

1966

SIR PHILIP ALLEN

X Following our conversation a day or two ago, I now attach a draft letter to the Commissioner about the possibility of overlap between the Special Branch and the Security Service. The draft mentions the collection of material about Communists and other subversive organisations as the area of possible overlap noted by the S. of S. The only other area I am aware of is in relation to aliens and naturalisation: where the Special Branch produce voluminous reports and the Security Service take part in at least some interrogations. If we adopt the procedure suggested in the draft, you may wish to consider how far Mr. Brodie, [redacted] sys Officer [redacted] and I should concern ourselves with B Department work.

It will, I am sure, have occurred to you that this highly informal procedure may not be wholly effective if there really is some form of duplication which ought to be stopped. In the past, when reviews have been thought desirable in the security field, they have generally been done by individuals of considerable standing; but on this occasion it may nevertheless be right to set about it on the more modest lines we are suggesting. We are not this time embarking on a general review covering many aspects of security work and involving a large number of interests and organisations. We shall be reviewing on behalf of the S. of S. the relationship between two organisations, for both of which he has himself some responsibility. Moreover, we shall not be seeking to deal with any specific sorts of uneasiness. We shall, in the first place, merely be seeing whether there is anything we ought to be worrying about; and if we find there is something we shall be free, if we see fit, to suggest a quite different procedure for dealing with it.

9/2/67.

21st February, 1967.To Woodhill

① mentioned his to the Commissioner, and has now written to [redacted] sys Officer [redacted] and Mr. Brodie as well.

② tell her you might raise XI in your discussion, but I don't if you will find much less for me pursuing.

PA

2/3/67

X1
Following our conversation a day or two ago, I now attach a draft letter to the Commissioner about the possibility of overlap between the Special Branch and the Security Service. The draft mentions the collection of material about Communists and other subversive organisations as the area of possible overlap noted by the S. of S. The only other area I am aware of is in relation to aliens and naturalisation: where the Special Branch produce voluminous reports and the Security Service take part in at least some interrogations. If we adopt the procedure suggested in the draft, you may wish to consider how far Mr. Brodie, [redacted] Sys Officer and I should concern ourselves with B Department work.

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[initials]

21st February, 1967.

To Waddell

I mentioned this to the Commissioner, and have now written to [redacted] Sys Officer and Mr. Brodie as within.

Will you might raise X1 in your discussion, but I doubt if you will find much less than needs pursuing.

PD

2/3/67

Sir Philip Allen has written as within

2/3

Mr. James wrote to [redacted] Sys Officer and Mr. Brodie as within.

27.11.67