

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

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Security*



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HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SW1H 9AT

13
9 July 1982

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INCIDENT AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE - 9 JULY

The Home Secretary has asked me to pass you the attached copy of the report which has now been received from the Metropolitan Police. No doubt the Prime Minister will wish to see this further account of the background to the case before answering Questions this afternoon.

Yours sincerely
C J Walters
C J WALTERS

C A Whitmore, Esq.

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METROPOLITAN POLICE

Reference to papers { C.O.
Dist.

SECRET DISTRICT BRANCH STATION 'AD' 13th July 19 82

Registry Folio No.

G.O./Police Order.....refers

Re Michael FAGAN - C.R.O. 53440/67
BURGLARY AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

- 1 -

To: Deputy Assistant Commissioner 'C' (Operations)

1. This preliminary report is submitted as instructed in order that a precis of what the accused FAGAN has said to police may be known. In order for this to be readily understood it is necessary for a brief resume of the facts of this matter to be related.

2. There are two separate incidents herein reported, the entry to Buckingham Palace on Monday, 7th June, 1982, and the entry on Friday, 9th July, 1982.

3. Dealing with the entry on Monday, 7th June, 1982. At about 11.20 p.m., Miss Sarah Jane CARTER, aged 19 years, a Housemaid employed and resident at Buckingham Palace, reported to the Police Lodge that some minutes earlier she had seen a man's hand and possibly a face on the outside of her bedroom window. At the time of making this complaint she was accompanied by two other off duty Housemaids who had met Miss Carter outside her room and who had heard noises from inside her room and were thus able to corroborate her story to that extent.

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4. Police Sergeant 20'A' BRAITHWAITE attended the scene with the three girls and his preliminary examination caused him to accept their story notwithstanding the fact that the window concerned is on the third floor and there is a sheer drop of some fifty five feet from the window ledge. About three feet to the side of the window is a drain pipe.

5. P.S. Braithwaite caused his senior officer Chief Inspector GREENE to be informed and a search of Buckingham Palace commenced. On this night H.M. The Queen was not in residence. No intruder was discovered.

6. In daylight on 8th June, 1982, senior scenes of crime and senior fingerprint officers attended and some finger impressions were found, consistent with this climbing feat. Also found were traces of pigeon repellent gel from the outside of the building. Also on 8th June, 1982, Miss Cynthia Jane PARSONS, aged 56 years, a Lady Clerk employed in Room 108 at Buckingham Palace reported to police the theft of approximately half a bottle of wine from that room. This alleged offence had occurred during the night of 7/8th June, 1982, and on the same floor as Miss Carter's room through which the intruder had entered. Finger marks were found on this bottle.

7. Detailed enquiries were made by Detective Chief Inspector FOSBURY including interviewing numerous staff and soldiers on guard duty etc. Elimination finger prints were obtained from all relevant persons and these were all checked against the outstanding marks but the marks were not eliminated and were filed at New Scotland Yard.

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8. This matter was followed up by all possible enquiries being made and was recorded in the Confidential Crime Book at Cannon Row Police Station. At this stage the matter remained undetected.

9. On Friday, 9th July, 1982, at about 6.45 a.m., Police Sergeant 50'A' Malcolm TRUDGEON, off duty, riding his motor cycle, saw a man on the railings of Buckingham Palace near the gates to the Ambassadors Entrance.

10. P.S. Trudgeon notified Police Constable 591'A' DAVIS who was nearby on duty and Davis by means of personal radio, notified the Buckingham Palace officers and he then confirmed this report by telephone to the Control Room.

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22. FAGAN was taken firstly to the Police Lodge and subsequently to Cannon Row Police Station at about 8.15 a.m. He gave his name originally as 'Rudolph HESS' but later supplied his true personal details.

