

treatment of Shaun.

But he was found guilty of a number of other offences, including one in which it was claimed that he refused to visit a three-year-old girl at home when she became ill.

Mrs Freeman had told the committee that the doctor had said he was "fed up" with seeing me so many times. "The receptionist (at the surgery) told me you ought to bring a camp bed here."

She wept as she told how her young son became increasingly unwell, between June and October, 1981. For a time the hearing had to be stopped while Mrs Freeman left the room to recover.

In a shaky voice she said Dr Nirmal had persistently prescribed cough medicines for Gareth, when another doctor had diagnosed whooping cough. He could not convince him that her son's condition was not improving.

Gareth coughed continuously and was listless. Once he fell asleep standing up leaning against her.

Asked why she did not get a

a shooie, too, but I stick to it a day because people say it is

Mr Jim Hughes, landlord of the Royal, said "Alfie costs me a bomb because I still serve him double sherries at 30p a glass, and the real price is £1.20."

PRISONER AT THE BAR...

A bid of £100,000 has been received by Cambridgeshire county council for the Sessions House, Peterborough, with its six cells and two courts, but is conditional on planning permission being given for conversion to a public house and restaurant.

SPY TRIAL DATE

The Old Bailey hearing of six spying charges against Michael Bettaney, 33, an MI5 officer, of Victoria Road, Coulsdon, Surrey, will be on April 10, his solicitor, Mr Larry Grant, said yesterday.

Five cleared in £2.4m VAT fraud case

By IAN HENRY Old Bailey Correspondent

FIVE men were cleared at the Old Bailey yesterday of involvement in a £2.4 million VAT fraud. They included a Hatton Garden jeweller, ROY JAMES, 48.

VIP SEND-OFF AS WALDORF FLIES OUT

By CHARLES LAURENCE

MR Stephen Waldorf, the man mistakenly shot by police in London a year ago, was given VIP treatment by British Airways when he left Heathrow for a holiday in Barbados yesterday.

Although Mr Waldorf, 27, had an economy class ticket, the airline ushered him through to the VIP lounge, normally reserved for first class passengers, where he waited an hour for his flight.

A British Airways official explained that they had a telephone call from a woman understood to be his mother.

"The woman asked us to take care of him as he was passing through the airport. As we are the caring airline, we did so."

Mr Waldorf was critically injured in January last year when he was shot five times and clubbed over the head by policemen hunting gunman David Martin.

But yesterday he showed no signs of his injuries. He said: "I am going out for a bit of fun in the sun. I'm fully recovered."

Mr Waldorf declined to comment on the compensation he has received over the incident.

James, of Highfield Road, Purley, Surrey, left the court building with a white plastic bag over his head.

The jury will return to court today, having spent two nights in an hotel, to continue their considerations in the case of three more men.

There have been two trials lasting six months and costing the taxpayer an estimated £500,000.

'Mastermind' claim

Those still to be dealt with include CHARLES WILSON, 52, who is described by the prosecution as a mastermind in an alleged conspiracy to swindle the Customs and Excise over melted-down Krugerrands and maple leaf gold coins.

The four men acquitted yesterday with Roy James are RONALD LAMPORT, 47, of Canterbury Avenue, Ilford, WAYNE MYERS, 29, of Woodcock Hill, Kenton, Middx; ANDREW DANIELS, 28, of Harris Close, Enfield and PETER BARGUS, 45, of Petersham Road, Richmond.

The three still awaiting the jury's decision are Wilson, of Cranford Way, Twickenham; GAVIN DIAS, 27, of Lynn Road, Newbury Park, Ilford and RONALD EVANS, 43, of Myddleton Square, Kings Cross.

Judge RICHARD LOWRY, Q.C., has directed that background material should not be published until verdicts on all defendants have been returned.

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14 Jan 84

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A car that enjoys an unassailable reputation for reliability and spends its working life on the road and not on an hydraulic lift.

Make up your mind to see the Cherry and Sunny at your local dealer. Then talk deals.

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The two cars which topped the polls, out of all other imports, have been the Sunny and the

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GOVERNMENT FUEL FIGURES FOR CHERRY 1.3GL MPG (LITRES PER 100KM) CONSTANT

THE WASHINGTON POST

Thursday, January 26, 1984

AS1

For the Record

• Citing national security interests,

the British government banned union membership at a key western intelligence-gathering facility, the top-secret Government Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham.

