

12
Prime Minister

Ref. A083/0374

MR BUTLER

c Mr Ingham

You may have seen an article by Chapman Pincher in the Daily Express for Thursday 20 January about Mr Anthony Blunt.

2. It suggested that Blunt had been tasked in 1946 to visit Germany on the Royal Family's behalf to retrieve any captured German records of conversations between the Duke of Windsor and Hitler and other prominent Nazis.

3. Mr Blunt subsequently denied this allegation.

4. Mr Blunt did visit Germany on two occasions in 1945 at the request of the Security Service in connection with the resettlement of a Security Service agent in Germany. On both occasions he also brought back on behalf of the King various Royal treasures and documents, including letters between Queen Victoria and the Empress Frederick. He went to Germany again in October 1946 in connection with the resettlement of the same Security Service agent, but there is no record that he transacted any business on behalf of the Palace on that occasion.

5. So far as Sir Philip Moore is aware, there is no truth in the allegation that he was selected on the advice of MI5 to visit Germany in 1946 on the Royal Family's behalf to retrieve captured German records of conversations between the Duke of Windsor and leading Nazis.

6. The Palace have not been asked to comment on these allegations and do not propose to do so. I see no need for us to do so either. But I thought that you might like to tell the Prime Minister what the position is.

RIA

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

2 February 1983

Security 2/2



Lie AH

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

SIR ROBERT ARMSTRONG

Thank you for your minute of
2 February (A083/0374) about Mr Chapman
Pincher's article in the Daily Express
of Thursday 20 January about Mr. Anthony
Blunt, which the Prime Minister has seen
and noted.

FERB
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4 February 1983

AH