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## Blunt files reopened over MI5 agent

By GUY RAIS

**I**NQUIRIES into the case of Anthony Blunt, 74, the Queen's former art adviser, stripped of his knighthood for spying for the Russians, have been re-opened by the security services.

The inquiries, revealed by THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH, are understood to centre on a former MI5 agent over the role he played in the Blunt affair.

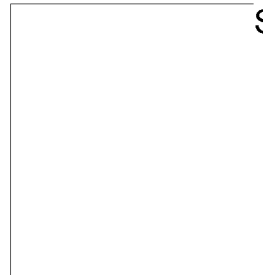
### 'The 'fourth man'

Since November, 1979, when Mrs Thatcher named Blunt as being the "fourth man" who helped Burgess and Maclean to flee Britain in 1951, the files on his spying activities have never been officially closed.

At the time of Blunt's exposure, secret service chiefs expressed fears that other KGB agents might have been working inside MI5.

Blunt was given immunity from prosecution in 1964 when he was first confronted about his activities on behalf of the KGB, a decision subsequently criticised following other leakages of information.

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*Sunday  
Telegraph  
23 Jan '83*

# Blunt III reopened to probe role of former agent

By CHRISTOPHER HOUSE, Crime Correspondent

THE Secret Service has re-opened inquiries into events surrounding the case of Anthony Blunt, the former Surveyor of the Queen's Pictures, who was exposed as a former Russian spy. The inquiries are believed to centre on one man, a former MI5 agent, and the role he played in the Blunt affair.

The Secret Service became suspicious of the former MI5 agent only recently, even though Blunt, now 74, was publicly exposed in 1979—15 years after he had been confronted with his activities on behalf of the KGB.

Blunt, who was stripped of his knighthood by the Queen and now shuns publicity, worked for many years inside MI5 and gave the Russians many of Britain's most closely-guarded secrets before and after the war.

The file on the Blunt affair and the way he was given immunity from prosecution in 1964 is being closely examined. Detailed inquiries, including checking the service record of a former MI5 agent, are being made. It is thought that he has recently been interviewed about the Blunt affair, although this cannot be confirmed.

## 'Under suspicion'

Whitehall sources said that as far as they could tell the former MI5 agent is still alive and in his sixties, is only under suspicion. However, they admit that the fact that the Secret Service is making inquiries into his role in the affair confirms fears voiced at the time of Blunt's exposure that intelligence have never been fully satisfied that other KGB agents were not working inside MI5.

When the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions was asked about a new investigation into the Blunt affair, in particular the role of a former MI5 agent, a spokesman said: "We can neither confirm nor deny that an investigation is being carried out or has been carried out."

When Blunt was given immunity from prosecution in 1964, the head of MI5 was Sir Roger Hollis. Hollis died in

1973, but there have been unsubstantiated allegations since that he was involved with the Russians.

The way Blunt was given immunity has been criticised.

It is obvious that the present inquiry will go deeply into the immunity question and whether any other agents were involved.

## MPs' concern

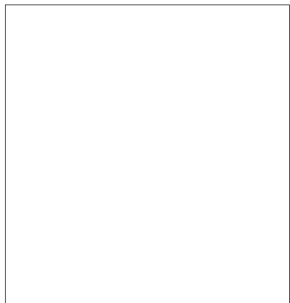
OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT writes: Although there was no official confirmation in Whitehall last night that the new inquiry was under way, it was being emphasised that the files on Blunt and Hollis remained under constant scrutiny.

Some Government sources also made clear that they believed the security services might well have decided to reopen the case, particularly in view of the fact that new revelations about MI5, and possible Soviet penetration at the centre of the services, were about to break.

The latest disclosures will almost certainly lead to fresh concern in Parliament over the Blunt case. A number of MPs have made clear that they still fear the true extent of Soviet penetration has not been revealed, despite detailed statements from Mrs Thatcher.

The Prime Minister is due to receive shortly a report from the Security Commission, headed by Lord Bridge, on the effectiveness of positive vetting procedures following the case of Geoffrey Prime, who was jailed for 50 years after admitting selling secrets from the Government's communications centre at Cheltenham to the Russians.

