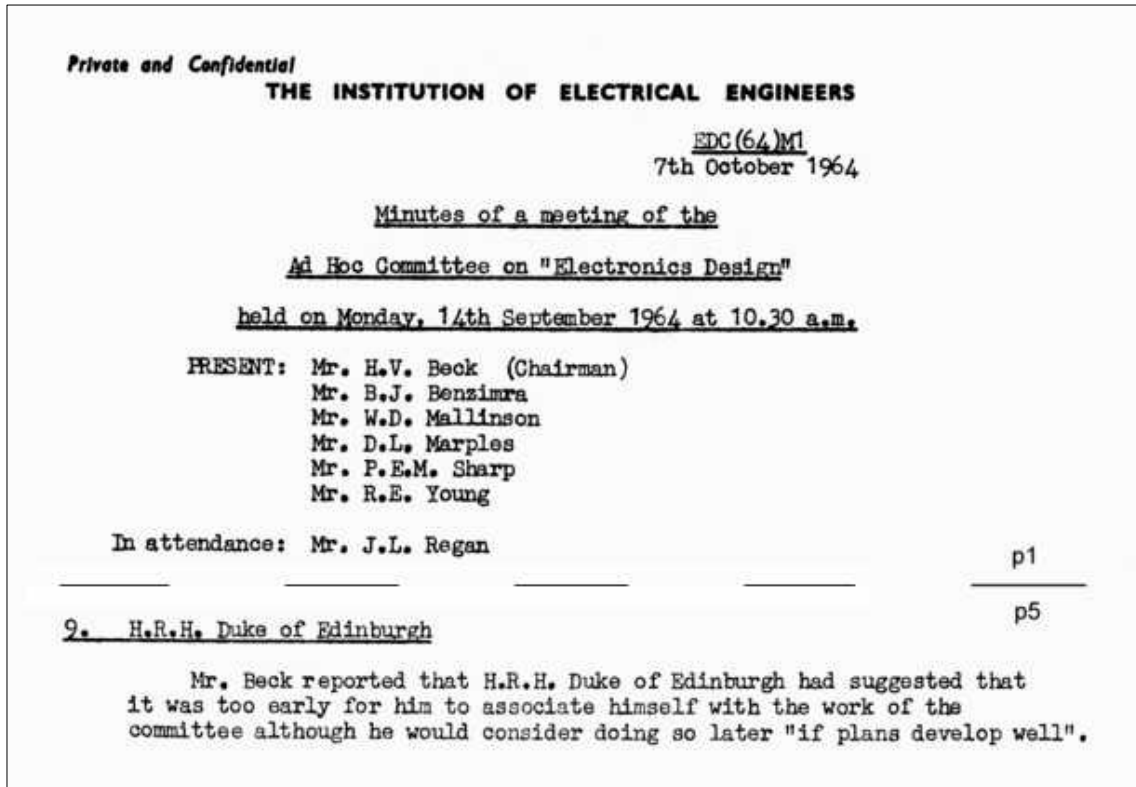


## HRH and Design

While organising the first Conference on Electronics Design I wrote to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh on behalf of the IEE asking if he would open it.

Wednesday 26th August 1964

Rear Admiral Bonham Carter, Private Secretary to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, wrote from Buckingham Palace in response to the invitation to open the Conference on Electronics Design. I reported to the Committee as follows:-



December 1964

During an Open Day visit to Marconi Instruments, Neil Sutherland, Managing Director of the parent company, Marconi, came into my office and after greeting me with "I am glad to meet the wonder boy at last", said I would be interested to know that he had sat next to HRH The Duke of Edinburgh at a Dinner and that Prince Philip had asked how Design was doing.

## Board-Level Disinformation

Friday 24 June 1966

At Cambridge Consultants Limited the Managing Director, Tim Eiloart, and I discussed the pattern of work I was carrying out for CCL, which was very varied. I again made plain my independent status and Tim Eiloart seemed to accept this.

Tuesday 28 June 1966

In the morning I attended, by invitation, a meeting of the CCL Board. It was held at the H.Q. of Pergamon Press, 4 Fitzroy Square, London and Robert Maxwell chaired the meeting. He was exceedingly well-disposed and gracious towards me and indeed seemed anxious to make a good impression. After the meeting, which lasted from 10am to noon, I departed for the IEE.

