

PF 604,582

V21

PF

604,582

V21

BLUNDEN JAMES

**HISTORICAL**

S Form 924A

Box 108

SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER

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

S. 960 Edn2

PF 604,582

V21

## 1109

10.11.72	Int. letter	1109a
13.11.72	Int.letter	1109b
16.11.72	Ext from TC	1109c

## 1110

16.11.1972	To DPP copy to Legal Secretary	1110a
17.11.72	Int.letter	1110b
23.11.72	Int.letter	1110c
23.11.72	Ext from AZURE	1110d
24.11.72	Ext from TC	1110y
24.11.72	Ext from TC	1111z

## 1111

24.11.1972	From Law Officers' Department	1111a
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## 1112

27.11.1972	From Law Officers' Department	1112a
29.11.72	Ext from AZURE	1112b
29.11.72	Ext. from Interview Report	1112b
30.11.72	Ext from TC	1112b
30.11.72	Ext from AZURE	1112d

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**ACT 1958**

JANUARY 2023

1113

1.12.72

Note for file

1113a

1114

*1157/1 c'd*

Director KX

*Copied to file 11-55-1-13*

Please see serials 1112a and 1113a about my discussions with the DPP and the Attorney General. You may also be interested in the correspondence at 1111a which relates to your discussions with Mr. Crump in 1964.

2. In the course of discussions with the Attorney and DPP I suggested that they might care to examine the available evidence so that they could decide whether there would have been a case if we had not exceeded the authorisation given us to offer inducements. Neither thought that this would serve any useful purpose.

*B. Sheldon*

Bernard Sheldon

Sect(Home)/O

1 December 1972

1115

1.12.1972

From Law Officers' Dept

1115a

4.12.72

AZURE

1115b

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ACT 1958 August 2023

1116

4.12.72

Draft note on BLUNT - Considerations arising in the event of publicity **replaced by 1120a**

1116a

1117

D.G.

Please refer to your letter to Philip Allen at 1088a, in which you told him you were having prepared a note on the possible consequences of publicity in this case. As you will see from minute 1114, Mr.Sheldon has completed his discussions with the D.P.P. and the Attorney General. At 1116a is a draft of the note for Allen which has been cleared with Mr.Sheldon. I would like to bring K.7 with me to any meeting to discuss this.

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

KX

4th December 1972.

5.12.72

Int.letter

1117b

6.12.72

AZURE

1117c

6.12.72

AZURE

1117d

7.12.72

AZURE

1117e

7.12.72

AZURE

1117f

1118

7.12.72

Ext from TC

1118x

7.12.72

Ext from TC

1118y

8.12.72

Int letter

1118z

8.12.72

Ext from note of interview

1118za

11.12.72

~~Draft letter to Allen and Trend~~ *Replaced by 1120a*

1118a

10.12.72

Ext from TC

1118b

10.12.72

Ext from AZURE

1118c

*not  
later*  
D.G.

I have amended 1116a along the lines we discussed and have placed a draft letter to Allen at 1118a. Reference to developments after PHILBY disappeared from Beirut shows that they provide no useful precedent for refusing a statement altogether; the lesson is rather that the wisest course is to make a brief statement and then resolutely refuse to budge from it.

2. Without knowing when or in what precise circumstances a statement about the BLUNT case may be called for, it is not easy to prepare a draft. But K.7 are now giving thought to that.

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

KX

11th December 1972.

11.12.72	Interview reports with LEVEN	1119b
		1120
13.12.72	Ext. from T.C.	1120z
13.12.72	To Home Office and Cabinet Office	1120a
		11121
13.12.72	Ext from AZURE	1121a
13.12.72	Int.letter	1121b
		11122
14.12.72	Int.letter	1122a
14.12.72	Int. letter	1122b
14.12.72	Ext. from interview with Charles MADGE	1122c

1123

14.12.72	Int.letter		1123a
14.12.72	Ext. from T.C.		1123b
15.12.72	Note (suspension of TOWROPE)		1123c
15.12.72	Ext. from T.C.(L. ROBINS & J.P. HENNESSY)		1123d
15.12.72	Ext. from AZURE	1124	1123e
17.12.72	Ext. from AZURE		1124y
17.12.72	Ext. from T.C. (J. GOLDING)		1124z
18.12.72	Note of meeting with Trend and Allen		1124a
18.12.72	Ext. from T.C.		1124b
18.12.72	Ext. from T.C.		1124c
18.12.72	Ext. from AZURE		1124d
18.12.72	Ext. from AZURE		1124e
19.12.72	Ext. from AZURE	1125	1125y
21.12.72	Copy of Home Office letter to Cabinet Office re notes on BLUNT seen by Home Secretaries		1125a

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1126

22.12.72

*- Replaced by 1129a*  
Draft Parliamentary Statement on the BLUNT case and Suggested Answers to Possible Supplementary Questions 1126a

*Spoke Kx 1/1/73*  
*2/2/73*  
~~XX~~

1127

I enclose at 1126a a draft Parliamentary statement on the BLUNT case of the kind for which you asked; also some suggested supplementaries and possible answers.

2. With regard to Sir Philip Allen's letter at 1125a the position is briefly set out in serials 19, 20, 24 and 25 of our note at 1004a in Volume 19. Mr. Jenkins asked for a note on the Ring of Five in June 1966. The full note was seen by Mr. Jenkins in November 1966 and by Mr. Callaghan in April 1968 and later by Mr. Maudling in June 1971 (who also had the additional brief recording our continuing suspicion of BLUNT at 842a in Volume 15). A copy of the full Ring of Five note is at 30a in SF 441-UK-16 Link A; the extract relating to BLUNT is at 545a in Volume 11 of this PF.

3. The special note about BLUNT seen by Messrs. Jenkins and Wilson and referred to in paragraph 2 of 1125a is at 595a in Volume 12.

*J.A. Cradock*

J.A. Cradock.

K.7./0

22 December, 1972

28.12.72

Ext. from interview with Charles MADGE

1127ab

31.12.72

Ext. from T.C.

1127b

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1.1.73

Ext. from T.C.

2.1.73 Ext. from AZURE 1128z

3.1.73 Note for file re BLUNT's involvement in the escape of BURGESS and MACLEAN 1128a

3.1.73 Note (REVAI) 1128b

3.1.73 Ext. from T.C. 1128c

1129

3.1.73 Draft Parliamentary Statement on the BLUNT Case and Suggested Answers to Possible Supplementary Questions 1129a

1130

3.1.73 Draft letter to the Cabinet Office, copied to the Home Office replaced by 1133a 1130a

1131

~~KX~~ <sup>DG</sup> You may wish to discuss with Ky and me.

We have discussed my minute 1127 and there is now enclosed -

*Handwritten initials and date:*  
HAA  
3/1

1129a (a) a draft Parliamentary Statement with possible supplementaries and answers

1130a (b) a draft covering letter to Sir Burke Trend, copy to Mr. Peterson.

and see 'x' at 1115a

2. With one possible exception, all the necessary background information required to understand the draft at 1129a is, I think, to be found in the two papers on the case at 1087a and 1120a which the D.G. has recently sent to the Cabinet Office and the Home Office. The possible exception relates



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1131 contd.

to BURGESS and MACLEAN's defection and BLUNT's part in it. This subject is touched on in paragraph 6 of 1087a but a fuller account is now enclosed at 1128a.

*J.A. Craddock*

J.A. Craddock.

K.7./0

3 January, 1973

4.1.73

Ext. from report of interview with John CAIRNCROSS 1113b

1132

D.G.

The letter at 1130a and the draft Parliamentary Statement have been amended to take account of the points you made at our meeting this morning.

KX

*pu* J.A.Allen

5th January 1973.

1133

5.1.73

To Cabinet Office (copy to H.O.)

1133a

7.1.73

Ext. from AZURE

1133b

7.1.73

Ext. from AZURE

1133c

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8.1.73  
8.1.73

Ext. from AZURE  
Note for file

1134y  
1134z

K.7./MF

Now that 1133a has gone we seem to be coming to the final stage of this examination of the BLUNT case. When it is concluded we should, I think, prepare a check list of the action to be taken when publicity on BLUNT seems to be imminent.

*See 11426 23/1*

2. Since the interview recorded at 1119b LEVEN has been trying to interest Fleet Street in his story and has, I understand, been making allegations about BLUNT; the details are known to K.3. and we need to get an appropriate statement of the position on this file.

3. Looking through this volume of the file I have been struck by the large sums which have been paid into BLUNT's account recently. Apart from his salary 1109a and 1121b refer to "Counter Credits" and "Advice Enclosed" items which amount to about £2700; the former accounts for over £1450 and the latter for £1250. Do we know of any explanation for these large payments?

*J.A. Cradock*

J.A. Cradock.

K.7./0

9 January, 1973

9.1.73

Ext. from minute of CEDAR Working Party

1134c

10.1.73

Ext. from T.C.

1134c

10.1.73

Int letter

1134d

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1135

11.1.73	Note re meeting at Cabinet Office	1135a
11.1.73	Int. letter (bank statement)	1135b

1136

K.7

I shall be grateful if you will set action in train in accordance with serial 1135a about which we spoke this morning. No doubt you will put L.A. into the picture with particular reference to the comments by Trend on the suggested answer to Supplementary No.2.

2. I should like to be in a position to submit a revised draft to the D.G. on 22nd January.

KX

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

11th January 1973.

~~1136~~ 1137

K7/MF

I should be grateful if you or K7/DS would speak to me about Minute 1136 + 1135a. Action on it must clearly be taken before the suggested in my mind 1134.

*J. Groves*

K7  
11/1/73

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1138

11.1.73	Copy of note for file on PF 605565 re K/Adv's meeting with Tess ROTHSCHILD	1138a
12.1.73	Extract from AZURE	1138ab
12.1.73	LM to Sect.Home Mr.Sheldon	1138b
	1139	
12.1.73	PHIDIAS	1139z
12.1.73	Letter from Cabinet Office re draft submission to the Prime Minister	1139a
15.1.73	Loose minute to K3 re	1139aab
15.1.73	AZURE	1139ab
15.1.73	LM from Sect.Home Mr.Sheldon ( <i>probably replaced by 1140a</i> )	1139b
15.1.73	Ext. from T.C. (M. CROTHSWAITE)	1139c
15.1.73	PHIDIAS	1139a
17.1.73	AZURE	1140y
17.1.73	Note for file	1140z
17.1.73	Loose minute to K3 re 1140y	1140za
18.1.73	Re-draft of Parliamentary Statement on BLUNT case and suggested answers to possible supplementary questions	1140a
	( <i>probably replaced by 1146a</i> ) K7/b.ck. 21.2.74	

1141

18.1.73	Draft reply to Sir Burke Trend	1141a
	Replaced by 1146a	

*Noted!*  
D.G.

At 1141a is a draft reply to Sir Burke Trend's letter at 1139a. The revised draft statement, together with notes for supplementaries, etc. is at 1140a, and it now has an Appendix dealing with personalities in public life who may receive publicity when the BLUNT case is brought into the open. This document will form Annex D to Trend's submission to the Prime Minister. Annex A is at 1087a. Annex B is the Ring of Five paper, of which a copy is contained in the accompanying pink folder. Annex C is at 1120a.

2. Folders containing copies of all these papers (except the Ring of Five paper) have been sent to K.Adviser and Sect.Mr.Sheldon whom you will no doubt want to attend a meeting to discuss the new draft. We have had some preliminary discussions with them and will be continuing these in the next day or so. But I thought that in view of the time factor it would be best for you to see the file now.

KX  
 —

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

19th January 1973.

19.1.73  
 19.1.73  
 19.1.73

Ext. from T.C. (B. SEWELL)  
 Int. letter  
 Ext. from AZURE

1142ab  
 1142abb  
 1142abbb

23.1.73  
 23.1.73  
 23.1.73  
 23.1.73  
 23.1.73

Note for file (Richard LEVEN)  
 Note for File (BLUNT/SIMON meeting)  
 Int. letter  
 Int. letter (SIMON)  
 Ext. from AZURE

1142b  
 1142c  
 1142d  
 1142e  
 1142f

1143

- 24.1.73 Note for file re meeting about proposed submission to the Prime Minister 1143a
- 24.1.73 Ext. from T.C. 1143b
- 24.1.73 Ext. from T.C. 1143c

1144

- 24.1.73 Note for file re passing of information to the Americans 1144a
- 26.1.73 Note for file (AZURE coverage) 1144ab
- 26.1.73 Note for file re publication from East Germany 1144abb
- 27.1.73 Int. letter (bank statement) 1144b

1145

*inst. 29/1/73*  
D.G.

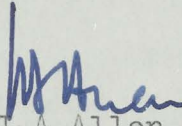
At our meeting on 23rd January it was agreed (1143a) that certain changes and additions should be made in the draft letter to Sir Burke Trend and also in the draft Parliamentary Statement and Suggested Questions and Answers Paper, which is to form Annex D to Trend's submission to the Prime Minister. Please now see 1141a (the letter) and 1140a (the Statement, etc.). The latter also incorporates a biographical note on Dennis PROCTOR, prepared in the light of what K.Adviser has reported of his recent conversation with Lady ROTHSCHILD. I said I would consider whether the submission should be expanded to draw specific attention to BURGESS' association during the Bentinck Street days with the Countess of Avon. Your letter to Sir Burke Trend now gives clear warning of possible unpleasant surprises from one quarter or another once publicity breaks over BLUNT. At our next meeting with Trend you could mention the action taken by the Home Secretary in 1952 with regard to the correspondence about the association. Bearing in mind the fact that we now have no record of the contents of that correspondence, I am not in favour of going further.

*Engage with*

2. I mentioned to you that at his meeting with K. Adviser in 1966 PROCTOR made a tantalizing reference to someone we have assumed to be identical with the holder of PF.607,484. The relevant material is at la in the file (attached). It will be interesting to see if any information is volunteered to you as a result of the PROCTOR note being circulated. I do not think we should make a move at this stage.

KX

29th January 1973.

  
J.A. Allen

30.1.73

Ext. from AZURE

1145b

1146

31.1.73

To Cabinet Office

1146a

*FILE CLOSED.*



TOP SECRET

COPY NO. 2 OF 3 COPIES

1146

D.D.G.

SECT/HOME to see

KX *MR*

*K7/M5 5/2/73*

PF.604,582/DG

31 January 1973

A.03246

*-1139a*

1139a

Thank you for your letter of 11 January enclosing a draft submission to the Prime Minister on the BLUNT case. I would not wish to offer any objection to the proposed distribution of the Annexes to your draft.

2. There are three small drafting amendments you may like to consider. The first, BLUNT will be 66 and not 67 in September of this year (paragraph 1); I understand that his present plan is to retire from the Courtauld Institute in 1974. Secondly, since we are not at present getting useful information from BLUNT it would perhaps be better to omit the words "- and we are still obtaining to some extent -" from paragraph 2. Thirdly, on the Ring of Five paper (your proposed Annex B); although substantially the same as that shown to Labour Ministers, the document you have differs in one important particular. Paragraph 9 of the earlier version expressed no doubts about BLUNT's frankness and this was indeed consistent with our assessment of him at the time. I suggest you take account of this in paragraph 3(b) of your submission, by referring to "a version of" rather than "the" note on the Ring of Five.

3. Apart from the minor amendments above, I have two further comments on the draft. I suggest that in view of your mention of Sir Elwyn Jones it might be worth bringing out in paragraph 3(b) of the draft the fact that no fresh evidence emerged against

/.....

The Rt. Hon. Sir Burke Trend,  
G.C.B., C.V.O.,  
Cabinet Office.

*Ru/RS  
15/1/74*

TOP SECRET

*J*

- 2 -

BLUNT during the Labour administration which provided an occasion for reference to the Attorney General; in other words we remained in the situation described in paragraph 10 of your proposed Annex C.

4. The second comment arises out of the conclusions on BLUNT recorded in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the note which will be Annex A to your submission. We do not think that BLUNT has told us the whole truth; and we are in the same position with some of the others - such as John CAIRNCROSS - whom we have seen in our Ring of Five enquiries. We cannot therefore be certain that any publicity stemming from the BLUNT case will not contain information about spies or incidents arising out of the Russian recruitments in the 1930s of which we know nothing; nor can we say that the Russians would not be able to exploit such publicity to their advantage. You may think it right to insert some general warning on these lines in your submission

5. I attach a new Annex D revised along the lines agreed in our discussion of 11 January. In so far as is possible we have tried to make this Annex self-explanatory; but of course a fuller understanding of this complex case can only be obtained by reading Annexes A and B. You will notice that in altering the draft reply to Supplementary No. 2, we have adopted wording which places the emphasis on what was obtained, i.e. the confession, rather than what was foregone. Indeed in view of BLUNT's determination never to make admissions in circumstances where they could be used in evidence against him and the remote prospect of any Soviet Intelligence Officer who had been concerned with the BLUNT case ever defecting to the West and becoming available to testify in court, the possibility of actually securing a conviction against

/.....

TOP SECRET

- 3 -

BLUNT has never been very real. Subject to Tony Hetherington's views on how the Attorney General may wish to deal with the question, I think this states the position more satisfactorily.

6. My last point relates to the new note (now enclosed as an Appendix to Annex D) about individuals in public life whose involvement in the BLUNT/BURGESS galere could make them the focus of possible criticism. There were in fact a great many people in public life who were connected with BURGESS, PHILBY and MACLEAN in some way and also moved in BLUNT's circle; some had sexual relationships with BURGESS which would make interesting copy for certain newspapers. We have nevertheless thought it right to limit the paper to those who have had a special connection with BLUNT himself. One cannot foresee how the press will move; but in the case of the others it is a fact that they attracted no substantial attention when publicity was focussed on the earlier cases.

M. B. Hanley

Enclosure : 1 (16 pages)

TOP SECRET



DRAFT PARLIAMENTARY STATEMENT ON THE BLUNT CASE AND  
SUGGESTED ANSWERS TO POSSIBLE SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

A. DRAFT STATEMENT

Sir Anthony BLUNT confessed to the Authorities some years ago that like his friends, BURGESS and PHILBY he became an agent of Russian Intelligence during the 1930s at Cambridge and was privy to the defection of BURGESS and MACLEAN in 1951. In addition to providing information about Russian Intelligence activities and his association with BURGESS, MACLEAN and PHILBY, BLUNT collaborated with the Security Service in counter-espionage operations some of which are continuing. He was a member of the Security Service from 1940 to 1945; thereafter he held no post affording access to classified information. It would not be in the national interest to reveal further details.

B. POSSIBLE SUPPLEMENTARIES AND SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. When did BLUNT confess ?

It would not be in the national interest to disclose details concerning BLUNT's confession which has a continuing significance in counter-espionage operations.

/BLUNT confessed on 23 April 1964. Since then, he has been interviewed by the Security Service on about seventy occasions./

2. Why was BLUNT not prosecuted ?

It was decided at the outset that the greater public interest lay in securing a confession from BLUNT. The Attorney General has recently considered the facts again and has confirmed this decision.



- 2 -

✓Prior to BLUNT's confession in April 1964 the Security Service was unable to discover evidence on the basis of which charges could be brought. REES' information did not establish that BLUNT had committed criminal offences; and BLUNT himself made no admissions during the course of the interviews with him. The likelihood of any admissible evidence emerging relating to events many years earlier had become remote. The Acting Director of Public Prosecutions was consulted on 14 April 1964 and he in turn referred to the Attorney General. Inducements were offered to BLUNT in order to obtain a confession and on 23 April 1964 he confessed. Neither at this time nor subsequently did any independent evidence become available establishing the truth of the admissions of criminal acts which BLUNT made in his confession.✓

3. Was BLUNT protected by former colleagues in the Security Service ?

No.

✓Part of the answer lies in the decision referred to in the answer to 2 above. For the rest, although BLUNT remained friendly with colleagues of the war years in the Security Service, such as Guy Liddell and Sir Dick White, he was not protected by them. When the Goronwy REES allegation was received in 1951 a detailed investigation was initiated.✓

4. Is it not true that Goronwy REES informed the Authorities in 1951 that BURGESS had told him BLUNT was a Russian agent ? Why was no action taken at the time ?

The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The answer to the second part is that action was taken.

✓Goronwy REES informed the Security Service on 6 June

/.....



- 3 -

1951 that in about 1937 BURGESS had attempted to recruit him on behalf of a secret department of the Comintern to supply confidential political information. REES said that BURGESS had told him that BLUNT was one of his sources. Confronted with this allegation BLUNT stated he had not known BURGESS was working for the Comintern and had believed he was working for British Intelligence.

Following REES' allegations the Security Service began an investigation of BLUNT's activities. A telephone check was imposed and BLUNT was interviewed at length by members of the Security Service on a number of occasions. While denying any involvement with the Russians he supplied a good deal of information about BURGESS' activities and associates. Goronwy REES was himself investigated by the Security Service and re-interviewed in July 1951 and again in 1956. A note on Goronwy REES is included in the Appendix to this Annex.]

5. Was the Palace informed about BLUNT's record by the Security Authorities ?

Yes. The Queen's Private Secretary was informed and co-operated with the Security Service on the case.

[In April 1964 Sir Michael Adeane was told that fresh and important information had been received and that BLUNT was to be seen and invited to confess. Sir Michael Adeane said he did not propose to tell anybody else about the case but he asked to be warned if there was any possibility of publicity arising.

Sir Michael Adeane was brought up to date on the case in October 1967 when the Sunday Times 'Insight' team was engaged in a study of the BURGESS and PHILBY story and it was thought that there was a risk of publicity.]

/.....



- 4 -

6. Why was BLUNT allowed to hold a post in the Royal Household after his past relationship with the Russian Intelligence Service was known?

The post which BLUNT held in the Royal Household did not afford him any access to classified information and the greater public interest lay in no change becoming apparent in his overt status.

[BLUNT received the customary recognition for his services in the Royal Household, being made C.V.O. in 1947 and K.C.V.O. in 1956.]

7. Did BLUNT confess to recruiting any other spies for the Russians or did he name any others whom he knew to be Russian agents?

See answer to 1 above.

[In his confession BLUNT admitted to recruiting three Cambridge contemporaries. These were:

Brian SIMON who served in the G.H.Q. Liaison Regiment, an intelligence unit, during the war. Afterwards he became a lecturer at Leicester University and is now its Professor of Education. He is a prominent member of the Communist Party of Great Britain and has been on its National Executive Committee since 1957.

Leo LONG who worked in M.I.14 during the war and subsequently in the Intelligence Organisation in Germany until 1952. Since then he has been employed in the film industry.

Michael Whitney STRAIGHT who worked for the U.S. State Department and the Department of the Interior from about 1938 to 1940 and served in the U.S. Air Force during the war. He is now Deputy Chairman of the Arts Council in the United States and an influential political

/.....



- 5 -

supporter of President Nixon. It was STRAIGHT's statement to the F.B.I. that BLUNT had recruited him which led to BLUNT's confession.

BLUNT also said he had been active in the Thirties and during the war, in conjunction with BURGESS, in talent-spotting for the R.I.S. Specifically, he said he had talent-spotted, though he had not recruited, John CAIRNCROSS who served in the Foreign Office and the Treasury from 1936 to 1952 except for a period between 1942 and 1945 in M.I.6. In 1964 in the United States, CAIRNCROSS who no longer lives in this country, admitted having been recruited by the R.I.S. in 1936 and spying until 1951.

A Security Service research team which was set up to investigate the Ring of Five and related cases had considerable success aided by BLUNT's information in identifying other personalities and activities of the network. BLUNT made a material contribution to the examination of approximately one hundred possible cases, in particular that of Alister WATSON, a senior Admiralty scientist who was removed from a sensitive post after it had been concluded that BURGESS had recruited him in the 1930s.]

8. Was BLUNT the "Fourth" (or the "Fifth") man ?

I cannot go any further than confirm that he was, for a time, like MACLEAN and BURGESS and PHILBY, a Russian spy.

[The Press has speculated about the existence of a "Fourth Man" who was connected with BURGESS, MACLEAN and PHILBY and BLUNT could fit this description. The idea of a "Fifth Man" relates to the "Ring of Five" referred to by a Russian defector; it is not known if the Press has any details of this.]

/.....





- 6 -

9. Did BLUNT help PHILBY to defect ?

No.

/BLUNT helped PHILBY to renew contact with the Russian Intelligence Service between 1951 and 1956. He also visited PHILBY in Beirut in 1961 or 1962. However he played no part in PHILBY's defection from Beirut in 1963./

10. Did BLUNT confess before PHILBY defected ? If so, why was his evidence not used to prosecute PHILBY ?

I cannot add to the information about BLUNT's confession which I have already given.

/BLUNT's confession was in 1964, a year after PHILBY's defection./

11. When did BLUNT cease to be a Russian spy ?

I cannot add to the information already given.

/BLUNT has said that he has had no contact with the Russians since 1956; the Security Service has no information to the contrary although strong doubts remain as to whether BLUNT has told the whole truth about his R.I.S. connections./

12. Did BLUNT occupy a flat during the war in the possession of the present Head of the Central Policy and Review Staff (C.P.R.S.), Lord ROTHSCHILD ?

BLUNT lived during the war in a flat of which the lease was for a time held by Lord ROTHSCHILD. He was Lord ROTHSCHILD's guest in the flat for a brief period and then with others took on the flat.

/.....



- 7 -

Lord ROTHSCHILD held a lease on a flat at No. 5 Bentinck Street. He lived there with his first wife until the autumn of 1940. BLUNT, who had been staying with them since he was evacuated from France in May, then stayed on in the flat. BLUNT was joined by the present Lady ROTHSCHILD and the present Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES who had been bombed out of their previous flat. In the Spring of 1941, after the lease had been re-negotiated, BURGESS moved in as a fourth occupant to relieve the burden of rent on the other three.

13. Did Guy BURGESS, the present Lady ROTHSCHILD and Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES share this flat with BLUNT ?

Yes. Both Lady ROTHSCHILD and Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES have given the Authorities an account of their acquaintance with BLUNT and BURGESS.

See the attached notes on Lord and Lady ROTHSCHILD and Lord and Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES.

C. CONCLUSIONS

Any further supplementaries and particularly any attempts to involve BLUNT's former friends and acquaintances might be countered with a reply on the following lines:

The Security authorities have undertaken much work on this case and there are good reasons in the interest of national security why no further information can be provided. But I must make it clear that I regard insinuations against any person solely on account of acquaintance with BLUNT or BURGESS as regrettable and I would not wish my refusal to provide further information to be taken as confirming or condoning these insinuations.

January 1973



Attached are notes on the following whose past connection with Sir Anthony BLUNT might be the subject of public comment if publicity were given to his connection with the Russian Intelligence Service:-

- (a) Lord ROTHSCHILD
- (b) Lady ROTHSCHILD
- (c) Lord LLEWELYN-DAVIES
- (d) Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES
- (e) Sir Dennis PROCTOR
- (f) Professor Stuart HAMPSHIRE

2. Also attached is a note on Goronwy REES, a likely source of public comment about BLUNT's connection with the Russian Intelligence Service (see Question 4).

January 1973

TOP SECRET



Lord ROTHSCHILD

Victor ROTHSCHILD was an undergraduate at Trinity College Cambridge between 1929 and 1932 and returned as a Fellow of Trinity College from 1935 until 1939. During these periods he became friendly with Guy BURGESS and Anthony BLUNT. But, although his political views were probably left wing, there is no evidence that he had communist sympathies either then or at any subsequent time.

2. In May 1940 Lord ROTHSCHILD joined the Security Service and in July 1940 he sponsored Anthony BLUNT for similar employment. At the time BLUNT was staying with Lord ROTHSCHILD at a flat he leased at 5 Bentinck Street. Shortly afterwards Lord ROTHSCHILD left London and the flat was occupied by Anthony BLUNT, Tess MAYOR and Pat RAWDON-SMITH (now Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES). In April or May 1941 Guy BURGESS moved in. Lord ROTHSCHILD was a frequent visitor to the flat during the war and in 1946 married Tess MAYOR.

3. In 1951 at the time of the defection of BURGESS and MACLEAN Lord ROTHSCHILD volunteered information about them to the Security Service. He has subsequently collaborated with the Security Service in the continued enquiries into BURGESS and his associates. He is particularly closely concerned with the BLUNT case and told the Security Service in November 1965 that he was aware of BLUNT's confession; since that date he has on occasion assisted in discussions with BLUNT.

January 1973.

TOP SECRET



Lady ROTHSCHILD

Lady ROTHSCHILD, formerly Tess MAYOR, was at Newnham College Cambridge from 1935 until 1938. There is no evidence that she has ever held communist sympathies but she did, whilst at Cambridge, have friends who were Communists and in 1936 she became a close friend of Brian SIMON, son of Lord SIMON of Wythenshawe, who was an active member of the Communist Party and is still a leading Communist; SIMON is now Professor of Education at Leicester University. BLUNT has said that he recruited SIMON to work as a Comintern agent probably in 1938.

2. In 1940 Tess MAYOR and her friend Pat RAWDON-SMITH (now Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES) moved into the flat at 5 Bentinck Street which they shared with Anthony BLUNT and, after April or May 1941, with Guy BURGESS.

3. Tess MAYOR joined the Security Service in July 1940 on the recommendation of Lord ROTHSCHILD and worked as his secretary; she married Lord ROTHSCHILD in 1946.

4. Since 1951 she has collaborated with her husband in helping the Security Service in their enquiries into BURGESS and his associates; and like her husband is particularly closely involved in the case of BLUNT with whom she has been friendly since before the war.

January 1973.



Lord LLEWELYN-DAVIES

Richard LLEWELYN-DAVIES who was at Trinity College Cambridge from 1931 until 1934 joined the Communist Party in 1933. After he came down he was a leading member of a communist group in the Architectural Association. During the war he pursued his profession and in 1942 became architect to the L.M.S. Railway; it is not thought that he had access to any significant classified information in this capacity.

2. In 1942 LLEWELYN-DAVIES went to live temporarily at the flat at 5 Bentinck Street shared at that time by Anthony BLUNT, Guy BURGESS, Tess MAYOR (now Lady ROTHSCHILD) and Pat RAWDON-SMITH. In 1943 he married Pat RAWDON-SMITH and they both moved away from this flat.

3. In the mid-1960s the Security Service investigated with the help of BLUNT, Alister WATSON who had been a scientific officer in the Admiralty since the early part of the war. WATSON is considered to have been recruited as an R.I.S. agent in the 1930s. In 1967 he was interrogated by the Security Service and described a visit before the war to BURGESS' flat in company with LLEWELYN-DAVIES. A proposition was made to him there by a man believed to have been the R.I.S. controller of BURGESS, MACLEAN and PHILBY. WATSON claimed that either Anthony BLUNT or LLEWELYN-DAVIES was present when the proposition was made.

4. Anthony BLUNT has said that he is convinced LLEWELYN-DAVIES must have been involved in espionage.

5. LLEWELYN-DAVIES was interviewed twice in 1972 but denied any involvement with the R.I.S. and all knowledge of the meeting described by WATSON. He appeared not to know (and was not informed) of BLUNT's espionage.

January 1973.

TOP SECRET



Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES

When she was at Cambridge (1934-1938) Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES, formerly Pat RAWDON-SMITH, was politically very active on the left wing of the Labour Party. Although she did not herself join the Communist Party she associated closely with Communists and in 1937 delivered on behalf of one of these associates a letter to the Paris office of a Comintern organisation.

2. She met Anthony BLUNT in about 1935 through her first husband, Alexander RAWDON-SMITH. She formed a close friendship with BLUNT and through him met Guy BURGESS. She saw both BLUNT and BURGESS fairly frequently both in Cambridge and London between 1936 and 1938.

3. In 1940 she moved into the flat at 5 Bentinck Street which she shared with BLUNT, the present Lady ROTHSCHILD and Guy BURGESS until 1943 when she married Richard LLEWELYN-DAVIES.

4. During and after the war she worked as Private Secretary to Philip NOEL-BAKER in the Ministry of War Transport, the Air Ministry and the Commonwealth Relations Office.

5. Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES was interviewed in 1972 and denied any knowledge of R.I.S. activities.

January 1973.

TOP SECRET



Philip Dennis FROCTOR

Sir Dennis PROCTOR served in the Treasury from 1930 to 1950. He then became Managing Director of a commercial shipping firm, but returned to the Treasury in 1953. In 1958 he was appointed Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Fuel and Power. He retired to the south of France in 1965.

2. He met PHILBY, BLUNT and BURGESS in Cambridge in about 1929 or 1930, and has told the Security Service that either BLUNT or PHILBY introduced him to Marxism in about 1930; he said in 1966 that he was still a Marxist. He became a close friend of both BURGESS and BLUNT, and others of their circle, and a regular visitor to the Bentinck Street flat where they lived.

3. FROCTOR has admitted that he discussed official matters very freely with BURGESS both before and during the war and was influenced by his views. BLUNT has said that BURGESS had no need to recruit PROCTOR as he could readily obtain all the information he required from him.

January 1973.





Professor Stuart HAMPSHIRE

Professor Stuart HAMPSHIRE was an undergraduate at Oxford (Balliol College) from 1933 to 1936 and a Fellow of All Souls from 1936 until 1940. During the war he was employed

[redacted] relating to the German Intelligence Service. From 1945 until 1947 he worked as Personal Assistant to Mr. Philip NOEL-BAKER during the period when the latter was Secretary of State for Air. In this post HAMPSHIRE was a colleague of Lady LLEWELYN-DAVIES and Lady ROTHSCHILD. In 1961 HAMPSHIRE conducted a review of G.C.H.Q. operations.

