of it may merely indicate that your expectation of reactions is different from that of a particular individual. If you a priori doubt my statements, there is nothing much we can do about it. But I doubt whether any impartial analyst would regard my confession (as you apparently do) as suspicious or would feel that I had gaily admitted to the minor peccadillo of 15 years with the RIS while drawing an impenetrable veil over the alleged offences with Hefner and the Anonymous Agent. In any case, I see in retrospect that I made a grave mistake in confiding so fully in Martin since my case does not fit in to the pattern created by those who had to have themselves peeled ~~layer by layer~~ layer by layer before the truth came out.

X X X

As to the details, I shall take the Glasgow period first. There is nothing much to be said there. Naturally, here as in all the other issues, I can only deal with what you have told you and not with any information on your books not shown to me. I am told that I was defined as 'politically mature'. The phrase seems meaningless, unless you take it (which I should very much doubt) as being equivalent to 'Marxist'. I was interested at Glasgow in Scottish nationalism, birth control, religion or its opposite and above all with the subject which I was studying. I was never at all concerned with leftism of any form at the time.

Next we come to Vienna. There, I am told that there were lots of RIS agents around and that the place was in turmoil. Possibly. But that in no way proves that I was involved. I lived a solitary life in a small room where I read widely on art, history and other subjects (not politics).

In Paris my main friend during my first (but also very much in the second year) was Louis Lambert who was also a friend of Eric Wagstaffe of the Board of Trade. Lambert came, I think, from Saint Quentin, and he was Action Francaise, a noted left wing movement. In the second year when I was taking two German certificates, I came across several German refugees and was strongly anti nazi, like (I believe) most of my countrymen at the time. I was most certainly not a Marxist at that time. My interests were still mainly French literature.

It was only when I came to Cambridge that, through Klugman and Blunt, who were both in the Modern Languages School, I was drawn into the Marxist circle, and then mainly on a cultural basis, plus of course the anti Nazi motive which then changed its nature somewhat. On Cambridge you raised the question of Frohlich's statement about me, and examined carefully the degree of my contacts with Klugman, Blunt.

On the former score, I am not impressed by the statement (and you in turn were somewhat contemptuous of my reservations). The fact is that when last I saw F, it was when the Abyssinian war was on, and he was glating over the smack that England had been given by Mussolini. I never met his wife, but remember he talked of his fiancée. So the assertion that I met his wife is wrong. (People's memory after thirty five years tends to be weak about other people). He said I had wide anti-nazi contacts. But most of my German contacts were with the wealthy Jews from Berlin with one of which families I always stayed. None of these was leftish in any way. There was also Hans Singer, the economist who was certainly not leftish although anti Nazi. To say, as did your colleague, that the Jews were anti nazi (and hence that the F statement is

in the face

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correct) is disingenuous to say the least. For this discussion was in the context of the anonymous letter (by a Marxist) and F's evidence was being used to prove that I had a wide network of anti Nazis (ie politically conscious opponents of Nazism, and, it was implied, leftists). But I had shown that the situation was entirely the opposite.

Then as to Blunt and Klugman: I find it hard to define the degree of closeness to a person and I probably overreacted to the suggestion that I was very close to Blunt. I knew him of course, but, as I tried in vain, I fear, - to explain, there was no close personal bond, only a considerable intellectual admiration. I was very impressed by his lectures. With Klugman I was on far easier terms since he was an undergraduate (or at least not a fellow), not impressive in his appearance and eager to convert. We also studied the same subjects. For some reason which I cannot fathom, you seem eager to prove that I did not know him well. You argue that I should have known where he was in Paris and visited him. You forget that I had every reason, after joining the FO (see below) to avoid him, and probably he himself was under instructions to avoid me. I suggest below that he was only brought in to recruit me when the Select appointment with Burgess failed.

In talking of Klugman, you used the curious phrase that 'I was anxious to see him'. As your own records must have made clear, this phrase is entirely inaccurate. I was asked to collaborate in trying to extract a statement from him about Otto (but he refused). I made the effort very gladly in the hope that I might make a very small atonement for my conduct and in the knowledge that ~~it~~ my action might result in my having to appear in court with consequent publicity for me of a very unfavourable kind. I might add that a confrontation with him would speedily have brought out any inaccuracies (alleged) in my statements to you and your colleagues on the question of my recruitment. In fact, in the course of my discussions with K, he did not in any way deny my account of the recruitment (which was exactly the same as I gave you).

~~xxxxxxx~~ On the recruitment itself, I now believe that I can possibly, (thanks to your date in March of his visit to Paris) throw some light on the chronology. I had said that I thought the recruitment was effected soon after my joining the Civil Service. I now feel that it must have been later, and in fact soon after the manqué meeting in Paris with B. The reason is threefold. First, I now believe that I was not approached at once after joining. It is, as you know, extremely difficult to situate an event a long time back in time in relation to other events, except by exclusion. Secondly I ~~think~~ am fairly sure that it was light in the evening (ie it was either autumn or early spring). It can hardly have been so early in my official career. Thirdly, though this is induction on my part, I feel that B can hardly have acted independently and hence that he had been allotted the task of recruiting me. This supposition would tie in with his approach to me when visiting Cambridge (see below). Only after his approach in Paris had failed was K given the task. It would of course help in reconstructing this sequence if it were known what K was doing about this time. It may be that he was in England, say early in April. It would also be useful for me to have the date of my transfer to the Western Department, since this may be relevant either negatively or positively. Lastly, the date of my move to Warwick Square (which we can perhaps establish through the examination of my accounts) would help (as you will see again from my comments further on).

Since I am dealing with B here, I should say that I now feel pretty certain that I only met him after I came down from Cambridge. I may have met him on a staircase in college, but such seemingly casual encounters are not the ones that stay in the memory. It would fit in with the next stage. I might, I suppose, have told him in response to adroit questioning, that I

expected to come up to Cambridge some time later. At that time I was still in touch with Professor Ashton (my French tutor) for whom I had a great respect. (He died soon after moving back to Canada). On the second occasion (which, like the first, must have been on a Sunday, since we worked Saturday mornings at the time), I visited Blunt's rooms. (It would be interesting and helpful to know what Blunt remembers about that meeting by the way). But I probably spent the day with Ashton, having first been dated for the return journey by B. On that trip, B made no approach to me, but merely talked to me with (I now see in retrospect) the idea of sizing me up. But there was no talk of Communism except, as I remember, to say that any agitation by Communists was absurd in the UK, and that the important point in resisting Nazi policy was ~~at~~ at Government level. If B told a friend that he propositioned me, he is lying. He has a reason for doing so, to wit, that he was raising his ego by boasting. I have none for concealing such an approach, since I have already described the real approach in some detail. Nor is it clear what possible advantage I could have in giving a false description of a process which was in itself heinous whatever the persons involved, or for that matter, of laying the stress on K (who was alive and in the UK) rather than on B who was in the USSR and who at some point along the line of my interrogations departed this world.

One last point about B, since we are on the subject. It is certainly not true that I saw him often all through my London life. There were periods when I hardly saw him at all. And I repeat that my statement about seeing him frequently (made in connection with the short period when he was my controller) must be taken as applying to that period. Otherwise, it does not make sense and is simply not true. It is, of course, easy to omit a qualifying phrase when writing a statement about a particular period, and specifying that the statements in detail apply only to that period.

Secondly, you insisted that I explain the reasons why he came to be in my flat. I answered truthfully that I could not remember. It is really impossible to remember why in every single case in the past, X or Y happened to be there. All I know is that it was unusual. He may have wanted a drink, or been passing that way and looked in. In the same way, I cannot remember how I met him (see above) or how the acquaintance grew up. But I really must protest against the charge made against me that, despite a very large volume of detailed statements about events a considerable time ago, I am ~~accused of~~ deliberately forgetting things. With one exception, dealt with lower, I have tried very hard and consistently to remember everything relevant to the service's enquiry. I am a human being with a good but not computer-like memory. And I must again firmly reject a completely unjustified slur.

X X X

Next we come to the anonymous letter and Hefner episodes. Let us take the letter first. You ~~show~~ are no doubt aware that Blunt, when referring the letter from M I 5 to my superiors in M I 6, commented that the letter (or its receipt by me) did not reflect on me in any way. This seems to me fair comment. You will notice, too, that I am not addressed as Comrade but as Mr Cairncross. Which means that the writer was not on a footing of regular contact or friendship with me. The fact that he signs Yours fraternally informs us about him, not about me. I had no idea who wrote the letter, which, as I have repeatedly stated, is the only one of its kind ever received by me. ~~I~~ I cannot prove this statement, but you cannot prove the contrary. *There are such things as coincidences.*

K3 GEN
 Ext. to RF 47,562
 PC 657554

I did not at once notice that the letter was written by a foreigner, only when this was pointed out to me by the interrogator. My own view is that the letter was written by a German anti Nazi who had met me when on a visit to England and mailed the letter to me when on a visit to Holland, but did not wish to leave any trace of his name, having a healthy fear of it ever getting back to the German authorities. As you know (or should do so), it is a widely held belief ~~that~~ on the Continent that the Foreign Office also deals with secret information. It is therefore perfectly natural that a letter such as the one in question should have been addressed by this writer to me, *especially*

to I was in the German Dept at the time.

As to his identity, I naturally have no idea. It is just possible that it was written by someone who knew me at Cambridge at a time when I was known to hold certain views. I very much doubt it, however, for none of the Germans I frequented there were leftish. They were mostly Jews who, as I said before, disapproved of Hitler for racial and not political reasons, (or should I say ideological). It is much more likely that the writer was a chance acquaintance from London days. For example, I was once invited to drinks by Edward Warner of the FO who entered it just before I did (and who by the way, subscribed to the Left Book Club). There I talked the whole evening in German to a German who was criticizing UK policy, and tried as best I could to defend it. There was certainly no question ~~of~~ what views I held in that discussion. Could my interlocutor have been leftist, as he may well have been, though he did not say as much, he could easily have decided to send me information he felt might be useful.