Any fresh revelations about spying, particularly if it involves the security services, is bound to increase parliamentary pressure from some independent watchdog to monitor their activities.



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## BRIEFLY / World

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### British reopen spy probe

LONDON — The British secret service has reopened inquiries into the case of spy Anthony Blunt and may be on the trail of another spy for the Soviet Union, the Sunday Telegraph newspaper reported yesterday. The newspaper said a former agent of MI-5, the British counter-intelligence agency, is under suspicion for his role in the Blunt affair.

# Minister's three cheers

## INDUSTRY

There were encouraging trends in the competitiveness of British manufacturing industry, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, said during question time in the Commons. He added there was some way to go before the competitiveness achieved in 1975 could be recovered.

Mr Jenkin said following several years in which UK manufacturing industry lost competitiveness, since the first quarter of 1981 it has improved by 24 per cent.

Between 1979 and the third quarter of 1982, output per man hour has improved by 10.1 per cent. These trends are encouraging.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Chipping Barnet, C): This dramatic reversal of the trend in our uncompetitiveness which was obviously evident in the last half of the 1970s augurs well for British manufacturing industry as the world recession ends.

So long as the Government is mindful to allocate subsidies to industry, it is far better to allocate them to create new jobs in new expanding industries than to prop up and preserve uneconomic jobs in dramatically declining industries.

Mr Jenkin: On the general proposition, I cannot possibly dissent from what he has said. Unfortunately in the real world of politics it is not always easy to adhere to that *tout court*.

I do agree that the trends are encouraging, but there is still some way to go before we can recover the competitiveness we had back in, for example, 1975.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU): How is the factor of exchange rate eliminated from the comparisons to which he has just referred?

Mr Jenkin: Exchange rates are included in the figures which I have



Chapman: Good augury for manufacturing industry

given. What is important is to make sure that the benefits endure by keeping hold of costs. This has not happened when the pound has been devalued previously.

The benefit to industry of having lower exchange rate has been lost as costs have risen to absorb that benefit. We must now make sure that does not happen this time around. That will be to the benefit of British industry recovering its share of markets here and overseas.

Mr Stanley Orme, Chief Opposition spokesman on industry, (Salford, West, Lab): Why is manufacturing industry in such a crisis? Like Mr Jenkin, I travel around the country visiting many major companies and they tell me the same story. Since 1979 there has been disaster. Firms have in many cases halved their employees.

I visited Lancing Bagnell last week, a major vehicle company, who have lost over 25,000 employees. We cannot complain about unit costs and production in a firm like that. Why are we in such a situation?

Mr Jenkin: I visited TI Raleigh in Nottingham last Friday, where I found a company that is putting its house in order, recovering its share of the market, restoring its productivity, and has introduced new models and new production methods. I gave three hearty cheers.

## Regional policy unchanged - for now

There would be no further substantial changes in regional policy in the lifetime of this Parliament, Mr Norman Lamont,

Minister for Industry, said during questions.

The first stage of the reviews to examine the working of the current regional economic policies and to identify ways they could be made more effective, had been completed by the departments concerned. A decision on what further work was to be commissioned would now have to be made.

Mr Jack Dormond (Easington, Lab): Is the review a cover up for yet another attack on regional aid? What possible justification can there be for the proposals in the public expenditure White Paper to cut regional aid and general industrial aid by 21 per cent?

Will he give an assurance that before any conclusions are reached there will be consultations with organizations and local authorities in the regions?

Mr Lamont: We do consult local authorities and other people involved in the regions. No further changes are planned in the lifetime of the Parliament but it is perfectly reasonable for the Government to review regional policy and its effectiveness about which there is a lot of argument and controversy.

Mr Hilary Miller (Bromgrove and Redditch, C): Under current criteria the West Midlands would qualify for assisted area status so he is faced with a choice of either including it or reviewing assisted area policy.