2. In 1965 it was established that HAMPSHIRE had been a close friend of Anthony BLUNT and Guy BURGESS since the mid-1930s and had held extremely left wing views before the war. HAMPSHIRE was in consequence interviewed and confirmed his friendship with BLUNT and BURGESS. He also said that in the 1930s he had been introduced by BLUNT in Paris to James KLUGHANN and he acknowledged that the introduction might have been a "looking over exercise". (At the time BLUNT was engaged in talent spotting for the R.I.S. and KLUGHANN (who is now a well known member of the Communist Party of Great Britain) was also involved with the R.I.S.). HAMPSHIRE said that after the Paris trip BURGESS had suggested to him that he work for the Comintern but that he had turned down the proposal.

3. HAMPSHIRE's case was discussed with BLUNT in 1966; the latter said that HAMPSHIRE had been a valuable unconscious source of both BURGESS and himself during the war and possibly of BURGESS after the war. BLUNT thought it possible that some of HAMPSHIRE's indiscretions had been deliberate.

4. In 1969 HAMPSHIRE was asked why he had not earlier reported his knowledge and doubts about BURGESS. He said that the late Mr. Cuy LINDSAY (Deputy Director General of the Security Service in the early 1950s) and Sir Dick WHITE (who was at the same time in charge of the Counter-Espionage Branch of the Security Service) had been aware of these doubts

TOP SECRET



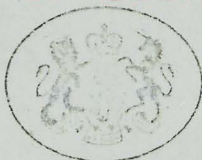
- 2 -

at the material time. Sir Dick WHITE has said that this was not so.

5. In 1971 HAMPSHIRE was proposed as a consultant to the Cabinet Office but was not granted a security clearance.

January 1973.

TOP SECRET

Goronwy REES

Goronwy REES was at New College Oxford from 1928 to 1931 and then became a Fellow of All Souls. He worked as a journalist on the Manchester Guardian and the Spectator from 1932 until the outbreak of war when he joined the Army and served in Intelligence. From July 1947 to May 1951 he acted as a part-time consultant [redacted]

[redacted] In 1953 he became Principal of the University College of Wales and since his resignation from that post in 1957 he has been a freelance writer and journalist.

2. REES has said he first met BURGESS in about 1932 and they remained close friends until 1951 apart from a disagreement over BURGESS' apparent swing to Fascism between 1935 and 1937. REES held left wing views but is not known ever to have joined the Communist Party.

3. In May 1951, very shortly after the defection of BURGESS and MACLEAN, REES volunteered to the Security Service the information that in 1937 BURGESS told him that he was working for a secret branch of the Comintern and that Anthony BLUNT was one of his sources of information. REES said that BURGESS asked him to help in the work, and that he had agreed to co-operate but was never asked to provide specific information, though he discussed with BURGESS whatever he knew; he had broken off the arrangement in 1939 at the time of the Russo-German Pact. REES said subsequently that Anthony BLUNT had tried to dissuade him from telling his story to the Security Service.

4. In 1956 a series of sensational articles about BURGESS based on a manuscript written by REES was published in "The People". REES embodied substantially the same material in a book entitled "A Chapter of Accidents" published in 1972.

January 1973.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 August 2023

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604582

Name/Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 SD Vol: 6

Serial: 941 Date of Despatch: 1/14/56

Extracted on: 1.3.73 By: JM

Section: K7/4

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: JB/1

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 30.1.73

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

22.52.

GEOF BENTON had appeared and was offered a couple of chops. Conversation continued on a variety of subjects which were of no consequence. During this JB. mentioned that GASKIN had gone to Morocco for three weeks.

Then later when talking of retirement JB. said that after very careful thought he had made up his mind that he would live in a small flat in the centre of London, where he would be near libraries, see a small circle of friends, and continue with his work and hobbies. He would be sad to leave this flat but would not be heartbroken to leave the job.

Recalling when his mother died he said that he had thought then very seriously of taking over her house but had decided that without a car it was too far from civilisation and he just could not take being away from all the things that interested him in the centre of London.

**TOP SECRET**

W.D.O. SECRET

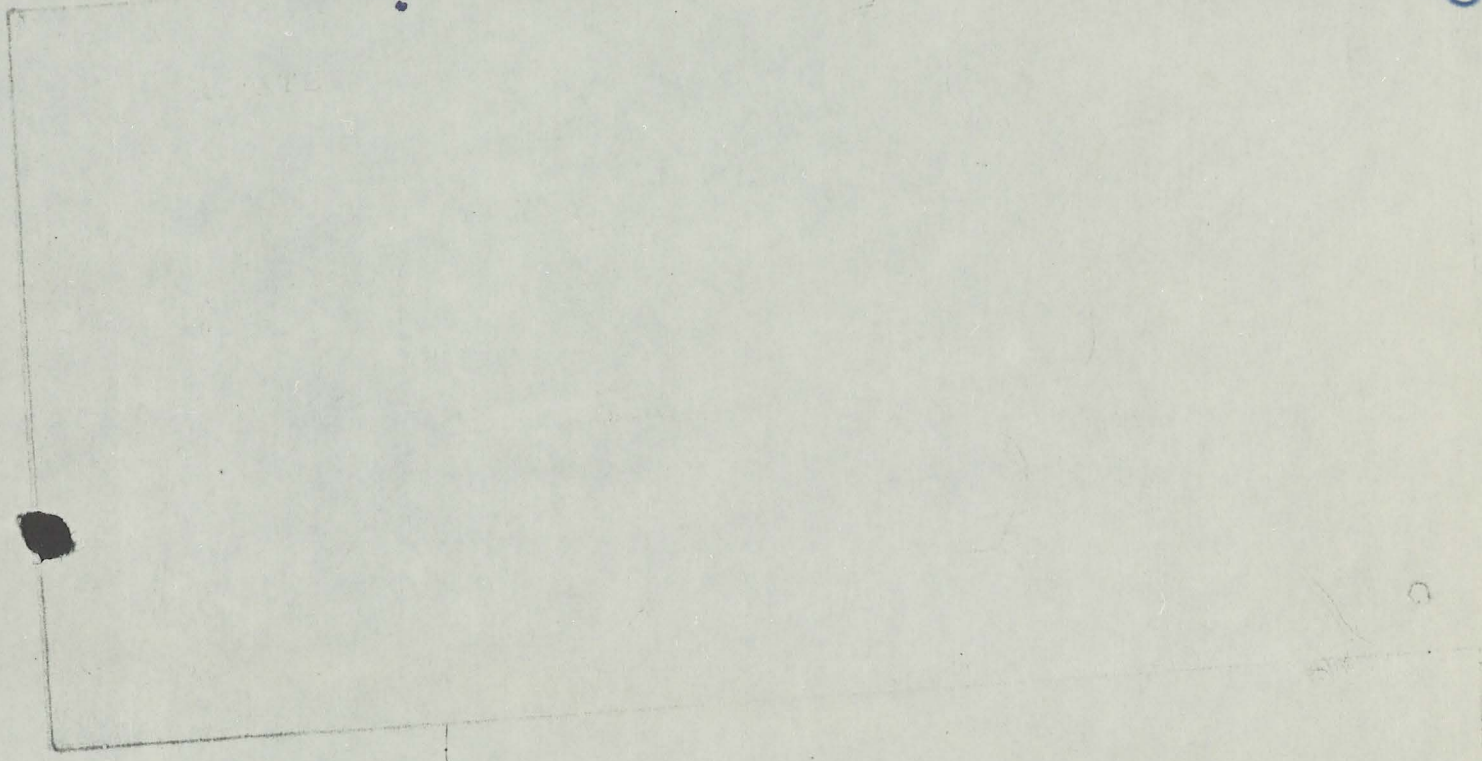
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127 JAN 1973

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27 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

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A.F. BLUNT ESQ. AD 995001.

Barclays Bank Limited  
PORTMAN SQUARE

DEPOSIT  
STATEMENT  
OF ACCOUNT

51083082



A F BLUNT ESQ  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON COURTAULD  
INSTITUTE OF ART,  
20 PORTMAN SQ,  
LONDON W.1.

POST

1972/ 2

DETAIL	PAYMENTS	RECEIPTS	DATE	BALANCE
BALANCE FORWARD	2000.00		22MAR	7635.43
	500.00		11APR	5635.43
			19MAY	5135.43
INTEREST	1000.00	41.17	30JUN	5176.60
			30AUG	4176.60
INTEREST		118.71	29DEC	4295.31
COUNTER CREDIT		470.89	2JAN	4766.20
COUNTER CREDIT		150.00	12JAN	4916.20

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STO STANDING ORDER

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DDR DIRECT DEBIT

OVERDRAWN BALANCE ARE INDICATED BY THE LETTERS DR

1144ab

NOTE FOR FILE  
PF. 604582

According to PHIDIAS, BLUNT continues to receive regularly from East Germany the Foreign Affairs Bulletin published by the Press and Information Department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry of the GDR. The last issue to reach him was dated 28th December 1972.

*M. Fleay*

M Fleay

K7  
26.1.73

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1144 ab.

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



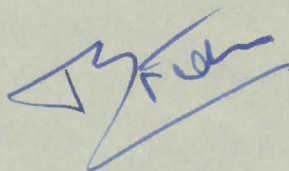
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PF 604582

NOTE FOR FILE

I gave S.L.O. Washington on 23 January an account of recent developments in the BLUNT case leading to the present discussions with Sir Burke Trend and the preparation of a submission to the Prime Minister.


2. The S.L.O. said that he would like to brief Angleton on these developments and I said that I would seek approval for him to do so when the final decision on the submission to the Prime Minister and possibly to other Ministers had been reached.



J.A. Cradock

K.7./0

24 January, 1973



SECRET  
EXTRACT

11436

Extract for File No. : PF 604.582 Name :  
Original in File No. : PF 604.582 Supp A Vol. : 23 Serial : 3150 Receipt Date : 29.1.73  
Original from : TOWROPE Under Ref. : 4304 Dated : 19.1.73  
Extracted on : 29.1.73 by : TM Section : K7

O/G BLUNDEN to BEN NICHOLSON 229 2799.

Calling off today's luncheon arrangement because GASKIN has bronchitis and he himself has a cold.

08.51

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

SECRET

SECRET  
EXTRACT

11436

Extract for File No. : PF. 604,582 .....Name : .....  
Original in File No. : \* PF. 604,582 Supp A .....Vol. : 23 .....Serial : 3152 .....Receipt Date : 24.1.73  
Original from : TOWROPE .....Under Ref. : 4304 .....Dated : 21.1.73  
Extracted on : 29.1.73 .....by : JM .....Section : K7

I/C JOHN AVORY to BLUNDEN.

BLUNDEN explains that neither he nor GASKIN are well but he might contact AVORY next weekend.

21.03

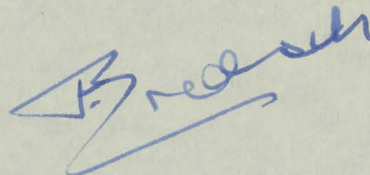
\*If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner

NOTE FOR FILE

The D.G. discussed the latest drafts on the BLUNT case at 1140a with KX, K/Adv, K.3., Sect/ Home and K.7. on 23 January. It was agreed

- (a) that Sir Burke Trend's proposed submission provided the Prime Minister with all the information which he needed to know about the case and that it did so in a generally satisfactory manner
- (b) that it should be suggested to Sir Burke Trend in the covering letter that he should warn the Prime Minister that although our papers provided a full account of the case and of the Ring of Five generally we could not rule out the possibility of unpleasant surprises if and when the BLUNT story broke. We did not think that either BLUNT or the others we had seen in the extensive Ring of Five enquiries had told the whole truth and we should also be prepared for the R.I.S. to seek to exploit to their own advantage any publicity on the subject
- (c) that more should be made of the value of BLUNT's work with the Security Service since his confession particularly in the WATSON case and possibly in the CAIRNCROSS case. This could best be done by expanding the last paragraph of the square bracketed section at the end of the proposed Question 7 in Annex D
- (d) that some comparatively minor amendments already agreed between KX, K.3. and K.7. should be made to the Appendix to Annex D; that the position regarding HAMPSHIRE's PV clearance and BLUNT's period of

residence in the ROTHSCHILD flat  
should be checked. An additional  
note on Goronwy REES should also  
be added to this Appendix.



J.A. Cradock

K.7./0

24 January, 1973

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name/Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 SuppD Vol: 6 Serial: 924 Date of Despatch: 23.1.73

Extracted on: 29.1.73 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 17.1 73

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19.43.

When discussing their families - GEOFF spoke of his first. JB. then spoke of his. His grandfather had been a poet and a bishop. Then he referred to a WILFRED (?? uncle) who had become a Moslem, which had shocked his grandfather so much that he refused to see any of the family. The WILFRED in question having caused a great deal of trouble in Cambridge then took up and became deeply involved in Home Rule in Ireland - this was in the '90s. He had apparently died when JB. was at school and JB. related incident of a quarrel between this WILFRED and his wife which had ended in the Courts.

20.06.

GEOFF asked how JB. was finding it now he was back at full stretch again? JB. reflected (pondering) that he was all right but he got a little tired. He added that he seemed to get more irritated - or was it perhaps that he had tended to lose touch.? His mind was all right but he did find that he definitely needed to sleep for an hour after lunch - that was an absolute necessity. After further reflection he decided that, in fact, what he did resent more and more was having to spend time off as an invalid - but that was the way of it.

**TOP SECRET**

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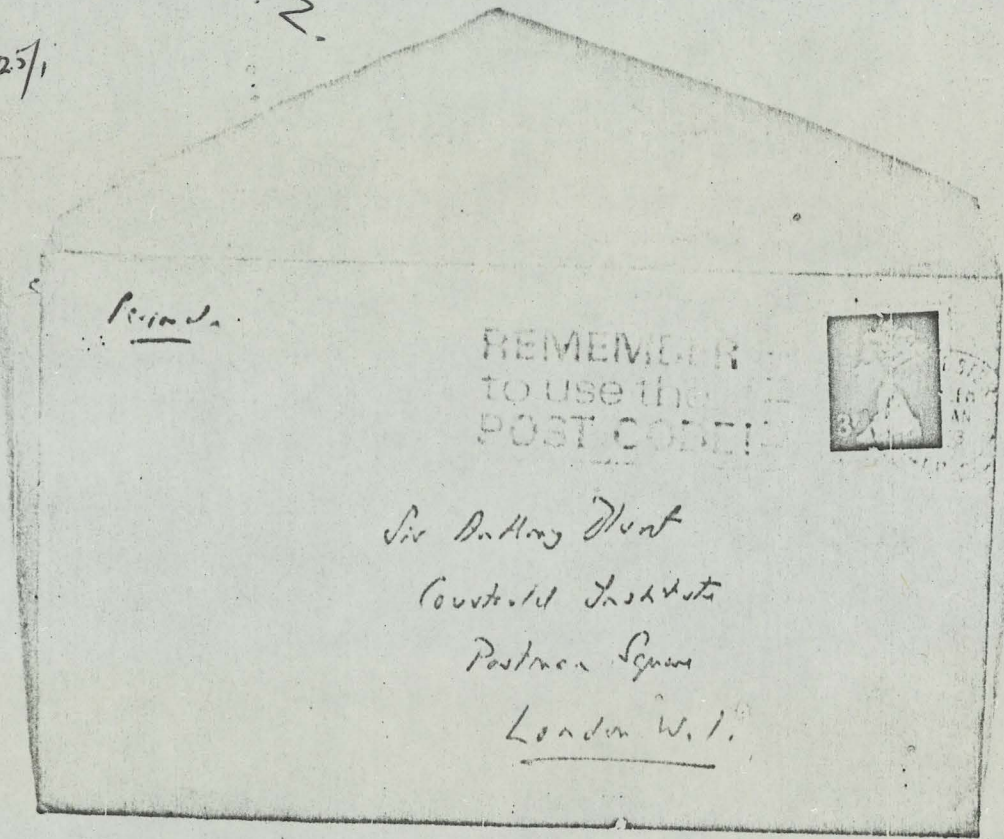
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W.D.O. SECRET

23 JAN 1973

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25/1



W.D.O. SECRET

323

23 JAN 1973

11 PENDENE ROAD, LEICESTER, LE2 3DQ  
Phone: Leicester 705176

18/1/73

Dear Anthony,

I thought the Queen's Gallery exhibition was brilliantly done. There was quite a lot of people there but you didn't interrupt as one has to go so close.

Your catalogue also was exceptionally helpful & for a pedagogical standpoint, deserves an alpha plus. Some of the drawings are really extraordinary. My best regards will come.

Love  
John



23 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

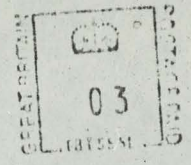
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22

*Ja.  
ff 604.582  
a. 2/2.*

*1/4 Ed*

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Sir Anthony Blunt K.C.V.O.  
Courtauld Institute of Art  
20 Portman Square  
London W1H 0BE

123

W.D.O. SECRET

23 JAN 1973

TELEPHONE 01-606 6677

TELE: 885400

FRESHFIELDS

- SIR CHARLES WHISHAW
- H M DICKIE
- G T CLARK
- G L STEEDINGS
- L G G WARDLAW
- T C H WASTALLACH
- M S PEPPIATT
- J S HEMINGWAY
- A S J SMITH
- H B POTT
- P C PENNIE
- D D BATES
- D A REICHERN
- D A WHALLEY
- J M GRIEVE
- J M ROMANES
- J M HUNTER
- B J C SHUTTLEWORTH
- J H MCCALL
- H W BIGGIN
- R W HARRIS
- W N PARKER
- P M LEUNARD

*Grindall House,  
25, Newgate Street,  
London, EC4A 7LH*

*With Sir Charles Wishaw's Compliments*

With Peter Brinson I met Sir Anthony Blunt this morning to discuss the steps which we might take to carry this matter a little further.

In accordance with your suggestion we plan to see the University Grants Committee, but our conversation will be much more worthwhile if I have with me the paper which your Department is preparing on the whole subject of conservation. As I mentioned when I had luncheon with you and in my letter of 14th December, the Foundation's concern is to satisfy itself that Sir Anthony Blunt's proposal would play an important and perhaps even essential part in the Government's plans. With such a paper before us we could discuss the position much more fully with the University Grants Committee than we could possibly do without an indication of this kind. I hope therefore that I may be receiving your paper at an early date.

I heard today that the property which adjoins the Courtauld Institute and which Sir Anthony Blunt hoped might be available for his plans is now being modernised. I believe that Sir Max Rayne had shown an interest and sympathy with the plan when you discussed it with him, but it may be that the company which owns the property is going ahead with its own plans without regard to what we all have in mind. I wonder whether you could be in touch with Sir Max Rayne to see whether for the time being at all events the situation is kept open. Without that particular property the project will become infinitely more difficult.

Yours sincerely,  
(Sgt.) CHARLES E. WHISHAW  
Sir Charles Wishaw

The Rt. Hon. the Viscount Eccles K.C.V.O.  
c.c. Sir Anthony Blunt K.C.V.O.  
Peter Brinson Esq.

23 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

323

22nd January 1972

CIN/MJS

Dear Lord Eccles,

Institute of Conservation

With Peter Brinson I met Sir Anthony Blunt this morning to discuss the steps which we might take to carry this matter a little further.

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Yours sincerely,

(Sgt.) CHARLES E. WHISHAW  
Sir Charles Whishaw

The Rt. Hon. the Viscount Eccles K.C.V.O.

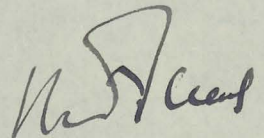
c.c. Sir Anthony Blunt K.C.V.O.  
Peter Brinson Esq.

11420

NOTE FOR FILE

I have discussed with Betty Howell of A.2.A. her transcriptions of the BLUNT/SIMON meeting at serial

2. She said that there was considerable background noise at the beginning of the conversation but later the line improved and she was able to hear reasonably well.
3. She was aware that while BLUNT was very much his usual assured self there was a slight element on SIMON's part of his feeling his way. She would not be surprised if he paid BLUNT another visit.
4. She was surprised at the sudden way in which they both seemed to get to their feet and walk out of the drawing room at the end of the conversation. The explanation might lie in SIMON's vague, almost absent-minded, way of behaving (referred to in the subsequent conversation between BLUNT and GASKIN) - or in there having been some visual exchange between SIMON and BLUNT.
5. Betty Howell thought that SIMON may have
  - (a) said something more significant to BLUNT during the 5 minutes or so in which he was being shown to the front door;
  - (b) wanted to explore the possibility of further contact and discussion with BLUNT on some future occasion; or
  - (c) simply wanted to see how BLUNT was after his illness and personally to wish him a good recovery.
6. I take the opportunity to note here that during the afternoon, after his meeting with BLUNT, SIMON went to King Street for a Party Committee meeting. This information is from F.l.A. through K.3./EWP.

  
M. Fleay

K.7./4  
23 January, 1973

NOTE FOR FILE

At serial 1119b are copies of reports of two interviews with Richard LEVEN (PF 647398).

2. On 29 December 1972 it was learned from M.O.D. Press Department that the Sunday Express was proposing to run a story about LEVEN's knowledge of BURGESS and MACLEAN, LEVEN's interviews with representatives of M.O.D. and the implication that the BURGESS/MACLEAN case was being reopened.

3. Admiral Denning who was also consulted by the Sunday Express was instructed to say it was not true that this case was being reopened and that routine enquiries were made from time to time.

4. Within the next few days several newspapers including the Daily Mail, Daily Mirror and Daily Telegraph enquired about the story. This showed that LEVEN must have been in touch with a press agency.

5. The emphasis in the Press enquiries increasingly turned to the involvement of a "Fourth Man". Todd of the Daily Mirror told Admiral Denning that LEVEN was going around saying BLUNT had been in M.I.5. and a friend of BURGESS and was therefore the "Fourth Man" who had warned BURGESS. However, according to Denning, Todd had said the Mirror's lawyers would never allow such an allegation to be published.

6. On 3 January 1973 the D.G. sent Mr. A.W. Peterson of the Home Office a note summarizing the information about LEVEN and what had been learned from the interviews (paragraph 1). The note included a reference to the suspicion being voiced by LEVEN from his knowledge of the BURGESS circle that BLUNT was the "Fourth Man".

7. By 9 January no published version of LEVEN's story had been found.

*M. Fleay*

M. Fleay.

K.7./4

23 January, 1973

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name / Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D. Vol: 6

Serial: 844 Date of Despatch:

Extracted on: 1.2.73 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K.7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 19.11.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

19.33. After a slight pause in this JB. asked BRIAN if he would consent to ~~me~~ grant a favour. He did not have to say yes or no now but JB. explained he just had to tidy up his will and asked if BRIAN would act as second executor. There would be an awful lot of business regarding capital Gains tax and JOHN GOLDING who was another executor would not know much about this. BRIAN consented and added the reminder that JB. was in fact one of his executors. He had been for twelve years. JB. did in fact remember this.

19.39 JB. went on to relate that he was going to look at a flat in the Albany which had come up. It was not exactly on offer as it someone else had first claim The disadvantage was that it was on the ground floor which made it very dark but on the other hand there would be more room. The rent was £1500 per year and with service and rates would work out at £2000 per year. JB. added that it was assumed he would get alot for the pictures when sold. He had very little capital and did not yet know what his pension would be. BRIAN broke in to agree that the price of the Albany was not excessive. JB. was please to hear this and especially so as he

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# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

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Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol:

Serial: :

Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

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did not really want to move very far from this locality. BRIAN was of the opinion that it was a good thing now not to spend capital and if JB. could get  $3\frac{1}{2}$  on half a million this was quite alot of money as income - he would lose half this in tax but it was still quite alot of money. JB. said he had had a brief conversation with his brother CHRISTOPHER who had been against buying an annuity and had advised investing the money. Then if JB. needed to he could spend a thousand pound a year by selling that amount of capital. BRIAN again agreed hat this was quite right. He raised that question of capital gains on the picture concerned and they both worked out that this would depend on what the picture would have been worth in 1964.

19.44.

He was planning to sell this through COLINAGHI's as the picture was given to him by JACOB's (ROTHSCHILD) father. BRIAN queried this and JB. related story of the POUSSIN, giving details of how this was acquired.

He happened to be walking down Bury Street and saw the picture. He went into the shop and asked for a photograph and they inadvertently gave him a photograph with the price on the back. This was £8.

He had been extremely broke at the time so went

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol:

Serial: :

Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

away to think it over. At this time he happened to be very, very close to VICTOR (ROTHSCHILD) indeed and had asked him if - as a good investment - he would like to buy a picture for £8. He had had no reaction from VICTOR and had thought no more about it. A fortnight later - through GUY (BURGESS) as VICTOR did not want his name to appear in the transaction - the picture was bought and VICTOR presented it to him. The picture had gone up £20 in the interim period. JB. added that VICTOR was perfectly happy about the picture being sold. BRIAN thought this a splendid story.

19.48.

Conversation continued on picture and drawings. Then it seemed of other pictures here which would be moved round to make room for one so that it could have the whole wall to itself and might look rather grand. (A bit difficult to follow - not sure if this would be the POUSSIN or another picture.)

Joke about having to get two strong boys - RAY GIBBS and another - to carry picture up.

19.55.

Digression on mother trouble by BRIAN.

20.01.

JB. told BRIAN that when he retired this flat would become part of the library and he would be the last Director to live in it. Lucky the potential Directors would not want to live here.

*to surely  
Victor thought  
about baby  
to Anna!*

**TOP SECRET**



13 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

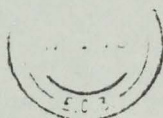
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LONDON, EC3R 6EN

16 JAN 1973

Telephone, Telex and Telegrams unchanged

A/C. Ref.	Invoice No. <b>113173</b>	Contract No. 608/OC112
-----------	---------------------------	------------------------

Original Certificate No. **101774**

The Insured **SIR ANTHONY ELUNT and W.J. GASKIN ESQ.**

The Private Dwelling House(s) or Flat(s)  
**20, Portman Square, London. W.1.**

Period of Insurance **1st January 1973** to **31st December, 1973** Both days inclusive.  
and for such further period or periods as may be mutually agreed upon.

Class-HC	Sums Insured and Premiums under each Section				
	1. Buildings	2. Contents	3, 4 & 5	6. *All Risks	7. Personal Liability
Sums Insured	NIL.	£ 12,000.	As Specified in Certificate	£ 21,700.	NIL.
Rate %	NIL.	0.30. 0.50 (Silver).		0.375.	NIL.

\*The Geographical Limits are The United Kingdom or as attached. As Defined in Section 6.

The Specification: **as attached.**  
**Values admitted, excluding breakage in respect of Item Nos. 10, 11 and 12.** Premium: **£ 118.40.**

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS ATTACHED.**

Service Charge **0.50.**  
Total Due **£ 118.90.**

Subject to the terms and conditions of the Certificate  
if this premium has not been paid, we request settlement within 30 days as we have to  
account to Insure's for the premium within that time

12 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

533

TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

AIR ANTHONY BLUNT and W.J. GASKIN ESQ.

COMPREHENSIVE and ALL RISKS.

Agreed that cover under Section 6 Item Nos. 1-13 is restricted to whilst contained in Courtauld Institute of Art Building at 20, Portman Square, London. W.1. and is subject to the Glass, Climatic Conditions and Process Clauses.

Agreed that Section 2 (Contents) subject to Special Exclusion 1 (KBP.1).

Agreed that the Sum Insured under Section 2 includes:

- (a) £ 6,000 on a Collection of Art Books.
  - (b) £ 500 on a Collection of Art and Architectural Photographs.
  - (c) £ 3,000 on a Collection of Art and Architectural Drawings.
  - (d) £ 500 on an Early George II Silver Water, Square with  
chaped corners. Value admitted.
-

17 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

534

SPECIFICATION 113173

Attaching to and forming part of Policy No.

In the Name of SIR ANTHONY BLUNT and V.J. GASKIN ESQ.

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	SUM INSURED
1.	deleted	
2.	Picture by Nicholas Poussin - "Landscape" ...	£ 10,000.
3.	Picture by Theodore Rousseau - "Chateau" ...	600.
4.	Picture by Theodore Rousseau - "Valley" ...	450.
5.	Picture by Theodore Rousseau - "Mountains" ...	700.
6.	Picture by Theodore Rousseau - "St. Peter" ...	250.
7.	Picture by the French School - "Pasiphae" ...	100.
8.	Picture by Le Moine - "Still Life" ...	100.
9.	Picture of Stozzovf ...	1,500.
10.	Picture by Canaccioli - "Roman Head" ...	500.
11.	Sculpture - "Palmyra Head" ...	300.
12.	Sculpture - "16th Century Head of Roman Emperor" ...	200.
13.	Picture by Antoinette Caron - "Astronomer Studying an Eclipse" ...	7,000.
14.	deleted.	
		£ 21,700.

SECRET  
EXTRACT

1142ab

Extract for File No.: PF 604.582 Name: .....

Original in File No.:\* PF 604.528 Supp. A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3146 Receipt Date: 19.1.73

Original from: TOWROPE Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 16.1.7

Extracted on: 29.1.73 by: JM Section: K7

O/G GASKIN to BRIAN SEWELL.

BLUNDEN takes over, after their chatter, and reminds BRIAN of their failure to pay him for a particular drawing. BRIAN admits he had forgotten. Discussion about drawings follows. BLUNDEN wishes to have a talk sometime about selling his engravings.

09.12

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

SECRET

11402a

Loose Minute

Copy: PF. 604,582

K3/EWP

*Spohy  
C.P. de W.*

*Perhaps we could discuss  
some time?*

*J. 17.1.73*

Here is the full transcript of the Saturday meeting. A copy has also gone to K. Adviser. Could you please return it after perusal. I will arrange for a copy to go on SIMON's file. Do you want any other extracting?

11404

*M. Fleay*  
M. Fleay

K.7/4

17.1.73

K7/4.

*Benny Hawkins - I do not  
think we would want any  
other extracting*

*J. K3/7. 22-1-73.*

NOTE FOR FILE

TOWROPE reports for Saturday 13th January 1973 show that during the morning, before Brian SIMON's visit for drinks at noon, BLUNT made a telephone call to Windsor Castle and three other personal calls, to two of which he obtained no reply.

2. In the afternoon (SIMON having left at 1 p.m.) BLUNT telephoned Ray GIBBS. He hoped they would be able to have a quiet evening together after GASKIN's departure for Morocco at the end of the month. This call was at 3.56 p.m. He made five further business/personal calls between then and 7.31 p.m. when the line went silent.

*M. Fleay*

M. Fleay

K.7/4

17th January, 1973

-Y-  
**AZURE**

M. K7 11404

Distribution

**TOP SECRET**

*not duplicate of  
1139 ab*


A2A Reference XJB/3	Responsible Desk K.7. MF	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Date of Despatch 17 JAN 1973
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Transcriber & Tel. Ext. E. Howell Ext 67 LH.	<b>WARNING - The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Desk Officer. For detailed instructions see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X)</b>
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Desk Officer Use

It was quiet in here until -

12.05. Movements. (Notes)

12.08. Brian SIMON and JB. in here now.  
(The beginning of conversation missed. It was presumed that JB. had gone out to to meet BRIAN and they came in together.) JB. had evidently been asked a question and possibly ?? mentioned the name NEVILLE (this was very phonetic as loud fire engines or ambulances made it almost ungettable just at this point.) Then it seemed they were looking at a picture and after the crescendo of noise from fire engine had died down it was apparent that this was so as JB. agreed that it was rather nice. BRIAN admired something - a picture? which JB. had given GASKIN on his 50th birthday. Then referring to a pile of papers presumably JB. said they were connected with research grants. He did the whole thing although they had a Selection Committee which was very small so he really did the whole thing. He got an enormous amount and range. He would look through them later but he did not think there was anyone remotely good, not who he could recommend. He read out from various applicants papers. Then from one of these he gave details of one called David John

**TOP SECRET**

A2A Reference XJB/3	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Page No. 2.	Desk Officer Use.
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12.14.