There was obviously no reason for the RIS to approve of my receiving such letters, nor any desire on my part to have them. Had this been part of a regular supply of information, it is hard to imagine a more amateurish and dangerous channel. You will remember that I kept any complication of a marginal character such as the H episode from my controller.

To conclude, I cannot for the life of me see why you insist on regarding this letter as incriminating. Had there been anything to it, I should naturally have covered, in my 1964 statement.

Next comes Hefner, to which the same considerations apply. This is more complex, if only because two episodes are involved and of the dates. It is not easy to remember the details in the right sequence, especially as this whole question was for me utterly unimportant, just a nuisance in one case, and a possibility of helping HMG in the other. I seem to have telescoped the threat of deportation from Holland with the actual deportation (earlier) from France, an easy enough mistake.

As to his statement about paying me from the Valencia account, this is simply a flat lie. The reason seems to me simple. He wanted his principals to have the idea that he had an important contact who was willing to play ball. (You will remember, however, that, significantly enough, he said that 'I had not yet done anything'). The trick was too easy. The 'important contact' was willing to help (for money which H no doubt pocketed) but, for reasons unexplained, had not yet acted. H had in fact good reasons for his lies. I had none for concealing anything guilty in my relations with him, and would certainly have included such details in my confession. The reference to 'original documents' I take to refer to his papers on the alleged invention, and certainly not to any thing connected with me. I seem to remember that he was 'returning' these papers, which confirms my hypothesis. However, it is difficult for me to be ~~positive~~ more positive, since I don't know what else he wrote, and also since in this case you seem to have approached the matter on the assumption that I was guilty on all counts and that a man

Excluded PF 47562, PF657554, KSGEN

a man of his character with a healthy prison record is to be preferred in all cases to mine.

As to the question of H's application for an export permit for arms, you reject my explanations of my action. But in fact you cannot possibly disprove my statements, since I alone know what my intentions were, and they are perfectly compatible with my acts (quite apart from the fact, seemingly of little importance, that they happen to be true). Here again, you start by assuming my guilt and, not surprisingly arrive at the conclusion that I am guilty. Thus, my assertion that I wished to ensure that the invention should first be considered by HMG is sneered at as a sudden outburst of patriotism, completely disregarding the fact that, as I have explained on numerous occasions, I fell into the RIS's trap and acted against all my own convictions. It was then natural to see in the occasion a chance to make a small amends. In the same way, you suggest that I should have offered the invention or the chance of seeing it to the highest bidder, for all the world as if my only aim in life was to hawk round secrets for the largest sum. I must indignantly reject this kind of supposition which, as I have said, assumes my guilt and then turns every act of the episode into a proof of guilt.

You argued that I should have reported the application to my superior or to the police. This is the first time I have heard that a request to forward a perfectly regular application has been treated as a crime requiring the intervention of the police. I turned down the request to forward the application (there is at least negative proof of the correctness of this statement), and left it to the proper authority to deal with the application if forwarded. There was not the slightest reason to bring in the police.

You emphasized the point that H was in the Luftwaffe and not a technician. I myself have not the slightest knowledge of technical matters and never knew anything about the alleged invention except that it was supposed to measure height of an aircraft. But I do not see why I should have been expected to check the man's technical qualifications (which in any case I could not), not should have assumed that, unless he could prove that he was a technician he could not have made an important invention. The latter is a complete non sequitur. I referred the matter (as I did in effect the application for export) to the proper authorities, and assumed that they would take the necessary precautions to ensure that they ran no risk from potential enemy agents. The Air Ministry after all is well able (or so I assumed) to look after its interests. In fact, I was astonished at their bringing H over to England. I had thought that they would see him in Holland (or wherever he was) and only if his invention proved important, bring him to the UK. Incidentally, I would much have preferred to hear what the Air Ministry says, if anything on this matter, than H. They must have some record of the matter.

I told you that Watson Watt came over to the Treasury some time after with a colleague and told me the details on the invention were too vague to warrant further action. But I do not know whether WW himself saw H, nor is there any ground for supposing that H got to know WW or had any idea of what WW was doing. I believe the Germans only discovered about our radar late in the war, if then. In any case, the assumption that H won a great prize (to use your expression) in being given access to the Air Ministry, is quite unjustified, and even more unjustified is the implication that I deliberately collaborated with him in achieving this end. Again, I most indignantly reject any such suggestion. My hands are entirely clean in this connection.

Extracted to PF 47562, PF 657554, K3 GEN

This leaves the question of how I actually effected the link between H and the Air Ministry. This was through a telephone conversation with the Private Secretary to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry. I think I gave him the address of Temboury on the telephone and that contact was effected through him. I have no recollection of having given an address for H, and indeed I had forgotten that he had moved to Holland. There was no written communication from me on the subject. Nor did I receive anything in writing from Temboury. I would again emphasize that this whole episode was not one that I attached importance to in retrospect, since it represented for me an attempt to put an invention in the way of HMG which failed, but there was nothing at all memorable (and certainly not guilty) about the whole business. It is difficult for me at this date to recollect all the details.

However, if Temboury can be contacted, I would be at your disposal for a confrontation or for any interrogation you felt necessary. He came from Casteljaloux where his father had a sawmill. He may still be alive, though I doubt it, since I have not heard from him all these years. I do remember that when I reproached him with giving my name to H who then tried to use me to get his application backed, he merely laughed it off. He had always been a good and helpful friend, and I felt unable to make a row about the matter, especially since, as I naively believed, the last had been heard of it.

My link with Temboury was based on our common love of French culture and civilization. His interest in politics seemed to have died down after he left Cambridge, and we never discussed them in later meetings. He told me much more about his various amours and experiences than about anything else, and, when I was in Paris, met one of his girlfriends and we went out together. His circle of friends was in no way leftist. Indeed, one of them was Chaumont's private secretary. Perhaps you can trace T through that person. My relation with him had nothing hidden or furtive. I met his parents and was their guest when at Nice (or Cannes?). As to the location of his flat in Paris, I simply do not remember. I have a poor memory for places and geography. But it was in a good district, possibly in Montparnasse. There could be nothing less suspicious than my friendship with him, and the further suggestion by your colleague that I was passing papers to him earlier (what papers? when and how?), is farcical. If we are going to have a serious discussion, I would suggest that such wild suppositions (which leave my modest effort on Madeleine Robertson far behind) be omitted from future ~~discuss~~ interrogations.

X X X

There remain various points in the post 1952 period. As far as I can remember, these are why the ~~Russians~~ RIS did not help me in 1951, and how I managed to build up my property without outside help. As to the first point, I must admit to having smiled wryly when your colleague mentioned that I had been useful to the RIS and hence that they might be expected to have rushed to my rescue. This reasoning strikes me as extremely naive. In most cases, when one has been useful and is down, one is kicked in the teeth. The RIS, as far as I can see, usually act on this principle. At least, as far as people like me are concerned who were obviously not part of the faithful and whose relations with them had been consistently bad. (I mentioned for example that they were very upset at my leaving Bletchley when I insisted on returning to London). It seemed to me natural that, having served my purpose (or, more exactly, ~~having done~~ as there was nothing more to be got out of me, the RIS dropped me like a hot potato. I had not even asked myself the question why they did not help me in my debacle, till you raised the issue. I badly needed help

Extracted PF657554, K3 GEN

I know only certain districts of Paris, even today.

Ext to PF. 47, 562.

M

help in the form of cash (as I explained to you). And I do not understand how you have come to the absurd idea that I have had contacts with the RIS since 1952. I have no doubt that they are well informed, and Martin told me that my stay in the US had been noted. Why RIS should then have been at pains to help me, I am at a loss to understand. Perhaps your defectors have the answer. Nor do I see why I should have worked night and day and during weekends and holidays for over twenty years to earn money and at the same time publish my books if I could have drawn on an easy source of extra income, or indeed why I should stay on in the West, unless it was thought that, having been identified as a tool of theirs, I could still prove of use to them. All of this does not make sense to me, but you may have other ideas.

As to the idea that RIS helped me in my real estate deals, I take your views as a compliment to my ability. But it is also clear that you have only the most fragmentary information about my finances. Were your information complete, the suspicion would never have arisen. In 1956 when in Geneva, I was down to about 50 Swiss francs in the bank, without any certainty that there would be enough for the following week. I was saved just in time by a UN contract, as my bank statements show very clearly.

You mention the purchase of land in Italy. I have dug out the facts and these can be confirmed in detail by the people concerned. I bought a patch of land, not on but near the seaside south of Rome for some 2 million lire, ie ~~2330000000~~ just over £1000 at the then rate of exchange. Of that total at least £500 came from reparations from Germany to my wife. The rest represented savings during our three years in Italy. Not exactly a phantastic sum! When I got the Bangkok job, I changed this purchase into one for some 5 million which included 1000 metres of land nearer the beach with a small house on it. The idea was that I would live there on my return. I should add that these purchases represented my very first step in share or property buying. I paid for the balance out of my Bangkok earnings which were generous. (three years contract).

As to the other estates, they were bought as follows:

~~Cart~~ Nice 5 million old francs (bought out of nine months work at Karachi for Ford Foundation at 18000 dollars a year plus free house). Cortona, cost 4 million lire, bought in part from loan from FAO Credit Union and in part from sale of Terracina which brought in some ten million. Sacrofano Cost 4 million. Same as above (leaving a surplus in hand). Land near Rome cost under 3 Million lire. Ie, I was in balance on land transactions in Italy from 1964 on.