In that review, would he pay particular attention to the creation rather than the diversion of jobs, which many suspect the current policy encourages, and the cost

effectiveness of means of as-

Mr Lamont: geographical markets as question of ment. I agree and the ne policy are must look at

Mr John spokesman (Kinston up principal. Government it can rec money. The overriding co

Will he co that Labour West Mid have in cre more at £2 £40,000 a job

Mr Lamont safeguarded often simply in the pu narrowed regional poli sense if the p

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British Airw final decision aircraft for the and are still Airbus. Mr Minister for

## Whitehall brief

# Good year for a 'mole mania' revival

By Peter Hennessy and Alasdair Palmer

There is a good chance that 1983 will see at least two revivals of "mole-mania". Next month Mr Michael Straight, whose testimony to M15 in 1964 exposed Mr Anthony Blunt, publishes his memoir *After Long Silence* which, looks set to rekindle interest in 1930s Cambridge.

The Security Commission is still digging into the case of Geoffrey Prime, the former linguist at the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) sentenced last November for spying for the Russians. The commission's report could well revive Washington-sourced stories about the threat posed to the United States-United Kingdom special intelligence rela

of convictions in the United States. He suggested somebody should undertake a simple count.

Such a calculation for the period 1945-83 shows 25 British subjects discovered serving the KGB and 57 moles unearthed in the United States (the American figure could be a little higher as some less important cases may have escaped mention in British publications). The United States would seem to be leading by more than two to one.

Such figures, though interesting, are crude and misleading. The United States security and intelligence machine is much bigger than its British equivalent. And it is quality not



Geoffrey Prime: Harmed signals intelligence

Some American-born spies

"the worst case in United States history". He had, it seemed, also compromised CIA and FBI material.

Late last year Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of the Senate intelligence committee credited Christopher Boyce and Dalton Lee who had compromised US satellite surveillance, with wrecking the chances of the Senate ratifying the salt 2 strategic arms treaty. Senators were alarmed that Washington's eyes-in-the-sky were temporarily useless when it came to monitoring Soviet missile deployments.

There are a number of plausible explanations for the British belief that its intelligence apparatus is wide open to the KGB compared to the American spy establishment. Positive be too

Ministers persuade wildlife on use of for planning CLAYTON respond second of hope to do

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*22 April '83*

# Prime denied chance to appeal

By Paul Keel

The grave offences against national security committed by Geoffrey Prime would have merited the death penalty in times of war, Lord Justice Lawton said in the Appeal Court in London yesterday.

Refusing the spy leave to appeal against the 35-year jail sentence imposed on him at the Old Bailey last November for collaborating with the Russians for 14 years, Lord Justice Lawton said that it properly reflected the general public's opinion of his conduct.

"There are offences that are so grave that the only way the judges can demonstrate that society will not tolerate a particular kind of conduct is by passing a sentence that truly reflects the abhorrence that right-minded members of the public have for the defendant's conduct," he said.

Prime, who admitted several counts of spying, took the Queen's Shilling first in the RAF where he was recruited

by the Soviet espionage service in 1958, and then as a Russian linguist at the Government Communications Headquarters at Cheltenham. But, Lord Justice Lawton, said, "he sold her, her subjects, and allies to a potential enemy."

He went on: "In times of war, such conduct would have merited the death penalty. However, in peacetime the law does not provide for the death penalty."

The Appeal Judge, who sat with Mr Justice Michael Davies and Sir Roger Ormrod for the one-day hearing, said that in peacetime "right-minded members of the public would consider that a very long sentence was appropriate, and that was what the defendant got."

He said that because they affected matters of national security, details of Prime's offences could not be revealed. But having read the evidence produced in camera at the trial in November under the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Lane,



Mr Geoffrey Prime—  
 "sentence without hope"

he agreed with him that Prime had caused incalculable harm to the interests of Britain's security.

Mr George Carman, QC, for Prime, had submitted to the Appeal Court that the total sentence of 38 years, including three years for three counts of indecent assault on young girls, was the longest determinate sentence passed on any person in Britain in

the last 20 years. It would mean that if Prime lived to serve the sentence without remission, he would be 82 years old on his release. "It is, in summary, a sentence without hope," Mr Carman said.

Prime, he recalled, had eventually made a full and frank confession to the police and security authorities, which enabled seven counts of spying to be brought against him. And, Mr Carman told the court, authorities had confirmed to him that they have interviewed Prime 18 times in sessions occupying 37 hours.