EDDISON (ph), aged 35, who was (or wanted) to study the teaching of art history in European Communist countries with particular reference to the use of public art galleries. BRIAN seemed interested in this angle and JB. read further details from application form. BRIAN asked for further details. JB. commented that the referees were rather obscure and the ~~visit~~ applicant evidently came from Bradford which was not a good art museum. Here BRIAN recalled that KAP or KATZ (ph)'s sister was there. JB. confirmed this and remarked that she had battled very loyally, adding that she was quite dotty and very exhausting. BRIAN agreed adding that they saw her occasionally. She had retired now and was now up in Kendal and was now studying some obscure lake district arch~~aeology~~ology (ph). JB. had remembered hearing that. BRIAN added that when they were up in the Lake District this summer they had passed her village and had decided not to go near her - he had felt rather guilty and laughingly made a further remark which seemed to indicate that they saw her occasionally. He then switched to ask ~~how~~ JB. how he was getting on. JB. reported marvellously and of the fact that he had taken last term off due to the operations. Then he gave amusing account of the trip to Menton in November. He had just come back from Rome. BRIAN enquired whether JB. would be all right now. JB. thought quite all right but just had to be rather careful as he got very easily tired - however he recovered very rapidly. BRIAN asked how the lectures to the surgeons went. JB. thought rather well and spoke of his surgeon Sir Edward MUIR in glowing terms. BRIAN enquired again - he supposed the whole thing had taken about six months. JB. replied to this by ~~give~~ giving list of the



Continuation

# AZURE

TOP SECRET

A2A Reference XJB/3	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Page No. 3.	Desk Officer Use.
12.20.	<p>chapter of accidents - damaging his knee and ankle - of the two operations but luckily being able to prepare the exhibition at the Queens Gallery while in hospital. He had enjoyed being in hospital doing the proof corrections undisturbed.</p> <p>He gave short description of the history of the drawing in the exhibition - of being acquired by Charles I and George III, of the choice and cataloguing. Then further about Royal collection and administration of this and the gallery. BRIAN question and listened with interest. He then asked how much longer JB. had got at the Institute. JB. told him another year and a half as he would retire in '74. He spoke of the policy of retirement and the fact that they were advertising for a successor now. (Piece missing owing to technical fault here.) It</p>		
12.26.	<p>seemed this was all to do with policy of retirement. Then JB. <del>xxx</del> emerged and had gone on to speak of the organisation of the various units within the London University and then gave details of the administration of the Institute and the Warburg. The possibility of these being absorbed into one of the big colleges. JB. very against this. He asked if BRIAN remembered John WHITE who was now at University College running art history dept. BRIAN did not seem to recall WHITE. JB. rattled on about the fact that this link was the only one they had within the University and any link with King's College was out of the question. He gave ramifications of this.</p>		
12.32.	<p>The only advantage would be of being physically nearer to the University but this would happen automatically when they moved in to their proposed new premises in Woburn Square. The plans were made for this but JB. had scotched these as they were so awful. JB. then told of how they had only come into this building by chance as the</p>		

TOP SECRET

A2A Reference XJB/3	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Page No. 4.	Desk Officer Use.
12.37.	<p>lease was handed to them by Sam COURT/AULD. He gave details of this. BRIAN remained JB. that he had lived in Woburn Square (??) for a year in one of the building which had not been destroyed. JB. spoke of buildings being deliberately left to decay.</p> <p>After a slight pause JB. went on to question BRIAN on his future - would he stay on until he retired. He thought he would stay on until 65. He gave details of organisation of the department and training of students etc. This at some length. Then they touched on staff ratio.</p>		
12.42.	<p>JB. spoke of his successor being confronted with a complete re-organisation when he took over. He reminded BRIAN that he had been here for 27 years. He had been connected with the place since '39, was deputy Director and then Director in '47. He spoke of expansion during the years and of finally having acquired the house next door. Lengthy account of this. Interruption at this juncture by GASKIN who came in. He was offered a drink which he declined but he stayed talking. He gave gossip about daily - Miss TROY, recording her most favourite Irish sayings. JB. and BRIAN very amused.</p>		
12.47.	<p>BRIAN was offered another drink which he declined. He asked after WILFRED (BLUNDEN). JB. gave a good account. BRIAN thought his latest book very good and well produced. BRIAN went on to speak of his daughter-in-law telling JB that she was a botanist. (Think GASKIN had disappeared again.)</p> <p>There was a brief pause and BRIAN told JB. that he had seen TESS the other day.</p> <p>BRIAN - I saw TESS the other day.</p> <p>JB. - She told me you were going to. Is she well?</p>		

# AZURE

TOP SECRET

A2A Reference XJB/3	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Page No. 5.	Desk Officer Use
<p>BRIAN - Yes she is fine - yes.</p> <p>JB. - Is she still ranting at VICTOR?</p> <p>BRIAN - (Laughingly) VICTOR is rather busy I expect.</p> <p>JB. - What about his report?</p> <p>BRIAN - Oh I think they think that is...</p> <p>JB. - (Breaking in.) Oh jolly good.</p> <p>BRIAN - It was greeted with cries of horror, and I think the best thing that could be said about it is....</p> <p>JB. - I gather it was greeted - or indeed before it came out - quarelled with fairly strongly by some of his closest friends in Cambridge, including ALAN.</p> <p>BRIAN - I would have thought ALAN yes.</p> <p>JB - ALAN is very anti and someone else whose name escaped me... and does a great deal of work who was sort of since my day. Er - he apparently said that VICTOR was fighting on both fronts the whole time.</p> <p>BRIAN - Probably a man called SWANN.</p> <p>JB. - Well, I think it might be. You I think that sound right.</p> <p>BRIAN - He was made - er - this chap/<sup>who</sup>was made Chairman of the Governors of..... poor chap.</p> <p>JB. - Oh was he - yes I see - I didn't realise that. Was he Chairman of the Governors?</p> <p>BRIAN - <sup>he got/into terrible trouble because</sup> he was..... he banned a repeat of the play which..... which people thought was censorship you see.....</p> <p>JB. Oh I see - not for moral or political reasons?</p> <p>BRIAN - Oh yes it was for those reasons - yes..... Um - but ALAN by the way is now/<sup>our</sup>Chancellor of the University, (little laugh) which is marvellous.</p> <p>JB. - Of course he is.</p> <p>BRIAN - It is <u>very</u> nice thank you very much. And President of the Royal Society. He comes up quite alot to see us.</p> <p>JB. + I saw him when he was first installed. They have some rather good pictures</p>			

TOP SECRET

Continuation

# AZURE

TOP SECRET

A2A Reference XJB/3	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Page No. 6.	Desk Officer Use.
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pictures and I went there for a drink".  
 Further about pictures and then after a slight  
 pause JB. reflected in rather ironic tone -  
 JB - "No, all our friends - in the end - we  
 are all becoming terribly - we are all the  
 Establishment - even you are the Establishment".  
 BRIAN replied to this remark in a more serious  
 note -  
 BRIAN - "A difficult situation .....  
 You find yourself in this sort of curious  
 situation then?"  
 JB. - "Yes, yes."  
 BRIAN - "And must learn how to operate it then?"  
 JB.- "Yes".  
 BRIAN - "Yes, that is true".  
 Then rather hurrying on as if to change subject  
 BRIAN asked where JB. would live after he retired.  
 He was told of the possibility of the ALBANY  
 Then story of the larger POUSSIN - now worth  
 two hundred thousand. Repitition of how he found  
 it and was given it by VICTOR. BRIAN knew the  
 story apparently. JB. then spoke of pension  
 and financial advice given him by CHRISTOPHER.  
 Here BRIAN suddenly got up and with no  
 preliminaries to departure they drifted from  
 the room still talking and voices faded grad-  
 ually into the distance.  
 JB. came back having presumably seen BRIAN off  
 (taking ten minutes ??) and their conversation  
 on his arrival and departure not available.  
 GASKIN had come in here and referring to BRIAN  
 remarked on his vagueness. JB. agreed that he  
 seemed very much unaware of other people.  
 Recalling his previous visit he said that on  
 that occasion BRIAN - in the middle of talking  
 to him - had just walked out. He did not say  
 goodbye or anything. JB. commented that it was  
 most extra-ordinary. It was not ill-will but  
 just total vagueness. Referring to BRIAN's  
 previous call again GASKIN recalled that

(inaud. sent-  
ence.)

13.00.

13.10.

13.12.

TOP SECRET

A2A Reference XJB/3	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Page No. 7.	Desk Officer Use.
13.18.	<p><i>in the hospital</i> BRIAN had been very nice and <sup>so</sup> he had told him to come again as JB. would love to see him. JB. consented this was right adding that BRIAN <del>only</del> vaguely knew he had been ill because he had been going to lecture at Leicester. GASKIN broke in to say that BRIAN had then spoken to TESS and had then come round. JB. had momentarily forgotten this. GASKIN repeated that this had been when JB. was in Naples. They switched to speak of letter from Sir Edward <del>MUR</del> the surgeon and JB. gave brief account of dinner and lecture at R.C.S.</p>		
13.18.	Further chat by JB. on art matters - value of drawing etc. No interest.		
13.30.	<p>Long pause and JB. then <sup>reflected</sup> <del>inserted</del> that he had told BRIAN that he was a member of the Establishment now. GASKIN queried why. To this JB. replied that they had been talking about retirement age and so on. Also BRIAN had been talking about <u>ALAN HODGKINS</u>, who was a great friend of his in Cambridge and who was now the President of the Royal Society. GASKIN asked if he was happy in Leicester. JB. thought quite happy. GASKIN commented that BRIAN had never been to Rome which surprised him. JB. agreed and added that BRIAN was <del>not</del> <sup>not</sup> well travelled. GASKIN thought that was his Communist side probably. JB. agreed. GASKIN then asked whether he was still a member of the Party. JB. retorted - "As far as I know. I didn't ask today but when I <u>last</u> asked he was. He rather sheepishly said yes. And not..... but then I think it is really sort of, well what else could one belong to. (Little laugh here) - If you are defeatist." GASKIN - "Well, nothing. But as you say it is like Northern Ireland you know". JB. - "There is nothing else".</p>		

Continuation

# AZURE

TOP SECRET

A2A Reference XJB/3	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Page No. 8.	Desk Officer Use.
<p>13.35.</p> <p>13.40.</p>	<p>GASKIN expressed his surprise again at BRIAN not having gone to Rome. JB. thought he was not very interested in travel. There were alot of people like that. They went on to speak of John MURPHY who was only happy when travelling.</p> <p>Conversation switched to inconsequential topics. JB. beginning to feel hungry and GASKIN went out to cook lunch. JB. remained in here until -</p> <p>He went out and it was quiet in here.</p> <p>This room not used again and it remained quiet until coverage dropped at 01.00.</p>		

TOP SECRET

15 JAN 1973

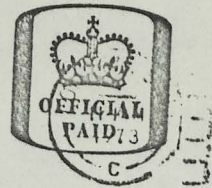
W.D.O. SECRET

1139d



*PA main rd*

NEVER  
TO THE  
POST OFFICE!



Sir Anthony Blunt KCVO FBA FSA  
University of London  
Courtauld Institute of Art  
20 Portman Square  
LONDON  
W1H 0EE

*k.7/GRW.  
9.5.73*

15 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

17575

DJ



2 MARSHAM STREET  
LONDON SW1P 3EB

10 January 1973

*Dear Sir Anthony*

Thank you for your letter of 15 December. I am sorry to hear of your recent illness, and more sorry to hear that this means your having to cut down on your activities. I know how valuable your services to the Trust have been, and how much the Lord Privy Seal has valued your contribution. It is therefore with regret that I accept your resignation.

I would like to express my sincere thanks for all that you have done for the Trust, and to add my hopes that you will soon be well again.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Geoffrey Rippon*

GEOFFREY RIPPON

Sir Anthony Blunt KCVO FBA FSA



SECRET

11 39

PF. 604,582  
PF. 41,197

EXTRACT

Extract for File No. : ..... Name : .....

Original in File No. : \* PF. 604,582 ..... Vol. : 23 ..... Serial : 3143 ..... Receipt Date : 15.1.73  
 TOWROPE ..... 4304 ..... 14.1.73

Original from : ..... Under Ref. : ..... Dated : .....  
 29.1.73 ..... JM ..... K7

Extracted on : ..... by : ..... Section : .....

o/G BLUNDEN to MOORE GROTHSWAITE 822 8842.

BLUNDEN says they had wondered whether he would be able to come to lunch on Friday? MOORE replies that he would love to. BLUNDEN says that it will be in the kitchen and at about 1.0 o'clock. BLUNDEN asks about DICK who is still away. MOORE mentions having heard from the barber - his main source of information - that BLUNDEN had been away to Italy and had now started work and was looking much better.

18.30

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

SECRET

1139a

-Y-  
**AZURE**

Distribution

**TOP SECRET**

PA 25 604582			

A2A Reference XJB/3	Responsible Desk K.7./MF	Date of Contents 13. 1.73. Saturday	Date of Despatch 15 JAN 1973
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Transcriber & Tel. Ext. E. Howell Ext 67 LH.	<b>WARNING - The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Desk Officer. For detailed instructions see the Manual of Investigation Part II.C(X)</b>
-------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Desk Officer Use

ASSESSMENT.

12.05.

Movements.

12.08.

Brian SIMON had arrived. (Beginning of conversation missed, so notes only.) JB. evidently had been asked a question and when audible was giving news of NEVILLE (ph) who they both knew. (Loud fire engine or ambulance noise drowned this part of conversation but could be given later if wanted.) BRIAN admired something which JB. had given to GASKIN on his 50th birthday. Then JB. referred to a pile of papers (presumably) and complained that they were to do ~~the~~ with those awful research grants. They were to be ready for the Selection Committee. JB. gave details of subject and would go through them later - he did not think there was anyone remotely good. Not who he could recommend. He read out from various application papers, at some length. Digression on their eye-sights. Then JB. found one of the application papers from this he read details - David John EDDISON (ph) aged 35, who was studying public art galleries in European Communist countries. BRIAN seemed interested in the European Communist country angle and JB. read out all details from the application. ~~HE~~ <sup>BRIAN</sup> asked for details of this particular applicant.

**TOP SECRET**

A2A Reference XJB/3	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Page No. 2.	Desk Officer Use.
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12.14. He apparently came from Bradford which JB. pointed out was not one of the good colleges. It reminded them of KAP's/<sup>(ph)</sup>sister was there and they spoke of the woman in question who both agreed was rather dotty and quite exhausting. She had retired now - having left Bradford and gone on to Kendaa. BRIAN gave further account of seeing this woman this summer. BRIAN then asked JB. how he was getting on. JB. reported marvellously and of the fact of having taken last term off due to the operations. He then gave amusing account of the trip to Menton, for two weeks, in November. Now he had just come back from Rome. BRIAN enquired whether JB. would be all right now. JB. thought he was quite/all right but just had to be rather careful as he got very easily tired. BRIAN asked how the lecture to the surgeons went? JB. thought it went well. He spoke of his surgeon Sir Edward MUIR, in glowing terms. BRIAN supposed the whole thing took about six months. JB. replied by giving list of the chapter of accidents - damaging his knee and ankle - then of the two operations. Of being able to prepare the exhibition at the Queen Gallery while in hospital. He gave short description of history of the drawings, acquired by Charles I and George III, of the choosing and cataloguing. Then further about Royal collection. Then of administration of this.

12.23. BRIAN asked how much longer JB. was to go on here - at the Institute? JB. spoke of retiring in '74, which gave him another year and a half here. He gave details of this and of the fact that they were advertising for a successor already. (Piece missing owing to technical fault at this point.) JB. emerged eventually giving details of administration of Institute and

# AZURE

Continuation

TOP SECRET

A2A Reference XJB/3	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Page No. 3.	Desk Officer Use.
12.32.	<p>Warburg and possibility of being absorbed into King College. This JB. very against.</p> <p>He gave BRIAN details of the fact that they would be nearer London University when they moved into their proposed new premises in Woburn Square. He added an account of how the Institute came to this particular building which was given to them by Sam COURTHAULD. Then of history of the building. BRIAN then reminded JB. that he had lived in Woburn Sq/for<sup>(??)</sup> over a year. JB. remembered this well. They spoke of time at Oriental Studies and of how the buildings had been destroyed. Most of the houses that were left were in a terrible state of repair. They were deliberately left to decay, as they were in Portman Square.</p>		
12.37.	<p>JB. went on to question BRIAN on his future - would he stay on until he retired. He thought he would see his time out, up to 65. Further questioning on his post. BRIAN gave details of organisation of the department, the training of student etc.</p>		
12.42.	<p>JB. spoke of his successor being confronted with complete re-organisation when he took over. JB. himself did not think in administrative terms. He reminded BRIAN that he had been here - shall have been here 27<sup>1/2</sup> years. He had been connected with the place since '39 and was Deputy Director before. BRIAN remembered this. JB. spoke of organisation in '39. Then of expansion, during the years and of finally having acquired the house next door. Lengthy account of this.</p>		
12.46	<p>Interruption at this juncture by GASKIN who came in. He was offered a drink which he declined but he stayed talking to them. He gave some inconsequential gossip about daily - Miss TROY, recording various collections of sayings. <del>XXX</del> BRIAN and JB. very amused.</p>		

TOP SECRET

A2A Reference	Date of Contents	Page No.	Desk Officer Use.
<p>XJB/3</p> <p>12.47.</p> <p>12.53.</p> <p>12.59.</p> <p>13.10.</p> <p>13.12.</p>	<p>13.1.73. Saturday</p> <p>BRIAN offered another drink which he declined. He asked after WILFRED (BLUNDEN). JB. gave good account. They spoke of his book. Slight pause and BRIAN gave news of his daughter in-law. (Further piece here which will follow). (Think GASKIN had gone out.) There was a pause - a brief one - and BRIAN then told JB. he had seen TESS the other day. Further about this - about VICTOR being busy and the reaction to his report. Comments about his by his friend in Cambridge about VICTOR fighting on both fronts. (Quite a piece about AITAN here which will follow.) He was now Chancellor of University and came round to see the SIMONS quite alot, etc.</p> <p>JB. drew BRIAN's attention to how all their friends had become members - even BRIAN - of the Establishment. (A piece here will follow.) BRIAN wondering if JB. found himself in this strange situation - yes, JB. replied. (They both sounded slightly <sup>more confidential here.</sup> <del>more confidential here.</del>) Brief break and BRIAN asked where JB. would retire. He was given account of possibility of the Albany. Of the sale of the big POUSSIN. Repeating how picture was found and given to him by VICTOR - now worth 2 hundred thousand pounds. Then of financial advice by CHRISTOPHER on future investments.</p> <p>BRIAN left, drifting out of room with JB. and they were heard in distance, voices fading as then went.</p> <p>JB? came back.</p> <p>GASKIN joined him. Remarking on BRIAN GASKIN remarked on his vagueness - JB. agreed. GASKIN supposed he (BRIAN) had wanted to see him which was very sweet of him. JB. added that BRIAN only sort of vaguely knew he had been ill</p>	<p>4.</p>	

# AZURE

Continuation

TOP SECRET

A2A Reference XJB/3	Date of Contents 13.1.73. Saturday	Page No. 5.	Desk Officer Use.
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because he had been going to ~~the~~ lecture at Leicester. GASKIN broke in to add that BRIAN had talked to TESS and then had come round. JB. had forgotten this and asked when - when he was in Naples GASKIN replied. Then GASKIN had asked BRIAN to come again.  
Subject changed to other matters.

NOTE.

Impression gained from this visit was that having heard JB. had been ill, then more of this from TESS, BRIAN had come round to see ~~how JB. was~~ for himself. how JB. was getting on. GASKIN hovering around was not conducive to anything more serious.

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1139aab

Loose Minute

K.3./EWP

Tony Banks; returned  
here with

*[Signature]*  
15.1.73.

Attached for your perusal  
and return is the preliminary  
transcript of Saturday's meeting.

Yes 101-

2. A full verbatim account is  
now being prepared and I will let  
you see this as soon as it arrives.

No Hank  
you

3. Would you please let me know  
if there is any particular  
extracting from this preliminary  
version you require.

*[Signature]*

M. Fleay

K.7./4

15 January, 1973

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

AND PERSONAL

HIST/101d

1139a



CABINET OFFICE

LONDON, S.W.1

01-930 5422

Ref. A03246

Copy No. 1 of 2 Copies

*Wrote 12/11*  
*D.G.*  
*KX*  
*K7 12/11*

11th January, 1973

Rec. 12.1.73

PF. 604,582

*Dear Michael,*

In the light of our discussion about Anthony Blunt this morning, I have had a shot at a first draft of a submission to the Prime Minister - with the enclosed result. I should rather like you to see this before I give it any wider circulation since, as you will see, I have found on reflection that the simplest way of putting the Prime Minister into the picture is really to ask him to read in full the various notes about the case which you have produced in the last few months. On this basis, Annex A would be the note about Blunt dated 30th October, 1972 which you sent on the same day to Philip Allen. Annex B you will identify without difficulty. Annex C is the note headed "The Case of Sir Anthony Blunt: Considerations Arising in the Event of Publicity" dated 13th December, 1972 which you sent on that day to Philip Allen. Annex D will be the revised draft statement, together with notes for supplementaries and the additional note which you undertook to prepare, indicating the main personalities in public life who may be involved and the degree of their involvement. The circulation of these documents will be limited to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary and the Attorney General, plus their respective senior officials; and I doubt whether there is anything in the proposed annexes which you would not wish to have disclosed to any of these individuals. But I thought that I should make sure before giving the draft submission any wider circulation.

If you like to let me have your comments on the submission at the same time as the revised version of the draft statement and supporting material, I will then circulate the whole lot for comment to Arthur Peterson and Tony Hetherington.

*over even,*  
*David [unclear]*

M.B. Hanley, Esq.

*DG/PS/11*

*120/K7*  
*12/1/73*



11/5/71 C'd

TOP SECRET

DRAFT MINUTE FROM SIR BURKE TREND

PRIME MINISTER

Sir Anthony Blunt

no correct?  
66

Some time ago Lord Rothschild told you that Blunt (who will be 67 next September) had been suddenly taken ill and had for a short time been in a critical condition. He has since recovered; and there is no current cause for any particular concern about his health. Nevertheless, the incident was a reminder and a warning about the situation which we may face when he dies; and since then I have been considering - as you asked - how we might best prepare a contingency plan against this eventuality. I have consulted the Home Office, the Security Service, and Sir Martin Charteris and Mr. Hetherington of the Law Officers' Department; but I have gone no more widely so far.

The simplest way of bringing you up to date about this complicated case is to ask you to read the notes attached to this submission. Annex A is a short history of the Security Service's dealings with Blunt himself. Annex B supplements it with an account of the "Ring of Five" of which Blunt was a member. Annex C discusses some of the issues which may arise when Blunt dies. Annex D is the draft of a statement (with notes for supplementaries) which might be made in Parliament or alternatively used as a basis for briefing the Press. There would, of course, be no question of volunteering this statement unless and until it became necessary to do so.

K7  
Should we review this note next?

TOP SECRET

I am afraid that this amounts to a good deal of reading matter. But it is not urgent; it is interesting in itself for more reasons than one; and it deals with a subject about which you certainly ought to be informed. I suggest that in considering it you should have the following points in mind:-

(1) We should not underrate the situation which may arise when Blunt dies and the risk of a libel action, which has hitherto kept mouths closed, is no longer an inhibition on disclosure. A good many people both in public life and in Fleet Street already know a certain amount of the story, even if in a garbled and inaccurate form. For some of them - not least, perhaps, Mr. Goronwy Rees - their versions could represent sizable sums of money in terms of publication rights. The Burgess/Maclean/Philby episode remains of intense interest to a great many people, particularly if, as in Blunt's case, a disreputable private life is entangled with the affairs of State. For all these reasons, the Blunt story is likely to command a great deal of attention; and much of it will be critical. Why was a man of this kind ever employed by the Security Service? Why have the authorities treated him with such apparent leniency since his treachery became known? Why has he been allowed to occupy a prestigious post in the Royal Household and been knighted by The Queen? And so forth.

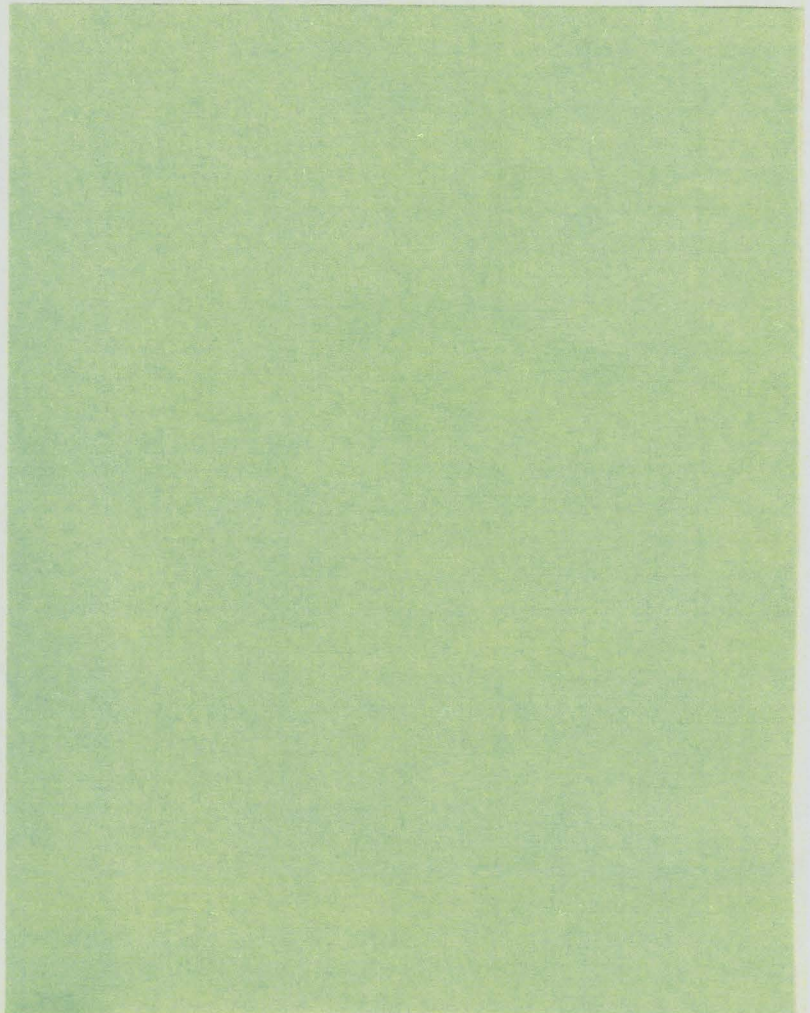
(2) We shall have to deal with this criticism as best we can in the light of the fact (which we cannot disclose publicly) that we have obtained - and are still obtaining to some extent - a good deal of useful information

*and may get  
obtain and?  
? and have also used  
his affixing a  
c/le opt.*

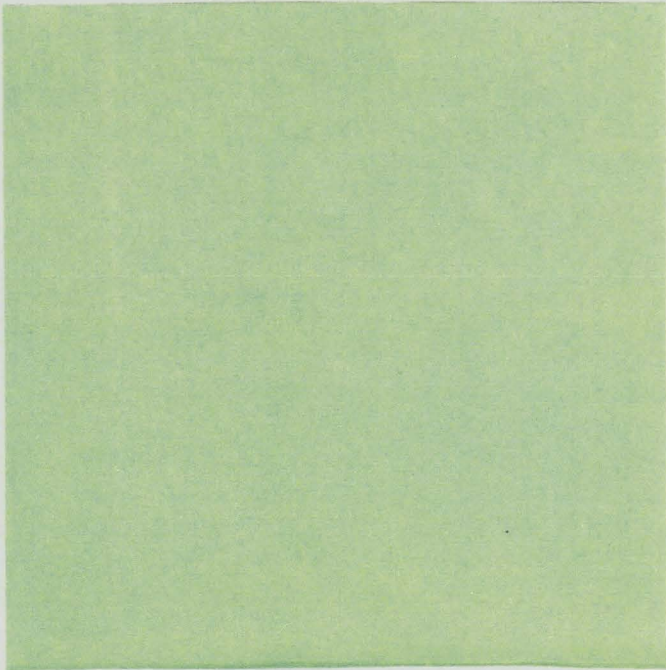
TOP SECRET

from Blunt since his confession and that, although we cannot be certain that he has told us all that he knows or has severed his connection with the Russian Intelligence Service, it is clearly to our advantage that that Service should be left in uncertainty about the extent of his disclosures to us. This severely limits the degree to which we can satisfy public curiosity; and we have therefore drafted the proposed statement in a form which indicates in reply to each question both the true answer and the more limited version which must suffice for public consumption. In each case it is a matter of balancing the conflicting considerations; but I suspect that the suggested answers reveal as much as can be safely conceded.

(3) There are certain additional precautions which we should consider taking when the time comes:-



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



? no admitt  
evidence

(b) It would probably be wise to try to carry the Opposition with us. On each <sup>of the</sup> two occasions when the case was referred to the Attorney General (in 1964 and 1972) for a decision that the public interest justified our refraining from prosecution, a Conservative Government was in office; and there is no indication that the Labour Attorney General, Sir Elwyn Jones, was ever consulted. But the note on "The Ring of Five" was shown, during the period of office of the Labour Government, to Mr. Harold Wilson, Mr. Callaghan and Mr. Roy Jenkins; and they were certainly aware of the issues involved in the Blunt case. I suspect that it would be both right and prudent to seek to ensure that they would support the Government in the necessarily restrictive attitude which would have to be adopted towards the public pressure for full and detailed disclosure. In addition, there is - as is shown by the note appended to the draft statement - the involvement of

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

TOP SECRET

Lord and Lady Llewelyn-Davies to be taken into account . The Opposition might well feel that they were entitled to be forewarned if the Government intended to make any public statement about an episode which might involve a junior Minister in the Labour Government.

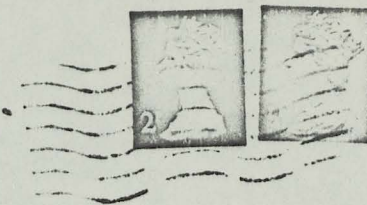
- (c) There are also some other "sensitive spots" in public life on which we should keep a watchful eye. The note appended to the draft statement indicates those individuals whose involvement in the Burgess/Maclean/Philby/Blunt world, however innocent it may have been, makes them targets for possible criticism. Of these, the one of most direct concern to us is Lord Rothschild. I have not as yet discussed the case with him at all; but I suggest that, if you agree, we shall need to consider with him - when the time comes but not before - what he (or we on his behalf) should say if he becomes the subject of public curiosity in the Blunt context.

12 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

3201

9139Z



Sir Anthony Blunt, K.C.V.O.,  
The Courtauld Institute,  
20 Portman Square,  
London W.1.

PH man vol -

k. y/g. bl  
9.5.43

12 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

31211



THE NATIONAL TRUST for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty  
Waddesdon Manor, Aylesbury, Bucks Telephone: Waddesdon (029 665) 211 & 282

Administrator: Colonel A. R. Waller M. B. E., M. C.

Sir Anthony Blunt, K.C.V.O.,  
The Courtauld Institute,  
20 Portman Square,  
London W.1

8 January 1973.

*Dear Anthony,*

I am enclosing the cheque for £150.00 which was due to you on 1 January 1973.

*I hope you had a super time  
in Rome.*

Yours sincerely  
*A. R. Waller*  
Administrator.

12 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

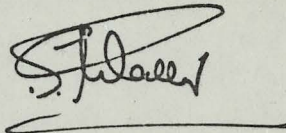
81221

20 - 06 - 05

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED  
BELGRAVIA, 23 GROSVENOR GARDENS SW1W 0BT

DATE	CHEQUE NO.	PAY TO THE ORDER OF	AMOUNT	
5.1.73	3	SIR ANTHONY BLUNT	£150	00
AMOUNT OF POUNDS IN WORDS				
Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Units	
—	ONE	FIVE	NIL	
Amount other than pounds as 'n figures				

THE NATIONAL TRUST  
WADDESDON MANOR ACCOUNT



Kalamazoo B22-648725-31x8

⑈000003⑈ 20⑈0605⑈ 40679933⑈



TOP SECRET

Loose Minute

11388

att. to note for  
PF.604,582 (copy)

Secretariat (Home) Mr. Sheldon

---

1135A

You may like to glance at this note of a further meeting in Sir Burke Trend's office about BLUNT; in particular at paragraph <sup>2(2) and 3</sup> dealing with the legal considerations. We are required to get a further submission to the D.G. very urgently and K.7 will need to consult you early next week.

KX

---

  
J. A. Allen

12th January 1973.

TOP SECRET

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

1138ab

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name/Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D Vol: 6 Serial: :915 Date of Despatch:

Extracted on: 29.1.73 By: Jm

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 12.1.73

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

19.57. GASKIN asked what time JB. would like supper -  
20.30. so he went out to prepare this, as well  
as to lock up.

20.22. GASKIN came back. JB. mentioned that he would like  
to get to the exhibition at the Tate tomorrow.  
GASKIN thought he had planned to go on Monday and  
then reminded JB. that BRIAN SIMON was coming

tomorrow. Oh, of course replied JB. who  
seemed to have forgotten this factor.

**TOP SECRET**

reference: PF 605565

copy to: PF 44592  
PF 45907 link B.  
PF 604558  
PF 606769  
PF 604582  
PF 604529

Note for file

I saw Tess ROTHSCHILD last night. She told me that she had recently had lunch with Brian SIMON. Their conversation had been somewhat inhibited in that Stuart HAMPSHIRE was by accident sitting at the next table.

2. Brian SIMON told Tess that he had been visited by the authorities who had asked him to talk to them about the old days. He had been very frightened, had taken legal advice as to whether he had to talk to us and had been told that he need not. He therefore refused to talk to us. He asked Tess whether the authorities had talked to her. She had said that she had not been approached recently but of course she had told all that she knew at the time of Guy BURGESS's departure in 1951. Tess got the impression that Brian SIMON would really like to have talked to us but was very frightened of the consequences. She asked me whether we had ever thought of getting Anthony BLUNT to tell him that he had confessed in the hope that it would persuade SIMON to talk to us. I said that we had discussed this many times with BLUNT but that he was frightened of SIMON in that he did not know whether SIMON was still a Communist or even whether he was still in touch with the Russians. BLUNT had said that SIMON was the only one who he feared might shop him to the Party or the Russians.

3. Tess said that SIMON had told her that about three years ago Michael STRAIGHT had written to him saying that he would like to have a talk with him about the old days, that he would be coming through London on his way to Europe to go skiing and that he would arrange to meet him, but nothing further had happened. I asked Tess what she understood from Brian as being the old days. She said that he certainly meant their Communist activities at Cambridge but he may have meant more. She said she thought it likely that STRAIGHT knew that Brian had been a spy. She suspected that STRAIGHT was the most likely person to make Brian talk to us.