Capri I have spent about 25 million lire. Dover Buyers I lost about 30 million. I owe at present 15 million. I therefore have to account for 40 million. But I was given 6 million by Mrs de Cent (DB's girl friend) since I would otherwise have faced complete ruin (I had no sleep for six months as another victim of the swindle can testify; she was present when Mrs de Cent agreed to pay 6 million and knows the circumstances). I sold Sacrofano and Nice for some 17 million. This reduces the debt to 17 million. Since I earn well over a million a month net (it is close to 1400000 including translations and royalties), this means some 6 million a year (leaving out of account savings from my first 5 years in Rome which were considerable). I had no difficulty in raising that since my expenses here are usually about 500,000 lire a month all in. In addition I sold a large part of my library and objets d'art. (details can be provided). There is therefore no mystery about my being able to save myself. A Pareto translation by the way netted me 7000 dollars ie over 4 million, and there were other similar chores which

a for an American Foundation 2

exhausted me but brought home the bacon.

The real problem was to raise the necessary short term credit, but this I succeeded in doing since my credit was good in FAO and elsewhere. I naturally kept my disaster dark, since had it leaked out, it would have been impossible to raise cash. You will also appreciate that this is not exactly the kind of episode one brings to others' attention, least of all your service, since it had no bearing on that matter. It merely made life hell for me for about two years. I did as you remember mention Capri which was not at all secret, little dreaming that this would give rise to a phantastic series of suspicions and charges. I have nothing to hide on all this score.

X X X

There remains the question of my contact with RIS from 1936 or 7 to 1951. Here I will merely mention two points. One, I firmly reject the crudely provocative statements (on the "Have you stopped beating your wife" lines) that I had 'ideological commitments' vis a vis the RIS and that I was given 'inducements' to join it. Both are absolutely untrue. And, if we go on along these lines we shall merely go round in circles.

Secondly, you made great play with your resources, including ~~deceits~~. You insinuated that I was shielding someone and urged me not to hold anything back. As mentioned already, I had assumed from 1964 that you had full information on me (which I now see to be utterly untrue, and also that you have a great deal of untrue information). ~~Secondly~~, I shielded people up to 1964 (above all myself) but from then on nobody. It is difficult for me to refute a vague (and entirely inaccurate) charge. But in fact I have given the fullest possible information about everyone concerned or about whom I was asked. I am a little taken aback now at the curious charge that I am shielding someone. Lastly, I must admit that I committed a serious mistake in omitting to report sums of money received. I would emphasize that this omission affects only myself, and that the omission was made from a very deep sense of shame at having accepted these sums. They were not, however, offered, until some time after I had been recruited, and they played no part in that recruitment. They were not in the form of payments for services, except (I think) on two occasions at the very end of my connection. They were for joining Travellers Club for entertainment, and for eg the purchase of a typewriter and, later, a car. In other words, they were for the execution of the work assigned to me and not rewards which I could spend on myself. ^{and the two above} Except for the one case mentioned by me, and for an offer of £100 to go back to Bletchley (which I refused), I never accepted money for myself. Now that I have made this statement, I have held back nothing, and no interrogation will extract anything more, unless possibly a clarification of certain details already provided.

Lastly, I must mention that in my pre 1939 accounts I had some sums which I helped to get out of Germany for my Jewish friends, the Saengers and for a friend of theirs called Stern. These were subsequently repaid to them. This can be confirmed by Mrs Saenger and her brother, Kurt Salomon, now in California.

X X X

To sum up, I categorically deny the charges levelled against me and repeat that, apart from the important point set out above, my statements have been frank and complete.

I am at your disposition when I come to England, but would hope that the discussion can be arranged on lines more likely to result in clarifying both my responsibilities and the general questions involved.

Yours sincerely John Cairncross

PS I had planned to retype this letter so as to polish the typing and presentation. I fear that this would be difficult at the present moment when I am swamped with work. But I would like to say that I have checked it carefully, and, though rough in presentation, it is accurate. I also want to add some points I omitted.

- 1) When interrogated, especially on the last two occasions, I was extremely tired, since I had had to finish off my Cornelle ms for Penguins. The interrogation was therefore made in conditions of serious strain. The shock on learning of the unjustified accusations was profound.
- 2) My Marxist beliefs at Cambridge were mainly based on the application of history to thought, especially in literature, as well as on the link with opposition to Nazism. However, most of the work by Marxists on literature (then and now) are mechanical and poor in the extreme. On almost every other score I was even then at odds with the party (ie at Cambridge). I never accepted its economics, deplored the internal repression and strongly criticized the Stalin terror and militarism. I had a furious discussion with Costello and his friend (subsequently wife) on the subject. Most important of all, it never entered my head that ideology of this type included espionage. It is therefore doubly absurd to talk of 'ideological commitments'. Even had I been a fervent adherent of the faith, I would not have considered indulging in criminal activities. In any case, by the time I was going down, I had emerged from my connection and hoped and expected to sidle out completely. You may be interested to know that it was only late in the day that I decided to sit for the Civil Service examination (ie just before the time for application to sit), as can be confirmed by Harmer, French Professor at Trinity, whom I consulted, explaining that I really wanted an academic career. He strongly advised me to choose the Civil Service. I took his advice and did.
- 3) I repeatedly tried to resign from the Civil Service after the war and thus escape from the RIS's clutches. I tried through Sshton (now dead) to get a post at Vancouver University or elsewhere in Canada, and later to get a job in business. I received an offer from Coats but this was quashed by the Treasury, and I had to stay on (this must have been about 1948).
- 4) I received cash (I cannot say how much) for furniture to install myself in Warwick Square and also for joining the Travellers Club. But there was no payment in the first months of the recruitment.
- 5) I never knew that H was a Communist or had a prison record. Many anti Nazis were put in prison for curious reasons. In H's letter covering the application for an export permit, there was no mention of a reward but only an appeal to side with the Republicans. Many non leftists sided with them. You say that the Raab firm was a Komintern tool, (or suppose so) without giving proof. In any case I do not see why I should have been expected to know that the firm was of this complexion. This is expecting hindsight. Many others were duped besides me. You are looking at this episode through the other activities of mine (confessed) and through the optics of what we know now. But both are irrelevant.
- 6) The distinction I tried, unsuccessfully, to make between my RIS work and the alleged H and anonymous letter episodes is that there is a confessed body of offences in the former case which must naturally be carefully examined, but nothing admitted in the latter, which puts it for me in quite a different category (ie one where you are trying to pin non-existent offences on to me).
- 7) I assumed that all my conversations on the phone, bank accounts and discussions with friends were followed and noted. (I would also mention my willingness to collaborate (as re Riegmann) whatever the cost to myself.)

930b.

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

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Loose Minute

Copy: PF 72493

K7/J A Cradock

1. You may care to see the attached copy of our report on our most recent interviews with CAIRNCROSS.

S Rimington

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MS Ext 654
10 July 1973

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Report of two interviews with

John CAIRNCROSS

on 25 and 27 April 1973

Introduction

1. John CAIRNCROSS was interviewed by Bill Pratt and myself for a total of seven and a half hours on 25 and 27 April 1973 in Room 055.

2. We began the first interview by saying that we were unable still, after all the interviews with him, to reconcile certain aspects of his story with information from other sources. For that reason we wished to try to satisfy ourselves now that we had the complete story. We would try not to retread the old ground but would be introducing certain new things. He seemed quite content with this and said he was there to help.

HAEFNER and TAMBOURI

3. We said that we wished to begin by going over his association in the late 1930s with Victor HAEFNER and Etienne TAMBOURI. He said: "Yes, yes. That is a fairly straightforward one", and told us the following story.

4. He had first met TAMBOURI in Cambridge; he was not an undergraduate but was visiting Cambridge for one or two terms to improve his English. CAIRNCROSS was studying foreign languages himself and so frequented the same circles. After TAMBOURI left Cambridge CAIRNCROSS saw him in France occasionally when he went over there for holidays. At one point TAMBOURI, who was a lawyer, said: "I have a client who has an invention which might be of interest, a sort of radar enabling an aeroplane to plot its altitude". The client, HAEFNER, had, CAIRNCROSS gathered, been put in prison by the French and was in detention of some kind at the time TAMBOURI raised the matter. It was, CAIRNCROSS said, a one in twenty chance that the invention would be of any use but when he got back home he got in touch with WATSON WATT and gave him a description of it. WATSON WATT said that the description was so vague that it would be necessary for him to speak to HAEFNER and so CAIRNCROSS gave him the address. CAIRNCROSS claimed that that was the last he had to do with it in any direct way. HAEFNER and his wife were brought over, the invention was found to be of no use and they were interned. HAEFNER, according to CAIRNCROSS, wrote to him from internment and asked him to help. He did nothing, although in principle he would have been prepared to help, because he thought there was nothing he could do. CAIRNCROSS mentioned that the daughter of a former Master of Trinity, Miss THOMPSON, was also involved in some way in HAEFNER's case.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

- 2 -

(Comment: Victor HAEFNER (PF 47562), a First World War German Airforce pilot, was imprisoned in the 1920s in Germany first for espionage for France and later for cheque frauds and in 1931 again for anti-Fascist activities. In 1936 he worked for the Spanish Republican Forces as an aviator and aeroplane purchaser and in 1937 was imprisoned by the French as a spy. After his release he went to Holland and from there to the UK in 1939. He was interned shortly after the outbreak of war. We lost track of him in 1945 after his offer of his services to the Control Commission for Germany had been refused.

Sir Joseph John THOMPSON was Master of Trinity from 1918 to 1940.)

5. Having listened to CAIRNCROSS's version of the story we then questioned him closely and at considerable length, returning to the subject on several occasions at both interviews. As a result of this a rather different story gradually emerged. We asked CAIRNCROSS first to date the various episodes in his story. He said he first met TAMBOURI in his own second year at Cambridge (1935/1936) and was put in touch with HAEFNER in 1938, after Munich, he thought. That was his first contact with HAEFNER; he had no knowledge of him until he heard of him and his invention through TAMBOURI. "From my angle", said CAIRNCROSS, "this is a perfectly straightforward thing".