Monday 04 July 1966

I received a surprising letter from Tim Eiloart dated 28th June. In it he purported to confirm an offer of a directorship of AIM Electronics which had never been made and extended the offer to Chairmanship of the Company.

Dear Harold,

I should like to confirm our offer of a seat on the board of AIM Electronics Ltd and hope that you will be able to accept the post of Chairman. I have asked John to let you have a note on the duties of a director and a chairman. I feel that it would be best for you to defer a decision about whether to accept a directorship until you know whether this will be compatible with your next job. In the meanwhile you can continue to act as chairman at our weekly meetings.

I was glad to discuss your work with us on Friday last. I can understand that while you find the work has a stimulating effect and the environment attractive you also feel that your abilities are being extended by a job that is not particularly vital.

I think we agree that AIM Electronics could barely provide you with a full week's work now or pay for it but I am certainly not convinced that CCL and AIM would be unable to afford you. Whether we can really use you is another matter. There is certainly a matching problem here, as I think you'll agree.

I feel that it is quite likely that we will be able to provide a really interesting challenge here when we get AIM launched and move to Bar Hill, particularly if Computer Technology comes with us. To run a company ten or a hundred times larger would of course be a very much more demanding task than to run CCL but if and when we start to grow rapidly again the picture may be quite different. The task of, let us say, doubling in size by acquisition or expansion every year would certainly keep us very busy and after 3 years we'd be overtaking companies that are now ten times bigger anyway.

Of course one is also treading much less well documented and familiar ground if trying to grow so fast. Whereas a fairly slow rate of growth requires a gradual change of control techniques, rapid expansion might presumably require a much more self-adequate control. Any new system would have to be worked out with reference to capacity to handle ten or twenty times more information and so forth.

I am most grateful to know more precisely what the situation is and it would be very helpful if you can continue to tell me about it.

Yours sincerely,

*Tim*

T.M.B. Eiloart

Wednesday 06 July 1966

I visited CCL, Cambridge and was astounded to learn from Minutes I found in my pigeonhole that I was listed as present at the Inaugural meeting of the AIM Electronics Board, held in the same place and on the same date as the CCL Board meeting, i.e. at the Pergamon H.Q. on 28th June.

<b><u>AIM Electronics Limited</u></b>	
<b>Minutes of the Board Meeting held at 4 Fitzroy Square, London, W. 1. on 28th June, 1966.</b>	
<b>Those Present : <u>H.V. Prock</u>, G.M. Edge, T.M.B. Eiloart (Chairman pro tem), J.K. Forster (Secretary)</b>	
<b>Copies to : Above, plus Minute Book.</b>	
<b>Reference : JF/R34/P</b>	<b>Date Typed: 4th July, 1966.</b>
-----	
<b>1. <u>Certificate of Incorporation</u> : Certificate No. 879924 dated 24th May, 1966 was produced to the meeting.</b>	
<b>2. <u>Directors</u> : a letter was produced to the meeting, signed by M.J. Birkett and R.J. Lye appointing G.M. Edge and T.M.B. Eiloart to be first Directors of the Company.</b>	
<b>3. <u>Chairman</u> : the official election of a chairman was deferred.</b>	

When I discussed this anomaly with Tim Eiloart he said my name had been listed among those present due to a misunderstanding. I had reason to doubt that the meeting had been held at Fitzroy Square and

when I pressed him on this he admitted that the Board 'meeting' was actually held in the train on the way back from Liverpool Street to Cambridge.

Friday 22 July 1966

On a visit to CCL at Cambridge I was extremely surprised and not a little annoyed to see a memorandum announcing that I had been appointed a Director of AIM Electronics Ltd. The announcement, which had been issued on 20th June, a few days before I had talked with Tim Eiloart (24th June) and the first meeting of the AIM Board (28th June), was pinned to the notice board which staff and visitors alike could see. He should have removed it after our talk.

Saturday 23 July 1966

I wrote to Tim Eiloart about the memorandum, again stressing that I was an independent consultant, not an employee of CCL or AIM.

I have just noticed a memo of yours listing newcomers to the Company, describing me as a Director of AIM Electronics, Ltd. This was issued on the 20th June, i.e. before our talk which cleared up misunderstandings on this point. I think it would be advisable to issue an amendment so that my function in the Company is clearly understood, i.e. that I am an independent consultant assisting AIM Electronics and C.C.L. in management and in the formulation of Company policy.