... /4. ....

W/K7  
12/1/73

4. Tess said that Brian was very keen for some reason or other to talk about Cambridge before the war and the war years but he was inhibited by his surroundings. She said that Brian had said that Donald MACLEAN had tried to recruit him (SIMON) in his (SIMON's) first term at Cambridge. I said that I presumed this was recruitment to Communism. She said she thought so but could not really ask him because he had never admitted to her that he was a spy although Anthony BLUNT had told her that he was. SIMON also told her that when he visited Russia a few years ago, he saw Donald MACLEAN and had had a long talk with him about the old days.

*Peter M. Wright*

Peter M. Wright

K Adviser

11 January 1973.

ATU

11356

W.D.O. SECRET

*Pi*  
*Pi*  
*Pi*

11 JAN 1973

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LONDON  
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5111

SIR A.F. BLUNT, K.C.V.O.

**Barclays Bank Limited**

PORTMAN SQUARE

**STATEMENT  
OF ACCOUNT**



SIR A.F. BLUNT, K.C.V.O.,  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON  
COURTAULD INSTITUTE OF ART,  
20 PORTMAN SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.1.

80179299

DIARY

POST

1972/12

CUSTOMER'S NOTES	DETAIL	PAYMENTS	RECEIPTS	DATE	BALANCE
	BALANCE FORWARD			8DEC	2996.06
	DIVIDEND 173	150.00			
	DIVIDEND 174	10.00	10.72	15DEC	2856.78
	STANDING ORDER	50.00			
	COUNTER CREDIT		73.50	18DEC	2870.28
	UNIV OF LONDON BGC		367.55	21DEC	3237.83
	228176	20.00			
	COUNTER CREDIT		50.00	29DEC	3267.83
	SOC. ITALIAN. STUDS. STO	2.10			
	NAT. ART COLL. FUND STO	5.00			
	FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM STO	5.00			
	BRITISH ACADEMY STO	5.25			
	SOC. ANTIQUARIES LD STO	6.30			
	TRAVELLERS. CLUB. STO	24.00			
	S J GASKIN STO	25.00			
	177	5.00		1JAN	3190.18
	228175	20.00		5JAN	3170.18

W.D.O. SECRET

11 JAN 1973

DIV DIVIDEND

STO STANDING ORDER

BGC BANK CREDIT

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ARE INDICATED BY THE LETTERS DR

Note for file

This morning I went with D.G. to a meeting with Sir Burke Trend to discuss the enclosure to 1133a. Also present were Arthur Peterson, Martin Charteris and one of Trend's private secretaries.

2. Trend said that there were one or two changes he would like to see before making a submission to the Prime Minister. It was agreed that we would prepare a new draft, amended and amplified as follows:-

Draft Statement

This should include a sentence which would effectively bring out the fact that 'whereas after 1945 BLUNT had no access to classified information, the collaboration with the Security Service subsequently has resulted in a great deal of valuable information being obtained from him.' (I think it may be safer to use the phrase '...BLUNT held no post affording any access to classified information ....')

Possible Supplementaries and Suggested Answers

1) To the suggested answer in this and all other instances where full information is not given should be added a passage in square brackets describing the true facts.

2) The suggested answer, with its use of the word 'successive', needs reconsideration in view of the fact that Sir Elwyn Jones, when Attorney General, was not consulted about the case. Trend favoured a redraft along the lines 'It was decided at the outset that the greater public interest lay in taking no prosecution action and subsequent developments have confirmed this decision to have been right.' (Trend was thinking aloud and I doubt if on reflection he would favour the second half of this sentence. It might be reworded as follows: '... no prosecution action; the Attorney General has recently considered the facts again and confirmed this decision').

3) No further explanation beyond that already given in square brackets seems necessary.

4) The passage in square brackets should indicate what action was taken. Here or elsewhere we should

bring .....

KX see Fe  
11.1.73

bring out the coverage on BLUNT, eg the existence of the interception warrant over a long period.

5) The answer should be amended to read 'Bearing in mind the post which BLUNT held in the Royal Household did not afford him any access to classified information, the greater public interest lay in no change becoming apparent in his overt status.' A passage in square brackets should give details of when BLUNT received his knighthood and of his remuneration in this post (it apparently ceased after a particular date - it may be that we shall have to leave it to Trend or Charteris to produce these details). An additional question should also be inserted before 5) - 'Was the Palace informed about BLUNT's record by the Security Authorities?' To which the answer might be 'Yes, the Queen's Private Secretary was informed and co-operated with the Security Service in the case.'

7) The origin and meaning of the terms Fourth and Fifth Men should be given in square brackets and possibly some reference made to the Ring of Five.

11) and 12) It should be stated in square brackets that a separate note was attached describing the relationships of Lord and Lady Rothschild and Lord and Lady Llewellyn-Davies with the BLUNT/BURGESS circle. The note giving these details for the information of the P.M. should be provided by the Security Service.

### Conclusions

The square brackets should be removed from the second sentence.

3. Trend said that he had already mentioned to the Attorney General's Legal Secretary, Hetherington, the fact that this morning's meeting was being held. When he received our further draft he would circulate it to Hetherington with an invitation to attend the next meeting (which should be either at the end of January or the beginning of February).

4. Finally, Trend asked that the Security Service should consider whether there were any other persons in public life, apart from the Rothschilds and the Llewellyn-Davies who ought to be forewarned of any intention to make a Parliamentary Statement of the kind envisaged.

KX

11th January 1973.

  
J. A. Allen



10 JAN 1973

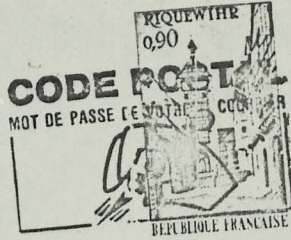
W.D.O. SECRET

484

1134d

PA in main file.

Personal



St Anthony Place, R.C.V.O  
20 Portman Square

Londres W. 1.

Angleterre

10 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

185

\*\*\*  
HOTEL D'ANGLETERRE  
"ANGLOTTEL"  
44, RUE JACOB  
PARIS (6<sup>e</sup>)

TELEPHONE : 548 87 - 91  
TELEGRAMMES : ANGLOTTEL-PARIS 110

January 5<sup>th</sup> 1973

My dear Anthony,

We have been here for 3 days and I cannot help thinking of you all the time. It is just about 25 ~~days~~ years ago that we first stayed here at the hotel together. And after having hardly ever been in Paris during the last 10 years owing to heart attacks and other unhappiness, it is now coming back to Paris as we used to know it during those happy years after the war when you and I spent so many happy days together, whether at the Louvre, or exhibitions, or at the Deux Magots or at the St Germain. So I am feeling very nostalgic, and very, very old.

Today I have spent the day at the Grand Palais. I wish you had been with me. (It is no façon de parler.) Robin

10 JAN 1973

W.D.O. SECRET

486

is sweet to me and I love him, but  
I still miss you.

John R

? Andrew Crow

SECRET

11345

PF. 604,582

EXTRACT

Extract for File No.: PF. 45,907 Link B Name: .....

Original in File No.: PF. 604,582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3139 Receipt Date: 11.1.73

Original from: TOWROPE Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 10.1.73

Extracted on: 29.1.73 by: IM Section: K7

I/C to GASKIN from BRIAN SIMON.

They greet each other and BRIAN then asks if there is "any chance" of his seeing BLUNDEN this weekend?

GASKIN, remarking 'I'm sure he'd love to' asks BRIAN to suggest a time. BRIAN replies 'I'm really fairly free'. He is about to say something when GASKIN suggests - 'why don't you come in on Saturday morning? - before lunch or something like that'?

BRIAN, in agreeable tones, replies that 'that will do fine'.

GASKIN suggests as time, at about 12.0 o'clock, before lunch.

BRIAN - 'Ok, I'll do that'.

GASKIN tells him that BLUNDEN is lecturing tonight at the Royal College of Surgeons. He recalls having told him this. BLUNDEN has just gone out.

BRIAN will 'pop in for a drink'. GASKIN tells him to ring the bell on the left as the Institute is not open. BRIAN remarking - 'yes, I think I know that' - says goodbye.

(BRIAN is speaking from a distance)

18.51

\*if the orig  
includ

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EXTRACT

CEDAR 11/2/73

Extract for File No. : PF. 604,582 Name : .....

Original in File No. : \* SF. 441-0302-5-1 Vol. : 7 Serial : 426a Receipt Date : .....

Original from : ..... Under Ref. : ..... Dated : 9.1.73

Extracted on : 30.1.73 by : JM Section : K7

Extract from CEDAR Working Party minutes of fifth meeting of the CEDAR Working Party.

.....  
ITEM I MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

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

(a) BLUNT

2. The Chairman said there had been no significant developments in the BLUNT case which was still under discussion between the D.G. and senior Whitehall officials.

TOP SECRET

1134b.

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

TOP SECRET

~~KX to see~~

~~KX~~

*W-191*  
*11342*  
*To see Lowy*  
*hope the document*  
*is better than*  
*was when I*  
*inspired = c. 1966*  
*29/1/73*

NOTE FOR PF.604,582

Sir Burke Trend's office rang this morning about the D.G.'s letter dated 5 January. Would there be any objection if they passed Sir Martin Charteris a copy of the draft Parliamentary Statement and suggested answers to possible supplementary Questions, and a copy of the note on BLUNT dated 18 October 1967 ?

2. After consulting the D.G., I told them that there was no objection.

D.G. Secretary

8 January 1973

TOP SECRET

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 August 2023

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name / Title:

1134 y

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D Vol: 6

Serial: 907 Date of Despatch: 10.1.73

Extracted on: 29.1.73 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 8.1.73

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

In the middle of this JB. again spoke of taking a sabbatical term next autumn and ELIZABETH agreed that this was probably the best time to do it. Further dictation at length, which was routine art matters. A meeting on 17th December at the R. Academy mentioned. Then the trip to Germany on March 21st but before making arrangements finally JB. would have a word with John SHERMAN. Later there was a reference to a lecture JB. would be attending on March 6th at 17.45. 1

**TOP SECRET**



# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582  
PF. 45,907 Link B  
PF. 605,565

Name / Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D. Vol: 6 Serial: :906 Date of Despatch: 8.1.73

Extracted on: 11.1.73 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K. 7/4

A2A Ref: JB/1

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 7.1.73

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

20.23.

They had come back. Spasmodic remarks exchanged - no interest. JB. announced that he would retire very early tonight. Radio turned on which blared for a short time. Then when turned off JB. emerged speaking ~~fr~~ about the hotel in Naples.

20.27.

GASKIN complained of difficulties encountered in trying to get hold of JB. on the telephone. Then JB. in turn complained of letters not arriving. There was a pause and GASKIN spoke of having got all the pictures back on the wall. JB. had drifted out and after a moment was followed by GASKIN who had evidently remembered something else he he wanted to tell JB. "Oh by the way" .. he said as he left the room. It was then quiet until -

20.33.

GASKIN heard laughing in middle distance at some story he was relating. Then he was heard to mentioned how expensive things were in HongKong. So presumably he was relating SADIE's (his sister) views. He continued talking in middle distance.

20.36.

JB. laughing occasionally. GASKIN drifted in and out and disjointed pieces of conversation heard. From what could be heard this was of no interest.

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol:

Serial :

Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

20.38.

Then he came in and was in the middle of asking what JB. had had to eat. He was apparently preparing supper. There was some talk of food as he dished up and JB. came in to eat.

20.41.

Then gossip by GASKIN which was of no interest. Related that GEORGE ZARNECKI had 'flu. etc.

20.47.

Now about meeting SADIE and then of his return journey and further account of matters which were of no interest. Pauses as they ate.

20.51

Then suddenly GASKIN remembered that BRIAN SIMON had come round the other day.

GASKIN, suddenly remembering, - "Oh! BRIAN came."

JB. "SIMON?"

GASKIN - "SIMONS..."

JB. - "Oh did he?" (Breaking in).

GASKIN - "Came round the other day".

JB. - "Came round?"

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol:

Serial: :

Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

GASKIN - "Yes. The door bell rang, so I talked to him and asked who it was and he came up. <sup>for a bit</sup> He was very, very nice. And he was having lunch with TESS the next day

JB. - "Ah".

GASKIN - "And I said, well do ring up and he (JB) would be delighted to see you."

JB. - "One up to TESS."

GASKIN - "Why?"

JB. "No, it is one up to me because he came to see me first."

GASKIN - "Did he see alot of TESS?"

JB. - "Oh God yes."

GASKIN - "They were in love then?" (ph)

JB. - "He deserted me for TESS."

GASKIN - "Was he any good in bed?"

JB - "Absolutely hopeless - no."

GASKIN - "He told you that did he?"

JB. - "Oh er - he was no good in bed with any man but he was allright with a girl."

GASKIN - "Well, didn't he knock it off with TESS's girl friend?"

JB. - "Oh no. Not at all. No it was TOM..."

GASKIN - "It was TOM who knocked it off with her."

JB. - "Yes, old TOM did."

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: pf. 604,582

Name/Title:

11 JJB

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D Vol:6

Serial: 905 Date of Despatch: 8.1.73

Extracted on: 11.1.73 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 7.1.73

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

18.50.

It was quiet in here until -

JB. came in with GASKIN who mentioned a drawing BRIAN SEWELL had bought. JB. gave account of his first day in Paris. After spending ~~three~~<sup>four</sup> hours at the exhibition he more or less bumped into ANDY REVAI and ROBIN CHANCELLOR there. They had given him a very good dinner. He commented that he did his duty by the exhibition but really it was so cold and after one day he decided he would hurry home. ANDY had also invited him to an anniversary dinner on the 9th but JB. had managed to get out of this by making the excuse that he had to go to the Royal College of Surgeons, which in fact was the next day but he told GASKIN to carry on with this near truth excuse.

Further remarks by GASKIN of no consequence.

Then they admired the new decor and cleaning which had been done.

Later GASKIN mentioned that he was off to Marrakesh in three weeks. Rest of chat no interest.

**TOP SECRET**

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COPY NO. 3 OF 5 COPIES

Copy no. 4 on POL.F.50-24-101/SA (less enclosures)

Copy No. 5 on D.G. L.B. (less enclosures)

1138A

D.D.G.

KX to see

PF.604,582/DG

5 January 1973

At our meeting in your office with Philip Allen on 18 December, I undertook to prepare a draft Parliamentary Statement about Anthony BLUNT, which might be used in the event of publicity making some disclosure unavoidable; also suggested answers to possible supplementary questions. A draft covering both requirements is attached. I think you had it in mind to invite Martin Charteris to attend our next meeting since one of the more obvious supplementaries (No. 5 in the note) directly affects the Palace.

1124a

2. Supplementary No. 2 would, of course, be a matter for the Attorney General. We understand from our recent consultations with him that his intention would be to answer as I have indicated.

3. I am copying this letter to Arthur Peterson and at the same time enclosing copies of the note on BLUNT dated 18 October 1967 seen by Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Wilson, and of the note on THE RING OF FIVE, versions of which were seen by Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Callaghan - Philip Allen's letter of 21 December 1972 refers. 1125a

595a in  
Vol.12

30a in  
SF.441-UK-16  
Link A.

M. B. Hanley

The Rt. Hon. Sir Burke Trend,  
G.C.B., C.V.O.,  
Cabinet Office.

Enclosures: 3

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DG/MAN  
5/1

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11316

PF 604582

Extract from report on K3/EWP & SR's interview with John CAIRNCROSS on 4 January 1973

46. He insisted that this was the one and only occasion he had accepted money from his controllers. In response to our further questions he admitted that from time to time he had been offered money, but emphasised that as he had had neither prior to nor subsequent to the attack on Kursk information of comparable importance and excitement, he had not accepted money from his controllers. He thought that the question of money had first been raised by 'Otto' some six or eight months after he had started to work for him; 'Otto' had pointed out that CAIRNCROSS needed to keep up living standards and money was available for this. CAIRNCROSS added that there had been no insistence that he should take anything, nor had the subject been mentioned regularly, but from time to time it had cropped up.

(Comment: BLUNT has told us the following story which could well be relevant. During the time CAIRNCROSS was working for BURGESS the latter approached BLUNT saying he wanted money to enable CAIRNCROSS

to entertain some people. BLUNT in turn wrote to Michael STRAIGHT, then in the U.S, asking for £100 for "a friend in the cause". BLUNT received a cheque from STRAIGHT's mother, Mrs. Elmhirst, who gave no reason for sending it other than Michael had asked her to do so. It is not clear how BLUNT transmitted the money to CAIRNCROSS - whether he did so directly or through BURGESS - but CAIRNCROSS has been adamant that he never accepted money from BURGESS, and as has been recorded above has denied association with BLUNT other than the two social occasions about which he had told us.

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There is much room for speculation on the implications of this story. The first thought that comes to mind is that although responsible for running CAIRNCROSS as an agent, BURGESS unlike other controllers, did not have access to R.I.S funds.

We were inhibited from examining these points and its implications in greater detail with CAIRNCROSS as we had been instructed to steer away as far as we could from BLUNT's involvement.

The main point however seems to be that as CAIRNCROSS has admitted he accepted money from 'Robert', and according to BLUNT also accepted it while under the control of BURGESS, the presumption is raised that despite his protestations he might also have accepted it from 'Otto' at the beginning of his career as a spy and continued to do so from his later controllers. It is perhaps worthy of note that throughout our record of CAIRNCROSS there are indications which give rise to doubts as to his integrity in financial matters.)

The end of the Interview

72. As we brought the interview to its close CAIRNCROSS offered to give further thought to various points we had discussed. He would give his mind to such things as the date of his visit to BLUNT's rooms and who had invited him there; his recollections of KLUGMANN at Trinity, when he had gone down and what he had then done. "I should be able to fish something up and will write and let you know". He thought he would be visiting this country again in the not too distant future and when he was due to do so would let us know in advance.

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Conclusions

73. It is our impression that CAIRNCROSS contacted us for two reasons: to keep on the right side of us in the context of his limited immunity, and if we decided to see him, to cast a fly over us on the question of a U.S visa. What he was not bargaining for was detailed probing - and indeed some pretty straight talking - of the fundamentals on which the story he has been telling since 1964 has been based. There is no doubt that at various points in the course of the interview he was acutely uncomfortable. That he was more than a little surprised at what happened is reflected in the final paragraph of the letter (serial 852a) which arrived after the body of this report was written and therefore its contents have not been taken into account; his thoughts on the chronology of his recruitment will be referred to in passing in these conclusions but their significance will be analysed fully in the context of preparations for the next interview.

74. We both thought on certain crucial points he was lying. There were obvious limits beyond which we could not go in pressing him on these matters: it was essential to keep relations cordial, and we were under instructions to keep off BLUNT's involvement. Notwithstanding these limitations we have now identified a number of areas discussion of which causes him discomfort.

75. Looking at these points individually and as nearly as possible in chronological order there is first the question of who invited him to BLUNT's rooms to meet BURGESS. He rejected any thought it could have been BLUNT himself and fell back on what seemed a singularly unconvincing line that it must have been BURGESS and therefore he must have met BURGESS earlier. For the last nine years he has consistently maintained that it was on this occasion that he had first met BURGESS and by implication this was the purpose of the meeting.

76. Whether or not he is conscious of BLUNT's involvement, and if he is whether he is conscious of his confession, we think he is playing down his association with him below an acceptable level of credibility. There can be little doubt that he knows more about BLUNT than he admits and his dilemma over accounting for the initiator of the invitation to BLUNT's rooms could have its roots in a desire to protect BLUNT - although it could be argued that by acknowledging some Trinity association, having lived on the same staircase, a visit to his rooms would appear more natural and at the same time would not necessarily have involved BLUNT in what followed - any more than it would Louis MACNEICE. It seems possible therefore that someone else could have been involved and it is that person he is trying to protect. Should this be the case it is vital we should persuade CAIRNCROSS to tell us who it is.

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77. At our insistence he gave considerable thought to the date of this incident - which of course was immediately followed by the train journey with BURGESS - the particular point of interest being whether it preceded the meeting with KLUGMANN or came later. Not only did he come down firmly on the side that it had preceded the KLUGMANN meeting but went further to date it between the narrow margin of the completion of his Civil Service examinations and his journey to Berlin; this puts it fairly definitely in mid-August 1936.

78. In considering this date we have as a first step tried to establish whether BLUNT and BURGESS were then in this country. BLUNT seems to have been; he seems to have been here until leaving for Scandinavia later in the month; he arrived in Denmark on 26th August and left there on 12th September. BURGESS however was not in this country after the 4th August. His passport shows he went to the continent to Germany, Austria and France returning to this country via Calais where he embarked on 3rd September. This is supported by papers in "The Correspondence". Papers found in BURGESS's Bond Street flat show that this trip - at least part of it - was made as a member of a group from the Fascist organisation which he had adopted - Britannia Youth - organised from an address in Hove, Sussex.

79. In the light of this there can be no doubt that CAIRNCROSS's meeting with BURGESS in BLUNT's rooms could not have taken place in mid-August 1936. In his letter written after our interview he has now suggested that the BLUNT room incident occurred after the KLUGMANN incident and therefore after CAIRNCROSS had started to work at the Foreign Office. This may be so. An alternative reconstruction could be that it happened earlier, while CAIRNCROSS was still at Trinity. We base this thought on various indications. First the general tenor of BLUNT's account of his talent-spotting of CAIRNCROSS seems to us to suggest that BLUNT was speaking as though it had all happened while CAIRNCROSS was at Trinity. Secondly by the middle of 1936 BURGESS was ostentatiously parading his Fascism; it is odd therefore that CAIRNCROSS made no reference to this, despite his clear memory of the conversation they had on their train journey together. Thirdly in the course of his second, and final, year at Trinity (1935-1936) CAIRNCROSS's Party activity seems to have tapered off. When taken together with the other factors this last point could be construed as being consistent with his having been approached and told to give the appearance of back-sliding. None of these points would carry much weight on its own, but collectively they add up to a measure of support for the thesis that he was recruited earlier rather than later than he has said. The question is why? Again the answer most probably lies in an attempt to cover up.

TOP SECRET

84. Then there is the complicated question of his finances. He continued to maintain the line that during the long period he served the Russians he accepted money from them on one occasion only: £200 in recognition of information he had given them about the German intention to mount a major air onslaught on Kursk. We are trying to get further insight into the background of this from G.C.H.Q in order to assess more objectively the significance of its implications. The manner of his denial that he had received reimbursement for any expenses added to our growing doubts about his truthfulness. For one thing we felt it out of character that he should have allowed himself to be out of pocket as a result of providing a service. Moreover his denial that he accepted other payments, although he admitted it had been made clear money was available, should be considered against BLUNT's story that CAIRNCROSS received £100, as a result of BURGESS's initiative, directly or indirectly from Michael STRAIGHT's mother. We would have liked to press him on this, but it was not desirable that we should do so as this would have inevitably brought in BLUNT and also would almost certainly have changed the character of the interview to a point where it would in effect have become a hostile interrogation.

85. The doubts to which all this gives rise however bulk large in an assessment of his relationship with his controllers; this in turn has direct bearing on the account he has given of his disengagement. We have no new information which helps us satisfy ourselves

one way or the other about this aspect of his story. He maintained that when he had to resign from Government service, which was when he did require financial assistance from the Russians, he did not get it because he was unable to make contact even though he twice activated emergency procedures for a meet. Nor was he ever contacted subsequently. All this could be true but in the light of the significant doubts to which this analysis gives rise, we remain far from satisfied on these points.

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86. For one thing there is his evident current affluence; only a man of considerable substance would find himself in a position where he could recoup a £30,000 loss on one investment from his other investments and speculations. For another there is no doubt that he was acutely uncomfortable when we touched upon this matter. There could be a variety of explanations for this discomfort; an obvious thought is that he has been sailing closer to the legal wind than he should and has been indulging in some form of skullduggery - which is not our concern. On the other hand he must have had his hands on considerable funds - and could draw upon considerable credit - to have been able to embark on a programme of investment and speculation on the scale he evidently has. In this there could be an element of reward for services rendered over a long period to the Russians. It is with this in mind that we have now decided to take up an offer made by Jim Angleton to have CAIRNCROSS's finances again probed in Italy to see where this may lead us.

87. In the meantime, notwithstanding anything this might throw up, we must not lose sight of two things the answers to which seem to be fundamental to this case: why did BLUNT allow us to find papers in CAIRNCROSS's handwriting in BURGESS's flat after the 1951 defection, and why in 1964 did CAIRNCROSS so readily admit to working for the Russians having denied this for the previous twelve years? Were these two points elements in a complex controlled pattern following the defection of BURGESS and MACLEAN? If so how do they fit into the larger and later aspects of what is possibly the same pattern reshaped post-KAGO which could have included the sequence of events leading to PHILBY's defection; STRAIGHT denouncing BLUNT; and after CAIRNCROSS's "confession", that of BLUNT himself? CAIRNCROSS has told us he is planning to return to this country in the spring; we shall have to be in a position then to probe in depth the ten points in the paper he says he is going to bring as a basis for our next discussion.

TOP SECRET

Draft Parliamentary Statement on the BLUNT Case and  
Suggested Answers to Possible Supplementary Questions

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A DRAFT STATEMENT

Sir Anthony BLUNT who was a member of the Security Service from 1940 to 1945 confessed to the Authorities some years ago that like his friends, BURGESS and PHILBY he became an agent of Russian Intelligence during the 1930s at Cambridge and was privy to the defection of BURGESS and MACLEAN in 1951. In addition to providing information about Russian Intelligence activities, and his association with BURGESS, MACLEAN and PHILBY, BLUNT collaborated with the Security Service in counter-espionage operations some of which are continuing. It would not be in the national interest to reveal further details.

B POSSIBLE SUPPLEMENTARIES AND SUGGESTED ANSWERS

1. When did BLUNT confess?

It would not be in the national interest to disclose details concerning BLUNT's confession which has a continuing significance in counter-espionage operations.

2. Why was BLUNT not prosecuted?

Successive Attorneys General were consulted on this matter and decided that the greater public interest lay in taking no prosecution action.

3. Was BLUNT protected by former colleagues in the Security Service?

No. [See answer to 2 above.]

4. Is it not true that Geronwy Rees informed the Authorities in 1951 that BURGESS had told him BLUNT was a Russian agent? Why was no action taken at the time?

The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The answer to the second part is that action was taken.

5. Why was BLUNT allowed to hold a post in the Royal Household after his past relationship with the Russian Intelligence Service was known?

It was considered that the greater public interest lay in no change becoming apparent in his overt status.

6. Did BLUNT confess to recruiting any other spies for the Russians or did he name any others whom he knew to be Russian agents?

See answer to 1 above.

7. Was BLUNT the "Fourth" (or the "Fifth") man?

I cannot go any further than confirm that he was, for a time, like MACLEAN and BURGESS and PHILBY, a Russian spy.

8. Did BLUNT help PHILBY to defect?

No.

9. Did BLUNT confess before PHILBY defected? If so, why was his evidence not used to prosecute PHILBY?

I cannot add to the information about BLUNT's confession which I have already given.

10. When did BLUNT cease to be a Russian spy?

I cannot add to the information already given.

11. Did BLUNT occupy a flat during the war in the possession of the present Head of the Central Policy and Review Staff (C.P.R.S.), Lord ROTHSCHILD?

BLUNT did live during the war in a flat of which the lease was held by Lord ROTHSCHILD but Lord ROTHSCHILD did not live in the flat at the same time.

Lord ROTHSCHILD gave the Authorities an account of his acquaintance with BLUNT some time ago.

12. Did Guy BURGESS, the present Lady ROTHSCHILD and Lady Llewelyn DAVIES share this flat with BLUNT?

Yes. Both Lady ROTHSCHILD and Lady Llewelyn DAVIES have given the Authorities an account of their acquaintance with BLUNT and BURGESS.

C

CONCLUSIONS

Any further supplementaries and particularly any attempts to involve BLUNT's former friends and

acquaintances ....

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-4-

acquaintances might be countered with a reply on the following lines -

The security authorities have undertaken much work on this case and there are good reasons in the interest of national security why no further information can be provided. [But I must make it clear that I regard insinuations against any person solely on account of acquaintance with BLUNT or BURGESS as regrettable and I would not wish my refusal to provide further information to be taken as confirming or condoning these insinuations.]

TOP SECRET

SECRET

EXTRACT

11 2A

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,582 Name: .....

Original in File No.: PF. 604,582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3132 Receipt Date: 9.1.73

Original from: TOWROPE Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 3.1.73

Extracted on: 11.1.73 by: JM Section: K7

I/C CHRISTOPHER to GASKIN.

GASKIN explains that BLUNDEN is in Naples finishing off his book on baroque architecture and he mentions their stay together in Rome beforehand at the Hertziana Museum flat.

GASKIN thinks BLUNDEN will be back on Tuesday. He is going to lecture at the Royal College of Surgeons, having asked if he will do this by Sir E. MUIR, in another week's time.

GASKIN expects to speak to BLUNDEN the day after tomorrow and will mention to him CHRISTOPHER's call.

19.21

\*If the original is in the file of include the name of the fi

SECRET



Copy: PF. 55,570

NOTE

According to TOWROPE  
(PF. 604,582 Supp A) BLUNDEN and REVAI  
were to have met for lunch at REVAI's Club,  
the Reform, on 18th December 1972 but  
BLUNDEN had to cancel the arrangement.

2. BLUNDEN who was thereafter going  
away expected to be back about 9th  
January, 1973. In answer to a question  
by REVAI BLUNDEN confirmed that he would  
be going to Naples.

*M. Fleay*

M. Fleay

K.7/4

3.1.73

NOTE FOR FILEBLUNT'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE ESCAPE  
OF BURGESS AND MACLEANA BLUNT'S OWN STORY

In his confession BLUNT said that BURGESS had approached him immediately after his (BURGESS') arrival from Washington on 17 May 1951; he asked BLUNT for his aid in helping MACLEAN to escape. BURGESS said that he had been warned by PHILBY that "the game was up".

2. In connection with the escape plans BLUNT met an R.I.S. officer; he could not precisely remember any details about the meeting or the reason for it but he thought that it was probably intended that he should be the intermediary between the R.I.S. and BURGESS at this time. BLUNT said that he did not take any active part in the arrangements for the defection of BURGESS and MACLEAN although he was generally aware of what was taking place.

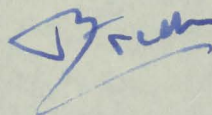
B INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES

3. BURGESS arrived at Southampton by sea on 7 May and travelled by train to Victoria Station where he was met by BLUNT and Jackie HEWITT (BURGESS' Bond Street flat-mate). On 14 May BURGESS is known to have arranged to lunch with MACLEAN on the following day. They lunched together also on 22, 23 and 24 May. It is known that BLUNT had further contacts with BURGESS during this period. *see also 1119b pt II p.8.*

4. On 25 May BURGESS telephoned BLUNT early in the morning and then bought two tickets at Victoria for the ferry from Southampton to St. Malo; he gave the name of his fellow passenger as MILLER (his current American "boyfriend") but said that MILLER's place might be taken by someone else. BURGESS then arranged with a car hire firm to deliver a car to him at 2 p.m. at the Reform Club. He spent the afternoon and early evening shopping, at his flat and at the Reform Club; he is not known to have been in contact with BLUNT at this time. (X)

(X) Paul - see 1119B, second paper, p.8. BLUNT had a long talk with BURGESS at the Reform Club in the early evening of 25.5.51. *11/7/6/LK*

At 7.30 p.m. BURGESS arrived at MACLEAN's house at Tatsfield. MACLEAN had arrived about a quarter of an hour beforehand, having left the Foreign Office at 5.45 p.m. They drove off together at about 10 p.m. and boarded the S.S. Falaise at Southampton at mid-night.



J.A. Cradock.

K.7./0

3 January, 1973

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

PF. 604,582  
PB. 45,907 Link B  
PF. 605,565

Name/Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D. Vol: 6 Serial: : 898 Date of Despatch: 4.1.73

Extracted on: 11.1.73 By: JM Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K.7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 2.1.73

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

- 10.53. Door bell rang in the distance. (Notes)  
10.56. Movements in the distance. "  
10.57. GASKIN came in with BRIAN SIMON.  
As they came in GASKIN was reporting on what a rough time JB. had had and gave an account of the sequence of events - the drama of getting JB. into hospital and of the two operations. BRIAN had evidently heard nothing of this. Miss TROY came in with coffee at this juncture.
- 10.01. GASKIN continued to give a graphic description of events - the convalescence here - their holiday in France and subsequent trip to Rome. BRIAN had never been to Rome which surprised GASKIN who then gave an amusing account of the five hour walk round the churches. He spoke of JB. being in Naples just now and of the fact of his return to this country at the end of the week.
- 11.07. BRIAN asked if JB. would start work again on his return.

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol:

Serial: :

Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

GASKIN hoped he would just work during the mornings and take the afternoons off. He still got very tired but this was not very surprising after two operations. BRIAN asked when JB. was due to retire. He could go a year this June, GASKIN answered. He then added -

GASKIN - "TESS came along - she came a couple of times and was very sweet".

BRIAN - "How very nice of her".

GASKIN - "She was awfully nice".

BRIAN - "Yes, I am sure she would have been."

GASKIN - "It was really - he wanted to see her very much".

BRIAN - "Did he?"