6. We said we were rather surprised by this and wondered if he were not approached by HAEFNER while he was still in the Foreign Office. To this he replied: "Ah yes, you have a point. I'd forgotten". After a great deal of cross questioning we finally established that in about June 1937, when he was on the Spanish desk at the Foreign Office, he had received at the office a letter from HAEFNER. The letter said something like, "we are trying to help the cause and get arms to Spain. We need a permit for this, will you please help us to get one". The letter enclosed some sort of application form for an export permit. CAIRNCROSS said he did not know who "we" was; the letter mentioned no organisation or firm. CAIRNCROSS said, after a suggestion from us, that he did not entirely rule out that the letter might have said "if you help us there will be a reward". He could not positively say but it might have done. He said the letter surprised him; he thought it was mad rather than criminal and he certainly did not think of mentioning it either to his colleagues in the Department (one of whom, as we remarked and he agreed, was Donald MACLEAN) or to the Police. The question of arms had never come up in his work; it was not what he or his colleagues were dealing with, and he did not know what the British Government's policy on arms for Spain was. He and his colleagues were doing the political reporting on what was

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

- 3 -

happening day by day in Spain, helping British subjects there etc. CAIRNCROSS said that he did not think that this was a question so much of being asked to exert undue influence to get the application through as of directing a perfectly regular application to the proper channels, which he assumed would have been the Board of Trade. In any case, he said, he did nothing except write back to an address in Paris, which he could not now recall, saying he could not help, returning the forms and advising HAEFNER to put his application through the proper channels. He agreed, however, that it was an improper approach and that he was being asked to pull a string, but the impropriety to his mind was more political than legal. It was quite within the law he thought.

(Comment: Our only source for the story of HAEFNER's approach to CAIRNCROSS in 1937 is CAIRNCROSS himself who mentioned in 1942 that he had received a letter. HAEFNER did not mention any 1937 contact at his interrogation when he was interned in 1939. All these details of the approach are new.)

7. We told CAIRNCROSS that we were particularly interested in this aspect of his story because the business of obtaining and supplying arms to Spain had been organized by the GPU.

8. We asked him how he thought HAEFNER had got his name in June 1937 if his earlier recollection that he first heard of HAEFNER when TAMBOURI mentioned to him that he had a client who was in detention in France was correct. We pointed out that HAEFNER was not detained until November 1937 so this letter episode preceded that. He agreed that HAEFNER could not possibly have written to him out of the blue so something must have preceded the letter and he assumed that he must have had some conversation with TAMBOURI before June 1937. We went over with him the dates of his visits abroad in an effort to find when such a conversation might have taken place. CAIRNCROSS said he definitely did not visit TAMBOURI on his way to Germany in 1936 and that his visit to France between 28 February and 15 March 1937 was the most likely occasion when such a conversation might have taken place. We pointed out that this visit occurred between his moving from the American Department to the Spanish Department and so it was quite likely he might have mentioned his new post to TAMBOURI and he agreed. He said he could not recall any conversation with TAMBOURI at that date about HAEFNER but then he had not devoted any thought to it as he did not think it was important. He was sure TAMBOURI never said to him anything like: "I know a chap who wants to get arms to Spain, will you help him?", but he agreed that it seemed quite likely that TAMBOURI might have told HAEFNER that he knew a chap in the Foreign Office. Up to now he had thought of this arms permit approach as more silly than politically interesting but in the light of what

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

- 4 -

we had now told him about the GPU's organisation of the arms supply to Spain he would make the effort to go over it and think it out. He carefully noted down the relevant dates we gave him.

Etienne TAMBOURI

9. CAIRNCROSS agreed with us when we said that it seemed obvious if all this was correct that TAMBOURI must have mentioned his name to HAEFNER as early as 1937 as someone who might be able to help him. This in itself seemed odd unless TAMBOURI were also involved in some way in the arms racket. We pointed out that HAEFNER had a criminal record from the early 1930s onwards and one would have thought that if TAMBOURI were an innocent party he would have wished to know what kind of a request was to be made of his friend by this doubtful character.

10. In the light of this we agreed to go over again the details of CAIRNCROSS's knowledge of and acquaintance with TAMBOURI.

11. CAIRNCROSS said that TAMBOURI stayed while he was in Cambridge with Mrs PRIOR, the widow of a French Professor; she produced French plays for the University and ran a little salon. TAMBOURI was about four years older than CAIRNCROSS, he said, and was very clever. He had already qualified as a lawyer when he was at Cambridge. He was left-inclined at Cambridge, said CAIRNCROSS, but was an idealist, not a Party man. CAIRNCROSS insisted that the link between TAMBOURI and himself was not politics or Spain but French culture.

12. After TAMBOURI left Cambridge they continued to be in contact and CAIRNCROSS went and stayed with him occasionally or visited him when he was passing through Paris. These visits were not frequent, CAIRNCROSS said, and TAMBOURI did not come to this country to visit him. CAIRNCROSS claimed not to be able to remember TAMBOURI's address in Paris. When we suggested 26 Avenue Kleber he said that did not sound quite right. He remembered TAMBOURI as living in a reasonably prosperous area but did not think it was quite up to Avenue Kleber standards. He said that TAMBOURI was not married and lived alone. His parents owned a saw mill in the South of France not far from Nice and lived down there. CAIRNCROSS said he last saw TAMBOURI at the end of 1937. He had tried to make contact with him again after the war by ringing up his parents' number but he had not been able to raise them and assumed TAMBOURI had not survived the war.

CAIRNCROSS's contact with HAEFNER in 1939

13. We then went on to discuss the circumstances surrounding HAEFNER's visit to this country in 1939.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

- 5 -

14. When questioned in detail CAIRNCROSS became very vague about the circumstances leading up to HAEFNER's visit to this country in 1939. He said he definitely remembered learning, presumably from TAMBOURI, that HAEFNER was in a spot and had been detained by the French. He thought perhaps, on reflection, he might have gone over to see TAMBOURI again after 1937 and that on that occasion TAMBOURI had mentioned HAEFNER's invention to him. We told CAIRNCROSS that he had been in France in September 1937; between March and April 1938; in June 1938; in August 1938; in October 1938 when he passed through on his way to Austria and at Christmas 1938, and he agreed that it was very likely that he had seen TAMBOURI on one or more of these occasions. He agreed that TAMBOURI was one of the people whom he would have seen if he was in Paris and that he saw him in fact quite frequently. We asked him if on the other hand it was possible that he merely received a letter from TAMBOURI or HAEFNER which started off the invention episode, but on the whole CAIRNCROSS seemed to think it was more likely that TAMBOURI had mentioned it to him. He thought he had a memo about the invention which he had himself drafted in English, about one page or half a page long, to show to the people he mentioned the invention to. He thought the details had probably been given to him by TAMBOURI.

(Comment: In 1942 HAEFNER was interviewed in the internment camp. He said he had not met CAIRNCROSS until he came to London in 1939. He said that TAMBOURI was an intimate friend of CAIRNCROSS and spent a great deal of his spare time with him in England. He had intended to come over to England when the HAEFNERs came to introduce them to CAIRNCROSS but was prevented from doing so by a lawsuit.)

15. We asked him how he had known that WATSON WATT was the right person for HAEFNER to see and how he had arranged the interview. He said that he rang up the Private Secretary to the Permanent Secretary in the Air Ministry, as one normally would in such cases. He had told him that he knew a man with a potentially interesting invention and asked whom he should put him on to. After that it was all done on the official level in that Ministry and all he knew was that the invention was not thought to be of any value.

16. CAIRNCROSS said he met HAEFNER once socially after this. It was a bit embarrassing but nothing occurred to make him think HAEFNER was a suspicious character. We asked CAIRNCROSS if he knew how HAEFNER supported himself and his wife between then and his internment later in 1939. CAIRNCROSS said he had no idea though it had occurred to him at the time to wonder.

17. CAIRNCROSS said he had never heard of Antonius RAAB.

TOP SECRET

18. We showed CAIRNCROSS HAEFNER's letter of credential dated 10 May 1939 (serial 54b in PF 47562) showing that he was employed by RAAB at that date as a representative of the arms firm of AEKKA. CAIRNCROSS expressed surprise at this but said he had had no knowledge of this side of HAEFNER's affairs.

Letters

Appendix I
19. At this point we handed CAIRNCROSS a copy of the letter from HAEFNER to RAAB (extract at serial 1y) dated 31 August 1939 and asked him if he would care to comment on it. He looked at it for a short time mopping his brow and loosening his top shirt button, then he asked if we had a translation as he found the German rather difficult to follow. We gave him a copy of the translation at serial 42x on PF 47562.

20. His first reaction was that "original papers" clearly referred to the permit forms that HAEFNER sent him in 1937 and which he had returned. We pointed out that the date of this letter was 1939 and that it seemed rather unlikely that HAEFNER would be harking back two years. He said that in that case he was at a loss and had no explanation to offer. We asked him what he thought "who has done nothing more" meant. He asked us if the date of the letter was right and we assured him that there was no mistake there. We asked him if he would like to check the translation to make sure it was accurate; he did so but could not find any differences. He continued to repeat that he found the letter quite baffling, that he could provide no explanation for it and was totally in the dark.

21. We then said that there was another letter found in HAEFNER's papers when he was interned. This letter mentioned an account in Valencia about which CAIRNCROSS was ready to help and said he would be told what reward he would get for his help (serial 15z). CAIRNCROSS's reaction to this second attack was most odd. He said: "Oh no. But that's very interesting. Valencia - I'm glad you mentioned that. What date was it?" We told him it was 1939. He then said: "There is no question of any account in Valencia in 1939". We asked him when was the account in Valencia and what was its purpose. He replied that he had no recollection of any account in Valencia at all. It was just fantastic; he was aghast; the man must be making things up. As for being told what reward he would get for his help he said it did not mean anything to him at all. He found the whole thing completely shattering and denied it all categorically.