"And at all times Prime has placed himself available so to be interviewed, and these interviews are not yet concluded," Mr Carman said.

In the modern world of intelligence-gathering, information often passed through the hands of those in comparatively humble positions in government service. It was no doubt on occasions a brutal world where some offenders would be stripped of public honours while

others were offered immunity. Others defected, Mr carman observed.

Prime had none of these opportunities, except perhaps to defect, which he chose not to do when he was under suspicion for the sexual offences whose investigation eventually led to his discovery as a spy. Instead, by his candour, he provided the means for his own arrest and prosecution.

"It should be a legitimate aim of any modern sentencing policy in this unpleasant world of espionage and treachery that spies should be brought to book but that they shall have incentives to cooperate," Mr Carman submitted.

The incentive of a reduced sentence would apply to relatives of spies who might be encouraged to disclose information to the police in the way that Mrs Rhona Prime, the spy's wife, had done, he added.

At one point during yesterday's hearing, Mrs Prime, Turn to back page, col. 4

## Prime appeal turned down

Continued from page one  
 who sat in the court throughout, collapsed sobbing on the shoulder of a representative of her husband's solicitors. Prime was not in London for the hearing.

After the court had gone into camera for an hour to hear submissions about matters affecting national security, and after an adjournment of more than one and a half hours, the appeal judges returned to give their judgment.

Lord Justice Lawton said that on the matter of the three sexual offences Prime was a "dangerous man" as far as young girls then living in the Cheltenham area were concerned. They were serious offences, and it was right that the sentence for them

should run conservatively with the sentences for spying.

He acknowledged that Prime had confessed his spying activities to his wife and thereby set in train the investigation. But, Lord Justice Lawton recalled, he had prevaricated for some time before making his full confession to the police and security authorities.

He thought it unlikely that the incentive which Mr Carman had spoken of would ever encourage relatives to take the public spirited action which Mrs Prime had demonstrated in informing the police of her husband's confession.

Prime may have occupied a relatively low position in the intelligence-gathering service,

but it was "not only the Admiral Byngs who had to be dealt with severely," Lord Justice Lawton said, with reference to the 18th century British admiral who was executed for failing to save Minorca from the French.

"The humble may have to be dealt with severely," he said. Incentives may be a consideration in the prevention of large-scale crime, but in considering the security of the State the courts had to achieve a balancing act. In the opinion of the three appeal judges, the scales tipped in favour of a deterrent sentence.

"It is much better that spying should never start than spies should subsequently confess," he said.

# Would a lie detector have caught him out?

THE government's decision to go ahead with the introduction of lie detectors, or polygraphs, for screening in the security and intelligence services raises long-standing questions about their effectiveness and the ethics of their use. It also poses an intriguing question. Would Geoffrey Prime ever have entered the government's secret communications headquarters if the polygraph examination had been in use in 1968?

In the course of interrogation by the security service, Prime said that he would never have sought employment with the communication centre at Cheltenham had he known he would have to take a polygraph test. And staff at the American National Security Agency say they are sure an American counterpart of Prime would have been rejected following the test.

Last week, an authority on the use of polygraphs, Dr Gisli Gudjonsson, a psychology lecturer at the University of London, said that he, too, believes there is a strong possibility that Prime would have been discovered. "In 80 per cent of cases, the polygraph can prove useful, but in 20 per cent it's not."

The polygraph (the security commission's report disapproves of the term lie detector) works by monitoring such physiological signs of stress as heart rate and the electrical conductivity of the skin, affected by sweating.

Evidence as to its effectiveness is wildly contrasting. Scientists working in laboratory conditions in America, carrying out "mock-

crime" tests claim to have demonstrated an accuracy rate as high as 90 per cent. But critics point to research carried out "in the field" which suggests a failure rate as high as three in one.

Britain's security commission recommends a pilot scheme to test the feasibility of polygraph testing, to be administered by security staff trained in America - preferably at a CIA school.

It emphasises that the polygraph would be used only as "the final hurdle" in a recruit's probationary period; and that a supposedly adverse polygraph reading would not in itself mean withholding clearance without independent confirmation from some other source.