GASKIN - "Yes, because there is such a - sort of - very great - very, very strong relationship".

BRIAN - "Yes". (In agreeing tone.)

GASKIN - "I mean, she was absolutely wonderful".

BRIAN - "Oh I am glad she had been - I am absolutely sure she would have been".

GASKIN - "And his Lordship came in one day to look at some pictures down in the hall - only had time to take one look at them and rush out again". GASKIN laughed and added that VICTOR had been on the T.V. and asked if BRIAN had seen him. BRIAN had not and asked about this.

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol:

Serial: :

Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

GASKIN told him it had been about two or three weeks ago and gave an account. BRIAN asked if VICTOR had managed to cope? GASKIN's comment was that he had been very good but BRIAN should have seen the look of contempt he had given the interviewer - (ROBIN DAY) when he had asked questions about the 'Think Tank' which VICTOR had found irrelevant. There was a slight pause and GASKIN remarked on how well BRIAN was looking. Was LEICESTER O.K? Yes, LEICESTER was fine really, BRIAN replied. They had not actually been away - they had not been abroad, but he had

taken a term off last summer and they had gone up to the cottage they had in the Lake District. This was in May and June and the weather had been ghastly however as the main object had been to try and write a book the weather factor had not mattered. They were planning to go to Naples this year and on hearing this GASKIN suggested he should get some notes from JB. as he knew Italy so well. Why not come and see him? BRIAN agreed that he would come and see JB. sometime after his return from Italy - he had to come up again sometime and would come round then.

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

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Serial: :

Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

GASKIN asked whether BRIAN's mother had died just recently and BRIAN confirmed that she had died in July. She was a very old lady and had always hated the idea of becoming senile. Another slight pause and GASKIN continued to say how good JB. had been never complaining about anything and being such a model patient. He was determined to overcome all the difficulties and the doctors thought very highly of him. BRIAN agreed that was very good as he was not very strong. GASKIN spoke of JB's toughness, reserve of energy and tremendous resistance to pain. Much more than most. ~~XXXX~~ Anyway that was all over now GASKIN said and BRIAN was to tell TESS if he saw her that JB. had walked him off his weary feet in Rome. 11.13. BRIAN laughed and had evidently got to his feet. GASKIN again asked him to try and come along to see JB. BRIAN rather emphatically said he would and still talking they left the room.

**TOP SECRET**

SECRET  
EXTRACT

11275

Extract for File No.: PF. 604.582 Name: .....  
Original in File No.: \* PF. 604.582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3131 Receipt Date: 3.1.73  
Original from: TOWROPE Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 1.1.73  
Extracted on: 10.10.73 by: JM Section: K7

I/C from WILFRED (BLUNDEN) to GASKIN.

Asking for BLUNDEN but GASKIN told him that he had gone on down to Naples. WILFRED asked when he was coming back - at the end of the week. GASKIN related story of five hour walk. Then of fact of being back for the dinner at the Royal College of Surgeon. GASKIN mentioned he had been trying to telephone BLUNDEN in Naples as he had some dates to tell him about. WILFRED would ring again next week.

21.22.

O/G calls by PETER BARRATT PATON - no interest.

2.1.73.  
Tuesday

O/G GASKIN to Hotel Regina in Naples, asking for BLUNDEN.

He finally came to telephone. GASKIN asked if he had gone down to Naples on Sunday. BLUNDEN had not - he had stayed on in Rome until yesterday. He would stay in Naples for the rest of the week he thought but was going to see ANDREW MCKENNA now to see what plans had been made. GASKIN spoke of the fog and on hearing this BLUNDEN thought he might come back by sea from Paris. GASKIN reported that everything in the flat was in order when he came back and added that the flat looked beautiful and he spoke of putting the pictures back. Call cut off.

07.45.

SECRET



SECRET  
EXTRACT

11276

Extract for File No.: PF 604,582 Name: .....

Original in File No.: PF 604,582 Supp. A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3129 Receipt Date: 2.1.73

Original from: TOWROPE Under Ref: 4304 Dated: 31.12.72

Extracted on: 11.1.73 by: JM Section: K7

I/C PETER BARRATT PATON to GASKIN.

To say he had been told by Mrs COCK of his return and had so left the heating on and hoped it was warm enough. GASKIN gave account of hazards on return flight. PETER asked about BLUNDEN and was told he had gone on down to Naples. There he would be busy with the British Council people and GASKIN had decided to come home. PETER mentioned that he had taken the curtains down from the sitting room yesterday. The room had been decorated on Friday and he thought they had made a nice job of it. GASKIN spoke of the flat in Rome and the 5 hour walk round churches which he had been taken on by BLUNDEN commenting that BLUNDEN still got

very tired.

N.T.S. approx  
15.25.

O/G GASKIN to COCK (caretaker).

Reported on Line 4308.

19.06.

O/G GASKIN to Hotel Toledo Regina in Naples - 0103981232825

He asked for Professor BLUNDEN who was supposed to have arrive yesterday. He was told he had not arrived yet. GASKIN surprised and added that BLUDEN had telephoned yesterday. Distant repeated that he had not arrived yet.

19.15.

SECRET

## EXTRACT FROM F2/URG INTERVIEW REPORT

Extract for File No.: PF 604, 582

Name: A. BLUNT PA

Original in File No.: PF 2567

Vol ... 2 ... Serial: 141.a. Dated 28.12.72

Extracted by: K3/11. Sec. /F2/URG

Date 1.5.73

Subject: MADGE, Charles

University, College and dates: Magdalen College, Cambridge. (1931-34) 1127 ab

Position in Student Movement or other significant involvement:

Secretary of CUSS Michaelmas 1932. Member of Student Branch of the Communist Party.

Reliability:

Reliable within the limits of his memory which appears to be good.

and Place of Interview: 24 November 1972. Room 055.Interviewing Officer:

@ (if used)

D C Driver. [REDACTED]

15. Mr. Driver asked Prof. MADGE if he could comment on the relationship between BURGESS and PHILBY at Cambridge. He said that he would say that during the time that he was at Cambridge they were definitely not friendly, but at that time BURGESS was not a Communist and regarded Communism as a 'low-grade form of activity'. When he heard that MADGE was a Communist he cut him in the street. But BURGESS was a friend of MADGE's friend Guy HUNTER and they would call in on him or go to parties at his flat. He then said that BURGESS and BLUNT were certainly friends but he did not think that BLUNT was particularly interested in politics at that time. He looked on them as a very artistically gifted pair and admired BURGESS's ability to draw, but he did not like him from the start so was not worried when BURGESS subsequently cut him. He thought that Andrew COWEN (PF.607359) had also been a friend - 'these were all very rich with an Etonian kind of background'.

25. Earlier in the interview we had made some reference to Prof. MADGE's visit to Russia in 1933 and he at once said that this was not so. The only occasion he had ever been to Russia was for the Economic Conference after the war. He thought that there must have been a mix up with his brother over the earlier visit as John MADGE had certainly gone there 'with Anthony BLUNT and Charles RYCROFT and various other people'. He added that 'whereas in his time at Cambridge Communism was still very new, it had become 'a fashionable fad' by John's time there and appealed to many people who would earlier have treated it with contempt.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 August 2023

**TOP SECRET**

H157/1 <sup>cd</sup>

1125a



*2/12  
D.G.  
D.D.G.  
KX*

HOME OFFICE  
WHITEHALL · S.W.1  
21st December 1972

Rec. 21.12.72  
PF. 604,582

*for filing; please let me see both notes after Christmas HWT 22/12*

I have checked with our records about Blunt.

I see that the Security Service sent over a note <sup>about Blunt</sup> on 18th October 1967 which was seen by Mr Roy Jenkins, and a copy of which was sent by him to Mr Harold Wilson on the same date.

Mr Jenkins also saw the Security Service note about the "Ring of Five".

A version of this note <sup>about the "Ring of Five"</sup>, which included reference to Blunt, was shown by me to Mr Callaghan. The note itself I returned to Farnival Jones on 5th April. As far as I can see I did not refer specifically to Blunt in any submission I put to Mr Callaghan, but it is certainly true that he saw these papers giving information about Blunt, among others. *all att*

I also confirm that Hanley and I have talked about the case to Charteris, who has told Philip Moore, but no-one else.

(sd) Philip Allen

Sir Burke Trend GCB CVO

Copy: Mr Hanley ✓

**TOP SECRET**

*20/872*

11252

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

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582 Link G

Name / Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 SuppD Vol: 6

Serial: : 894 Date of Despatch: 1.1.73

Extracted on: 11.1.73 By: JM

Section: K.7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K.7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 19.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

18.52.

GASKIN came in with Peter BARRATT -PATON. General chat and then GASKIN announced that they would be decorating in here and this was all arranged. Mr COCK (caretaker) had the keys to the flat and so had Miss TROY when she was here. He had spoken to the builders and work would start on January 1st and he had explained about the switchboard being closed at night time and so they were to dial 9292. JB. thought this satisfactory.

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name/Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D. Vol: 6

Serial: 891 Date of Despatch: 29.12.72

Extracted on: 11.1.73 By: JM

Section: K7

1124 E

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 18.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

11.26. JB, who had been out came in and GASKIN went out with something JB. had given him. JB. proceeded to give instructions and almost immediately John GOLDING arrived. Relating some funny incident which made them all laugh. He wished JB. a good trip and departed. JB. continued with some dictation. This continued for some time - no interest. Then some instructions and she left.

12.19. John GOLDING came in very briefly - no interest. Then they drifted out.

13.01. JB. came in with Hugh TATE. Conversation merely art matters.

13.49. They went out and it was quiet in here until -

16.52. JB. came in with ELIZABETH HASLOCK.

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol: Serial: : Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

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Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

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**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

---

JB. was pleased to hear this and switched to tell GASKIN that he had drafted what was necessary for the will but that EDMONDS would not be back until 11.30. so that GASKIN should take the will round any time after that. Joking GASKIN commented that JB. had better get poor old WILFRED off - he was the executor after all JB. cut in. Then, prattled on GASKIN, there was that bossy sister-in-law too. Peals of laughter from ELIZABETH and GASKIN added - first things first - didn't she agree? Yes, laughed ELIZABETH, adding that it was not a thing that should be hurried. GASKIN said that they had been discussing the whole thing for years - 40 years or more he stressed in exaggeration. ELIZABETH thought that anything to do with money was always terrible. GASKIN went on to tell ELIZABETH that he had left a note with his sister about his own will. She was pleased to hear about this in case anything happened. GASKIN repeated that he was very glad it had all been straightened out after all this time.

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582 Name / Title: 1124d  
Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D Vol: 6 Serial: 890 Date of Despatch:  
Extracted on: 11.1.73 By: JM Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4 A2A Ref: JB/1  
Transcriber: E. Howell Date of Contents: 18.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

- 20.14. He came in with GASKIN, TOM FINN and Geof BRUMMEL, There was general chat and after a short time GASKIN and TOM went out. GEOFF remained for dinner. Conversation started up on value of pictures and other topics of no consequence.
- 21.15. Later JB. spoke of his retirement in '74. He would know by next May who would be his successor. This would suit him and be a good thing to have the successor take over a year ahead. After all JB. remarked he had been 'a Dictator' here for a long time. GEOFF suggested that JB. should use his energies elsewhere. JB. agreed but said it was the question of his pension. If he stayed on the full time his pension would be that much larger. GEOFF hoped he would not wear himself out doing this and stressed that he deserved all he had earned. JB. did not think he would be too worn out and he was doing his best - with his secretaries and others at the Institute - to relax more. He added the comment that one of the things he had learnt through being ill was that he was tougher than he

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S Form 902

**TOP SECRET**



**AZURE EXTRACT****TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol: Serial: : Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

thought. Later mentioning that he had to go to Naples anyway for a Congress in November he thought of combining this with a sabbatical term he was due.

A few flowery compliments followed from GEOFF who sounded rather tight. What he appreciated about JB. was that he was tough and concise and no one would dare to take liberties with him. JB. listened with amusement and interest as GEOFF continued this slurred assessment of JB's personality stressing how much he admired this hard and decisive attribute. JB. replied that he had always enjoyed listening to other people talking and GEOFF burst in with further compliments. Then he started up on self analysis and his own problems. Then they switched to subject of art - modern - JB. speaking of his generation's attitude to aspects of art and questioning GEOFF on his. Then of problems of lecturing and how these were tackled. Conversation continued on these lines for some time.

22.22.

Now discussing possibility of getting JB. to lecture to his students at Walthamstow College. At this stage it was apparent that JB. was rather tight as well. When discussing this project JB. agreed to try but not at the beginning of next term as he would be very busy and suggested either mid-February or mid-March. They both waffled on re plans for this - JB. pointing out that his fee should be 200 gns.

22.32.

Announcing that he had to be at Windsor early tomorrow morning JB. said he must go to bed now. After further inconsequential remarks they left the room and it was quiet until coverage dropped.

**TOP SECRET**

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EXTRACT

11240

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,582 Name: .....  
 Original in File No.: PF. 604,582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3126 Receipt Date: 20.12.72  
 Original from: TOWROPE Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 18.12.72  
 Extracted on: 29.12.72 by: JM Section: K7

VERBATIM of-

O/G BLUNDEN to 286 2284, Mr. EDMOND's secretary.

BLUNDEN says that he is telephoning about his will and GASKIN's.  
 DISTANT says that GASKIN had rung up on Friday.  
 BLUNDEN asks if she has the wills in front of her. No, she has not had them back and, she says, they do not take copies until they have been signed. In this case, says BLUNDEN, he will have to get GASKIN to bring them over.

DISTANT asks whether he has an alteration.  
 BLUNDEN replies - 'well yes - in his there's a minute one merely that you've put London W.C.1 instead of W.1.'  
 BLUNDEN goes on - 'In mine there is an alteration - the same occurs actually at the end of my will. And - unfortunately, I'm no longer - I've just resigned as Surveyor of the Queen's pictures - I didn't realize that was mentioned, and, more important, I want to add a small - it would come, I suppose, in the paragraph 3, a small bequest of money to a friend of mine in France, I'll give you his na-'

see 1122a

DISTANT interrupts and BLUNDEN then says that he thinks the best thing would be if he got GASKIN to go up with these.  
 DISTANT suggests BLUNDEN either puts a piece of paper on the will or a note on the will because it will in any case have to be re-typed.  
 BLUNDEN agrees to do this. DISTANT will then adapt it to legal jargon if necessary.  
 BLUNDEN consults aside with GASKIN and returns to say that GASKIN will be along quite soon.  
 DISTANT says that if GASKIN will want to see Mr. EDMONDS it would be best to come after 11.30, as he is at Court.

11.00

SECRET

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EXTRACT

11 246

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,582 Name: .....  
Original in File No.:\* PF. 604,582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3125 Receipt Date: 19.12.72  
Original from: TOWROPE Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 18.12.72  
Extracted on: 28.12.72 by: JM Section: K7

O/G BLUNDEN to 286 2284 Mr. EDWARD's secretary.

Concerning his will and GASKIN's.  
BLUNDEN mentions one or two alterations to be made and an addition  
in his own will of a small bequest of money to a friend in France.  
GASKIN would go along today.

11.00

\*If the original is in the file of an individual, include the name of the individual.

SECRET

Note for file

I accompanied D.G. to a meeting at the Cabinet Office with Sir Burke Trend and Sir Philip Allen this afternoon to discuss the BLUNT case and in particular our recent paper on the considerations arising in the event of publicity.

2. It was agreed that the Security Service would prepare as soon as possible after Christmas a draft statement for use when publicity made some disclosure unavoidable, together with answers to the more obvious supplementary questions that sprang to mind. There could then be a further meeting to which Martin Charteris would be invited.

3. Both Trend and Allen took the view that it would not be acceptable for the Palace to take the line that it had no knowledge of BLUNT's connection with the Russians.

4. Allen undertook to discover from Home Office records which Ministers in the last Labour Administration had seen the Ring of Five paper or any other document which dealt with the BLUNT case.

KX  
—

  
J.A. Allen

18th December 1972.

KX dec 18  
19.12

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EXTRACT

11242

Extract for File No. : PF 604 582 Name :  
Original in File No. : \* PF 604 582 Supp A Vol. : 23 Serial : 3124 Receipt Date : 19.12.72  
Original from : TOWROPE Under Ref. : 4304 Dated : 17.12.72  
Extracted on : 29.12.72 by : JM Section : K7

Individual

O/G BLUNDEN to JOHN GOLDING.

Largely about JOHN GOLDING's work which involves one day's work at the Institute. BLUNDEN mentions that they have managed to get the Rome flat for about 12 days.

Tab

11.14

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S Form 338

\* If the original include

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S Form 81b

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

1124y

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name/Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D Vol: 5 Serial: 888 Date of Despatch: 22.12.72

Extracted on: 29.12.72 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K.7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 17.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

12.46. Conversation switched to the Albany flat. JB. told ELSA that it was a real possibility and spoke of the rent and rates prices. It was a question still of when one became available.

Avev

19.03. Then of Barry NEAVE(ph)'s book about the evacuation of CALAIS, which TOM thought was very good. TOM's brother-in-law was at Calais and escaped from COLDITZ later on. They spoke of that period of the war and TOM queried JB. activities during that period. JB. said that he had got out before CALAIS. TOM referred to the NEAVE book again and the description of Bologne and Dieppe and how JB's lot at Bologne were really a lost cause. ~~IBX~~ JB. asked the date of this event and was told it was MAY, about the 25th. JB. thought he had got out on about 20th and went on to describe their appalling lack of arms at this point. Still

BROCKLEBANK

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol:

Serial: :

Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

reminiscing TOM asked when JB. went out was it October '39? JB. confirmed this. TOM queried whether this was with ~~JIMMY~~ (JIMMY ALISON's lot (ph) lot. JB. again confirmed this and added that (JIMMY ALISON SCOTT (ph) JIMMY was just as frightened as he was at that moment. TOM broke in to say that the next time he met JIMMY was at BENTINCK Street. Very likely JB. laughed. TOM's girl friend in turn broke in to comment that she still thought the book by John VERNEY was such a frightfully good description. JB.'s comment was that he did not particularly want to read these books oddly enough but would like read a book which gave a minute description of some particular operation. TOM queried whether anyone had written specifically about the Bologne thing. To which JB. replied, no nothing. As far as he knew nothing - he had left before it got really hot and they had all been withdrawn and he could not imagine that there would have been any resistance at all.

*Josephelle*  
WORCHESTER  
(PH)

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

1123E

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name/Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D Vol: 5 Serial: 884 Date of Despatch: 19.12.72

Extracted on: 29.12.72 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K. 7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 15.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

10.36. ELIZABETH HASLOCK came in and was given various instructions. He referred to various letters he had had regretting his retirement from various prominent people. The subject of keeping on this flat came up and JB. agreed with ELIZABETH that it would be useful to keep this on. He referred to a telephone call with Lord ROBBINS when this was discussed but apparently no conclusions reached. They spoke of the trip JB. and GASKIN would make at Christmas and of dates when JB. <sup>would</sup> come back. His first engagement was on January 9th which would mean he would be back by 8th January.

**TOP SECRET**



# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol:

Serial: :

Date of Despatch:

Extracted on:

By:

Section:

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

12.50.

ZARNECKI asked how long JB. intended to be away. JB. explained that he had had an offer of a flat in Rome - until New Year's day - then he intended to go on to Naples and return via Paris for two nights. Term started on 11th Jan but he would return on January 7th night or early 8th. He would be leaving on Wednesday next. He wanted to have Monday clearing up/<sup>work</sup>with ELIZABETH HASLOCK and planned to go down to Windsor on Tuesday morning. No further interest.

**TOP SECRET**

SECRET

EXTRACT

1123d

Extract for File No. :...PF...604,582.....Name :.....

Original in File No. :...PF...604,582 Supp A.....Vol. :23.....Serial :...3123 Receipt Date :...19.12.72

Original from :...TOWROPE.....Under Ref. :...4304.....Dated :...15.12.72

Extracted on :...11.1.73.....by :...JM.....Section :...K7.....

I/C LIONEL ROBINS to BLUNDEN.

Connected with a letter from DAVID ECCLES with regard to money they had hoped might be forthcoming for a university project.. BLUNDEN mentions having seen ECCLES for a moment last night at the Mantegna film showing.

LIONEL ROBINS goes on to talk about the question of the ex-gratia flat occupied by BLUNDEN which he agrees to be an immense amenity for a resident director. ROBINS points out that he had never thought in terms of this having to be relinquished. He cannot remember the beginnings of BLUNDEN's occupancy or the conditions etc. arrived at. He suggests that after Christmas it might be a good idea to have a meeting between himself, BLUNDEN, JEAN COURTAULD, in order to discuss the whole matter.

10.06

file of an ind  
the file own

I/C Sir JOHN POPE HENNESSY to BLUNDEN.

POPE HENNESSY begins by speaking about the Advisory Council saying that he hopes BLUNDEN will continue as before on it. BLUNDEN thanks him and agrees adding that he enjoys it. POPE HENNESSY goes on to talk about JOHN GEAR and his application for the post of keeper of prints and drawings, and they discuss this.

11.54

11230  
PF. 604,582

NOTE

TOWROPE on BLUNDEN is  
being suspended over the Christmas  
period 22-28 December.

*M. Fleay*

M. Fleay

K. 7/4

15.12.72

SECRET

EXTRACT

11236

Extract for File No.: BT 604 582 Name: .....

Original in File No.: BT 604 582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3119 Receipt Date: 19.12.72

Original from: TOWROPE Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 14.12.72

Extracted on: 29.12.72 by: JM Section: K7

I/C \*BLUNDEN to GASKIN.

GASKIN reports to him the good news this morning - that they have the double flat in 'Hertziana'. BLUNDEN sounds delighted. GASKIN goes on to report details of his BEA enquiries and bookings. GASKIN then mentions a little suspicion <sup>at n</sup> over the arrival of a heavy looking letter for BLUNDEN and both ELISABETH and GASKIN had commented upon this. GASKIN had now stuck it out of the way. BLUNDEN <sup>a little concerned</sup> thanked him for telling him. It would be left for BLUNDEN to see upon his return. BLUNDEN expects to be back at about 5.0. GASKIN mentions the talk he had given to PETER about coming to stay in the flat and he had warned him that he may not bring anyone back with him.

13.15

I/C ERIC HERBORN to GASKIN.

GASKIN tells him that they are going to Rome and have been given a flat in the Hertziana. A telegram arrived about ~~13.15~~ today. GASKIN says that they are arriving on the 20th and expect to stay for about 10 days.

13.33

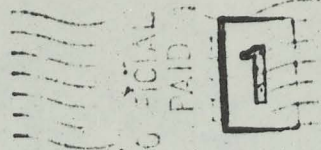
SECRET

13 DEC 1972 SECRET L 1

4307

14 DEC 1972

*pu*



1123A

Sir Anthony Blunt KCVO  
Courtauld Institute of Arts  
20 Portman Square  
London W1

LORD PRIVY SEAL



Civil Service Department  
Whitehall London SW1A 2AZ

12 December 1972

Sir Anthony Blunt KCVO  
Courtauld Institute of Arts  
20 Portman Square  
London W1

*Dear Sir Anthony*

Thank you for your letter of 4 December about Chevening.

I am really very sorry indeed that you feel you must give up work on the Chevening Trust, not least because of the reason for your decision. Nevertheless I quite understand your position.

I can only say that I have greatly enjoyed our association and I know that I am speaking for my fellow Trustees when I say that we have all found it a great help to have the benefit of your advice.

The statutory functions of the former Minister of Public Building and Works have been transferred to the Secretary of State for the Environment, now of course Geoffrey Rippon. It is to him that you should tender your formal resignation.

I am copying your letter and this to our fellow Trustees.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Geoffrey Rippon*  
GEOFFREY RIPPON

01002510

EXTRACT FROM F2/URG INTERVIEW REPORT

PA

Extract for File No.: ... PF 604582 ..... Name: ... A. BLUNT .....  
Original in File No.: ... PF42567 ..... Vol ... 2 ... Serial 140a ... Dated 14.12.72  
Extracted by: .K3/1.1.Sec... /F2/URG Date .9.3.73.....

Subject: MADGE, Charles

University, College and dates: Magdalene College, Cambridge. (1931-34)

Position in Student Movement or other significant involvement:

Secretary of CUSS Michaelmas 1932. Member of Student Branch of the Communist Party.

Reliability:

Reliable within the limits of his memory which appears to be good.

Date and Place of Interview: 23 November 1972. Room 055.

Interviewing Officer:

@ (if used)

9. One of his own close friends had been Guy HUNTER who had been a close friend of Guy BURGESS. I asked MADGE whether he could remember who else was associated with BURGESS; he particularly remembered Anthony BLUNT who had been particularly friendly with his brother, John MADGE; his own impression was that BLUNT was alright but he particularly disliked BURGESS. He remembered when he had first joined the Communist Party BURGESS had cut him in the street.

22. As a general observation MADGE reminded me that although the Communist movement had attracted men like BURGESS and BLUNT it also attracted a lot of "dim" people. I asked MADGE whether he could remember any particular Communist influence in the Heretics; he remembered BERNAL and Julian BELL as Heretics but could not recall that either had been a member of the Communist Party. Bill EMPSON had also been a Heretic but MADGE thought he had not been converted to the Communist Party until he had lived in Japan and China.

THIS IS A COPY  
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED  
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION  
3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS  
ACT 1958 AUGUST 23

14 DEC 1972

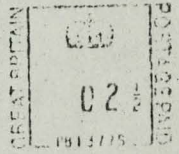
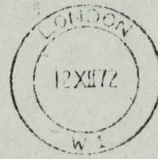
W.D.O. SECRET

9755

*P. 2*

*11226*

THE BRITISH COUNCIL



14 DEC 1972

W.D.O. SECRET

756

## THE BRITISH COUNCIL

29 Bressenden Place  
London SW1E 5DD  
telephone 01-828 4366

Sir Anthony Blunt KCVO FBA FSA  
Director  
The Courtauld Institute  
20 Portman Square  
London  
W1H 0BE

your ref

our ref HUN/360/310

12 December 1972

Dear Sir Anthony

I am acknowledging your letter of 7 December to Mr J A Aris. We are sorry to learn that you will not be able to accept our invitation to make a two-week visit to Hungary under the Exchange Programme but understand your reasons for not wishing to go.

Yours sincerely

*B. W. Brown*

B W Brown  
Specialist Tours Department

bwb.eg



81051

1122A

W.D.O. SECRET

11 3 DEC 1972

14 DEC 1972

*Pr. 6041 1282*  
*Pr. 1282*

PERSONAL

Professor Sir Anthony Blunt  
University of London  
Courtauld Institute of Art.  
20 Portman Square  
LONDON W1H 0EE

REMEMBER  
to use the  
POST CODE



3p  
12 DEC  
1972  
W.9

13 DEC 1972

W.D.O. SECRET

81071

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Clayton, Leach, Sims & Co.

37 MAIDA VALE  
LONDON W9 1TW

SOLICITORS

COMMISSIONERS FOR OATHS

S. C. Jones, LL B.  
G. L. Edmonds, LL B.

Telephone 01-286 2284

---

Our Ref. GLE/JAVP

Your Ref.

Date 12th December 1972

PERSONAL

Professor Sir Anthony Blunt,  
University of London,  
Courtauld Institute of Art  
20 Portmar Square  
LONDON W1H 0BE

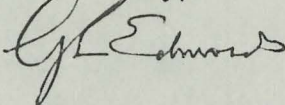
Dear Sir Anthony,

- ... I enclose herewith your Will for signature. Please read it through carefully beforehand to make sure that it incorporates all your wishes accurately and please date it in words before signing it in the presence of two witnesses who should of course then sign their names and add their addresses and occupations.

I expect you will then wish this firm to keep the Will for you, but in any event would you please send it back to me when it has been signed so that even if you want it kept elsewhere I can take a copy for our records. I shall then destroy the previous Will and Codicils.

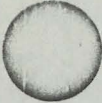
I have also sent a Will to Mr Gaskin by the same post.

Yours sincerely,



GRAHAM L EDMONDS

LLB

...   
Incorporating  
Wainwright & Co  
Clifford Baron & Lake

Consultants  
S C Baron LL B  
R B T Keen, M A LL B

And at 18 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3JL Telephone 01-638 4272/3/4

81071

*Dated* \_\_\_\_\_ *19*

*Bill*  
*of*

ANTHONY FREDERICK BLUNT

W.D.O. SECRET

113 DEC 1972

113 DEC 1972

W.D.O. SECRET

B106

# This is the last Will

of me, ANTHONY FREDERICK BLUNT of 20 Portman Square London W 1  
in the County of Greater London Surveyor of the Queen's  
Pictures and Director of The Courtauld Institute of Art K C V O  
and I HEREBY REVOKE all Wills and Testamentary Dispositions  
made by me heretofore and declare this to be my last Will.

1. I DESIRE to be cremated

2. I APPOINT JOHN GOLDING of 64 Prince of Wales Mansions Prince  
of Wales Drive Battersea London S W and BRIAN SEWELL of  
19 Eldon Road London W8F 5PT to be the Executors and Trustees  
of this my Will and I DECLARE that the expression "my Trustees"  
shall include the Trustee or Trustees for the time being of  
this my Will

3. I BEQUEATH to my former Secretary Miss Elsa Sheerer of The  
Courtauld Institute the sum of £500. free of all duties  
payable on or by reason of my death.

4. I GIVE the following specific bequests free from all duties  
payable on or by reason of my death, NAMELY

(a) To the person holding the appointment of Deputy  
Director of The Courtauld Institute at the time of my death  
all manuscripts notes and papers pertaining to my work as an  
art historian with authority to publish or otherwise use or  
destroy all or any parts of the same as he shall in his  
absolute discretion think fit and any revenue received from  
such publication or use shall be held for the benefit of the  
said Courtauld Institute.

(b) To The University of London such of my books and  
photographs and architectural drawings and architectural  
engravings as may be acceptable to The Courtauld Institute of  
Art and I DECLARE that the receipt of an Officer for the time  
being of the said University shall be a good discharge to my  
Trustees.

*S. 1171 a shows some sum for  
Fabien CHARBIT of  
17 Avenue Sospel,  
Menton. Alpes  
Maritime.*

113 DEC 1972

W.D.O. SECRET

8109

5. I GIVE DEVISE and BEQUEATH all my property whatsoever and wheresoever not hereby otherwise disposed of (herein referred to as my residuary Estate) unto my Trustees UPON TRUST to sell call-in and convert the same into money with power in their absolute discretion to postpone such sale calling-in and conversion and subject to the payment of my debts and funeral expenses and testamentary expenses and legacies TO HOLD the same upon Trust for WILLIAM JOHN GASKIN of 20 Portman Square London W C 1 absolutely PROVIDED ALWAYS that if he shall not survive me for one calendar month then and in such case my Trustees shall hold my residuary Estate UPON TRUST for The University of London for the use and benefit of The Courtauld Institute of Art, absolutely.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy-two

SIGNED by the said )  
 ANTHONY FREDERICK )  
 BLUNT as and for his )  
 last Will and )  
 Testament in the )  
 presence of us both )  
 being present at the )  
 same time who in his )  
 presence and at his )  
 request and in the )  
 presence of each )  
 other have hereunto )  
 subscribed our names )  
 as Witnesses:- )

1 2 DEC 1972 SECRET

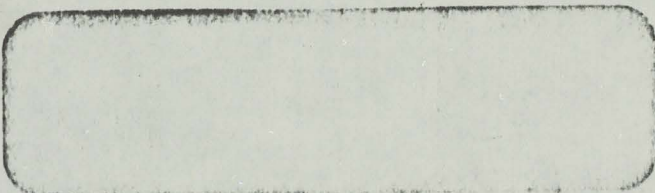
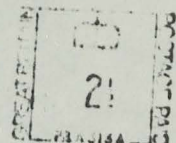
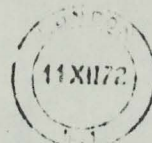
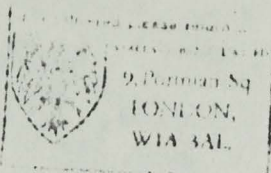
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13 DEC 1972

1121B

PRIVATE

*P.A.  
T.D.  
2/13/72*



SIR A.F. BLUNT, K.C.V.O.

Barclays Bank Limited  
PORTMAN SQUARE

STATEMENT  
OF ACCOUNT



SIR A.F. BLUNT, K.C.V.O.,  
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON  
COURTAULD INSTITUTE OF ART,  
20 PORTMAN SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.1.

80179299

DIARY

POST

1972/11

CUSTOMER'S NOTES	DETAIL	PAYMENTS	RECEIPTS	DATE	BALANCE
	BALANCE FORWARD			8NOV	2655.46
	22A165	20.00			
	166	200.00			
	167	30.00		15NOV	2405.46
	168	3.33			
	STANDING ORDER	50.00		16NOV	2352.13
	R.U.P.A.	STO		24NOV	2308.48
	R.U.P.A.	STC			
	UNIV OF LONDON	BGC	380.99		
	COUNTER CREDIT		17.64		
	CCOUNTER CREDIT		250.00	27NOV	2919.16
	169	60.00			
	COUNTER CREDIT		82.50	29NOV	2941.66
	S J GASKIN	STO	25.00		
	170	50.00			
	ADVCE ENCLOSED		316.88	1DEC	3183.54
	FRANCO BRIT SOC.	STO	1.57	4DEC	3181.97
	DIVIDEND		8.09	6DEC	3190.06
	22A171	84.00			
	172	110.00		7DEC	2996.06

DIV DIVIDEND

STO STANDING ORDER

BGC BANK GIRO CREDIT

DBR DIRECT DEBIT

OVERDRAWN BALANCES ARE INDICATED BY THE LETTERS DB

05757210

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET** 1121A

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name/Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582

Vol: 5 Serial: 874 Date of Despatch: 13.12.72

Extracted on: 13.12.72 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 9.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

It was quiet until -

16.54. JB. came in with (?) CHRISTOPHER(brother) and EELIZABETH.

As they did so JB. was explaining ramifications of  
life precautions to the ~~premises~~<sup>building</sup> and other details.