22. We told him that, as we were sure he would see, it was possible to put a very sinister interpretation on these two letters and his inability to explain them. The organisation of the arms supply for Spain as we had told him already was under the control of the GPU who established a series of cover firms throughout Europe for the purpose. It seemed very likely

TOP SECRET

- 7 -

that the activities of HAEFNER and RAAB were in some way connected with the GPU and that TAMBOURI was to some extent involved with them. When one considered that against the background of HAEFNER's approach to CAIRNCROSS in 1937 and the unexplained references in the 1939 letters one could not but think there was some sinister explanation. One could, for example, suppose that not only did he agree to do something for HAEFNER in 1937 but that he continued to work with him right up to 1939. He must see that these points were far more material to his case than a bunch of notes found in Guy BURGESS's flat. He agreed that it did look very sinister and said that indeed he found it quite chilling but he could not repeat too often that there was nothing in these stories. He had had one lot of trouble on his hands at that time with the Otto business and he would have been mad to take on another one.

23. We continued to press him to provide some explanation for these letters and he continued to insist that they meant nothing to him. He did not know what the explanation was. If there were anything, he would tell us. These two letters just made him despair. We said that without wishing to be offensive we should remind him that between 1951 and 1964 he had denied many times the implication of the notes found in BURGESS's flat and any involvement with the RIS. He said he understood our doubts and he would feel the same in our position but all he could do was repeat that if there were anything to tell, he would tell us. He could not prove it but he had no reason to hold back now. As he saw it there were two ways to behave. Either you denied everything and tried to get away with it or you came clean. To his mind there was no middle way. We replied that in all our experience no one, particularly in the field of intellectuals recruited in the 1930s, had ever told all the truth on the first occasion. Our experience was that you got some of the truth and then you probed and got more. He replied that we were fully entitled to be sceptical but he could categorically assure us that this story would never be changed even if he were interrogated in thirty years time.

24. Trying a slightly different tack we asked him whether he had mentioned HAEFNER's approach to him in 1937 to Otto, who was, according to his story, controlling him at that time. CAIRNCROSS said he had never discussed this at any stage with Otto. We suggested that one might have expected that he would but he disagreed violently. He said that just because he was giving to Otto confidential information from his work there was no reason to bring in other aspects of his life. He was a free agent in other ways. We asked him whether he had discussed the 1939 episode of HAEFNER and his invention with Guy BURGESS, who was controlling him at that time. He said vehemently that he never had. HAEFNER had no connection with BURGESS or any of the espionage side of his life. We said that we found his reaction to the invention rather puzzling. He was quite prepared to damage this country by passing information to Otto, Guy and Robert and yet when he came across this invention which might have been useful to his masters he suddenly started to feel patriotic. Why? He said that in the

TOP SECRET

other case he was under compulsion but this was different. Here he had a chance to do the right thing. "This was something outside my work, something they didn't know about", he said.

Glasgow and Europe

25. We told CAIRNCROSS that we had recently made a detailed study of student Communism at the Universities in the 1930s. As a result of our investigations into Glasgow we had had information that he was politically conscious and left-wing inclined when he was there. He had been described as more politically mature than his contemporaries. We said that if we believed that it made us look at the following two years he spent at the Sorbonne in a different light, bearing in mind the upsurge of left-wing activity and sympathy in Europe in those years.

26. CAIRNCROSS said he was very surprised that anyone should have made such a comment about his attitude at Glasgow. He had certainly had no connection with any organised political group at Glasgow, let alone a Communist one. He did not remember being interested in politics at all at Glasgow; literature and French language were his passions, and he was also interested in Scottish Nationalism and religion. Bearing in mind that he was thinking back forty years and it was not easy to reconstruct at that distance he could remember only one person with any political associations during this whole period, and that was a man named QUINN. QUINN became left-wing after CAIRNCROSS had left Glasgow and gone to Paris, he said. QUINN spent a year in Bordeaux perfecting his French and by the time he returned to Glasgow again, CAIRNCROSS thought, he had become a Trotskyist.

27. CAIRNCROSS said that he remembered very clearly that he had taken no part in politics when he was at the Sorbonne. It was not till he was at Cambridge that he came across the theoretical ideological side of Communism. He did not know anybody left-inclined among the French students. In any case he did not have many friends in Paris, just two or three, and he did not keep up with any of them. In his first year he studied French and in his second year German. A number of German refugees came to the Sorbonne and some were in the same classes as he was. He remembered one of the German refugees trying to explain Communist theory to him but he dismissed it because it did not seem to make any sense. We suggested that there must have been a considerable amount of political activity at the Sorbonne at that period but CAIRNCROSS said that if that were so it passed him by; he was not sensitive to it. We reminded him that the centre of Comintern activity changed from Berlin to Paris in 1933 but CAIRNCROSS claimed that all this was quite outside his ken.

28. We said that we found it difficult to accept his story of not knowing anything about left-wing political activity in Europe when he was there. He was, for example, in Vienna in the summer of 1933 and that was a hot bed of RIS recruiting agents at that time. He said he was certainly never contacted; he did not meet any English people there and had no contacts in political circles.

29. We asked him if he had many friends in Germany. He said that he knew hardly anyone. He stayed au pair with a family in Berlin called SAENGER and through them he met some of their circle. Those were all Jewish and middle class, the sort of people who owned big stores. We asked him if he knew the FROLICH family and he replied: "Who are they?" We reminded him, and he then said FROLICH was just a man he knew at Cambridge. He had never stayed with him in Germany though he might have visited him once there as he passed through. We told him that FROLICH had been interviewed and had said that CAIRNCROSS made frequent visits to Germany and had visited him and his wife in Cologne. FROLICH had regarded CAIRNCROSS as a Marxist and had said that he had widespread anti-Nazi contacts in Germany. CAIRNCROSS replied that that was a very funny story and did not make any sense. He had never met FROLICH's wife. None of his acquaintances in Germany were, as far as he knew, involved in any political activity; they tended to be monarchists. Although they were obviously not in favour of the Nazis they were certainly not extremists.

Anonymous letter

Appendix II
30. We showed him a typescript copy of the anonymous letter dated 5 August 1938 posted in Amsterdam and addressed to him at 16 Warwick Square (serial 16a). We all looked at it and shook our heads over it murmuring "very strange, most peculiar". We pointed out that this letter must have some explanation and he could hardly expect us to believe that he did not know what the explanation was. The tone of the letter indicated quite clearly that it was part of a correspondence. CAIRNCROSS said that he just did not know what to make of it. He agreed that it looked like just one part of a correspondence but said that he had never received any other letters like it. We pointed out that it was posted in Holland at a time when HAEFNER was in Holland and asked if he thought it had any connection with him but CAIRNCROSS said as far as he knew it had not. We drew his attention to the date, 5 August 1938, and told him that he had returned from France on 15 August though unfortunately we did not seem to know when he had gone. Did that arouse any memories? CAIRNCROSS said it did not. We asked him if he had himself ever been to Holland and he replied: "Only once". He had, he said, been forced to spend a day in Schipol on his way to Germany in May 1939 when he had forgotten to get a visa for travel to Germany. We continued to talk about the letter for some time, but he refused to alter his story that he found it as strange and inexplicable as we did. Finally he pointed out that the letter had stayed on our files for thirty years and we were still unable to solve it. "Maybe you will get a lucky break one day and be able to explain it", he said.

Finance

31. We then said that we would like to discuss again the rather delicate matter of his finances. CAIRNCROSS said he thought it was very wise to get it all straight. We reminded him that he had said on several occasions that he did not benefit financially from his association with the Russians, except on one occasion when he received £200 from Robert, and that he had not received anything from the Russians since 1952. We would like to go over his sources of income in order to satisfy ourselves that his expenditure had not been substantially above his income at any time.

32. He said that starting in 1936 when he went into the Foreign Office one could divide his career into three. In the first period when he was an A.P things were rather tight even though he did odd translating work and was given small sums of £50 or so from time to time by his sister. After he became Lord Hankey's Private Secretary and got an extra allowance of £120 a year things were rather easier. After he was promoted Principal things were a lot easier.

33. We said that we had the impression that even as an A.P he entertained a considerable amount and he certainly travelled a great deal. He said that his entertainment was done on a very modest scale; it might come in a burst and then there would be nothing for months. As for his travelling he lived modestly so that he could afford foreign holidays and in any case when he was abroad he frequently stayed with friends and had to pay nothing but the fare.

34. We told CAIRNCROSS that we now had fairly strong indications from another of our sources that in 1938 or 1939 while Guy was controlling him £100 was given to him to help with the expenses of entertainment. He asked: "By Guy?" We said that it came as a result of Guy's actions. CAIRNCROSS's first reaction to this was that he had no recollection of such a thing and he would have to search his memory. We left the thought with him while we questioned him on other subjects and returned to it later. CAIRNCROSS then said that he could not dispute that Guy might have given him some money but frankly he did not remember it. It certainly was not £100 because that was a fabulous sum and he would certainly remember it. Later still we returned again to the subject and CAIRNCROSS then said that he had remembered that on one occasion in mid 1938, he thought it preceded the lunches with his colleagues on which he reported to Guy and was for the purpose of paying for them, Guy gave him some dollar bills, about 40 dollars in all he thought. Guy told him that he had got them not from the regular boss but from somebody who was organising the political action in Spain. We asked him why Guy had mentioned the source and he said he thought he was meaning to say that there was not much money available. Guy had said that he could not get any money for himself. CAIRNCROSS claimed that this was the only occasion on which Guy had given him money.

35. We asked him how he was placed financially in 1952 when he had to resign. He said that was a very bad time; he was really up against it. He sold the car, got a small inheritance from an aunt and a small income from letting his flat but otherwise there was nothing. While he and his wife were travelling she saw an advertisement for a job in Rome. They went there and arrived practically penniless. After his wife got the job and he started doing freelance work they were able to manage and by the time they went to Switzerland they had accrued a little capital. Just before they left Geneva for Bangkok, however, they had got down to 50 Swiss francs in the bank. He had many debts to settle before going to take the job in Bangkok and the business of getting the job was not all plain sailing; after it was promised to him ECAFE went back on their offer and brought out someone else from New York. Finally he had a phone call saying come out at once and he was saved in the nick of time.