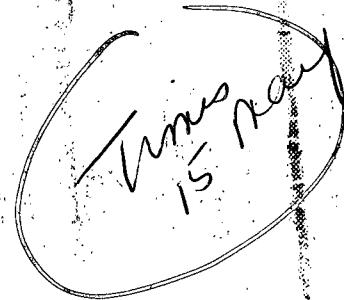
Most important, unlike the American security practice where subjects are given a "full life-style" examination including such areas as homosexuality, drug-taking and financial affairs, the use of the polygraph in Britain would be restricted to counter-intelligence examinations.

But the commission's proposed safeguards do not reassure the Civil Service Unions, the umbrella body for eight unions representing more than 520,000 white-collar staff.

The council has prepared an extensive report on polygraphs and Jones has written to the head of the civil service, Sir Robert Armstrong, to express concern about the lack of prior consultation over the security commission's proposals.

Mick Brown

# THROU



## Woodman spare that tree, if the price-tag is right

THREATS to the scenic beauty of the British countryside from forestry developments are being increasingly countered by chequebook conservationism. When formal objections to new plantations or the cutting down of mature woodlands fail, environmental groups are now joining the bidding to buy the threatened land.

Using a tactic long employed by the wealthy National Trust, much smaller and poorer groups have started raising funds to save much-loved landscapes from being clothed in conifers. They are taking advantage of encouragement from Whitehall, which is urging the government-controlled Forestry Commission to sell off its land.

Last week, two small conservation bodies laid plans to purchase property.

● The fast-growing Woodland Trust, which has 25,000 members and up to 200 applications to join every week, hopes to buy the deciduous Duncliffe Wood near Shaftsbury, Dorset, to save it from being felled by a commercial developer.

● The Friends of the Lake District, which has just 6,500 members but has successfully fought off many plans to

by Roger Ratcliffe and David May

develop sensitive parts of Britain's largest national park, intends raising money to buy land in scenic Dunnerdale, where the Forestry Commission plans a new conifer plantation.

This form of conservationism is however, very expensive. The commission has put the 180-acre Duncliffe Wood, which is two-thirds ash and oak and one-third conifer, on to the market for around £100,000.

John James, director of the Woodland Trust, a group dedicated to saving broadleaf woods, (broadleaves, are our deciduous native trees) believes it is well worth it. "It is a super area and I'm almost afraid to say what might happen to it - in case someone wants to do it."

Because the wood is not designated as a site of special scientific interest, there is no grant aid for the purchase from sources like the World Wildlife Fund or the National Heritage Memorial Fund. So the trust makes regular appeals for funds. The last appeal on Radio Four brought in £30,000. In the last five years, it has attracted so

much public support that it now owns £1,100,000 worth of broadleaved woodlands throughout the country.

The Friends of the Lake District is much smaller. After successfully fighting off plans to develop two of the national park's most scenic lakes, last year it was presented with a new battle. The Forestry Commission acquired 370 acres at the head of the Duddon Valley, one of the few in the area to escape from heavy tourist attention, and announced its intention to plant it with conifers.

"It is an unthinkable scheme," says Geoffrey Berry, a consultant secretary to the Friends and noted landscape photographer. "The original plans have been altered as a result of our objection but there would still be a plantation and that's not good enough."

The purchase of the plot in Dunnerdale will cost an estimated £75,000. Like the Woodland Trust, the Friends of the Lake District believes such expenditure is money well spent. "We are going to launch a big appeal for funds," says Berry. "It's a huge task but we can't stand back and let such a scene be radically altered."

David's father planned for his education when he was born. That way, by investing £8,156 spread over 17 years, David will receive £20,000 worth of school fees and his father saves £11,844.



The children above will be worth of school fees; not but because they knew about

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Schools essay  
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In last week's special Maga-  
zine section on the rise and fall

LESSONS OF PRIME CASE

- PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
- EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION TO INCLUDE OVERSEAS
- POLYGRAPH, BOTH INITIAL, PROBATIONARY AND RIP
- TWO PERSON RULE
- PACKAGE INSPECTIONS
- CONTROL OF COPYING MACHINES
- REPORTING FOREIGN TRAVEL
- INTERVIEW FORMER SPOUSES?

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