23. Since he had a superficial cut on his right thumb, probably from smashing the glass ashtray and hence the bloodstain on The Queen's bed, a doctor was called to treat him. Dr. DURSTON, Divisional Surgeon attended. There was no evidence to suggest to the doctor that FAGAN was under the influence of drink or drug. The doctor later took a blood sample for comparison purposes with the blood on the blanket.

24. FAGAN was interviewed from 12.25 p.m. to 1 p.m., by Deputy Assistant Commissioner David POWIS, O.B.E., Q.P.M., accompanied by Commander Graham STOCKWELL. This interview, although under 'caution' as demanded by the Judges Rules, was a preliminary interview to ascertain FAGAN's mental state and personal and family circumstances. A contemporaneous record

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This was achieved and FAGAN also under questioning, claimed to have committed this act on his own and that he had entered the Palace to see The Queen. This appeared to be for some illogical personal emotional reason which compelled him to speak to The Queen.

25. Under this questioning FAGAN admitted entering the Palace on a previous occasion some three weeks earlier (i.e. the incident of 7th June). It was as a result of this admission that urgent steps were taken to compare his fingerprints with the finger marks left at the Palace on the night of 7/8th June, 1982. They were identical.

26. FAGAN was again interviewed between 8.5 p.m. and 8.38 p.m. by Detective Chief Superintendent Trevor LLOYD-HUGHES, accompanied by Detective Inspector Colin RUTTER and P.C. 842'A' THOMPSON and P.C. 879'A' PLAYER, the latter made a contemporaneous note of the interview which was intended to deal only with the offence of 7th June, 1982. The questions in this interview were confined to the evidence necessary to prove the burglary.

27. The interview may be summarised as an introduction or agreement to discuss the events of 7th June, 1982, an admission by FAGAN that he entered the grounds and gained access to the flat roof the same way each time (he subsequently pointed out to us the position). He admitted making the long climb to the top window and he was cautioned in accordance with Judges Rules. He agreed that he frightened the girl (Miss Carter) when he climbed in and that having entered he walked 'around and around and around'. He agreed that he had drunk some wine, having opened the bottle with a pair of scissors and that he did this in a room full of presents.

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He claimed that he was in the Palace about one hour and that he had spent some time looking at 'art'. He denied stealing anything else and said he knew that The Queen was not in residence at that time as her standard was not flying. At the conclusion of this interview he read over every answer at our request and initialled every answer and signed the bottom of each page.

28. He was again interviewed between 9.22 p.m. and 10.40 p.m., by Detective Chief Superintendent Trevor Lloyd-Hughes, again accompanied by Detective Inspector Colin Rutter and P.C. 842'A' Thompson and P.C. 879'A' Player, again the latter making a contemporaneous note.

29. Again the questions were confined to the evidence necessary to prove an offence (viz. burglary - including theft of the glass ashtray) and also on this occasion for the above reason. Also for other reasons it was decided to purposely avoid speaking of confrontation with H.M. The Queen.

30. FAGAN was 'cautioned'. He claimed that he had decided at about 2.30 a.m. to go to the Palace and had done so because of, "A little voice in my head....." He had drunk some 10 measures of whisky at Elmore Road and had then obtained a lift to Kings Cross and had walked from there.

31. On arrival at the Palace he had climbed directly over the railings and then entered. He admitted deliberately breaking the glass ashtray and keeping one piece of glass in order to slash his own wrists with it in the presence of The Queen but when eventually he saw her, he states he was unable to carry it through.

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32. He apparently wanted to do this because he claims to, "love her and I didn't think she wanted me." He volunteered that he may be a case for Friern Barnet (a well known North London mental hospital), and that he had only had mental problems this year following his separation from his wife and children.