Wednesday 27 July 1966

Tim Eiloart responded to my representations about the Director announcement by issuing an ambiguous memo saying that my Directorship had yet to be confirmed!

MEMORANDUM	
To: Bob Taylor, David Southward, Gordon Edge, Pete Chamberlain	27th July, 1966.
From: Tim	RE/P
.....	
Due to a misunderstanding, Harold Beck has been announced on our Notice Board as a Director of AIM Electronics Ltd.	
For the present he is helping us on a part-time basis and his directorship has yet to be confirmed.	

### Maxwell Encounter

Thursday 31 August 1967

At 5.30 pm I went to Pergamon's H.Q. at 4 Fitzroy Square for my meeting with Robert Maxwell. His secretary showed me into his outer office where I waited for half an hour while Robert Maxwell, with the door to his office wide open so that I could hear all that was going on, dealt with such matters as sending the car for Mrs. Maxwell to go to dinner with a very important person, and taking care of various other matters.

His secretary departed at 6 p.m. and soon afterwards Robert Maxwell came to the door of his office and invited me in. As I passed him in the doorway he gave me a friendly clap round my shoulders and said "Well - and how are you standing up to the strain?".

I was in Robert Maxwell's office for the best part of an hour, most of which was taken up with his telephoning the Editors of various newspapers and advising them what line to take with a report of the

House of Commons Catering Committee. He had chaired the Committee and its Report had been adopted that day and was about to be published.

However, I managed to tell him that contrary to the false impression being given that I had joined CCL I had no wish to do so. I was also able to show him my letter about the untrue announcement of my appointment as a director and to tell him I had been falsely minuted as present at the inaugural Board meeting of AIM Electronics. The only response I got from him was raised eyebrows at the reference in a letter from Tim Eiloart about Mr. Wedgewood Benn's interest in Computer Technology Limited.

He asked me if I wished him to put anything to CCL and I said no but I would like to reserve that course of action. Then, as he got up to signal the end of the meeting Robert Maxwell gave me a copy of a Labour Party News Release, which he had on his desk. It was about a speech (not a bad one, either) on Information Retrieval he had made at Cranfield the previous day.

As he showed me out of his office he asked me to let him know where I ended up. Then, as I was going out of the door, mindful of my principal objective in asking to see him, namely finding out who was influencing CCL, I asked him if he knew Lord Nelson of Stafford. He said he did, very well indeed. I asked him if he would get in touch with Lord Nelson on my behalf and arrange a meeting. He said he would have to think about it. On that note we parted.

Monday 11 September 1967

I wrote to Robert Maxwell again about a meeting with Lord Nelson. I heard nothing for a long time, during which I severed all connection with CCL.

Wednesday 22 November 1967

Robert Maxwell wrote what seemed to me a rather contrite letter:-

I had no further contact with him.

### Bishops To Safeguard

With the help of the Rector of Harpenden, Rev Peter Graham, I formed Safeguard Group, to look into the misuse of psychological techniques in industry in general and in management development in particular.

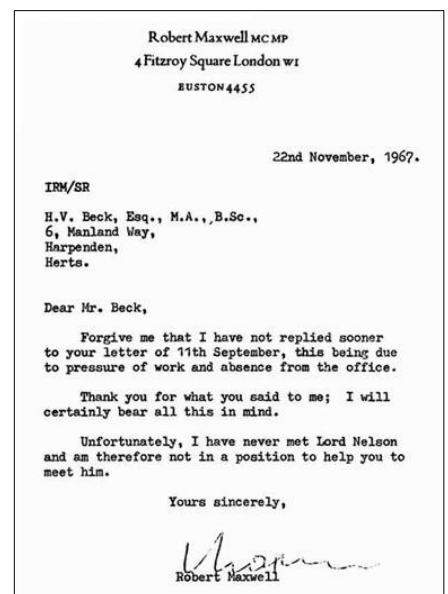
Saturday 08 November 1968

At the first meeting, in the Rectory, the Bishop of Hertford, John Trillo, spoke of being so pressurised by Marxists in Berlin that he had thought of resigning. Christians, he added, should not resign but stay and fight Marxists from within. I had no doubt that he had been primed with disinformation.

Tuesday 07 January 1969

The second meeting of the Safeguard Group was held in my home. The Bishop of Bedford, John Hare, attended and I was rather concerned that he directed admonitory remarks at me. I felt he and the Bishop of Hertford had been primed with false information about me.