He was asked about the future of the Institute and spoke of the possibility of moving into another larger building and then the R.I.B.A. would take over the whole of the existing Institute premises. This would take a number of years.

**TOP SECRET**

TOP SECRET

H157/1 4d

COPY NO. 3 OF 5 COPIES

D.D.G. *RS 14/12*

KX. *WAT 18/12*

K.7. *AX*

SECT/HOME

to see

copy on POL.F.50-24-101/SA  
Copy No. 5

1120A

PF.604,582/DG

13 December 1972

Further to my letter of 30 October about Anthony BLUNT, I now enclose an additional note which deals with the considerations arising in the event of publicity.

1088a

2. There are a number of questions on which I think it might be useful to have some discussion and, if possible, to reach provisional decisions. The most important is perhaps what should be said in the event of pressure for a public statement about BLUNT. I am strongly of the view that any statement should be as brief and in as general terms as possible. We could have a shot at drafting something now if this were thought worth while. Presumably it would be either the Prime Minister or the Home Secretary who would make the statement.

3. Other points which will call for decision at some stage are whether the Palace should be given any guidance about its handling of questions about BLUNT and whether any of the persons named in paragraph 13 of the note should be made aware of the line the Government proposes to take in the event of a demand for a statement being made. In this connection I believe that Victor Rothschild has already expressed to Burke Trend some anxiety to know what the Government's intentions are.

4. I am copying this letter to Burke Trend \* with whom I suggest we discuss the matter in the near future. (\*Copy No.2)

M. B. Hanley

Sir Philip Allen G.C.B.,  
Home Office.

Enclosure: 1

TOP SECRET

*John*





THE CASE OF SIR ANTHONY BLUNT :

CONSIDERATIONS ARISING IN THE EVENT OF PUBLICITY

Introduction

Sir Anthony BLUNT is Director of the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London; he is a former member of the Royal Household and now Adviser for the Queen's Pictures and Drawings. In 1964 BLUNT confessed to a Security Service officer that during the 1930s, while a don at Trinity College Cambridge, he was recruited as a Comintern agent by his close friend Guy BURGESS. As well as talent-spotting and recruiting other persons to work for the Russians, BLUNT acted as a Russian spy during employment in the Security Service from July 1940 to October 1945. His regular dealings with the Russians ceased shortly afterwards, although he was privy to the arrangements for the defection of BURGESS and MACLEAN in May 1951 and assisted PHILBY in making contact with the Russians between 1951 and 1956.

2. BLUNT is now 65. Since he was placed under investigation by the Security Service in 1951 after the defection of BURGESS and MACLEAN, his case has been handled on a highly restricted basis, in part because of its intrinsic delicacy and also, after he had made his confession, because of the importance of ensuring that his disclosures and cooperation in other Security Service investigations did not leak back to the Russians. But the fact that he was a Russian agent of some sort before and during World War II is known outside official circles and is certain to receive publicity either at BLUNT's death or at some other time in the future. This note considers briefly the likely extent to which this knowledge has spread; the circumstances in which publicity may occur; the criticism of official action or inaction which could follow from the disclosure; and the possibility that

/.....



- 2 -

a number of persons in public life may also receive adverse publicity as a result of their connections with BLUNT.

Who outside official circles knows that BLUNT was a Russian agent ?

3. It is impossible to compile an accurate list of those who know BLUNT was a Russian agent. At least thirty persons outside official circles must be aware although in most cases they know little more than the bare fact. They include individuals whom BLUNT recruited - three cases are known for certain - or attempted to involve with the Russians. Most of these remain silent in order to avoid self-incrimination. But amongst former friends of BLUNT and BURGESS who knew about their activities is the writer Goronwy REES; he has on more than one occasion gone near to identifying BLUNT as a former Comintern agent.

4. A number of other writers and some newspaper editors have acquired the knowledge that BLUNT worked for the Russians either as a result of following up the veiled references to BLUNT in Goronwy REES' writings, or in the course of research such as that done by the Sunday Times some years ago into the case of PHILBY (who belonged to the same espionage ring as BLUNT and BURGESS).

5. Several Ministers in the last Labour administration were informed about the case; they included Mr. Wilson, Mr. Callaghan and Mr. Jenkins.

6. Some information about the case has been passed on a very restricted basis for the information of a few counter-espionage specialists in the

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- 3 -

intelligence and security agencies named below.  
We are confident that no use will be made of the  
information other than for professional purposes.

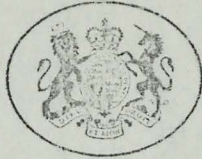
Central Intelligence Agency  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Royal Canadian Mounted Police  
Australian Security Intelligence  
Organisation  
New Zealand Security Intelligence  
Organisation.

In what circumstances is publicity likely to arise ?

7. The main factor inhibiting press disclosure in the United Kingdom has been fear that BLUNT would mount a successful action for libel. His death would remove this danger; it is very probable that a few newspapers already have a story on hand for publication as soon as their legal advisers confirm that this is safe. REES could then be expected to repeat and amplify his previous allegation, coupled with criticism of official failure to take action against BLUNT (REES volunteered to the Security Service in 1951 that BURGESS had told him BLUNT was a Comintern agent; up to the time he made his confession in 1964 BLUNT maintained this was a lie). In addition we must reckon with the possibility that BLUNT has himself prepared for publication after his death a document in which he describes and seeks to justify the work he carried out for the Russians.

8. The story might break before BLUNT's death if the case were raised under cover of Parliamentary privilege, e.g. by a question in the House. And

/.....



- 4 -

publication of the facts abroad could decide a British newspaper to run a campaign of half-disclosure with the object of forcing BLUNT into the open. One of BLUNT's recruits for the Comintern was Michael Witney STRAIGHT, a prominent figure in U.S. public life who confessed to the F.B.I. that he worked for the Russians. STRAIGHT was not prosecuted and is most unlikely to talk. But leakage to the American press is possible.

What criticism of the Government might follow from publicity ?

9. The case could be presented as further evidence (following on BURGESS, MACLEAN and PHILBY) of the extent of unpunished treachery in the Establishment and of inefficiency in the security defences of the country. Once attention had been drawn to the information about BLUNT which REES volunteered to the Security Service in 1951 (see paragraph 7 above) criticism would probably focus on two particular aspects:

- (i) The fact that BLUNT had never been prosecuted for his services to the Russians.
- (ii) The continuation of BLUNT in a post in the Royal Household after 1951 and his grant of a Knighthood in 1956.

Official disclosure of the 1964 confession would give a strong impetus to the criticism under (i).

10. The facts in relation to a prosecution are that prior to BLUNT's confession in April 1964

/.....



- 5 -

the Security Service was unable to discover evidence on the basis of which charges could be brought. REES' information did not establish that BLUNT had committed criminal offences; and BLUNT himself made no admissions during the course of the many interviews with him. Inducements were offered to BLUNT in order to obtain from him the 1964 confession. Subsequently he was used as an informant and intermediary in the course of Security Service investigations directed to establishing the identities of other agents recruited by the Russians in the 30s and 40s, particularly in British Intelligence. The Acting Director of Public Prosecutions and the Attorney General were consulted prior to the giving of inducements in 1964. The present D.P.P. and A.G. were also consulted in November 1972 when the A.G. confirmed that the public interest lay in taking no prosecution action.

11. With regard to BLUNT's connection with the Royal Household and his Knighthood, the case was discussed shortly before BLUNT's confession by Sir Roger Hollis, then Director General of the Security Service, with Sir Michael Adeane, the Queen's Private Secretary at the time. The possibilities that BLUNT would make a confession and/or would attempt to flee the country were considered and it was decided that no action would be taken in respect of BLUNT's post in the Household unless publicity was imminent. Sir Michael Adeane informed the Director General that he did not propose to tell anyone else about it. The award in 1956 of a Knighthood to BLUNT took place before his confession; it represented an honour invariably given to persons serving in the Royal Household in a post such as BLUNT then held (Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures).

12. In the event of publicity it is believed that the Palace will deny all knowledge of BLUNT's connection with the Russians.

/.....



- 6 -

Are other persons in public life likely to receive adverse publicity when the story that BLUNT was a Russian agent is published ?

13. BLUNT has known several persons now in public life who had close connections with him at the time he was a Russian agent and who may be referred to in press articles (although in almost every case they were also closely connected with BURGESS and/or PHILBY and did not suffer adverse publicity when press attention was focused on them). Prominent amongst these friends or former friends are:

Lord ROTHSCHILD  
 Director General  
 Central Policy  
 Review Staff,  
 Cabinet Office;  
 former member of  
 the Security  
 Service.

(BLUNT, together with BURGESS, lived during World War II in a flat rented from Lord ROTHSCHILD)

Lady ROTHSCHILD  
 Wife of Lord  
 ROTHSCHILD

(who was also a member of the Security Service and lived in the same flat, although she did not marry Lord ROTHSCHILD until 1946)

Lady LLEWELYN-  
 DAVIES  
 Wife of Lord  
 LLEWELYN-DAVIES;  
 Government Whip,  
 House of Lords  
 1969-70

(who shared the same flat with BLUNT, BURGESS and Lady ROTHSCHILD during World War II)

/.....

TOP SECRET



- 7 -

Sir Dick WHITE  
Formerly  
Intelligence  
Co-ordinator,  
Cabinet Office;  
also held the  
posts of 'C' and  
Director General,  
Security Service

(who was closely  
concerned with the  
investigation into the  
disappearance of BURGESS  
and MACLEAN in 1951 and  
received Goronwy REES'  
allegation about BLUNT  
at that time)

Stuart HAMPSHIRE  
Warden of Wadham  
College, Oxford

(who was a close  
acquaintance of BLUNT,  
BURGESS and REES).

SECURITY SERVICE

13 December 1972

TOP SECRET

SECRET

EXTRACT

11202

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,582 Name: .....

Original in File No.:\* PF. 604,582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3121 Receipt Date: 19.12.72

Original from: TOWROPE Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 13.12.72

Extracted on: 30.12.72 by: JM Section: K7

\*If the original is a document of the type mentioned in the following list, it should be included in the original.

During endless conversation with PETER BARRATT-PATON it was confirmed that PETER would come to the flat for two weeks from Dec 22nd and would therefore look after things while GASKIN and JB. were away.

SECRET



TOP SECRET

LOOSE MINUTE

Copied: 647,398

1119B

K.7/J.A.C

You may be interested to see  
these two reports of interviews  
with Richard LEVEN.

Srella Rimington

S. Rimington

K.3/8

~~K7/mf~~

11th December, 1972

Juis

Shd go on 15  
Blunt's file

TOP SECRET

J/13 x11

TOP SECRET

REPORT ON INTERVIEW WITH  
SQUADRON LEADER LEVEN  
on 18th and 19th OCTOBER, 1972

I travelled down to Weston-super-Mare on the 18th October with the intention of seeing Squadron Leader LEVEN on the following day. After I had left the office LEVEN, who had not rung as he had promised to confirm the arrangements, rang to try to put me off coming. He told Bill Pratt, to whom he spoke, that he was going to be very busy the next day seeing solicitors and would prefer me not to come. As it turned out he very happily spent the whole day with me with no sign of any other engagements. With hindsight I think his original reluctance to see me in Weston-super-Mare sprang from the embarrassment he felt at the chaotic state of his household arrangements coupled with the wish to get another trip up to London at the Government's expense.

2. The purpose of the interview was i) to try to find out whether any of LEVEN's diaries or other papers contained any useful information about Guy BURGESS's activities during the time he knew him and ii) to try to find out what was behind LEVEN's approach to the Russians in June 1971 and what came of it.

Meeting on the 18th October

3. At about quarter to ten on the evening of 18th October, just as I was preparing to have an early night, LEVEN phoned my room from the hotel reception desk to invite me to come out and have a drink with him. Having heard that I had already come down to Weston-super-Mare he had toured the likely hotels to find out where I was staying, stopping at each one, I suspect, for a drink or two to help him on his way.

4. When I met him in the foyer he shook me cordially by the hand and suggested that as he could not stand the manager of my hotel we should go and have a drink at another one nearby and off we went in a taxi which he had waiting at the door. He was obviously well known to the taxi driver whom he called by his first name and to the staff of both hotels, all of whom treated him with a sort of amused respect. He is a rather eye-catching figure. He was wearing a delapidated blazer and trousers covered in stains and cigarette ash, which looked as though he had slept in them for several nights, a floppy bow-tie and a large, dirty sheepskin jacket which, during the time I was with him, he was constantly dropping or leaving in taxis or bars whence it was retrieved by drivers, waiters and occasionally by me. In spite of his appearance LEVEN's manners and behaviour are extremely polite and courteous.

5. His conversation during the remainder of the evening was fairly incoherent, increasingly so the more whisky he drank. It was, of course, impossible for me to take any notes and I spent a good deal of time attempting to turn the conversation away from Guy BURGESS and on to generalities. However, below is a summary of the main points of what he said during the evening.

/The story . . .

TOP SECRET

6. The story of LEVEN's own rather eccentric career since the end of the war gradually emerged. He had first gone to the Central School of Drama to train as an actor then, when his father, who had been a stockbroker, died, he went for a year or so into the Stock Exchange. At some stage, I could not gather whether it was before or after this, he was Ring Master in a travelling Circus and at another he was in the antiques business. He had stood as Liberal candidate for Parliament for Wandsworth, and, more recently, had several times stood for the Council Elections in Weston-super-Mare, as an Independent, always unsuccessfully. When I expressed some surprise at all this he fished out of his breast pocket his passport which was dog-eared and stuffed with papers and press cuttings and which he obviously used as a sort of wallet. This passport was in evidence a great deal during the next day as he was constantly producing it to illustrate some part of his experiences by the appropriate piece of paper.

7. LEVEN said that in many ways he felt considerable admiration for the Russians. When he had been Commander of an R.A.F Station in Luneberg at the end of the war he had made contact with his Russian opposite number and had got on very well with him. He thought the extent to which we still regarded the Russians as our enemies was ridiculous. The trouble was, he said, that Departments such as mine tended to perpetuate such policies. What would M.I.5 do, he asked, if Government policy was completely reversed and the Russians were regarded as our friends and the Americans as the threat. He said he had been particularly interested in the case of Mrs. BINGHAM. What had she done that was wrong. Surely there was nothing wrong in speaking to the Russians. He found it very confusing. He would not know what he could or could not say to the Russians if he spoke to them.

(Comment: As one of my purposes in interviewing LEVEN was to ask him about his own approach to the Russian Embassy in June 1971 this was a very interesting remark. It showed, I thought, that in his dealings with us he had very much on his mind the thought of that approach and was worrying about it.)

8. I thought at this stage it was better to try to reassure him in the hope that when I asked him about his own approach to the Russians the next day he would be frank. I said that of course there was nothing wrong in talking to the Russians provided that one was not offering to reveal classified information as Mrs. BINGHAM had or seeking to damage the best interests of the country. He seemed to accept this as reasonable.

9. LEVEN said he had always been interested in politics and was basically anti-Conservative. When he was younger and went around to house parties he used to be very annoyed by the privilege

/they represented . . .

they represented. He was particularly irritated by the thought that all the real power in the country lay in the hands of a few families, for example the Cecils.

Guy BURGESS

10. He said that he had had many a conversation on politics with Guy BURGESS in the Reform Club between 1946 and 1951 when he was meeting him frequently there. He had been impressed, he said, by Guy's obsessive admiration for the Russians; he had been unable to see anything wrong with their system or to accept any criticism. His anti-American feelings had been equally violent. LEVEN repeated the story he had told at the previous interview of how he had lent Guy a copy of 'I Chose Freedom' by KRAVCHENKO. He said that the book was being much talked about at the time as it had just come out. He himself thought it rang true, judging by what he had seen of the Russians in the war, and he thought it would be a good counter-balance to the violence of Guy's pro-Russian feelings, and a sort of education for him, for him to read it. Guy was so angry with the tone of the book that he threw it down stairs at the Reform. This caused an enormous sensation there where that sort of thing was just not done.

11. LEVEN went on to say that during the time he had known him Guy had never made any secret of his opinion that the Russians were right and the Americans wrong on practically everything. There must be hundreds of people who could tell us this and he could not help wondering why we were asking him. He would be fascinated to know how we had got his name. I said that since Guy left we had made many enquiries and spoken to a great number of people and I left him to infer from this that someone had mentioned his name to us.

12. The person we obviously ought to be asking about Guy, said LEVEN, was Tony BLUNT; he was Guy's only real friend at the time he knew him. LEVEN said he had not known until recently that Anthony BLUNT had been in M.I.5 during the war. This being the case, however, he found it even more difficult to know why we had not asked him. He must know all there was to know, much more than LEVEN, who was only an outsider in all this. I tried to counter the obvious force of this by saying that it was necessary for us to seek information from many sources. It was only by attacking the problem from several sides at once that we could hope to get a complete picture. He seemed reasonably satisfied with this explanation but it did not prevent him recurring to his BLUNT theme at frequent intervals.

13. Before we parted I said that I hoped he would be able to spare me enough time the next day for me to look through his papers. He explained that some of them were out at a caravan he had at Breen, a few miles out of Weston-super-Mare. He had, he said, been earning a bit of money during the summer reading the hands of holiday visitors from his caravan. He thought he had quite a gift for it

/and called . . .

and called himself "the poor man's psychiatrist". He had been earning about £50 a week in the height of the season. He had taken some of his papers out to the caravan to work on and if I wanted to see them we would have to go and pick them up in the morning. We arranged that he would call at my hotel at ten o'clock the following day and we would then go out to Brean and pick up the papers and return to his house to go through them.

19th October

14. In the morning LEVEN arrived at the hotel at 10.15 accompanied by a large black dog. He looked even more the worse for wear than the night before and when he tried to put on his dog's lead before bringing it into the hotel his hand was shaking so much that he had to make several attempts before he managed to get it fastened. He said he had been up half the night reading through his papers to try to find anything relevant to our interests.

15. We took a taxi out to Brean, a small village four or five miles along the coast from Weston-super-Mare. There in a caravan site opposite Pontins Holiday Camp was a tiny, round-topped caravan. On the roof was a board saying 'Palmist' and in the window a card reading 'Lord LEVEN, Palmist of International Renown'. When I read this out with some amusement he said: "Yes that was rather naughty of me". We all piled out of the taxi, LEVEN, me, the dog and the taxi driver and LEVEN unlocked the caravan door revealing a chaos of dirty cups, papers and general mess. He seized an armful of papers and press cuttings and we all piled back into the taxi and returned to Weston-super-Mare. On the way back LEVEN suggested that rather than returning to his house we might take the papers to the hotel and look at them there. He said his house was in such a mess he was unwilling for me to see it. I said I did not mind in the least and I thought it would be much better to brave the mess rather than spread papers out all over the hotel.

16. LEVEN's house is a fairly large red brick Edwardian villa. He has built a block of four flats in the garden and is in the process of converting the house itself into flats. The conversion seems to have gone so far and then stopped, resulting in the rather curious situation that there is now no way into or out of one of his main downstairs rooms except through the window. The fact that this is the room which contains the telephone explains why we were unable to ring him up. He himself appears to live in one room on the first floor. This contains a narrow bed, a small cooker and sink and a variety of chairs and tables, all extremely delapidated. He said that also living in the house were an Irish woman refugee from Belfast, who had just had a baby, and the man she lived with. They had been quartered on him by the Welfare Office.

17. After we had sat down and I had moved from the first chair I tried because it collapsed slowly under me when I sat in it, I said that I thought the best thing would be if I went over what he had said at the previous interview so that I could be sure that we had got the facts right. He could then add anything else he wanted to say or correct any mistakes.

/I then . . .

18. I then went through the gist of the story LEVEN had told before, as described in Martin Maconachie's report at serial 41a. From time to time LEVEN interpolated comments and added new details. These were as follows.

Guy BURGESS and the Reform Club

19. He agreed that having first met Guy BURGESS at the Reform Club in 1942 he had seen him there quite frequently from then until 1945. From 1946 until 1951, during which period LEVEN was practically living in the Reform, he had seen Guy practically every night and often also at lunch time. During this later period particularly it was Guy's habit, LEVEN said, to rush into the Reform at lunch time, often with non-members. In the evenings he used to come in fairly early and was often around for the whole evening. LEVEN observed that Guy was a man who seemed to have an enormous number of acquaintances but few real friends. He would meander from group to group in the Club chatting to people but the only person LEVEN ever observed him having what could be described as a really private conversation with was Anthony BLUNT.

20. It was BLUNT's habit to come into the Club fairly late in the evening. He used to sit downstairs and was not sociable as Guy was but was, on the contrary, rather reserved and supercilious. He used to talk alone to Guy and, LEVEN said, Guy was completely different when BLUNT came in, "rather like a little boy". BLUNT seemed to be the only person that Guy was really close to.

21. LEVEN said that whenever one spoke to Guy about anything he always seemed to have the inside story. Names and information on all topics just spilled from his lips. He always seemed to know everyone who was mentioned, though whether in fact he really knew them LEVEN doubted. "If I ask you or Mr. Maloney a leading question", LEVEN said, "I get nowhere, but with Guy I always got an answer".

22. LEVEN repeated the story of his visit to the Gargoyle Club with BLUNT, PHILBY, Donald MACLEAN and BURGESS and said that he had only ever been to the Gargoyle Club two or three times. It was owned or managed by a foreigner, probably an Italian or Greek. On one occasion LEVEN had parked his car outside the Club and it had been run into by a van. LEVEN wanted to contact the police and the manager had shown him a list of all the Police Officers at West End Central Police Station which he had had written down in a notebook. He said he knew them all. LEVEN said he had told the police about the list.

(Comment: The owner of the Gargoyle was  
the Hon. David TENNANT so presumably  
LEVEN is referring here to the manager.)

23. He agreed that the story of the two parties he had attended with Guy at the flat in Yeoman's Walk in about 1949 was correct (serial 41a paragraph 12). He said that Norman WRIGHT had been

/one of . . .

one of his teachers at the Central School of Drama; he was a sound producer for the B.B.C and must be about sixty-five now. WRIGHT had known Guy very well. Robert HARRIS, who shared a flat with WRIGHT, had also known Guy fairly well. All three had seemed to be "quite close buddies" at one time and this was why LEVEN had thought it so odd that when he had met HARRIS in Weston-super-Mare in 1971 HARRIS had said he could not stand Guy, wished he had never known him and thought him a dreadful man. He had seemed quite bitter about Guy then, LEVEN said.

24. I asked LEVEN if he could remember any of the other people whom Guy was frequently to be seen with at the Reform. He repeated that Guy was not a man of friends but was really, though it seemed strange to say it of such a gregarious man, rather isolated. After a little thought, however, he said one person he did remember as being rather close to Guy was a man who had a gallery in Bond Street. He was one of the few people selling modern pictures at that time and was the only art dealer who had belonged to the Reform Club. LEVEN could not remember his name but said that when he was in the Stock Exchange he had sold some shares for the man.

(Comment: The art dealer may well be Andrew REVAI (PF 55,570) who was a director of the Pallas Gallery, Albemarle Street and joined the Reform Club in 1947. REVAI's business was fine art publishing and dealing. In 1942 REVAI was recruited as an agent for this office by BLUNT and was run through BURGESS. He was a close friend of SMOLLETT and did journalism for M.O.I during the war. He was involved with the Association of Free Hungarians.)

25. LEVEN also volunteered the name of Geoffrey de FREITAS as someone whom he had often seen chatting to Guy in the Club. He said that de FREITAS was friendly with Eddie PLAYFAIR and that he remembered Guy, PLAYFAIR and de FREITAS talking together quite frequently.

(Comment: Sir Geoffrey de FREITAS was Private Secretary to the Prime Minister, 1945-1946 and Under Secretary of State for Air, 1946-1950. He is No Trace.

Sir Edward PLAYFAIR (PF 604,861) was, until 1961, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Defence.)

26. I asked if he remembered Eric KESSLER who was another Reform Club member. He replied "Ah, Yes" and, thinking he was about to tell me something, I waited expectantly. However, he then became rather evasive and eventually said he did not think he knew him.

/I mentioned . . .

27. I mentioned the names of a few other fairly well known people whom we know to have been members of the Reform Club at the relevant time, Douglas JAY, Herbert HART, Quentin BELL and Thomas BALOGH. The only one LEVEN could remember meeting was BALOGH, whom he said was quite a friend of Guy's. LEVEN had on one occasion dined in the Club with BALOGH, Guy and Sir William BEVERIDGE. He said that he remembered Guy discussing economics with BALOGH, and advancing his favourite theory that it was economically disastrous for the pound to be tied so closely to the dollar.

*- Hungarian Communist connections*  
 (Comment: Lord BALOGH (L154-444), a fellow of Balliol since 1945 was Economic Adviser to the Cabinet from 1964 to 1967 and consultant to the Prices and Incomes Board in 1968. During the war he was said to be very critical of the Government, particularly on economic matters. A report of 1944 records that BALOGH was saying at that time that the U.K could not afford to be tied economically to the U.S.A after the war. Doubts have been expressed from time to time about BALOGH's discretion, and he has acknowledged having left wing views and a number of Communist friends.

Lord BEVERIDGE was Master of University College, Oxford, 1937-1945 and Labour M.P., 1944-1945.)

28. LEVEN went on to say that he found it absolutely incredible that Guy should ever have been given a job in the Foreign Office and he was horrified when he heard that he had been posted to Washington. "How could such a man hold down a job in the Foreign Office", he said, not only was he always drunk but his personal appearance and habits would surely have been unacceptable. LEVEN was sure, looking back, that Guy must have got the job on a homosexual old-boy net.

29. Another thing he found incredible, for some of the same reasons, was that Guy should have been an important Russian agent. Not only must he have been incredibly inefficient and insecure but being, as he was, always drunk he would surely have found it impossible to play a role consistently. Moreover, LEVEN could not believe that Guy was ever anti-British. For instance, he said, Guy always wore an old Etonian tie. Surely this was not the action of a man who thought that all such institutions should be swept away. When I suggested that perhaps he only owned one tie and just put it on as a matter of habit every day or even that he wore the tie as a kind of entree to the sort of circles he wished to cultivate, LEVEN was unconvinced. He said further that the reasons Guy gave

/for his . . .



for his strong opposition to the tying of the pound to the dollar were that it would harm the economy of this country. "Why should that have concerned him if he was working for its downfall?" As well as this, LEVEN asked, why should Guy always have been so short of money if he had really been an important Russian agent. LEVEN had often lent him small sums in the years he had known him and on the occasion just before Guy defected, when LEVEN had bought some pictures from him, Guy was obviously again short of cash. Surely, said LEVEN, the Russians would not have left him short of money at such a time. "If I was a Russian agent", he said, "and was going to fly the country and needed cash I would go round to the Russians and get some."

LEVEN's approach to the Russians

30. At this point I remarked: "Perhaps you would tell me now about the time when you did get in contact with the Russians." He went rather pale and was obviously very taken aback at this rather sudden change of tack. He said nothing for a short time and then said, "What contact? Have I had any contact? I can't think what you mean." I said that it would be best if he told me all about it. After all he should not forget that we were an intelligence organisation and we did from time to time receive information about what went on. We continued to spar on these lines, he asking me what I could possibly mean and I saying in various different ways that it was in his best interests to be frank. Eventually LEVEN said that the only thing he could think of that I could be referring to was one occasion about a year and a half ago when he rang up the Russian Embassy. I asked what he had done that for and he replied with the following story. He had been talking in a pub in Weston-super-Mare one evening with a friend of his called Evan LLOYD. LLOYD was a local Socialist Councillor and a teacher and called himself a Communist. LEVEN had been telling LLOYD the story of how he had lost the European publishing rights of a book he had written because excerpts from it had been published, without his permission, in a newspaper in Belgium. He had thought, at the time of this conversation, that it was impossible for him to publish the book in this country. He had now found out that this was not true and in fact Hutchinson's were now showing interest. He said that after he had told Evan LLOYD this story and said he wondered how he could get the book published now LLOYD said, "Why don't you offer it to the Russians." LLOYD told him that the Russians were interested in publishing manuscripts in European languages. I asked him what the book was about that he thought would be of interest to the Russians and he said it was about his war-time experiences and the story of his life since then. I asked if it was about BURGESS but he said it was not. I said that I found it amazing that he could have imagined the Russians would have been interested in publishing such a thing. After all they were not noticeably keen on publishing and had locked up a good number of their own writers. LEVEN agreed with what I said and said that looking back on it he could not imagine why he should have thought they would be interested, it just seemed a good idea at the time and he supposed he was fairly drunk. Being, as he was,

/a man . . .

a man of impulse, after the idea had been suggested to him he just went off and did it. He thought he might get a free holiday in Russia out of it.

31. I asked him what had happened when he went to see the Russians. He replied that he did not go. He said that when he rang up, the man who answered the phone could not speak any English. This annoyed him so much that he thought if this is how they run their Embassy I cannot be bothered with them. He then went on to say: "I can assure you that I have never walked into the Russian Embassy or spoken to anyone there. I can not think how you have got such a story. There must be someone going around impersonating me." He said that he had not even given them his name on the telephone. He could only assume I had asked the question on the off-chance that he had been in contact with the Russians just to see what he would say. We continued to talk about this for some time but he stuck firmly to his story and as, incredible as it sounded, it seemed to be confirmed by the facts we knew, I decided it was probably true and even if it was not I was not going to get any change out of him.

(Comment: The telephone directory of Weston-super-Mare gives Evan LLOYD, 49 Moorland Road, Weston-super-Mare. He is No Trace on this information.)

#### LEVEN's papers

32. At this point I suggested it might be a good idea if we looked through his papers to see if there was anything useful. LEVEN had masses of papers all over the room and on a table on the landing outside. As far as I could gather they were all chapters of the same work, an autobiography, which I assumed to be the one in which he was hoping to interest the Russian Embassy. I did not manage to get a sight of any diaries or contemporary notes. We read through various chapters of the book which was fairly turgid stuff about his flying exploits and his experiences in post-war Germany. I did not find anything at all relevant to our study of BURGESS's activities. LEVEN insisted on my bringing away two chapters, one of which mentioned the talks he gave for the B.B.C in 1943 and 1944 (paragraph 5 of serial 41a refers) and the other of which described his contact with his Russian opposite numbers in Germany when he was Commander at Luneberg after the war and his visit to Warsaw at the same period.

33. While we were looking through these LEVEN said that as soon as he had read in the papers that Guy and MACLEAN had left he had got hold of the Crime Reporter of 'The Star', a man called BATCHELOR and told him the story of his contact with Guy in the last few days before he left. LEVEN said that BATCHELOR's stories were printed in the 'Express' and they all came from him. He said BATCHELOR is now on a paper in Brighton.

/I cannot . . .

(Comment: I cannot trace BATCHELOR on this information. No such person appears in 'Who's Who in Journalism'.)

34. LEVEN said he also spoke to a few people in the Reform Club about it and a week or two later spoke to a Foreign Office man whom he knew through his sister, with whom the man's wife had been at school. I asked him the man's name but he could not remember it. He said that all he knew was that he had been a 1st Secretary somewhere in Europe at the time, possibly Brussels, but that he must have been on leave as he was travelling regularly in the train to St. Albans as LEVEN was. He promised to try to think of the man's name and let us know if he remembered.

35. As time was getting on we then went and had a late lunch after which LEVEN came to the station and saw me off on the train with friendly farewells and offers of help if we should ever need it.

#### CONCLUSIONS

36. In some ways this was a rather disappointing interview. I had hoped from what LEVEN had said that he would have some diaries or notes contemporary with BURGESS's defection which might add to our knowledge of movements and events at that time. If he has any such, however, he did not let me see them and what I did see was of no help to us.

37. The story of LEVEN's approach to the Russians in 1971 does not seem to be entirely satisfactory, even though it fits with the facts we know. It leaves me wondering whether even LEVEN, eccentric character though he undoubtedly is, could be so naive about the Russians as this story would make him appear. Moreover, if there was nothing more to the episode than this, why had LEVEN been worrying about Mrs. BINGHAM's case, and why did he appear so alarmed when I questioned him about the Russians. Even if there is more to this story than he had told us, however, I do not think we have any way of finding out what it is at present.

38. The chief interest in the two interviews with LEVEN lies, I think, in his position as an outside observer of Guy and to a lesser extent of Anthony BLUNT. He is one of the few people we have spoken to who was not part of the M.I.5/M.I.6 wartime circle and/or the Bentinck Street circle and who, therefore, presumably has no interest in whitewashing events or in protecting anyone's reputation. This being the case it is interesting that the impression of Guy as extremely politically concerned, very pro-Russian and anti-American and obviously left in his sympathies which one gets from LEVEN is quite different from that which for example Lady LLEWELYN DAVIES gave. She described Guy, admittedly a few years

/earlier, as . . .

earlier, as basically a-political and snobbishly Conservative though intellectually of the left. It is also interesting that LEVEN has drawn the conclusion that if Guy BURGESS was a Russian spy then BLUNT must at least have known all about it and was probably himself involved. It makes one wonder why this conclusion, which on the face of it seems a very obvious one, has not, at least in our hearing, been drawn by some of those who knew both BURGESS and BLUNT a lot better than LEVEN.