President Habib Bourguiba of

BRITAIN

The unions sent out in the cold

Was the government finding life dull? Only that or some new spy horror seem to be the explanations for the way it stumbled this week into a row with the civil servants' unions over excluding them from the secret communications centre at Cheltenham. Union leaders, such as the normally reserved Mr Bill McCall of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants (IPCS), were puce above their white collars on Wednesday evening. Hours earlier they had been summoned to a meeting with Sir Robert Armstrong, head of the civil service, to be told of the foreign secretary's announcement—10 minutes before it was made in the house of commons.

Not even the hush-puppy style of Sir Geoffrey Howe could dampen the row his statement about workers at the government communications headquarters (GCHQ) sparked off. He had discovered an issue that combines trade unions, civil rights and security. Meetings to plan protests among the 70% of the 3,000 Cheltenham staff who are union members (there are a further 4,000 staff abroad) began the following day, though the union leaders want to avoid anything too extreme that would appear to justify the government's action.

Justification is so far in short supply. Whitehall would say only that the decision to use obscure clauses of the Employment Protection Acts to disbar civil servants at Cheltenham from belonging to anything but a tame house union (there is none yet) was caused by the industrial action taken by workers there during the civil servants' pay dispute in 1981 and GCHQ's special vulnerability to selective disruption. According to ministers, the response to the 1981 dispute had been carefully planned; hence the delay.

Some union leaders agree that the action is a response to what happened in 1981. Others think it has more to do with the introduction of lie detectors at Cheltenham next month; the unions oppose them. Neither explanation is wholly convincing. Although Mr McCall of the

IPCS admits that work at the signals centre was disrupted in 1981, he claims that essential services were maintained. None the less if there had been a full-scale international crisis at the time, there would have been a real problem. But he says that the unions have been offering the government a deal which would prevent industrial action ever hurting Cheltenham. Alienating many of the 8,000 workers seems an odd way to improve security.

Mrs Thatcher will have been involved in the decision as ultimate head of the security services. She will need to offer members of parliament convincing reasons for the ban. If opposition MPs demand a debate, Sir Geoffrey will have to elaborate on what he said in the house on Wednesday. The issue has wider union implications. Ministers are considering legislation to ban strikes in essential public services. Is this the start? The employment secretary, Mr Tom King, was saying only two months ago that he was concerned not to "rush out and do a botched job" on such a law.

The government has been under pressure from the Americans to tighten security at the signals centre ever since the sexually deviant spy Mr Geoffrey Prime was uncovered and convicted in 1982. Late last year six lie detectors were purchased through the British embassy in Washington, and an official was installed

at the centre to prepare to use them. They are due to be used at random from March in the routine positive vetting done on civil servants in the security services every five years. Some 70,000 civil servants go through positive vetting, but the lie detectors (known as polygraphs) are to be used only in MI5, MI6 and the Cheltenham signals centre.

Sir Geoffrey was insistent in his statement that the government "fully respects the right of civil servants to be members of a trade union, and it is only the special nature of the work of the GCHQ which led us to take these measures". He assured MPs that it was not the government's intention to introduce similar measures outside the field of security and intelligence. The staff at Cheltenham, who were told about the decision themselves on Wednesday afternoon, are being offered £1,000 each to compensate for losing their trade-union rights.

According to their national leaders, the money was being seen by staff on the spot as adding insult to injury. Staff who cannot accept loss of union membership are to be allowed to seek a transfer. It is difficult to see where they can go. Nearly all are specialised communications experts or linguists. Anywhere they could find a market for their skills would be subject to the same security rules that the government has now decided are incompatible with trade-union membership.

There are rumours that there may be another spy in Cheltenham, and that this week's measures were thought a necessary sign of toughness before any scandal were to break. Sir Geoffrey vigorously denies scandal, American pressure or any other sinister motive. Why then was it done?

All Prime suspects at Cheltenham?



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Mansfield
14 Jan '84

Date for hearing on spy charges

THE Old Bailey hearing of spying charges against Michael Bettaney, an MI5 officer, will be on April 10, his solicitor, Mr Larry Grant, said yesterday.

Bettaney, aged 33, of Victoria Road, Coulsdon, Surrey, faces six charges under the Official Secrets Acts of 1911 and 1920. These include a charge of passing on information about the expulsion of three Soviet diplomats on April 3 last year.

Among further charges, it is alleged that on June 12 last year he passed on an official British assessment of Soviet intelligence operations in the UK, and that between December 31, 1982, and September 17 last year, he collected information calculated to be useful to an enemy. His defence will be conducted by Mr Michael Mansfield and Miss Helena Kennedy.