[As the Safeguard Group meetings progressed the Bishops of Hertford and Bedford became supportive of my views. The Bishop of Hertford became Bishop of Chelmsford (Marconi territory) and through Christian Stewardship and Community Health Council activities the Bishop of Bedford and I got to know each other quite well.]



## College Head or Meths Drinker?

Friday 14th March 1969

I called by appointment on Professor John Coales in the Engineering Laboratory, Cambridge, and was most warmly received. He took me to lunch in Clare Hall. He spoke about the foundation of the Hall, its purpose, the female company, the need for money and the Russian visitors. He said that the President was Brian Pippard, who would be in that Office for 7 years, then they would be-looking around for another . . . .

Going out of the dining hall, we passed a portrait which included Sir Henry Thirkill, Master of Clare College, who I knew as Provincial Grand Master of Cambridgeshire and who had been Secretary of the Cavendish Laboratory. John Coales pointedly asked if I knew Sir Henry had run the Part II practical class at the Cavendish Laboratory. When I said I didn't, he went on to say that Lord Blackett assisted Sir Henry in the practical class. I asked John Coales whether he knew I had run the 2nd year practical class. He said "yes, of course" - very euphoric.

Someone had been doing his homework - I hadn't known that Sir Henry and Lord Blackett had been my practical class predecessors. Back in Professor John Coales's office I described something of the circumstances of my leaving M.I., including the psychological pressures and the resignation agreement. I then outlined the pressures applied to get me to join CCL and how I had decided the cut loose from them altogether. Prof. Coales then revealed that he had become involved with Computer Technology, a Company closely associated with CCL - he said Tim Eiloart had got him interested.

There is little doubt that John Coales had delivered the massive PEP to make me more amenable to CCL. I had got in first with my views on CCL and had made it clear that I was not interested in the company. On whose behalf was John Coales acting?

Friday 9th May 1969

I paid a follow-up visit to John Coales. When I arrived I found the atmosphere had completely changed. In the course of discussion John Coales said Lord Nelson was alright - he could look after himself. I must on no account approach him and I must not persist in my enquiries - if I did I would probably end up a meths drinker! He said there were no openings in the University.

Tim Eiloart was waiting in Prof. Coales's outer office as I came out! This time John Coales had delivered a massive NIP ahead of a CCL hint - he was learning the technique fast. I simply nodded to Tim Eiloart and departed. John Coales was clearly part of the network trying to get me to join CCL - again, the vexed question was "On whose behalf was he acting?".

## Royal Visit 2

Saturday 12 July 1969

In the Executive Appointments Service publication, received today, there was a photo showing Prince Michael of Kent accompanying military attaches on a visit to AIM Electronics, the CCL subsidiary of which I had been offered and had declined the Chairmanship. The visit was organised by the MOD and the Foreign Office.



● AIM recently welcomed a group of foreign attaches and their wives representing Austria, Holland, South Africa, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Norway, Spain, USA, Sweden, Finland and Switzerland, and escorted by Prince Michael of Kent to spend a day looking round the company.

The visit, arranged in conjunction with the Ministry of Defence and the Foreign Office, was intended among other things, to give the delegates a closer insight into how AIM handles the problem of research and development.

## Influence through Freemasonry

Saturday 25 October 1969

I attended a masonic meeting in Cambridge. During the meal a relatively junior mason went out of his way to tell me that Sir Henry Thirkill, the Provincial Grand Master, was retiring and Harry Nourse (a Cambridge G.P.) was to take his place. No appointment of Deputy PGM had yet been made. Harry Nourse did not intend to occupy the PGM chair for long; the Deputy would soon take over. He could think of someone who would be very suitable as the Deputy PGM . . . . .

I asked about Arthur Armitage (he was President of Queens College and I had not then heard about his appointment as Vice-Chancellor of Manchester University) and received the reply that he was not well enough known outside Cambridge - not so well known, for example, as me . . . . . Then, when I had expressed interest, my companion hinted about a return to CCL. I lost interest.

Another curious remark the intermediary made to me was that his grapevine was so efficient that he knew before anyone else when people like Barbara Castle visited the district.

This event occurred a few months after I had spoken and written to the Grand Secretary, James Stubbs, about influence being brought to bear through Masonry by external organisations, which to my mind is one of the worst forms of boundary-crossing.