36. We asked him about his purchases of land. He said that his first piece of land South of Rome was bought in 1956 in expectation of the job in Bangkok. The total cost was about six million lire. He made a small down payment just before he left for Bangkok and paid off the rest over a period out of his salary. Later he divided the land into two; he sold the first part when he came back to Rome in 1964 for six million lire and the second part in 1967 for three million lire.

37. When he sold that land he bought a farmhouse in Tuscany and just before he went to Pakistan he bought a place in the South of France. He put down five or six thousand and paid the rest off in instalments before he finished in Pakistan; he explained that in Pakistan where he was a member of a Harvard team under Ford Foundation auspices he was earning a very big salary. He had now sold the place in the South of France, he said.

38. He said he also had a share in a property in Capri. He took a big risk there at a time when he was still recovering from the big financial loss he had sustained in the swindle in 1970. Some friends had told him that they had a permit to build provided that the building was completed by a certain date. This was a fabulous chance, he said, as no building was allowed in Capri normally. He had a few hundred pounds spare and he borrowed some more and by a considerable amount of juggling managed to raise the required sum. For that he was given property on half the land, which his friends were building for him.

39. CAIRNCROSS said that altogether he probably owed about £10,000 now and owned three remaining parcels of land: the farm in Tuscany, the land outside Rome which he was hoping to sell by September now the market was favourable and the property in Capri.

2
see para 36.

40. Throughout all this explanation he repeated constantly that he had no unknown sources of income and no access to any agents or money. He had merely used to the full the facility one had as a member of FAO to borrow at a favourable interest rate against one's retirement pension. That and clever juggling had made everything possible. All the transactions were there in his accounts for anyone to see and if his total earnings and savings were looked at against his purchases by a qualified accountant it would all make sense.

41. We said we were rather worried by the fact that in 1970, when he had suffered a large financial loss he had not told us about it. Why had he not done so? He said he did not think it was relevant; he was not trying to conceal anything, though certainly he was not proud of it, but he thought it was a private battle he had to fight. He said that it had required enormous ingenuity to sort it all out but he thought at last his way was clear.

42. At the second interview we said we would like to take him up on his offer to let us look at his bank accounts. We presented him with letters of authorisation addressed to the Managers of all the branches of Barclays Bank with which we knew he had had accounts over the years. He signed the letters without demurring or commenting on our apparently encyclopaedic knowledge of his affairs. He said, merely, that he hoped our enquiries could be made without the banks knowing the reason. He said also that his permission to us extended to his accounts in foreign banks if we wished to examine them too.

Guy BURGESS

43. We then went on to discuss again with CAIRNCROSS the extent of his acquaintance with BURGESS at the various stages in his career.

44. We asked first if CAIRNCROSS was quite sure that he had not met BURGESS while he (CAIRNCROSS) was still at Cambridge. He said that he certainly did not remember meeting him at Cambridge, though he was rather puzzled about this because he was sure that he knew of Guy's existence while he was at Cambridge. We told him that we had heard from a source who had discussed it with BURGESS that BURGESS had said that he contrived to meet CAIRNCROSS on the stairs in Trinity while CAIRNCROSS was still an undergraduate and that this led up to the meeting in BLUNT's rooms. We told him that the same source, quoting Guy, said that he propositioned CAIRNCROSS during the train journey. CAIRNCROSS said that he was categorical that this was untrue. The meeting in BLUNT's rooms was not just a chance encounter; it had been arranged beforehand. He was sure it was at a weekend on an occasion when he had gone to Cambridge from London. He remembered the feeling of greater confidence that came after he had joined the Foreign Office and also, curiously, that he had a hat, which he had not had while he was an undergraduate. He thought it likely that the meeting was on a Sunday because he worked on Saturday mornings in the Foreign Office. Moreover the story that BURGESS had propositioned him on the train was certainly untrue. BURGESS might have been sounding him out but he certainly made no proposition, nor did

TOP SECRET

- 13 -

he reveal his involvement with the Russians.

45. We reminded him that in 1952 he signed a statement to the effect that he had met BURGESS at intervals ranging from twice or thrice a fortnight to once in three months. We said that this did not agree with what he had told us last time. Which version was correct? CAIRNCROSS appeared to be amazed at the statement and repeatedly asked: "Did I sign that?"

46. We asked him to go over again the occasions on which he could remember meeting BURGESS from 1936 when he started in the Foreign Office. He said that he could remember only the meeting at Cambridge followed by the train journey; a meeting after that when BURGESS suggested he meet him in Paris at the Selecte; a lunch a deux in a place somewhere off Regent Street at which he thought that BURGESS had asked him why he had not gone to the Selecte; the lunch he had mentioned before with BLUNT, Tom WYLIE and Helmut KATZ and the party in the Chester Square flat. He said he could not recall any meals except the one lunch alone with Guy and this was why he was surprised by his earlier statement that he had met him two or three times a month. He could not think in what circumstances he could have met him. He certainly did not go for walks with him and, as he could not remember meals or drinks either, he was rather baffled.

(Comment: The meeting at which BURGESS proposed the Selecte meeting and the lunch a deux with Guy are additions to the meetings CAIRNCROSS has mentioned before.)

47. We asked him to go over the circumstances leading to BURGESS's revelation to him that he too was working for the RIS. He said that there must have been a gap of about six months between his last meeting with Otto and Guy's revelation. All that time he was hoping he had got off the hook and he had thought at last there was a chance that he would be able to revert to a normal life. We said that BURGESS's revelation must have been very shattering and he agreed that it was one of the two unique experiences of his life (he did not say what the other one was). We asked what Guy had said. CAIRNCROSS said it was something like: "Well, it's been rumoured that you have been going around with my friend Otto", followed by some dramatic phrase like "You and I are in each others hands". CAIRNCROSS claimed he was panic struck and speechless. We suggested that he might have wondered if Guy were not working for MI5 and leading him on. Did this occur to him? CAIRNCROSS replied that Guy had managed to convince him by certain background details that he knew all about it. "I must appear extraordinarily guileless to you", CAIRNCROSS said. We asked him if Otto had given him any guidance on how other people would identify themselves to him. He said that one of his controllers, either Otto or Robert, had said that there would be a code phone call saying something like "I've brought you back a present" and mentioning a name. One would then meet in front of a restaurant of the same name. Guy's revelation was nothing like this. It just emerged unexpectedly from an ordinary meeting; he had asked him round for a drink or something.

TOP SECRET

Other Acquaintances

48. We reminded CAIRNCROSS that in his statement in 1952 he said that he had met BURGESS again after the war in company with FOOTMAN. He claimed to be surprised at this and said he had no recollection of such meetings. We asked him if they might have been in the context of his friendship with the HALPERNs and he agreed that this was possible. He then recalled that FOOTMAN introduced him to HALPERN. He had lunched with HALPERN and a French friend at his Club and we agreed that the Club was probably the Reform.

49. On a sudden inspiration we asked him if the French friend was Raymond PICARD, and he agreed that it was. We asked him how PICARD came into the story and he said he did not come in at all. We reminded him that in 1952 CAIRNCROSS had given the name of PICARD as someone who would support his story of Marcelline ROBERTSON. What was the background to this story; was it his own invention or did someone provide him with the story to tell in an emergency? He said that he was entirely responsible for the story and for throwing in the name of PICARD as an added weight. We asked what he thought would have happened if we had gone to see PICARD; could he have relied on him to back him up? CAIRNCROSS said PICARD was not involved in any way. If he had supported his story it would have been just a friendly action. He said he was still in quite frequent contact with PICARD who now taught at the Sorbonne.

50. We asked CAIRNCROSS if he had met Anthony BLUNT at the HALPERNs and he agreed that he did. We asked him if he saw much of BLUNT during the war and he said that he saw him occasionally. We reminded CAIRNCROSS that in his 1952 statement he had named KLUGMANN and BLUNT as the two people who influenced him towards Communism at Cambridge. We said that this suggested that he knew BLUNT better than he had implied recently. This remark led us into an argument, which recurred frequently during the interview, about the definition of knowing a person well. CAIRNCROSS said he certainly had not known BLUNT well in his terms. He certainly was not walking in and out of his room all the time and the lunch they had had with WYLIE and others in London was the only meal they had had together. There was a certain distance between himself and BLUNT because though they were in the same field BLUNT had a certain eminence and was a Fellow. One might say in fact that the curious thing was that living on the same staircase and being in the same field they did not know each other better. In that case, we said, why did he quote BLUNT as one who had influenced him towards Communism. CAIRNCROSS said he quoted him because of his authority and because BLUNT had applied his Marxist views to art history. He was meaning to imply that in that area he had been influenced by BLUNT.

TOP SECRET

- 15 -

51. We then went on to say that we had heard from someone who knew PHILBY well that CAIRNCROSS already knew PHILBY when he went to Section V. CAIRNCROSS denied this vehemently and said that he did not even know of PHILBY's existence until he met him in Section V. He suggested that this source might have been confusing him with his brother who was also at Trinity and who read Economics and was a contemporary of PHILBY's. We reminded him that he had spent the whole summer of 1933 in Vienna and that PHILBY was also there at that time mixing in RIS circles. Was he sure he did not meet PHILBY then? He assured us, with what we thought was a slightly hollow ring, that there was no political overtone to his stay in Vienna and that he did not meet PHILBY or any other English people there.