*Sella Rimington*

S. Rimington

K.3/8

8th December, 1972

NOTE

This is an edited version  
of the draft report which Mr.  
Maconachie wrote before he left  
K.3 on secondment.

# TOP SECRET

Interview in Room 055 with Squadron Leader  
Richard LEVEN on 14th August, 1972

## Introduction

I had arranged to meet LEVEN in the bar at Shepherds in Shepherds Market. He was wearing an R.A.F blazer and red bow tie as promised and I had no difficulty in recognising him. The tie was dirty and the blazer very worn. His grey flannel trousers were baggy and one shoe lace was broken. He looked seedy and much older than his passport photograph, taken ten years ago might lead one to expect. I introduced myself as Maloney and as he had already, on his own admission, had a few before I arrived, I took him off to lunch at the Chesterfield in Shepherds Market after only one more gin and tonic. Over lunch we discussed cricket in general and the Somerset side in particular, LEVEN claiming to watch many of the matches played at Weston-super-Mare where he lives. He was vague when I asked him what he was doing now and was clearly anxious to give the impression that he had no financial worries. He spoke of a couple of extra flats that he was building as an extension to his existing house which already contained one flat let to a tenant. He had always been interested in the organ, and played it in various churches, but only when he felt the need of a bit of extra cash. "You may have noticed", he explained "that I am a chain smoker". I asked him whether he found it a bit of a strain in church having to do without a cigarette for an hour or so. He said that as a matter of fact there was a shortage of organists locally and one or two of the Vicars were willing to turn a blind eye, provided one was discreet about it.

2. Early on in the meal he asked me why I wanted to see him and I said it was because he had known Guy BURGESS. We were still interested in collecting information about BURGESS, his activities and his friends. LEVEN commented that it seemed a bit late. He had been to the Foreign Office just after the defection. He had forgotten whom he had seen or where, but they had not been interested. I said that of course we already had a lot of information but a friend of BURGESS called Goronwy REES had written some articles and a new book about him. This had prompted us to make a few more enquiries. This seemed to satisfy him and we agreed to drop the subject until after lunch.

## LEVEN's knowledge of BURGESS and his friends, 1942-1945

3. By the time we got to Room 055 LEVEN was distinctly mellow and his speech was slightly slurred. We agreed that a cup of coffee straight away would be very refreshing on such a warm afternoon. He seemed slightly on edge and asked me how I had learnt

/of his . . .

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of his friendship with BURGESS. I asked how he thought that I had learnt in the hope that he would tell me of his dealings with the Russian Embassy. Without much conviction he said that he had no idea. So I explained that someone had told us of his friendship with BURGESS during the course of our enquiries. When he asked who and whether he was a Reform Club member, I said that I would not tell him that, any more than I would pass on to others what he himself might tell me. He seemed very happy with this and assured me warmly of his willingness to help in any way he could although he doubted he could tell us anything useful. He wanted to be careful particularly when talking about other people. He found his memory for dates and people rather blurred after a bit. I countered that we were familiar with this difficulty; nobody would suffer solely because of what he had said about them. He then told his story in a rambling fashion. What follows is a tidied up version.

4. LEVEN first met BURGESS shortly after he joined the Reform Club in 1942, having been proposed for membership by Sir George BEHARREL. LEVEN thought he was the only operational pilot who was a member of the Club so he was rather conspicuous in his uniform. He was drinking at the bar one lunchtime and with a club acquaintance called A. R. GARDNER - a writer now dead, who knew LEVEN's relations, the FRY family at Somerset. BURGESS was there and GARDNER introduced him to LEVEN. When LEVEN explained that he was stationed outside London with a mosquito Squadron, BURGESS expressed great interest. LEVEN told BURGESS about his experiences in Malta where he had lost almost his whole squadron. BURGESS said that he was a Talks Producer at the B.B.C and was always on the look out for lively and interesting stories of the Services in action.

(Comment: Sir George BEHARRELL, Managing Director of the Dunlop Rubber Company, is carded as a BIN contact on L448-2285.)

5. For the next few weeks BURGESS never failed to buttonhole LEVEN whenever they met in the Club which was pretty frequently. In the years 1942-1945 LEVEN had spent a good deal of his spare time in the Reform Club. They had long sessions at the bar with BURGESS being very flattering and asking him all sorts of questions about the Squadron and its operations. At the time BURGESS had said that this was all useful background for his work on Talks. Looking back with the advantage of hindsight LEVEN thought that this had been only part of the reason for BURGESS's curiosity. LEVEN had actually done a couple of broadcasts in 1943 and 1944 for the Home Service, both straightforward true life stories by an operational pilot. He could not remember the first one but the second - for Radio Newsreel - was about the bombing of the V.1 and V.2 sites in the Pas de Calais. BURGESS had asked a lot of questions about the Mosquito and its armaments and their advantages and disadvantages from LEVEN's point of view. He had not rebuked BURGESS

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for his curiosity but had just kept his answers vague. BURGESS was less assiduous in his attentions after a few weeks but between 1942 and 1945 LEVEN seemed to remember seeing BURGESS in the Reform Club on many occasions and they often drank together - particularly in 1943. LEVEN enjoyed these occasions. BURGESS was very informative and very interesting on the progress of the war and current affairs generally.

6. I asked whether BURGESS had expressed a similar interest in other Servicemen in the Club. LEVEN said that as far as he could recall there had not been all that many members in uniform. He certainly remembered occasions when BURGESS had gone out of his way to chat them up. He agreed that some of this interest might have been homosexual although he had never seen BURGESS make an approach that was obviously homosexual inside the Club. He remembered one occasion shortly before the battle of Arnhem in 1944 when LEVEN was in the Club with two Dutch pilots, friends of his called BERGHARDT and WITHOLD. LEVEN had taught Commander WITHOLD to fly. BURGESS had asked to be introduced, and on his usual pretext of collecting human stories for his broadcasting work proceeded to pump them for information about their aircraft and armaments in a way that would have been highly embarrassing if everybody had not had so much to drink, especially BURGESS.

7. Apart from these Dutch officers, LEVEN recalled that BURGESS had sometimes brought Dutch soldiers - young other ranks - into the Club. This also was some time just before the Battle of Arnhem. BURGESS gave them drinks and chatted to them generally. On one occasion WITHOLD had commented to LEVEN, not directly to BURGESS, that he thought it odd that BURGESS should bring other ranks into the Reform Club. Shortly after this LEVEN had asked BURGESS outright what his interest was in these young men and commented in the same vein as WITHOLD. BURGESS gave his usual explanation of seeking background information for his broadcasting work. I asked LEVEN whether it had occurred to him at the time that BURGESS's interest in these young soldiers could have been wholly or partly homosexual. He said that it had not crossed his mind at the time and BURGESS's behaviour, although unusual, had been perfectly correct as far as he could recall.

8. In answer to further questions LEVEN said that he could not say how often he himself was in the Reform Club in the period 1942-1945. Certainly in 1942 and 1943 he visited the Club quite frequently, although not regularly - sometimes twice in a week, sometimes perhaps only twice in a month, but through these years he had been stationed not far outside London and came to London whenever he could get away for even a day. Almost without fail he would visit the Reform Club and during his leaves he would base himself on the Club. In 1944 and 1945 he was not there so often. Part of the time he had been in Malta and in Poland, but even during this period he always looked in when he was on leave. His general impression looking back was that more often than not, he would see BURGESS in the Club in the evenings when he himself was there throughout this period - and more often than not they would have a drink or two and chat together. At this point LEVEN digressed.

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into a bit of name-dropping. He himself had taken people to the Reform Club. In 1944 he had been working closely, not only with Dutch airmen, but with French too. Pierre MONSFRANCE at that time in the French Air Force, had been a friend of his and he had taken him to the Reform Club and introduced him to Guy BURGESS. Towards the end of the war he had taken his friend Air Marshal Sir Basil EMBRY to the Club and again introduced him to BURGESS. In LEVEN's opinion it was true to say that throughout these years Guy BURGESS had a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in the Reform Club and was persona grata with some very influential and highly placed people. Judge JOMETT had told LEVEN that BURGESS was one of the most interesting members of the Club to talk to. BURGESS also knew BEVERIDGE and claimed to know Sir Archibald SINCLAIR very well. He had offered to introduce LEVEN to Sir Archibald - an offer which LEVEN had declined because "after all I was only just a pilot".

(Comment: Sir Basil EMBRY, Assistant Chief of Air Staff at the Air Ministry, 1945-1948, is No Trace.

Sir Archibald SINCLAIR, Secretary of State for Air, 1940-1945 is No Trace.

Sir William BEVERIDGE, was Master of University College, Oxford 1942-1945. He is No Trace.)

Anthony BLUNT

9. LEVEN volunteered the information, without my asking, that throughout this period "the keeper of the King's pictures" had been a close friend of BURGESS. LEVEN said that he always thought of BLUNT by this title because this is how BURGESS always used to speak of him. Time and again BURGESS in conversation with LEVEN or with a wider group, including LEVEN, would say that he was expecting "the keeper of the King's pictures" to look in tonight. Sometimes BURGESS would appear to be somewhat distracted and pre-occupied whilst awaiting the arrival of this close friend of his. He would be only half listening to whoever was talking to him. On arrival BLUNT did not often join the group talking to BURGESS or if he did it would be only going through the motions for the sake of politeness. Time and again they would make some excuse and take their drinks to some place where they could be by themselves. BURGESS used to praise BLUNT extravagantly to his friends and talk of him "as the most intelligent man in London". LEVEN said that he had never gone out to any parties or social occasions with BLUNT or BURGESS during this period - in fact he had never been asked. His impression was that BURGESS quite often went out "on the thrash" somewhere but that very often BLUNT did not go with him. He could add no further details. This was just a general impression he had looking back over the years to the 1942-1945 period. I asked LEVEN whether he knew BLUNT well himself, but he

*But not during the war, surely?*

/said that . . .

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said that he did not. In fact he had disliked what he had seen of him. BLUNT was tall, slim and almost too well dressed. LEVEN had tried to talk to him sometimes about pictures but "could never get anything out of the man" - so much for his great intelligence. I asked whether he found BLUNT supercilious and he said that he was the most supercilious man that he had ever met.

1946-1951

10. Some time in 1946, directly after his retirement from the Air Force, LEVEN had taken a room in the Reform Club and practically lived there. Certainly he had been in the Club for three or four nights every week. This arrangement continued until after Guy BURGESS's defection. LEVEN had left the Reform Club some time after that, but whether it was 1951 or 1952 he could not remember. He had always been interested in antiques (here he hinted that he was also knowledgeable) and had become a partner in a firm of antique dealers called Barling in 1947. Throughout this period, except when Guy BURGESS had been in Washington, he had seen BURGESS in the Club in the evening - how often he could not say but certainly more often than not. From time to time they would drink late together and both of them would get pretty drunk. BURGESS's conversation was as interesting as ever and he was also amusing. LEVEN had enjoyed his company. Once again, LEVEN remarked without any prompting from me on the very close friendship between "the keeper of the King's pictures" and BURGESS throughout this period. I questioned him closely on this, at the same time trying not to show too much interest. LEVEN remained unshaken in his view. Certainly BURGESS was gregarious; he had the same wide circle of friends and acquaintances as before, but there was only one person with whom he "would go into a huddle" - and that was BLUNT.

11. During this period LEVEN had been out with BURGESS on a few occasions. In about 1945 or 1946, he thought that it was early 1946 because it was shortly before he was demobilised, he had been to a party at the Gargoyle Club. He and PHILBY, BLUNT, Donald MACLEAN and BURGESS had all left the Reform Club together. I asked LEVEN how he had come to be in this party. He could not remember in detail except that BURGESS had asked him to come. He had met PHILBY once or twice before in the Reform Club with BURGESS in 1945 or 1946. On the first occasion BURGESS had introduced PHILBY to LEVEN. LEVEN could not remember for certain, but he thought that BURGESS had said on this occasion that PHILBY had something to do with the B.B.C or the Ministry of Information - "information of some sort anyway". LEVEN had thought that PHILBY was rather a nice man. Donald MACLEAN, LEVEN had only met once, again with BURGESS, and he could not remember the date at all. MACLEAN was tall and well dressed with rather polished manners - a bit like BLUNT in LEVEN's view. Resuming his story of the party LEVEN said that they had all gone off to the Gargoyle and champagne had flowed. He thought that BURGESS had paid for all this. There

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had been only the four of them in the party, but they seemed to know a lot of other people there and a number of them had come over from time to time and sat with them. LEVEN could not remember who any of them were, except that one was a very obnoxious small fat foreign-looking man, whom LEVEN was told was the Manager or owner of the Gargoyle. This man had in turn seemed to know everybody and brought one or two of his friends over to the table. LEVEN said that he himself had been very drunk so he could not remember how drunk everybody else had been, certainly BURGESS was. Apart from this he thought that he had been to the Gargoyle once more, but he could not remember anything about it. The only other thing he remembered was Guy saying that there was a private flat upstairs where you could take anybody you wanted.

12. Then again in about 1949 (he was very vague about the date) he had gone to two parties with Guy, within two months of each other, at the flat of an actor called Robert HARRIS in 3 Yeoman's Row. HARRIS shared the flat with a B.B.C producer called Norman WRIGHT. It was full of beautiful furniture and there were also some nice pictures, including quite a good copy of a Canaletto in the hall. HARRIS had been interested in LEVEN's views on this picture. LEVEN had been talking to BLUNT after dinner in the Reform Club (and finding the latter as unco-operative but polite as usual) when BURGESS had come up and asked them both to the HARRIS party. BLUNT had declined. Apart from LEVEN, however, there had been one or two other people that Guy had roped in from the Reform. LEVEN could not remember who they were but thought that he might have a note of it at home, he had a habit of making notes and keeping diaries. He could not remember who had been at the party. They were all theatrical and B.B.C people he thought. BURGESS had been not only very drunk, but also very aggressive. LEVEN had remembered this because he had got hold of a dark-haired and very attractive girl who was an actress and friend of HARRIS. She had just accepted his invitation to come out for a bite of supper, after which he planned to take her home with him, when BURGESS came up and was extremely rude to her for no reason whatsoever. So that had been the end of that and LEVEN had been very angry because BURGESS had completely spoilt the whole evening for him. The second party at HARRIS's, LEVEN could not remember anything about it at all because instead of getting drunk at the party, he had been drunk before he got there. He did remember, however, that he had got a very firm impression on the second occasion that the relationship between HARRIS and Norman WRIGHT was a homosexual one. By way of a postscript to this story LEVEN said that HARRIS had come down to Weston-super-Mare with a theatre company in 1971. LEVEN asked him to lunch and reminded him of the party and of BURGESS's drunken and aggressive behaviour. At first HARRIS said he could not remember BURGESS at all. When pressed, he modified this slightly and said that he did not want to remember him. He was a dreadful man. LEVEN said that he found this "curious".

(Comment: A Robert HARRIS appears in Who's Who in the Theatre; born 1900 and educated at New College, Oxford. He is No Trace on this information.

/Norman WRIGHT . . .

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Norman WRIGHT may be N. C. E. WRIGHT, a Producer in the Drama Department of the B.B.C. He is No Trace on this information.)

13. Bearing in mind the two letters we have from LEVEN to BURGESS, I asked LEVEN whether the two men ever had any business dealings. LEVEN said that some time before BURGESS went to Washington he had told LEVEN that he was short of money and LEVEN had bought from BURGESS some rather inferior china for a rather small sum. The second occasion had been just before BURGESS's defection and we agreed to discuss this later to keep it in chronological order.

14. The only other incident of interest LEVEN could recall in the 1946-1951 period had taken place just before BURGESS left for Washington. LEVEN had given BURGESS a copy of the book by "some Soviet chappy", who had defected. It had been an interesting book which took the lid off Russia and the way the secret police operated. He agreed with me when I suggested that this might have been "I Chose Freedom". A few days later LEVEN had been having a glass of port after dinner with Judge NEIL and a couple of other judges whose names he could not remember; this had been upstairs. BURGESS who was drunk had come over to their table and ignoring the judges completely shouted at LEVEN "and as for your bloody book it is absolute rubbish". He had then flung it from the top of the stairs to the bottom, much to the consternation of all who saw the incident. BURGESS had then ranted and raved about the "bloody Americans" and how he hated them. In fact BURGESS was well known in the Reform Club for the virulence of his anti-American views. LEVEN invited me to judge the surprise occasioned amongst the Club members by BURGESS's visit to Washington shortly after this incident.

#### The Defection

15. I asked LEVEN to tell me in as much detail as possible about the occasions on which he had seen BURGESS in the period immediately before the defection. He told me the following story. About three days before BURGESS left the country, the two men had met in the Reform Club in the evening about 7.00 p.m. BURGESS was in a dreadful state, very drunk and talking very loudly and wildly. He said that he was going away and that he was very worried, he was wanting money in a hurry, would LEVEN be interested in buying his pictures. So the two men had taken a taxi to BURGESS's flat in Bond Street. It was the first time that LEVEN had been there. He had never been invited before, although BURGESS had talked about it as if it was rather magnificent. (In fact it was a ghastly little place; apart from a rather nice little spinnet there was no furniture of any value. It was rather dark. There had been nobody else there and no sign as far as LEVEN could remember of anyone else living there, although he had not been looking for this particularly. They had

/looked at . . .

looked at the pictures and LEVEN had offered him £100 for the three of them. In fact they were pretty horrible pictures, modern impressionists. He had given BURGESS £50 in cash on account (BURGESS particularly said that he did not want any cheques) and promised to let him have the other £50 in a day or two. Then they had sat on the settee and BURGESS had poured them out a couple of drinks. Suddenly BURGESS had put his hand on LEVEN's thigh. LEVEN had no doubt at all that this was a homosexual approach and was absolutely furious. He upbraided BURGESS and said he was leaving and going back to the Club immediately. BURGESS got up and shouted something like the following: "Look here you do not want to talk to me like that. I have always been able to get hold of any man or woman I want - nobody has ever refused me". He said he would prove the point and produced a blue leather folder with a number of letters inside. He ran his fingers through them like a schoolboy with his collection and then thrust the folder at LEVEN. The top three letters were from Anthony EDEN. They were all quite short, about four or five lines and of a personal nature. They started "My dear Guy" and went on either about his health or suggested a date to meet for lunch or a drink, or say how much EDEN had enjoyed their last meeting. I said that there was all the difference in the world between personal letters and homosexual letters. LEVEN agreed, but had no doubt that for his part BURGESS was implying a homosexual relationship between himself and EDEN. BURGESS then produced one from Winston Churchill. It was a perfectly straightforward letter, not markedly personal and with no innuendos in it. LEVEN read no further. He was appalled. He suddenly realised how it was possible for such a man to get posted to Washington with friends like that at the highest level. BURGESS could surely do practically anything he wanted. Seething with indignation LEVEN took a taxi back to the Reform Club and lodged an official complaint with the Secretary - a former Squadron Leader called BELL - that he had been subjected to a homosexual approach by a member of the Club. BELL said that he would make a note of it, but seemed anxious not to take it too seriously, "After all" he said "we all know Guy". He did not see BURGESS again that evening.

16. The next day about lunchtime the porter produced the three pictures which he said that BURGESS had left for LEVEN in the Club. He did not see BURGESS at all again that day. On the next evening, which was the night before BURGESS defected, LEVEN was on the look out for BURGESS because he wanted to pay him the balance of the money he owed him. However, he could not get near BURGESS, because when he found him at about 6 or 7 p.m. he was in a huddle again with BLUNT on a secluded sofa. It was quite obvious that they did not wish to be interrupted. LEVEN could not say for how long the two men were together but it was certainly a few hours. It was most unusual in LEVEN's view for BLUNT to arrive so early. Usually he came after dinner. LEVEN could not remember any other occasion on which BLUNT had arrived before dinner. In fact LEVEN had never given BURGESS the balance of £50. Nevertheless, after having the pictures on his hands for a long time he had sold the lot for less than £50 and so had lost out even at that price. This was the last occasion on which LEVEN had seen BURGESS.\* LEVEN had not been in the Reform at all the next day, only late in the evening.

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(Comment: It is not clear whether this story refers to the evening of 24th or 25th May. The information that BLUNT and BURGESS had a long conversation in the Reform Club in the early evening of either day seems to be new to us.)

M. O. Maconachie

K.3/2

29th November, 1972

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# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name/Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 S.D Vol:

Serial: 878 Date of Despatch: 14.12.72

Extracted on: 29.12.72 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 10.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

13.36.

JB. came in with John GOLDING.

Drink offered and GASKIN came in. He drew JOHN'S attention to the card they had had from Lord SIMONS. They admired this and JOHN asked if they had a special table for the Royal cards. JB. pointed at one table and explained that they used that one and put no others on it. He then showed JOHN a signed photograph he had received on his retirement and commented that GASKIN had been furious as this was for 27 ~~months~~ <sup>years</sup> unpaid service. JOHN asked if 'she' (the Queen) had been nice to which JB. replied, yes very. Then he showed another photographs(? of Queen Mother or/and Queen Mary). JOHN asked if 'she' had been a friend of his (JB's) mother. JB. replied that she had really been a friend of his grandmother. They spoke of the frames and seemed to be going through a collection of cards, as well as (possibly) signed photographs. JB. remarked that one of these days, after he was dead, GASKIN would be able to sell these. He had been told that one single Royal card fetched quite a lot of money. Further examination of cards went on for a short time. JB. then gave various details of protocol as they

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# AZURE EXTRACT

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Extract for File No:

Name / Title:

Original in File No:

Vol:

Serial: :

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By:

Section:

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

A2A Ref:

Transcriber:

Date of Contents:

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- ( 15.08. They had come back and were discussing students rather amusingly. Then of student problems in general. Then of Institute personalities. During this JOHN asked JB. how long he would be in Paris. JB. though only two or three days. Then if they found that ERIC could let them have a flat in Rome they might go on there.
- 15.36. GASKIN had joined them and conversation went on about flat in Rome and JOHN said that a friend of his had a flat there and he was sure he would lend this - would they be interested. JB. pondered and said he was in two minds about his and it was arranged he would let JOHN/<sup>know</sup> at the end of the week. GASKIN repeated that as they were going to Paris it did seem logical to go on to Rome, from there, for another five or six days. It seemed pointless in coming back here especially as JB. had so many interests in Rome.
- 15.48. They discussed whether to go to Paris for three days and come back here in order to fly to Rome or whether to catch a train from Paris straight to Rome - nothing finalised.
- 15.55. They all drifted from the room and John GOLDING left.
- 16.02. They had come back and were discussing the plan

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# AZURE EXTRACT

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By:

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for going to Rome. JB. stressed he had to be back by 10th January and would like to be back a few days before that. GASKIN suggested going down to Naples for a couple of days that this was readily agreed by JB. adding that he would prefer to stay in a hotel in both places.

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11/18/72

Extract for File No. : PF. 604.582 .....Name : .....  
Original in File No. : \* PF. 604.582 Supp A .....Vol. : 23 .....Serial : .....Receipt Date : 14.12.72  
Original from : TOWROPE .....Under Ref. : 4305-8 .....Dated : 10.12.72  
Extracted on : 29.12.72 .....by : JM .....Section : K7

O/G GASKIN to Mrs COCK 935 9298.

Telling her they will be about all day should she wish to go out. GASKIN reminds her about the offer to come and look at television and suggests popping up in order to see how it works. He will give her the key to the flat because of the locks having been changed. Mrs COCK enquires about their plans and whether they will be away over Xmas? GASKIN replies - 'We're not sure'.

(4306 and 4308)

09.38

O/G BLUNDEN to Harlow 26049 RAY GIBBS, and to JEAN.

BLUNDEN announces that he is very much mended. He is going to Waddesden tomorrow for 3 days - 'and then probably JOHN and I are going to Paris, possibly to Rome, for Xmas'. There will therefore be no possibility of meeting beforehand.

BLUNDEN mentions that they are hoping to be lent a flat in Rome over Xmas.

RAY at one point remarks on the crackling noise on the line and asks if it is his end? BLUNDEN replied that it is and remarks-

B: - 'I'll speak to MI5 - I keep telling them they're so careless now' (he chuckles whilst saying this).

R: - 'Yea - they really are sort of crude about it, aren't they?'

B: - 'Yes. The Germans are so much better'.

R: - (Laughs) 'blew ~~and~~ hole in the wall'.

B: - 'The Russians much worse'.

R: - 'Pardon?'

B: - 'The Russians much worse.'

RAY gives a laugh and the subject changes. RAY will probably drop in next Friday when in London. BLUNDEN confirms they will be here. BLUNDEN says he must forget this call has taken place-(on account of GASKIN).

(4307)

19.47

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11182A

Extract from ~~Note for File~~/Interview Report

Extract for File No. PF 604582 Name BLUNT

Original in File No. PF 647398 Serial 42a Dated 8.12.72

Date and Place of \*Interview/ ~~Making~~ 18 and 19 October 1972: Weston-Super-Mare

with (also give security context of person being interviewed) Squadron Leader Richard LEVEN

Social Contact of BURGESS, 1946-51

Subject Knowledge of BURGESS and associates

Officer S Rimington using @ of - Section K3

Extracted by SDO Section K3 Date 5.4.73

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12. The person we obviously ought to be asking about Guy, said LEVEN, was Tony BLUNT; he was Guy's only real friend at the time he knew him. LEVEN said he had not known until recently that Anthony BLUNT had been in M.I.5 during the war. This being the case, however, he found it even more difficult to know why we had not asked him. He must know all there was to know, much more than LEVEN, who was only an outsider in all this. I tried to counter the obvious force of this by saying that it was necessary for us to seek information from many sources. It was only by attacking the problem from several sides at once that we could hope to get a complete picture. He seemed reasonably satisfied with this explanation but it did not prevent him recurring to his BLUNT theme at frequent intervals.

.....

.....

20. It was BLUNT's habit to come into the Club fairly late in the evening. He used to sit downstairs and was not sociable as Guy was but was, on the contrary, rather reserved and supercilious. He used to talk alone to Guy and, LEVEN said, Guy was completely different when BLUNT came in, "rather like a little boy". BLUNT seemed to be the only person that Guy was really close to.

.....

\*Strike out inapplicable.

TOP SECRET

1182

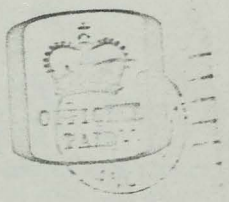
P.O. fine  
new fine  
£ 1/10

W.D.O. SECRET

8 DEC 1972

On Her Majesty's Service

FLEETWOOD  
VICRANTON  
CLEVELEYS  
BLACKBOL  
LATHAM  
LINES



SIR. ANTHONY F. BLUNT

20 PORTMAN SQUARE,  
LONDON W1

PG  
EP. 5

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W.D.O. SECRET

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18721906, 5000 books, 10 17, John Corah & Son, (E1616), (55544)

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With the Compliments of  
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B. C.  
S.H.

A 28513

CERTIFIED COPY of an  
Pursuant to the Births and Deaths



ENTRY OF BIRTH.  
Registration Acts, 1836 to 1874.

Insert in  
Margin  
Notes  
appear in  
original

Registration District *Christchurch*  
in the County of *Borough of Bournemouth*

1907. Birth in the Sub-District of *Bournemouth*

Columns:-	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
No.	When and Where Born.	Name, if any.	Sex.	Name and Surname of Father.	Name and Maiden Surname of Mother.	Rank or Profession of Father.	Signature, Description and Residence of Informant.	When Registered.	Signature of Registrar.	Baptismal Name, if added after Registration of Birth.
267	<i>Twenty sixth September 1907 Holy Trinity Vicarage W.D.</i>	<i>Anthony Frederick</i>	<i>Boy</i>	<i>Arthur Stanley Vaughan Blunt</i>	<i>Hilda Violet Blunt formerly Master</i>	<i>Vicar of Holy Trinity Bournemouth</i>	<i>A. S. V. Blunt Father Holy Trinity Vicarage Bournemouth</i>	<i>Twenty fourth October 1907</i>	<i>Sidney Blunt Deputy Registrar.</i>	

I, *Alan Drutt* Superintendent Registrar for the District of *Christchurch* do hereby certify that this is a true copy of the Entry No. *267* in the Register Book of Births No. *24* Book is now legally in my custody.  
WITNESS MY HAND this *30<sup>th</sup>* day of *October*, 19*18*.

in the Counties of *Southampton & Bournemouth* for the above-named Sub-district, and that such Registrar

*Alan Drutt*  
2-10-18

Superintendent Registrar.

The Act 3 & 4 Geo. V., cap. 27, section 3, enacts that "OFFICERS" of the following documents, if executed with intent to defraud or deceive, shall be FELONY and punishable with Penal Servitude for any term not exceeding fourteen years:—Any register or record of Births, Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths, Deaths, which now is, or hereafter may be, by law authorized or required to be kept in the Kingdom, relating to any Birth, Baptism, Marriage, Death, Burial, or any part of any such Register, or any Certified Copy of any such

SECRET

EXTRACT

11187

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,582 Name: .....

Original in File No.:\* PF. 604,582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3112 Receipt Date: 7.12.72

Original from: T.C. Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 6.12.72

Extracted on: 11.12.72 by: JM Section: K7

THOS. COOKS

I/C from Mr. MASSARI/to GASKIN.

This is clearly the result of a call made by GASKIN asking to be rung back.

GASKIN wishes to arrange to go to Paris on Boxing Day on the night sleeper - from the 26th to the 29th of December.

This is for BLUNDEN and himself and they would share a double room as before. They are going to Paris to an exhibition of paintings. DISTANT will see what there is available and will ring back.

n.t.s.

\*if the original is in the include the name

SECRET

SECRET  
EXTRACT

1118x

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,582 Name: .....  
Original in File No.:\* PF. 604,582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3107 Receipt Date: 7.12.72  
Original from: T.C. Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 1.12.72  
Extracted on: 11.12.72 by: JM Section: K7

I/C ROBIN MACWORTH YOUNG to BLUNDEN.

ROBIN, ringing back, answers BLUNDEN's questions about the drawings. BLUNDEN mentions that he will probably be away for the first half of April.

to exhibition and

18.54

O/G GASKIN to TONY WINSTON.

TONY has been mixed up in a car accident. GASKIN confirms that BLUNDEN is very well indeed. He mentions that BLUNDEN had said yesterday how he had spent an 'ordinary' day for the first time in five months. He was up and down the stairs carrying books. It was no use, says GASKIN, to say 'don't overdo it' the whole time. TONY agrees that now BLUNDEN is getting back his strength none of this will hurt him.

4.12.72  
08.36

\*If the original  
include

**AZURE EXTRACT**

**TOP SECRET**

117E

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name / Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 Supp DVol: 5 Serial: 869 Date of Despatch: 7.12.72

Extracted on: 13.12.72 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 6.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

Then sorting out letters came

11.41. across one from the British Council suggesting that he should go to Hungary for them. This letter needed a reply ELIZABETH said. JB. dictated reply to this letter of August 21st to say that he was very grateful for the invitation to visit Hungary but feared he had to decline as for "various reasons he was not keen on going to countries behind the Iron Curtain."

12.29.

~~Un. id. Visitor~~ had come in and he and JB. worked out a plan for JB. and GASKIN to take the offer of a lift to France in the ~~visitor's~~ car. They worked out a route they might possibly take, which included Munich. This would be arranged later. They spoke of Queen's Gallery pictures. Then others. JB. showing illustrations of drawings

NOTE. Suggest that Un. id Viditor who came in at 12.29. was Peter KITSON.

X

**TOP SECRET**



**AZURE EXTRACT**

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name/Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 SuppD Vol: 5 Serial: :871 Date of Despatch:

W 7D

Extracted on: 13.12.72 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: JB/1

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 6.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

13.44.

John GOLDING ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ had arrived and gave JB. various details of Institute matters. During this JB. mentioned that he had had a very good report from the surgeon yesterday.

**TOP SECRET**

# AZURE EXTRACT

**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name / Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 Supp D Vol: 5

Serial: 870 Date of Despatch:

Extracted on: 13.12.72 By:

JM

Section: K7

1117C

Responsible Section (Star Desig.):

K7/4

A2A Ref:

XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 6.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

13.00. JB. came in again and spoke to GASKIN about the broadcast on Picasso and others he <sup>had given</sup> ~~would be giving~~ and which would be broadcast on Friday on 3rd Prog. Then further discussion on trip to Paris. They would try and go the week before Christmas and come back for Christmas. They could go by train on Thursday 14th over night. GASKIN would like to do this and JB. agreed. GASKIN disappeared.

**TOP SECRET**

- 2 DEC 1972

W.D.O. SECRET

1117B  
14E

- 5 DEC 1972

*7a. 7f  
2. 6/12*



Professor Sir Anthony Blunt, K.C.V.O.,

University of London,

Courtauld Institute of Art,

20 Portman Square,

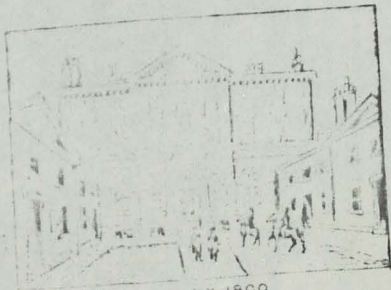
W1H 0BE.