## Company Surveillance

Friday 31 October 1969

I sought a meeting with Lord Nelson of Stafford, who was not only Chairman of GEC but also President-in-waiting of the IEE in its Centenary year. At 3 pm on Friday 31st I phoned GEC's Head Office and spoke to Lord Nelson's secretary, I obtained an appointment for the following Tuesday 4th November at 10.45 am.

Monday 03 November 1969

When in the late afternoon I arrived at the IEE to chair a meeting at which Joan Woodward, Professor of Industrial Sociology at Imperial College, was the speaker, her first words were "I hear you are going to see someone tomorrow". Joan Woodward added "I suppose you know his hands are tied".

There must have been much activity between the Friday afternoon and the Monday afternoon. From my telephone call to GEC Head Office, it had been determined by someone that I would be with Joan Woodward at the IEE on the Monday. Joan Woodward, who was a consultant to Marconi, Basildon, would then have been contacted and primed.

## Royal Visit 3

Wednesday 26 November 1969

The kudos of M.I. was greatly boosted by a surprise visit to the company by Prince Michael of Kent. The event was under the auspices of the Ministry of Defence.



## Actions on the Moscow invitation

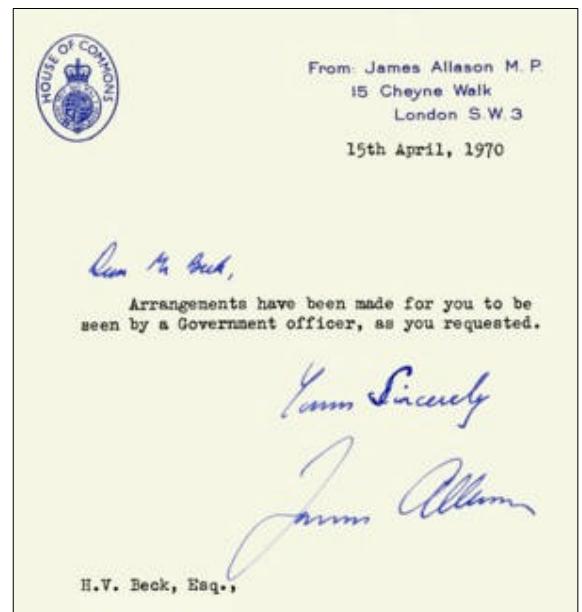
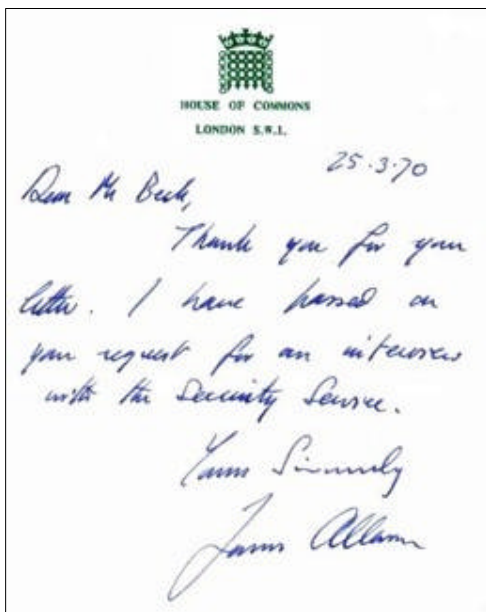
In 1970, while attending an Electronics Industry meeting in Edinburgh, I was approached by the Departmental Head of the Soviet Ministry of Electronics who invited me to travel to Moscow as a Visiting Professor. He said Aeroflot would take myself and family and that I should learn Russian.

Sunday 22 March 1970

I wrote straight away to my M.P., James Allason, informing him what had happened and adding that the manner in which the invitation came about made me very desirous of discussing the matter with a senior Government officer.

Wednesday 25 March 1970

By return of post I received a handwritten reply from James Allason M.P. saying that he had passed on my request for an interview with the Security Service, which was not exactly what I had requested.



Wednesday 15 April 1970

James Allason M.P. wrote saying "Arrangements have been made for you to be seen by a Government officer, as you requested".

Thursday 16 April 1970

At noon a Mr. McCauley telephoned and after announcing that he was with the Ministry of Defence referred to my request to Mr. Allason. He went on to say that my letter had "reverberated around the corridors of power" and had been "fielded" to him "to deal with". He added that I had been "kept waiting long enough" and said that he wanted to come and see both myself and my wife. He suggested visiting my home the following day, Friday 17th. He seemed keen to meet my wife as well as me.