KLUGMANN

52. We said that we found his account of his acquaintance with James KLUGMANN very strange. He claimed to have known KLUGMANN well at Cambridge - so well that he was one of the two people he named as having influenced him significantly towards Communism. He had said also that he did not keep up any friendly relationship with him after leaving Cambridge. He had claimed that he did not know the most obvious aspect of KLUGMANN's pre-war life namely that from December 1935 to 1939 he was in Paris at the headquarters of the Comintern organisation, The World Student Association. Everyone else we had seen who had moved in student Communist circles to a man had known it. He would have us believe, however, that in 1936 he knew KLUGMANN well enough for him to have arranged the introduction to Otto, for which he must have come over to London from Paris. He then disappeared again and reappeared only to introduce the "young man" then disappeared again. All this seemed very odd, we said. CAIRNCROSS suggested that KLUGMANN might have had instructions to keep out of the way of him. We said that another interpretation was that he had had instructions to keep out of the way of KLUGMANN; we did not see how it was possible for him to have mixed in the TAMBOURI world in Paris without coming across James KLUGMANN. CAIRNCROSS replied rather heatedly that there was no TAMBOURI world. "I had specific friends in specific places", he said and added that he lived a very solitary life. We showed him various photographs of the site of the Office in Cite Paradis where KLUGMANN had his office and of other areas in Paris associated with left-wing activities but he claimed that none of these places meant anything to him.

53. We said that when we had arranged the meeting between James and himself in 1970 we had gathered that he was very willing and anxious to talk to James. Was this consistent with his story of hardly knowing James after Cambridge. CAIRNCROSS said it was not that he wanted to talk but that he wanted to help us. He said he was asked to try to persuade James to come and talk to us as it would be enormously helpful if he did. It was obvious, however, that he was not prepared to come clean.

TOP SECRET

1964 Confession

54. We reminded him that between 1951 and 1956 he had been interviewed nine times and had always denied any involvement with the RIS. In 1964, however, when he was interviewed in Cleveland by Arthur Martin on exactly the same evidence he had confessed within fifteen minutes. Why was this? CAIRNCROSS said that between 1951 and 1956 he had lied and lied for obvious reasons - to protect his wife and his brother. As long as he felt he could get away with it he had continued to lie. In America, however, the situation was quite different. He felt trapped and cornered. If he had continued to deny the evidence Arthur Martin had only to go the University authorities to get him thrown out of the University and the country with the maximum scandal and publicity. We said that the evidence was the same evidence we had had since 1952. Why had he not felt jammed before? We might after all have prosecuted him with similar scandal and publicity. He said that he felt the Americans were tougher; his reaction there was entirely defensive. He felt if he confessed he could reduce the situation to a local disaster. He knew he would have to leave his post in Cleveland but he thought he would be allowed to go straight to Italy and continue working there. We asked if he had had faith that we would not inform the Italians and he said that that did not seem automatic but it was a risk he had to take.

55. We told him that we found his reasons for confessing rather difficult to follow and he said that he found it very tricky to try to describe his mental processes to us. He felt sure we would say his reaction was wrong as we had said his reaction to Otto's approach in 1936 was wrong.

56. We said we were of course delighted that he did confess, whatever the reason, and we thought he would agree that he had not suffered for it. He said that he felt he had been miraculously well treated and he was grateful for it every day. He said that he hoped we would forgive him if any remarks he had made during these interviews implied any criticism of the way our Service had behaved; he had always found us very thorough and competent.

57. We thanked him for his complimentary remarks but told him that for our part the cumulative effect of all our interviews with him was to leave us unconvinced that we had got to the hard core of his case. We had at the moment too many unexplained documents and other bits of information. He agreed and said that he was sure that in our shoes he would feel exactly the same. He felt very depressed and helpless, particularly about the HAEFNER affair, because he saw no way to start explaining it. To him it was absolutely meaningless. We told him that we would continue to research and would use our considerable resources to try to fill in the background until we could reconcile in one way or another the points in his story. We strongly advised him, if he were holding anything back from us

in the hope of protecting anyone, because he was afraid of something or for any other reason, to stop doing so. He assured us that there was no one else involved whom he was trying to protect and there was nothing he was holding back. He had in the past been terribly afraid but his confession was the great divide. Now he had no fear and if we said there were more serious things to his case that he had not told us, he would just say there were not. His only hope was that we would come up with something more in our researches and until we did he would continue to feel very uncomfortable.

Conclusions

58. Although in these two interviews we did not force CAIRNCROSS into making any substantial new admissions we did do something which is perhaps more valuable, we finally took from him once and for all his credibility as a friendly and honest source and he knows it.

59. The sudden unexpected shift of our questioning to HAEFNER and the arms deals, a subject on which he had not been interrogated in detail since 1951, supported as it was by documentary evidence he did not know we had, took him completely off balance. He had no story ready to tell and he had to retreat into amazed innocence and loss of memory, even though, for example over the bank account in Valencia or the anonymous letter, he knew we found that attitude incredible. He will probably try hard to find some explanation which fits his story and the evidence he now knows we have but if he cannot do so he will have no recourse but to continue to protest his amazement and innocence.

60. I now feel reasonably certain that there is a considerable area of the story of his espionage that CAIRNCROSS has kept from us but we can still only guess what the truth is. It seems likely that the key to his case may be that he was not, as we have thought previously, an ideological spy of the traditional "Ring of Five" type, recruited at or shortly after Cambridge and placed as a penetration agent in a Government Department, but rather a completely different animal, a mercenary spy whose basic links were in Europe.

61. Some of the puzzles in CAIRNCROSS's case might be solved if ~~in fact~~ he originally became involved in espionage in Europe in the early 1930s, doing jobs of some sort for money, and his introduction to "Otto" by James KLUGMANN, coming over from France for the purpose, was in fact a recontact rather than a first approach. His story that he agreed to work for Otto not out of ideological commitment but because of fear would certainly make more sense if Otto threatened to reveal to the Foreign Office that CAIRNCROSS had already done some spying and been paid for it.

62. It may well be that the anonymous letter and CAIRNCROSS's connection with HAEFNER and RAAB, of which the documents we have give only tantalizing glimpses, rather than being some inexplicable incidental to the main story as CAIRNCROSS main-

TOP SECRET

- 18 -

tains, are in fact the main story; that his work was in fact as a paid agent of a European-based ring assisting with the procuring of arms to Spain, acting as a post-box for information out of Germany etc, and not as an ideological penetration agent in the Foreign Office. If this were true it might explain the various conflicting stories of CAIRNCROSS's recruitment, why BLUNT said he was not part of BURGESS's main network and also provide a reason why BURGESS had to obtain money for him when he gave him an assignment in 1938.

63. This version of the story is considerably more sordid and squalid than the one CAIRNCROSS told and we accepted in 1964. If it were anything like the truth it would not be surprising if CAIRNCROSS were unwilling to admit to it now. He has admitted that he is a man who only tells the truth when he feels the consequences of doing so are better than those of continuing to lie. Even then, as he has shown in the past, he only tells as much of the truth as seems necessary in the circumstances. I do not think it likely, nor I suspect does he, that at this late stage we can create a situation where he will feel it is better for him to make new admissions than to continue his denials.

64. CAIRNCROSS has more or less told us to go away and see what new evidence we can dig up. I have no doubt that as long as we let him he will return from time to time to see how we are getting on and will decide each time what he will say according to how he judges the situation. If we do drag more admissions out of him by this process I think it unlikely they will be complete or even substantial enough to take us much further into the heart of things. Whether this is a contest worth the time and effort required to engage in it I personally doubt. Much though I resent CAIRNCROSS's success in manoeuvring himself into this position I feel we gave away the first game in this match when we believed the first story he told in 1964 and we allowed him to consolidate his victory from then until 1970 by continuing to treat him as a friend and an honest and reliable source.

Svella Rimington
S Rimington

K3/8
MS Ext 654
10 July 1973

TOP SECRET

Linden 42

Jan 21. 1939

C. Raab
 stecklein
 Witten

Liebe Antonia,

Meine Briefe an Atkinson vom 19. 7. 39
 sind kein Brief gewesen mehr. Was waren
 nurmal bei Papypus in er schreibt bis
 selbst!

Peter's Geburt 4. 8. 1931. davon erzählt
 kein mehr mal was. —

Meine Briefe vom 13. sowie 17. hat
 nicht beantwortet.

Wie steht es mit der Abrechnung?
 Wollen wir die Sache nicht mal regeln?
 Westheim, Peter hat ganz wacker, daß
 er mit seiner besten Willen die Sache nicht
 mehr antwortet, wenn er sich ent-
 scheiden würde, es nicht bis Kocumb.
 Er will nichts mehr von der ganzen
 Sache wissen.
 Otero hat nicht geantwortet, wird
 auch nicht antworten.

(29. 30. 31.)

Somit gibt es nichts von Zahlung zu
berichten. Ich hoffe, dass die meisten
meiner Freunde in der Sache da in Griechenland
land durchs.

Hier ist alles klar zu bereiten. Das haben
wir vorher gearbeitet. Es braucht nicht mehr
fixe Geld in die Bedingungen ge-
stellt zu werden, die von hier aus Ver-
langt werden.

Im übrigen hat man sich über die
so erkundigt, mit sage den Leuten
in Griechenland, sie sollen nicht so bloße
Zug werden!

Leber Brief von Ramo - hat's zuviel
weiter bei der Zeichnung aus sehen H,
der bei voll. Richtlinie gibt.

Da müßt bei der Thesen Münzen
sache - keine Verteidigung in Beweis
aufhellen mit Leuten, die soll.

3/ bezeugen können - Von jety hat sich
das griechische Conrulat nicht mehr
gemeldet. Hat für irgendwas bean-
tragt? - Erfahre heute, ob es Kuyberg
auf 2 Monate auf dem Continent ge-
fahren ist! Kommt zurück, so heute-
lein an!

Lop hat heute in sein nächstes
Ponit original Palmire von Cameroon,
den ich sprach & er auch nicht mehr
entnommen hatte. -

Neu dann von mir besetzen

besten für

Vitor

427

LETTER AT PAGE 42XSENDER:- "VICTOR"
LONDON W.2.ADDRESSEE:- A. RAAB Esq.
"Aekkea"
ATHENES, Palaia- Phaleres
(Viaux Phaleres)

DATED:- 31.Vii. 39

Dear ANTONIUS(?)

