



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

STRICTLY PRIVATE.

November 23, 1982.

The Rt.Hon. Margaret Thatcher, MP.,
Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
LONDON, S.W.1.

De Prime Minister

With some hesitation I am passing on information given me at my surgery on Saturday by my constituents, Sandra and Michael Pellowe of Riverside, Burton Ferry.

I have spoken to Barney Hayhoe who feels that as this is a security question I should draw it to your attention, rather than write to him.

I have to say that the Pellowe's themselves were hesitant about coming to me but felt that it was their duty to do so. They have a friend, a Mr. Lionel Watts of Myrtle Cottage, Trinity Terrace, Burton Ferry, who for about eleven years lived with a translator called Gaynor at the Cheltenham Communications Centre. I believe that this person has an address at Aberloggin Farm, Gower and has probably now given up her work at Cheltenham. The point that concerns the Pellowe's is that Mr. Watts is an active radio Ham who broadcasts regularly and goes on board ships at Milford with friends who are radio operators. They feel that in the light of recent events, this connection could have significance and they have therefore drawn it to my attention. Of course, I shall leave it to you to take whatever action you feel proper!

J. Edwards
Net



The National Archives

LETTERCODE/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i>	Date and sign
PIECE/ITEM <i>917</i> (one piece/item number)	
Extract/Item details: <i>Letter from Prime Minister to Edwards dated 24 December 1982</i>	
CLOSED FOR <i>40</i> YEARS UNDER FOI EXEMPTION	<i>18 October 2012</i> <i>Wayland</i>
RETAINED UNDER SECTION 3(4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT 1958	
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Ref. A082/0620

MR RICKETT

CF
McGlynn and included in the clip
CM
27/12

--- I attach a draft reply for the Prime Minister to send to the letter which Mr Nicholas Edwards (writing as a Member of Parliament) sent to her on 23rd November.

2. The background is contained in a letter which I have received from Sir Brian Tovey, a copy of which I attach.

REA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

22nd December 1982



The National Archives

LETTERCODE/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i>	Date and sign
PIECE/ITEM <i>917</i> (one piece/item number)	
Extract/Item details: <i>Attachment to minute from Armstrong to Rickett dated 22 December 1982</i>	
CLOSED FOR <i>40</i> YEARS UNDER FOI EXEMPTION	<i>18 October 2012 Wayland</i>
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LETTERCODE/SERIES <i>PREM 19</i>	Date and sign
PIECE/ITEM <i>917</i> (one piece/item number)	
Extract/Item details: <i>Letter from Tovey to Armstrong dated 20 December 1982</i>	
CLOSED FOR <i>40</i> YEARS UNDER FOI EXEMPTION	<i>18 October 2012 C. Wayland.</i>
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SECRET



Security JG

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

MR. HATFIELD

I enclose a letter the Prime Minister has received from Nicholas Edwards, MP. A couple of his constituents have told him that a friend of theirs, a radio ham with many friends who are radio operators, lived for eleven years with a translator from the GCHQ. They feel this may have some significance from the point of view of security.

The Prime Minister discussed this briefly with Sir Robert This morning. She would be grateful if he could investigate this case and report to her in due course.

T. W. F. S. RICKETT

29 November 1982



10 DOWNING STREET

PRIME MINISTER

One of Nicholas Edwards' constituents has told him that a friend of theirs, a radio ham with many friends who are radio operators, lived for 11 years with a translator from the GCHQ. They feel this may have some significance from the point of view of security. Would you like me to forward this to Sir Brian Tovey?

WM Yes - but first -
let Sir Robert
Armstrong see it.

The letter must obviously
go under 'General' cover
not

26 November 1982

BT4907 4 XXX 180

MS

Prime Minister
Robert Armstrong's office are
investigating this and will let us have
a report on Monday.

WJ
RJM

POLICE PROBE CHELTENHAM HANGING
POLICE HAVE LAUNCHED AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF A WORKER
AT THE TOP-SECRET GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATIONS HEADQUARTERS IN
CHELTENHAM.

MR ERNEST BROCKWAY, 43, A TECHNICAL OFFICER AT THE BASE WHERE
JAILED SPY GEOFFREY PRIME WORKED FOR THE RUSSIANS, WAS FOUND HANGED
AT HIS HOME YESTERDAY.

CHELTENHAM POLICE WERE CALLED IN TO INVESTIGATE ON BEHALF OF
CORONER DAVID FAULKNER AFTER MR BROCKWAY'S WIFE FOUND HER HUSBAND'S
BODY AT THEIR DETACHED HOME IN FLECKERS DRIVE, HATHERLEY, CHELTENHAM,
GLOS.

IT IS NOT KNOWN EXACTLY WHAT JOB MR BROCKWAY HAD AT THE BASE -
THE HUB OF BRITAIN'S INTELLIGENCE NETWORK.

AN INTERNAL INQUIRY HAD BEEN GOING ON SINCE PRIME'S ACTIVITIES AS
A RUSSIAN AGENT WERE DISCOVERED EARLIER THIS YEAR.

MRS BROCKWAY SAID: "I'VE BEEN TOLD TO SAY NOTHING BY THE BASE
AND THE POLICE. MY HUSBAND WAS A SICK MAN."

A SPOKESMAN AT THE BASE REFUSED TO COMMENT ON A POSSIBLE LINK
BETWEEN PRIME AND MR BROCKWAY.

"THERE WAS A SUSPICIOUS DEATH AND AS A RESULT THE CORONER IS
INVESTIGATING. AN INQUEST WILL BE OPENED ON MONDAY," THE SPOKESMAN
SAID.

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