33. He agreed he had taken his shoes and socks off on the flat roof in order to easier climb into the Palace. He indicated his route to the flat roof and then stated that before he had climbed onto the flat roof he had entered the window into a room

. He described coming out of there the same way he had entered and then climbing the drainpipe to the flat roof and entering the Palace via a window (the office of The Master of the Household). He spoke of going into the State Ballroom and of sitting on the right hand 'throne' in there. He agreed he had said, "Good morning," to a cleaner (Miss Hatton). He claimed that after leaving the Ballroom he had looked at the pictures and mentioned that he had 'just followed the pictures' and ended up seeing a picture of 'The Queen's Father'.

He said that he did not intend slashing his wrists before he went to the Palace and that he only came to make this decision when he saw the glass ashtray. He described how he got the slash scars on his wrists which were now some three weeks old and said he had slashed his wrists as a result of his matrimonial problems with his wife Christine and the children. He said his wife had recently been prosecuted for taking a vehicle and that he was presently very unhappy and that this made him do 'daft' things.

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34. He claimed not to care that he might end up in a 'nut house' and said that he had not meant to do anyone any harm or cause anyone any embarrassment or upset and that all he wanted was a bit of peace and quiet. He was adamant that he arrived in The Queen's bedroom by 'following the pictures' and that he wasn't going to do anything like that again. He claimed that he only got in to have a look around and only changed his intention when he saw the ashtray and then thought of slashing his wrists again. He asked for his personal problems not to be discussed outside the Police Service and was obviously disturbed. He agreed to check, read and sign the notes and did so.

35. From all the circumstances, although difficult to accept, it would appear that he really did find The Queen's bedroom by chance 'following the pictures'. From his previous route and antics in the Ballroom it would seem that this was not the cool execution of some contrived plan but the blunderings of a mentally disturbed individual. A matter of serious concern nevertheless.

36. The antecedent history of FAGAN is indicative of a nervous breakdown being presently suffered. He is obviously emotionally disturbed by the matrimonial problems currently evident. He has recently assaulted his 14 year old stepson. He has recently violently smashed furniture in a spasm of rage. He has recently been arrested for running naked ('streaking') along a public tow path and an appearance in Court later that same day for this matter, indecently exposed himself from the dock. His wife has confirmed, in a written statement, his unfortunate mental state and in seeking medical help for him in this respect.

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37. It is understood that he has had previous connection with the notorious ex Doctor SWANN who came to prominence some years ago in the East End of London for excessively supplying drugs, etc.

38. FAGAN appeared at Bow Street Magistrates' Court on Saturday, 10th July, 1982, and is presently remanded, in custody, to Monday, 19th July, 1982, on the following charge:

On 7th June, 1982, Buckingham Palace, S.W.1, you having entered a building, viz: Buckingham Palace as a trespasser, did steal therein a quantity of wine value £3 (half bottle), the property of Department of Environment.

Contrary to: Section 9(1)(b) Theft Act, 1968


He is legally represented by Mr. Maurice NADEEM of Maurice Nadeem & Co., Solicitors, 6, Coptic Street, London, W.C.1 (637 5615).

39. In all the circumstances of this case it would appear that this wretched individual more by luck than judgement has created a most grave and serious security breach. Mercifully no physical harm came to Her Majesty.

40. Submitted.


Detective Chief Superintendent
Trevor Lloyd-Hughes

41. Forwarded by hand to Home Office.


Deputy Assistant Commissioner
(Crime) (Operations)

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METROPOLITAN POLICE

Form 609

Convictions Recorded Against:-

John MORGAN

Charged in Name of:-

Michael FAGAN

C.R.O. No. 53440/67
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METROPOLITAN POLICE

Form 609

Convictions Recorded Against:- John MORGAN

Charged in Name of:- Michael FAGAN

C&R.C. No. 3340767
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BUCKINGHAM PALACE INCIDENT

Further Briefing

Director of Public Prosecutions

It is common for all Police Forces to consult the Director on difficult cases. I am sure that the Director will be keeping the Attorney General fully informed. As the House knows, the question of bringing charges is a matter for the proper authorities, and not for the Government. I am assured by the Attorney General that the case will be dealt with as quickly as possible.