Your letter to ATKINSON has been noted. We were still with POPYRIES(?) and he is writing to you himself.

Price gun £4. 19.0. and nothing will alter that.

You have not answered my letters of 13 and 17.

How is the Account standing? Do we not want to settle the affair? Further, PASTOR has replied that with the best will he can no longer recollect the matter, and if he were able to recollect it, he does not want to have anything more to do with it.

OTERO(?) has not replied, and we are not answering either. Moreover there is nothing to report of/from BELANZ(?). I hope that you really understand about it, and that you are even taking heed of how the affair in Greece turns.

Here all is clear and ready, we have worked that beforehand. It needs only a fixed order, and the conditions to be arranged, that will be demanded from here.

By the way they have been making so many enquiries about you, and the people in Greece say that they should not talk such stupid stuff.

Enclosed letter from RAMOS, please let me have it back. Besides a newspaper cutting that should be on the right lines for you. With the munitions affair, you must try to line up your defence and proofs with people who possibly can testify - Up to now the Greek Consulate has not reported. Have you proposed anything? I discovered yesterday that HERZBERG(?) is travelling for 2 months on the continent. Comes back (Translator's note:- here follow two illegible words).

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

With best greetings from us both,

(Signed) V I C T O R.

5th August, 1938

Dear Mr. CAIRNCROSS,

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

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

Every effort being made to keep matter secret.

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

Supposed cause of death: poison.

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

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

Addressed to 16 Warwick Square

From Amsterdam

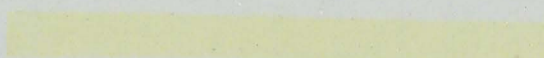
926a

PF 72493

NOTE

1. The following extracts have been made from serial 926a:-

HAEFNER	PF 47562	Paragraphs 1,2,3,4,5,6, 7,8,9,10,13,14,15,16,17, 18,19,20,21,22,23,24,30.
TEMBOURY	K3 Gen	Paragraphs 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8, 9,10,11,12,13,14,19,20,21, 22,52.
RAAB	PF 657554	Paragraphs 1,2,17,18,19, 20,21,22.
BURGESS	PF 604529	Paragraphs 1,2,31,32,33,34, 43,44,45,46,47,48.
FOOTMAN	PF 604589	Paragraphs 1,2,48.
HALPERN	PF R 1620	Paragraphs 1,2,48.
PICARD	PF K3 Gen	Paragraphs 1,2,48,49.
BLUNT	PF 604582	Paragraphs 1,2,50.
KLUGMANN	PF 45597	Paragraphs 1,2,50,52,53.
PHILBY	PF 604584	Paragraphs 1,2,51.



K3/A7
MS Ext652
31 October 1973

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925a

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~~Secretariat Overseas~~

Sho Werben Kump *

660

see over

W J Caldw Esq
 Director BSSO(G)
 BFPO 40

PF 47562/K3/7/EWP

2 July 1973

Victor HAEFNER

1. We would like to establish whether HAEFNER is still alive, and if so, his whereabouts.
2. His background is as follows. HAEFNER was born at Brenden, Germany on 18 May 1896. After service in the German Air Force in the First World War he continued to be associated with aviation. In 1923 or 1925, however, he was convicted in Germany and sentenced to five years penal servitude for espionage for France; he was released after two years. He was later convicted for cheque frauds.
3. In 1930 he started to live with Else PEPPLER, an opera singer, whom he married in 1939. In 1931 he was arrested for dropping anti-Fascist leaflets over Italy from a plane, but was acquitted. In 1933 the Nazis arrested him but after ten days released him; there may have been special conditions to his release. He fled to Switzerland but was expelled later the same year. He went to Paris where for a time he worked as an aviation journalist.
4. In 1936 he went to Spain on a Spanish passport under the name Juan Maria de la BELLACASA. He served as an aviation instructor to the Republican forces and early in 1937 returned to France with a delegation to purchase aircraft. In these transactions he dealt with a German, Antonius RAAB, in whom we are also interested. RAAB ran the armaments firm of AEKKEA which was based in Athens.
5. At about that time HAEFNER was put in touch with John CAIRNCROSS, then working on the Spanish desk of the Foreign Office, by a French lawyer Etienne TAMBOURI; CAIRNCROSS was

/.....

asked to assist in getting arms to Spain. Later, in November 1937, HAEFNER was arrested by the French as a spy and sent to prison. He was released early the following year and was expelled from France; he went to Holland and lived there under the name of BELLACASA.

6. He wrote to CAIRNCROSS from Holland saying he was in fear of expulsion, mentioning he was in possession of an invention relating to radiolocation. He came to England and was put in touch with Robert WATSON WATT by CAIRNCROSS; his "invention" was promptly rejected.

7. When war broke out he was arrested in this country as an alien and the following year was sent to Canada where he spent the next four years in internment. He returned to the UK in 1944 and seems to have gone to Germany the following year.

8. In June 1945 HAEFNER (whose file here has regrettably been heavily weeded) wrote to the Control Commission, Lubeck, giving his account of his background and offering his services to the Commission. I attach a copy of his letter together with a copy of the Counter Intelligence Bureau's covering letter to London.

9. I am troubling you with all this in the hope that there may be a chance that you can pick up HAEFNER's trail. This is a terribly long shot.

but the address in Germany is the most recent we have. We are anxious to trace him in the context of our current re-investigation of CAIRNCROSS. This is for your personal information and we would ask you not to mention the CAIRNCROSS aspects of this case to your German liaison. If need be you could say that in pre-war days HAEFNER was in touch with an Englishman who has confessed to having spied for the Russians.

10. Any help you can give on this would be much appreciated.

B. W. Pratt

* Note: I showed

Sgt. Wether Europe his letter; he does not wish

to have a copy. If, however

it is still a loose item in

Sept. he suggests I

should bring 17- Girados

before he takes over from

17- Calder

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SUBJECT: HAEFNER, Victor H

TO: CI WAR ROOM, LONDON
(Please pass to MI5) ✓

418
73
CONFIDENTIAL

CIB/INT/2464

18 Sep 45

The attached copy of letter from the above-named has been received from BAFO HQ.

2. It would be appreciated if you could inform this HQ whether you have any trace of HAEFNER or his wife.

CIB
c/o GSI(b)
HQ BAOR

S. J. ...
Brigadier
Counter Intelligence Bureau

'Phone: 2042/26
Regd ADLS
Encl ✓

GCR/MC

W. C. R. H.
9/11/45

Victor H. Haefner
c/o Peter Block
'Petershof'
Hörup
Kreis Flensburg.

23.VI.45

To the Royal Airforce Control Commission

Air Marschal Sir Douglas. Esq
British Head Quarter
Lübecke.

Sir,

With reference to my personal discussion with Cpt Fox from the 576 Military Government Det at Flensburg and with the Intelligence Officer on board of SS Telde in Kiel harbour, I wish to make the following statement.

After having been in the Concentrations Camp, Fortress Spandau (Berlin) in March 1933, I left Germany on March 25th together with my wife for political reasons. All my possession as aeroplanes, car, flat and furnitures, I had to leave behind me. My wife had to give up her engagement as opera singer at the städtische Oper Berlin. Since that time we lived as political refugees in Switzerland, France, Spain, Holland and England. In spring 1936 I accepted a position as technical expert on aviation in Madrid, which was offered to me by the Spanish Naval Ministry under Mr. Prieto. During the civilian war, the Under secretary of aviation, Col. Angel Pastor, my principal took over the Délégation technique d'aviation espagnol in Paris and I went with him as his assistant working in this way for the Madrid Government until in the beginning of 1939. Thereafter I was invited by the British Air Ministry to London, where I wrote articles for aviation paper. (Revue de l'armée de l'air, Aeronautique etc.) And gave informations about experience in the air war during the Spain civil War. My articles were published under supervision of Mr. Weekham Steed, the wellknown former Editor of the "Times". Three day before the outbreak of this War I was interned and likewise my wife in spite of protests of my British friends, who knew all about my political views. In 1940 I was shipped to Canada, but was transported back to the U.K. in 1944, when I was allowed to join my wife in the family camp at Port Erin, I of M. By the end of this war the reason for my emigration from Germany were gone and the Home Office asked whether I would like to be released to live in England or whether I would prefer to return to my country. With British identifications papers (my passport was taken away 1935 at Paris by the Nazi consul Baron v. Hohenleben) as member of the repatriations party. I choose the latter to put myself at the disposal of the British Mil Government in Germany. Very much to my surprise I and my wife were considered to be Nazi suspect and only after persuading my credentials (documents and letters which the Home Office permitted me to take along) did we obtain a more considerate treatment. I was there after advised by the Intelligence Officer to get in contact with the responsible C.O. of the All. Control Commission on the arrival of my destination. I could be sure to receive every assistance after my case would be put before such officer.

I wish to offering my services abilities and experiences to the Control Commission in interest of a real democratic new Germany for which I was fighting more than 20 years. So may be able possibly to assort in the work connected with the liquidation of the Luftwaffe and so on. (Airfield, Control of the Personal etc).

Owing to the difficulties facing us in respect of castfound, our luggage and our precasious housing under the roof in a farm I am sure You will understand my desire to start with a work and hoping of a answer.

I

H HAT

In the meantime my wife, who is opera singer by profession, has given together with the Philharm. Orchestra Flensburg Concerts for the British Welfare Service.

923a.

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Via Armando Spadini 16
Parioli
Rome

13 June 1973

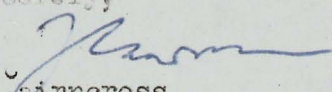
Dear Mr Pratt,

Many thanks for your letter of 4 June which I received yesterday.

I am grateful for your help in this matter, and hope to be able to despatch my notes at the beginning of next week. I shall of course follow your instructions as regards mode of transmission.

I am not sure when I shall be next in England, but will let you know well in advance if any such possibility crops up.

Yours sincerely,


John Sinnercross

Mr E W Pratt

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