

Mr Wicks

Prime Minister²
to note

Ref. A086/3338

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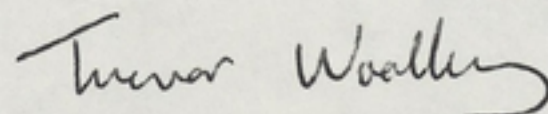
NLU
2-12MR MALLABY

The "Sunday Telegraph" at the weekend carried a report that Mr Dale Campbell-Savours MP intended to table a series of Parliamentary Questions (although it might equally be an early day motion) naming 43 MI5 agents and the present MI5 hierarchy. The Private Secretary to the Chief Whip, Mr MacLean, has been investigating how such a development might be forestalled.

2. Mr MacLean has received an undertaking from the Clerk to the House of Commons that he will receive at least 12 hours notice of any Questions or motion by Mr Campbell-Savours along these lines to permit the Government to take any action necessary to prevent their being tabled. My advice is that the only action which could be taken would be to pass a resolution in the House authorising the Speaker not to accept for tabling a defined category of Questions to encompass the naming of security service officials. Such a motion would probably be put by the Leader of the House, and would clearly need to be moved very soon after warning of the Questions or early day motion had been received.

3. Mr MacLean is considering the wording of any such motion which might be put, but clearly that, and the decision whether or not to take such steps at all, will depend on the terms of the Campbell-Savours Questions, if indeed he attempts to table them; and I suspect that there is little further preparatory work which can be done at this stage.

4. I am copying this minute to Mr Wicks, Mr Galsworthy (FCO), Mr Boys-Smith (Home Office), Mr Wood (Lord Privy Seal's Office) and Mr MacLean (Chief Whip's Office).



T A WOOLLEY

2 December 1986

Chesli

That this House deplores the action of the Hon Member for Workington in ^{claiming to name} naming a former member of the Security Service; condemns the Hon Member for his declared intention to name ^{other} present and former members of the Security Service; asks the Hon Member to consider the damage he may cause to Britain's interests and, indeed, the physical danger in which he may place those who work for Britain; recognises the futility of asking him to discuss this matter with the Leader of his Party on whose instructions he may well be acting ^{and therefore} urges him to seek advice from the ^{others members of the Labour Party} Rt Hon Gentleman, the Member for Cardiff South and Penarth who operated the bi-partisan approach to these matters with integrity and with Britain's interests in mind rather than those of his Party. §

to return to

MM
referred of rejected
amendment.

Mark

For consideration, if
EDMS are tabled.

Amends