Mr. McCauley mentioned that he spent some of his time in the Cabinet Office and that he lived near Chequers. Mr. McCauley said I ought to take a note of his telephone number in case I wished to get hold of him. I took down the number 930 9400 Ext 393.

I went to the local library and looked Mr. McCauley up in the Civil Service list. I could not find his name but I noticed his phone number was the one listed for the Management Services Unit of the Ministry of Defence. Moreover, with the phone number was an address in Northumberland Avenue.

I thought I would do some more checking so at 5.30 pm the same day I dialled Mr. McCauley's number and learned that I was through to the War Office. I asked to be put through to Mr. McCauley and there was a long silence. Eventually I was told Mr. McCauley had just left but could be contacted at any time. I replied that it was not worth troubling him now - I would ring again in the morning. Just before I rang off I asked what Mr. McCauley's function was and was told quite firmly that this information could not be given.

That same evening, at 9.45 pm, Mr. McCauley phoned again. He said he would not have a car the following day so we agreed on Tuesday 21st instead. He asked if he could come along in the evening as his home was in the same general area as mine. I said it would be difficult to talk at home and suggested we met in a pub. He proposed one in the Gaddesden area and mentioned Chequers Crest, Whipsnade. He said he would pick me up at my house and, allowing for traffic, would arrive between 7.00 and 7.30 pm. I did not mention then or later that I had phoned his office, nor did he.

Tuesday 21 April 1970

Mr. McCauley and I met but not as arranged. I decided that instead of waiting for him to call for me in the evening, I would invoke the element of surprise by going to see him in the morning. He had intimated he would be in his office in London all day, I now had its address so I set out to call on him.

I found the rather dingy entrance to the Ministry of Defence building in Northumberland Avenue and asked at Reception to see Mr. McCauley. The officer on duty rang through and after a brief conversation informed me that Mr. McCauley was sending his secretary to take me to him straightaway. There then followed an embarrassing wait of an hour or so, with no sign of the secretary, and on asking the officer on duty to make enquiries I discovered there were two entrances to the MOD complex and that I was waiting at the wrong one. I was thereupon directed to the Whitehall entrance, which was in a War Office building. There, I was most graciously received by the secretary who conducted me down a short corridor just off the monumental Reception hall, to Mr. McCauley's office.

Mr. McCauley received me very civilly, with no sign of surprise or annoyance at the change in arrangements. As I was seating myself he made some reference to MI5. He sat with his back to a window looking out on Whitehall.

During our meeting we covered many matters. Early on, when we considered the Russians I had met in Edinburgh Mr. McCauley called for some files to look up when they had applied to attend the Symposium and expressed surprise when he discovered that it was as late as 4th March. He had very little information on the civil servant Russian and indeed asked me about him. The other two - Alexander and Victor - were well documented and he showed me their photographs as well as read out that they had both spent some time at Swansea on a previous visit or visits.

I for my part recounted some of my experiences and I am sure from his reaction that the Eastern European involvement in my affairs - for example the attendance of USSR people at one or two of my IEE meetings - came as a surprise. At this, he asked if I had ever been behind the Iron Curtain and I replied, as I thought accurately, that I had not. I told him of my other encounters with Security people and when I referred to the Ministry of Aviation man who had come over to EEV during my bizarre consultancy to plead on behalf of Ray Burnett, he was very keen indeed to know who he was. However, when I described him as a man with a large red nose who drove a Jaguar and lived on the South Coast, his interest subsided. He got very excited when I mentioned RAF connections.

There was one name I mentioned to which Mr. McCauley reacted with much scepticism. This was Grant, the name given to me of a Russian who had applied for a job at CCL and on whom I had been asked to give my views. Mr. McCauley doubted if a Russian would have the name Grant. There were one or two puzzling features of our conversation, such as his preoccupation at one point with a cricketer named Sir Compton Burnett.

Right at the end of our meeting Mr. McCauley said that he had known a former M.P. for Hemel Hempstead (a predecessor of James Allason) very well and that he had become Lord Davidson. He then asked me to keep quiet about our meeting.

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In *Spycatcher* by Peter Wright (with Paul Greengrass), there are many references to a person listed in the index as *McCaul, Michael (Maccauley)*. There is also a section on a Russian named Sokolov Grant.