- 2 DEC 1972

W.D.O. SECRET

149

TELEPHONE: 01-734 1578.



ALBANY 1800  
SECRETARY: LT COL G A L CHETWYND-TALBOT

ALBANY,

PICCADILLY,

W1V 9RR

REFERENCE  
YOURS MINE

B/3/1072

Professor Sir Anthony Blunt, K.C.V.O.,  
University of London,  
Courtauld Institute of Art,  
26 Portico Square,  
W1A 0BE.

30th November 1972.

*Dear Sir Anthony,*

Thank you for your letter of 27th November.

I am so glad you are not too bothered about the set  
of Chambers being taken.

I will, of course, keep your name in mind and will let  
you know if and when another set becomes available.

*Yours sincerely,  
Gilbert Chetwynd-Talbot.*

# AZURE EXTRACT

11158  
**TOP SECRET**

Extract for File No: PF. 604,582

Name / Title:

Original in File No: PF. 604,582 SuppD Vol: 5

Serial: 865 Date of Despatch: 4.12.72

Extracted on: 13.12.72 By: JM

Section: K7

Responsible Section (Star Desig.): K7/4

A2A Ref: XJB/3

Transcriber: E. Howell

Date of Contents: 1.12.72

**WARNING:** The information contained in this material may not be passed outside the Service in any form without reference to the responsible Section. For detailed instruction on handling see the Manual of Investigation Part II C(X).

10.01. JB. came in and started working.

10.11. GASKIN came in and they discussed property prices in general. The plan was to look round at flats as an alternative in case there was no flat in the Albany available.

11.07. ELIZABETH HASLOCK came in and various instructions given. JB. then dictated for some time and during this he mentioned that he would be down in Waddesdon from Monday 11th to Thursday 14th. They continued to discuss various subjects of work to be done. Then spoke of making more precise plans for the Spring. After some consultation with ELIZABETH as to dates JB. dictated a letter to 'Dear GERALD' regarding this suggesting a visit to France during week March 23rd to 30th and mentioning that he had a fixed date to meet someone in Munich on 30th March. ELIZABETH remembered two meetings - one at Warburg - on April 1st and 7th April. She suggested JB. might like to go to France on 20th ~~March~~ <sup>February</sup>. JB. added <sup>to</sup> letter to GERALD that if the above dates were not convenient he could get away for the week February 20th to 28th but this would mean missing a whole week of a term in which he would be very hard pressed. So from his point of view therefore the end of March would be very much better.

11.58. Further dictation and instructions. During these he dictated letter to the effect that he would not be coming to NAPLES in the near future.

B. Sheldon, Esq.,

Rec'd 1.12.72

PF-604582

Copied to: Polf 11-55-1

-13

*With the compliments of  
the Legal Secretary*

*Law Officer's Department,  
Royal Courts of Justice,  
Strand, W.C.2.*

1115a

NOTE FOR THE FILE

The Attorney General discussed this case, on 21st November, with the D.P.P. and Mr. Sheldon, in the light of the latter's letter of the 16th November and the previous consideration given to the case by Sir John Hobson and Mr. Crump in 1964. The Attorney General confirmed that this remained a case in which there should be no prosecution. If, in due course, the facts became public, perhaps on Blunt's death, it might well be necessary to explain that successive Attorneys General had been consulted on this matter and had decided that the greater public interest lay in taking no action and in giving assurances. Some surprise was expressed that Private Secretaries to the Queen had been content to allow Blunt to remain at his post in the Queen's household, but this was a matter for them.

| X

T.C.H.

1st December, 1972

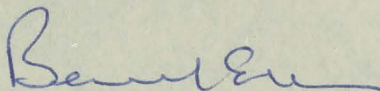
1113a

PF604582

Note for File

I spoke to Tony Hetherington on the telephone today and agreed that the first three sentences of his draft note (1112a) be replaced by the following:

"The Attorney General discussed this case with D.P.P. and Mr. Sheldon in the light of the latter's letter of 16 November and the previous consideration given to the case by Sir John Hobson and Mr. Crump in 1964. The Attorney General confirmed that this remained a case in which there should be no prosecution"



Bernard Sheldon

Sect(Home)/O

1 December 1972

Sect(Home)/O 18  
1.12.1972



TOP SECRET  
EXTRACT

1112D

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,582 Name: .....

Original in File No.: \*PF. 604,582 Supp D Vol.: 858 Serial: 5 Receipt Date: 30.11.72

Original from: AZURE Under Ref.: ZJB/3 Dated: 28.11.72

Extracted on: 6.12.72 by: JM Section: K7

17.07.

GASKIN came in and interrupted. He was introduced and JB. mentioned Visitor's name - somebody GAVIN (ph ?). He and GASKIN spoke of date to arrange a drink with someone - not clear who - and JB. mentioned that he was supposed to be having dinner with DOLLY and DAVID. (Dolly ROTHSCHILD and David CRAWFORD) on Thursday 7th December. He then spoke of further plans and thought it was settled that he would not now go to Italy so would like to go to Waddesdon for a few days during the <sup>end of the</sup> first week in December.

If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file.

18.32.

They had come back in here. Talking about future JB. told her that he had decided to get a flat in the Albany. He had just failed to get one but another one would turn up and anyway he did not want it for about a year and a half.

man

SECRET

1112C

EXTRACT

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,582 Link A Name: .....

Original in File No.\* PF. 604,582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3104 Receipt Date: 30.11.72

Original from: T.C. Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 28.11.72

Extracted on: 17.12.72 by: IM Section: K7

28.11.72  
Tuesday

L/C TONY WINSTON to BLUNDEN.

BLUNDEN confirms having enjoyed his stay at Waddesdon.  
TONY had tried to ring last night. BLUNDEN cannot understand how  
his call could have been missed because they were both sitting here.  
He thinks 'there is something dotty with this telephone'.

08.58

\*If the original is in the file of an  
include the name of the file of

SECRET

TOP SECRET

1126C

Extract from ~~Note for File~~ Interview Report

Extract for File No. PF 604582 Name BLUNT

Original in File No. PF 647398 Serial 41a Dated 29.11.72

Date and Place of \*Interview/~~Meeting~~ 14.8.72: Room 055, Old War Office Building, SW1.

with (also give security context of person being interviewed) Squadron Leader Richard LEVEN

Social Contact of Guy BURGESS, 1946-51

Subject Knowledge of BURGESS and associates

Officer M O Maconachie using @ of Maloney Section K3

Extracted by SDO Section K.3 Date 5.4.73

Anthony BLUNT

9. LEVEN volunteered the information, without my asking, that throughout this period "the keeper of the King's pictures" had been a close friend of BURGESS. LEVEN said that he always thought of BLUNT by this title because this is how BURGESS always used to speak of him. Time and again BURGESS in conversation with LEVEN or with a wider group, including LEVEN, would say that he was expecting "the keeper of the King's pictures" to look in tonight. Sometimes BURGESS would appear to be somewhat distracted and pre-occupied whilst awaiting the arrival of this close friend of his. He would be only half listening to whoever was talking to him. On arrival BLUNT did not often join the group talking to BURGESS or if he did it would be only going through the motions for the sake of politeness. Time and again they would make some excuse and take their drinks to some place where they could be by themselves. BURGESS used to praise BLUNT extravagantly to his friends and talk of him "as the most intelligent man in London". LEVEN said that he had never gone out to any parties or social occasions with BLUNT or BURGESS during this period - in fact he had never been asked. His impression was that BURGESS quite often went out "on the thrash" somewhere but that very often BLUNT did not go with him. He could add no further details. This was just a general impression he had looking back over the years to the 1942-1945 <sup>X</sup> period. I asked LEVEN whether he knew BLUNT well himself, but he said that he did not. In fact he had disliked what he had seen of him. BLUNT was tall, slim and almost too well dressed. LEVEN had tried to talk to him sometimes about pictures but "could never get anything out of the man" - so much for his great intelligence. I asked whether he found BLUNT supercilious and he said that he was the most supercilious man that he had ever met.

X Note. BLUNT was NOT 'Keeper of the King Pictures' until 28.4.45.

\*Strike out inapplicable.

TOP SECRET

K.7/G.M.L.  
d.5.43

1946-1951

10. Some time in 1946, directly after his retirement from the Air Force, LEVEN had taken a room in the Reform Club and practically lived there. Certainly he had been in the Club for three or four nights every week. This arrangement continued until after Guy BURGESS's defection. LEVEN had left the Reform Club some time after that, but whether it was 1951 or 1952 he could not remember. He had always been interested in antiques (here he hinted that he was also knowledgeable) and had become a partner in a firm of antique dealers called Barling in 1947. Throughout this period, except when Guy BURGESS had been in Washington, he had seen BURGESS in the Club in the evening - how often he could not say but certainly more often than not. From time to time they would drink late together and both of them would get pretty drunk. BURGESS's conversation was as interesting as ever and he was also amusing. LEVEN had enjoyed his company. Once again, LEVEN remarked without any prompting from me on the very close friendship between "the keeper of the King's pictures" and BURGESS throughout this period. I questioned him closely on this, at the same time trying not to show too much interest. LEVEN remained unshaken in his view. Certainly BURGESS was gregarious; he had the same wide circle of friends and acquaintances as before, but there was only one person with whom he "would go into a huddle" - and that was BLUNT.

11. During this period LEVEN had been out with BURGESS on a few occasions. In about 1945 or 1946, he thought that it was early 1946 because it was shortly before he was demobilised, he had been to a party at the Gargoyle Club. He and PHILBY, BLUNT, Donald MACLEAN and BURGESS had all left the Reform Club together. I asked LEVEN how he had come to be in this party. He could not remember in detail except that BURGESS had asked him to come. He had met PHILBY once or twice before in the Reform Club with BURGESS in 1945 or 1946. On the first occasion BURGESS had introduced PHILBY to LEVEN. LEVEN could not remember for certain, but he thought that BURGESS had said on this occasion that PHILBY had something to do with the B.B.C or the Ministry of Information - "information of some sort anyway". LEVEN had thought that PHILBY was rather a nice man. Donald MACLEAN, LEVEN had only met once, again with BURGESS, and he could not remember the date at all. MACLEAN was tall and well dressed with rather polished manners - a bit like BLUNT in LEVEN's view. Resuming his story of the party LEVEN said that they had all gone off to the Gargoyle and champagne had flowed. He thought that BURGESS had paid for all this. There had been only the four of them in the party, but they seemed to know a lot of other people there and a number of them had come over from time to time and sat with them. LEVEN could not remember who any of them were, except that one was a very obnoxious small fat foreign-looking man, whom LEVEN was told was the Manager or owner of the Gargoyle. This man had in turn seemed to know everybody and brought one or two of his friends over to the table. LEVEN said that he himself had been very drunk so he could not remember how drunk everybody else had been, certainly BURGESS was. Apart from this he thought that he had been to the Gargoyle once more, but he could not remember anything about it. The only other thing he remembered was Guy saying that there was a private flat upstairs where you could take anybody you wanted.

16. The next day about lunchtime the porter produced the three pictures which he said that BURGESS had left for LEVEN in the Club. He did not see BURGESS at all again that day. On the next evening, which was the night before BURGESS defected, LEVEN was on the look out for BURGESS because he wanted to pay him the balance of the money he owed him. However, he could not get near BURGESS, because when he found him at about 6 or 7 p.m he was in a huddle again with BLUNT on a secluded sofa. It was quite obvious that they did not wish to be interrupted. LEVEN could not say for how long the two men were together but it was certainly a few hours. It was most unusual in LEVEN's view for BLUNT to arrive so early. Usually he came after dinner. LEVEN could not remember any other occasion on which BLUNT had arrived before dinner. In fact LEVEN had never given BURGESS the balance of £50. Nevertheless, after having the pictures on his hands for a long time he had sold the lot for less than £50 and so had lost out even at that price. This was the last occasion on which LEVEN had seen BURGESS. LEVEN had not been in the Reform at all the next day, only late in the evening.

(Comment: It is not clear whether this story refers to the evening of 24th or 25th May. The information that BLUNT and BURGESS had a long conversation in the Reform Club in the early evening of either day seems to be new to us.)

Note: BURGESS was in the Reform Club on the evening of 25<sup>th</sup> (July) <sup>Samuel</sup>  
 He was seen talking to a 'tall man' on the steps of the Club in the 'late evening'. He was at Tatsfield by 7.30 pm. (about 40 mins drive).

TOP SECRET

EXTRACT

1112B

Extract for File No. : PF 604,582 Name :  
 Original in File No. : \* PF 604,582 Supp D Vol. : 5 Serial : 860 Receipt Date :  
 Original from : AZURE Under Ref. : JB/1 Dated : 29.11.72  
 Extracted on : 6.12.72 by : JM Section : K.7

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

13.34.

Nothing of interest during the morning.  
 JB. came in for lunch with BURNETT PAVITT and GASKIN. During this GASKIN mentioned the fact that COLINAGHIS would be selling JB.'s picture. TOMMY HARRIS' name mentioned that JB. explained to BURNETT that TOMMY HARRIS was a very great friend of his and a great art critic, as was his father. BURNETT evidently had not met TOMMY HARRIS. They continued discussing prices in the art world. The general chatter mostly by GASKIN - giving views of cheap package trips to Moscow for five days. Then other cheap package holidays.

Ma

21.06

After some inconsequential remarks they both spoke of getting away in the Spring. GASKIN needed the sun and JB. himself needed to get away from the distractions of Institute problems. He could go quite happily through until April but would like to get away then. JB. added that it had been accepted that he was on his way out into retirement and he had in fact arranged - before he was taken ill - never to teach in the afternoons.

Ma

TOP SECRET

HOLBORN 7641, EXT. 3291

Communications on this subject  
should be addressed to

THE LEGAL SECRETARY

*Rec'd 27.11.72*

LAW OFFICERS' DEPARTMENT,  
ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE,  
LONDON W.C.2. A  
211

24th November, 1972

TOP SECRET

18/2/138  
13/17/117  
13/17/118

*PF 604582*  
*Copied to: PAF 11-55-1-13*

*Dear Bernard,*

I have drafted notes for our files concerning [redacted], Blunt and [redacted]. I attach copies, and would be grateful for any comments which you may have, before I finally place the notes on the files.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Timy Kellens*

B. SHELDON, ESQ.,  
BOX 500,  
PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

TOP SECRET

NOTE FOR THE FILE

112a

ANTHONY BLUNT

The Attorney General discussed with D.P.P. and Sheldon. Attorney General referred to the previous consideration of this case by Sir John Hobson in 1964 and of the assurance then given by Mr. Crump. The Attorney General confirmed that this position still applied. If, in due course, the facts became public, perhaps on Blunt's death, it might well be necessary to explain that successive Attorneys General had been consulted on this matter and had decided that the greater public interest lay in taking no action and in giving assurances. Some surprise was expressed that Private Secretaries to the Queen had been content to allow Blunt to remain at his post in the Queen's household, but this was a matter for them.

T.C.H.

22nd November, 1972

Seal [Signature]  
22-11-72



HOLBORN 7641, EXT. 3291

Communications on this subject  
should be addressed to

THE LEGAL SECRETARY

LAW OFFICERS' DEPARTMENT,  
ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE,  
LONDON W.C.2. A  
2LL.

22nd November, 1972

TOP SECRET

9/4/38  
13/17/118

Dear Bernard.

I attach a copy of Crump's  
letter to Dudman dated 15th April  
1964 and a copy of Dudman's reply.

I also attach a copy of a  
letter which I have today written  
to Robert Armstrong concerning  
the George Martin matter.

Your truly  
T. B. Kelly

B. Sheldon, Esq.,  
Box 500,  
Parliament Street B.O.,  
London, S.W.1.

TOP SECRET

ENCL 3 page

GW 2 NOV 1972  
TO SECT.  
REF PF 604582

Copied to: Ref 11-55-1-13

493/72

SECRET

16 April, 1964.

Dear Crump,

Thank you for your letter of 15 April about Sir Anthony Blunt.

The Attorney General does not wish to give you any directions.

Yours sincerely,

G. E. DUDMAN

M. Crump, Esq., C.B.E.,  
12, Buckingham Gate,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

1111a

Sec 10  
28-4-72

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

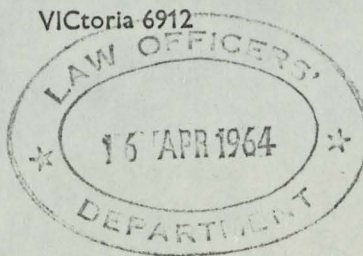
12 Buckingham Gate, London S.W.1

VICtoria 6912

April 15, 1964

Please quote:  
Your reference:

SECRET



Dear Dudman,

Although this is not a matter which calls for or is likely to call for, any action by this Department, I think it right that I should inform the Attorney General as to it since it has already been brought to the attention of the Home Secretary and will be brought to that of the Queen's Private Secretary in the course of the next few days.

Professor Sir Anthony Blunt who is currently Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures, is known to the Security Services to have been a communist sympathiser - at least until the Soviet-German Treaty.

When interrogated in 1951 he admitted having known Burgess and McLean before the war at Cambridge where he was a don, but strongly denied ever himself indulging in or knowing that Burgess engaged in, any kind of subversive activity.

Recently one Michael Whitney-Straight, a United States citizen who was in 1937 an undergraduate at Cambridge, has been interrogated by the Americans. He admits that he was then a communist sympathiser and has come up with the allegation that while at Cambridge he was approached by Blunt to do intelligence work for the Russians in the U.S.A. He says that he refused and never in fact did any such work.

From 1940 to 1945 Blunt was himself a member of the British Security Services.

It is now the intention of the Security Services again to interrogate Blunt with the intention of finding out whether he had either at Cambridge before the war or during his service with our Security Services any contacts with any persons who might have been acting as communist agents or who might now merit investigation by the Security Services.

/As

G. E. Dudman, Esq.,  
The Legal Secretary,  
The Royal Courts of Justice, W.C.2.



As the interrogation is for the purpose of obtaining information and not with a view to obtaining a confession it will be conducted entirely by officers of the Security Services and not by the Police. Accordingly it will not be conducted under caution.

The Security Services are concerned lest their interrogation of him should cause Blunt to think that he was in some danger of being prosecuted. Their concern is twofold, that he might refuse the information which they seek or that he might do something precipitate like leaving the country which would be embarrassing to the Royal Household.

In accordance with the practice in such cases I have given a limited assurance namely that criminal proceedings would not be considered in respect of matters of the kind referred to which occurred twenty or more years ago and that if the interrogating officers felt it necessary to do so, they might give Blunt an assurance to this extent.

They hope to interrogate Blunt sometime towards the end of next week. Accordingly if the Attorney General has any directions to give me in the matter I would be glad to have them by the end of the week or early next week.

Yours sincerely,

*Maurice Crump*  
(MAURICE CRUMP)

SECRET  
EXTRACT

11112

Extract for File No. : PF. 604,582 Name :  
 Original in File No. : PF. 604,582 Supp A Vol. : 23 Serial : 3099 Receipt Date : 24.11.72  
 Original from : T. C. Under Ref. : 4304 Dated : 22.11.72  
 Extracted on : 11.12.72 by : JM Section : K7

22.11.72  
Wednesday

O/G GASKIN to TONY WINSTON.

During this conversation GASKIN mentions that they are going to look at the flat in Albany on Tuesday after their return from a few days at Waddesdon.

08.53

O/G GASKIN to BURNET PAVITT.

Asking if he could change his coming to ~~WEDNESDAY~~ lunch until Wednesday because of their having to go to Albany on Tuesday.

09.05

\*If the original is in the file include the name of the

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1111Y

Link N (28)

Extract for File No. PFI 604 582 Name: .....

Original in File No. \* PF 604 582 Supp A Vol: 23 Serial: 3097 Receipt Date: 24.11.72

Original from: T.C. Under Ref: 4304 Dated: 19.11.72

Extracted on: 11.12.72 by: JM Section: K7

19.11.72  
Sunday

I/C from PATRICK DAY to BLUNDEN.

He is ringing to find out how he is. BLUNDEN confirms being much better and had enjoyed France.

Brief remarks about PATRICK's new boss whom he does not very much like.

PATRICK wonders whether coming to stay would be too exhausting?

BLUNDEN - 'what I can't do I'm afraid is to offer to put you up - because JOHN has now moved into the spare room, so, we literally haven't got a spare bed, I'm afraid'.

BLUNDEN added however that if PATRICK were going to be at his club please will he come round.

PATRICK says he will certainly come to London sometime in the near future and will then consult him about coming round.

BLUNDEN mentions that he is going to be away this coming week 'and I may possibly go to Italy in December - it depends how I feel'. Generally speaking he should be here from now on fairly solidly.

10.30

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

SECRET

TOP SECRET EXTRACT

1110D

Extract for File No.: PF. 604,582 Name: .....

Original in File No.\* PF. 604,582 Supp D Vol.: 5 Serial: 849 Receipt Date: 23.11.72

Original from: AZURE Under Ref.: XJB/3 Dated: 21.11.72

Extracted on: 6.12.72 by: JM Section: K7

If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file cover

16.54. ELIZABETH question JB? as to when he would be back from Waddesdon. He planned to be back by Tuesday at latest. He spoke again of the Albany flat. Ideally he would like to take over the flat there in another year but if one became available before this he would take it and get the decorations done slowly. He would agree to take the ground floor flat possibly as the rooms would be larger. ELIZABETH agreed that he would be wise and that the flats were not excessively expensive. JB. repeated that as soon as he sold his pictures he would be clearer about future financial position.

*main file*

17.03. ELIZABETH AND JB? drifted out.

17.05. JB. came in with George ZARNECKI. Long talk on routine Institute matters. JB. mentioned that he was off to Waddesdon frankly to get away from work here. He was still catching up on commitments

TOP SECRET

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Extract for File No. : ..... Name : .....

Original in File No. : \* ..... Vol. : ..... Serial : ..... Receipt Date : .....

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made before he was ill.

JB. then told George that he would probably be going to look at a flat in the Albany next week. They were much cheaper than anything else in a comparable position. The difficulty was that if he had to accept that particular flat now he would have to move into it earlier than he intended. It would take approximately nine months to decorate. GEORGE asked if he could not sub-let. Only furnished JB. thought. GEORGE left.

17.98.

18.03.

Un. id. man came in to see JB. (A student?) He was offered a drink. He had worked in Min of Works but now <sup>Department of</sup> Environment for Historic Buildings Department. He evidently wanted JB's views on future post at University College. Robin COOKE who had the job before left. JB. thought that Visitor would be able to give them much more what they wanted owing to his extensive knowledge of Russian. Visitor spoke about Manchester (University) and JB. advised him not to go there. It seemed this was not comparable with the U.C. job. His work in the Historic Buildings Dept. would be a great asset. JB. advised Visitor not to resign before the end of the year, if he wanted the new post. Then he advised Visitor what to put down on application form - stressing his travelling experience etc. His experience of languages. What college he went to and what papers he took. He evidently took classics and history. Further advice on application for the post by JB. He told V. to keep in touch. He would be away for next few day and may possibly go off to Italy later but would be basically here <sup>his wife</sup> -

18.26.

Visitor left. GASKIN came and asked what V. had to say. JB. replied that he had finished

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Original in File No. :\*.....Vol. :.....Serial :.....Receipt Date :.....

Original from :.....Under Ref. :.....Dated :.....

Extracted on :.....by :.....Section :.....

18.32. his Phd and was going on to research.  
There was a knock and ROBIN CHANCELLOR  
came in. He was offered a gin and Italian.  
JB. gave a good account of his health, then  
S. of France.

18.38. ANDY REVAI had also arrived. General social  
chatter, and repitition of hotel in S. of France.  
Then about opening of exhibition at Queen's  
Gallary and the fact that most of his relations  
and friends had been struck of the ~~last~~ list  
and there were only about 60 people there the  
whole time.

18.44. ANDY asked what JB. 's plans were for Christmas  
and asked if he could come down to them for the  
weekend. JB. thanked them very much. He had  
to go to Naples sometime so might be there but  
if not would like to accept their invitation.

TOP SECRET

4109

11100

Mr. H. 604,582

23

W.D.O. SECRET

ART GALLERY OF ONTARIO  
GRANGE PARK, TORONTO 133, CANADA



Sir Anthony Blunt  
Courtauld Institute of Art  
20 Portman Square  
London W 1, England

PAR AVION

VIA AIR MAIL

CORREO AEREO

1972

23

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4110

NOV 22 1972

ART GALLERY OF ONTARIO

GRANGE PARK, TORONTO 133, CANADA

Telephone (416) 363-3485  
Cable: Galeon

November 22, 1972

Sir Anthony Blunt  
Courtauld Institute of Art  
20 Portman Square  
London W 1, England

Dear Anthony:

I am even more embarrassed for the delay in sending your honorarium. I really can't understand how it happened. The only excuse I can offer is that everyone is very overworked here as a result of attempting to carry on a full programme of exhibitions, lectures, ect., while putting up new construction.

I do hope that your knee is better and that your health generally is good.

Warmest personal regards,

Yours sincerely,

*W. J. Withrow*  
W. J. Withrow  
Director

WJW:jb  
ENC.: cheque

4100

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Nov 15-72

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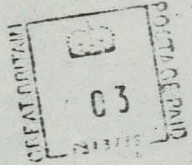
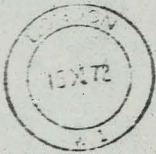
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*Mr. J. G. ...*

16 NOV 1972

Sir Anthony Blunt  
Director  
Courtauld Institute of Art  
20 Portman Square  
London



16 NOV 1972

W.D.O. SECRET

979

## THE BRITISH COUNCIL

29 Bressenden Place  
London SW1E 5DD  
telephone 01-828 4366

Sir Anthony Blunt  
Director  
Courtauld Institute of Art  
20 Portman Square  
London  
W1

your ref

our ref GEN/360/2B

15 November 1972

Dear Sir Anthony

I am writing to ask whether you would be interested in visiting Japan on our behalf at any time between now and March 1973.

We envisage a programme consisting of lectures, discussions, visits to Japanese collections including possible the Imperial one and possibly broadcasting on aspects of British art. Lectures would be in English and would be for both general and specialised audiences with interpreters. There would also, I understand, be the possibility of television interviews. If you are able to consider making such a tour all these details can of course be settled later on. During the period suggested the only time to be avoided would be from mid-December to mid-January which is the Christmas and New Year holiday period. For this tour which we would expect to last for about three weeks, the British Council would be responsible for your overseas air fares, and for any local travel which may be necessary for your programme and for your subsistence in Japan.

Miss M Mingana of this Department is responsible for arranging visits by British specialists to Japan and would be glad to give you any further information. I very much hope that you will be able to consider making this visit and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

*D W Brandon*

Major D W Brandon  
Deputy Director  
Specialist Tours Department

mm.tb

TOP SECRET

copy No 3 of 4

110a

Copy No. 1 addressee  
2 Legal Secretary  
3 file  
4 letter book

518

PF 604582/S/O

Copied to: POLF 11-55-1-13

16 November 1972

1088a  
I attach herewith a note about the case of Sir Anthony BLUNT who was, until recently, Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures.

2. In view of the risk that BLUNT's activities may receive publicity at some time - for example on his death - you will probably wish to be reminded of discussions which took place before the interrogation which led to his confession

3. Shortly the position is as follows. The case was discussed with Maurice Crump, the acting Director of Public Prosecutions on 14 April 1964. He then authorised us to tell BLUNT that no prosecution was contemplated in respect of his activities on behalf of the Russians in the years prior to the war. If we considered it necessary we could extend this assurance to cover the period of BLUNT's employment by the Security Service. Crump said that he would send a note about this to the Attorney General and on 17 April he informed us that the Attorney had had no comments to offer.

4. The interview with BLUNT took place on 23 April 1964. After an initial period of interrogation in which BLUNT had not admitted the truth of Michael STRAIGHT's allegation (paragraph 4 of the attached note) the interviewer seems to have used words which would have had a wider effect than had been contemplated. He made the following record: "I asked if it was loyalty to friends which deterred him from speaking or was it fear. I said that, if it was fear I could give him an absolute assurance that no action would be taken against him if he now told me the truth." BLUNT's first admissions followed and the assurances were repeated later in the interview.

/ .....

TOP SECRET

110a  
17.11.72

TOP SECRET

PF 604582/S/O/Continued:

- 2 -

7426  
5. In the course of subsequent interviews words having a similar effect were from time to time employed. I can enlarge upon this when we discuss the case and can then arrange for the production of any further information which you may wish to have.

6. I have copied this letter to Tony Hetherington.

Bernard Sheldon

Sir Norman Skelhorn, KBE, QC,  
Director of Public Prosecutions,  
12 Buckingham Gate,  
London, S.W.1.

Enclosure

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1109d.

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1109c

Extract for File No.: P.F. 604,582 Name: BLUNDEN

Original in File No. \*: P.F. 604,582 Supp A Vol.: 23 Serial: 3091 Receipt Date: 16.11.72

Original from: T/C on BLUNDEN Under Ref.: 4304 Dated: 14.11.72

Extracted on: 22.11.72 by: G.A.L. Section: K.7.

Extract from T/C on BLUNDEN

/.....

I/C WILFRED to BLUNDEN.

Ringling to welcome him back.  
 WILFRED wonders if he received his letter posted Sunday afternoon.  
 BLUNDEN has had nothing.  
 WILFRED then suggests - 'it's probably being searched for time bombs'?  
 Little comment from BLUNDEN except 'yea'. BLUNDEN goes on to talk  
 about the 'Private View' and the row over allocation of tickets.  
 WILFRED will in any case not be able to come.  
 WILFRED mentions that he is coming up on Friday and accepts BLUNDEN's  
 invitation to lunch at about 1.30.

18.37

/.....

\*If the original is in the file of an individual  
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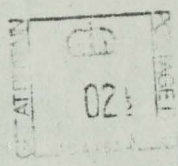
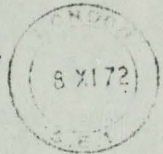
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*The Editors*

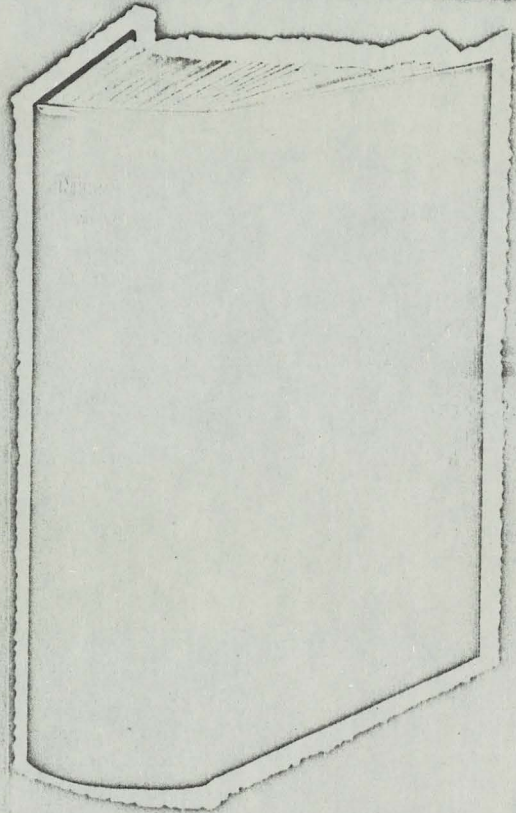
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**BLUNT, Sir Anthony Frederick**, KCVO, FBA, FSA.  
Hon DLitt (Bristol); Hon DLitt (Durham); Hon DLitt Oxon (Oxon); Docteur es Lettres (Paris) 1969; Hon. DLitt Oxon 1971; Cmdr., Legion of Honour and Order of Orange-Nassau, 1952; Director, Courtauld Inst. of Art, Univ. of London 1947-52; Director, Courtauld Inst. of Art, Univ. of London 1947-52; King George VI 1945-52; Director, Courtauld Inst. of Art and Professor of History of Art, Trinity Coll., Cambridge, 1907. Educ.: Marlborough College; Trinity Coll. 1932-36; Hon. Fellow 1967. Career: on Staff of Warburg Inst. London 1937-39. Reader of Hist. of Art., Univ. of London, 1939-40; Deputy Director of Courtauld Institute, 1939; War Service (in France) 1939-40; War Office (1940-45). Publications: Artistic Theory in Italy (1940) (2nd edit. 1950); Francois Mansart (1941); French Drawings at Windsor Castle (1945); (with Walter Friedlaender) The Drawings of Call (1951); (with Walter Friedlaender) The Drawings of Nicolas Poussin (1939-); Art and Architecture in France 1500-1700 (1953, second edn. 1970). The drawings of G. B. Castiglione and Stefano della Bella at Windsor Castle (1954); The Venetian Drawings at Windsor Castle (1957); Philibert de l'Orme (1958); The Art of William Blake (1960); (with H. L. Cooke) The Roman Drawings at Windsor Castle (1960); (with Phoebe Pool) Picasso: The formative years (1962); Poussin: Lettres et propos sur l'art (1964); Scurat (1965); Nicholas Poussin (The Master) (1965); The Paintings of Nicolas Poussin, A Critical Catalogue (1966); Nicolas Poussin, 2 vols. (1967); Sicilian Baroque (1968); Picasso's Guernica (1968); Supplements for the Catalogue of Italian & French Drawings at Windsor Castle; articles in the Burlington Magazine, The Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes, etc. Address: 20 Portman Square, London, W.1.

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