



MEMORANDUM RE MATTERS NUMBERED 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 17, 19,  
21, 22, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 38, 41.

Matters Raised with Counsel Assisting but not Drawn as Specific Allegations in Precise Terms.

This memorandum deals with 21 matters which in the opinion of those assisting the Commission could not or, after investigation, did not give rise to a prima facie case of misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution. It is therefore proposed that these matters not be drawn as specific allegations in precise terms and that there be no further inquiry into them.

Matter No.4 - Sala

This matter involves an allegation that the Judge, whilst Attorney-General, wrongfully or improperly ordered the return to one Ramon Sala of a passport and his release from custody.

All the relevant Departmental files have been examined as also has been the official report of Mr A.C. Menzies.

The available evidence supports the conclusion of Mr Menzies that there was no evidence of any impropriety on the Judge's part. While it is true to say that there was room for disagreement about the directions given by the Judge and that the Australian Federal Police objected to the course taken, the action by the Judge could not constitute misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution. We recommend that the matter be taken no further.

Matter No.5 - Saffron surveillance

This matter consisted of an allegation that the Judge, whilst Attorney-General and Minister for Customs and Excise, directed that Customs surveillance of Mr A.G. Saffron be downgraded. The gravamen of the complaint was that the Judge had exercised his Ministerial powers for an improper purpose.

This matter was the subject of a Report of Permanent Heads on Allegations in the National Times of 10 August 1984. That Report pointed out, as an examination of the files of the relevant agencies confirms to be the case, that apart from one document entitled "Note for File" prepared by a Sergeant Martin

on 30 January 1975 there was no record of any Ministerial direction or involvement in the matter. That note for file attributed to a Kevin Wilson the statement that the A-G had directed that Saffron was not to receive a baggage search. When interviewed by the Permanent Heads Committee, Mr Wilson said that in all his dealings with the matter he believed that the direction came from the Comptroller-General. The conclusions of the Report of Permanent Heads appear at paras 45 and 46. Those conclusions were that the decision to reduce the Customs surveillance of Saffron to providing advice and travel details was reasonable and appropriate and that it was more probable than not that the decision to vary the surveillance of Saffron was made by the then Comptroller-General. This, it was concluded, did not rule out the possibility that the Minister spoke to the Comptroller-General who may have reflected the Minister's views when speaking to a Mr O'Connor, the officer in the Department who passed on the directions to the police.

It is recommended that the Commission proceed in accordance with Section 5(3) of the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry Act and, having regard to the conclusions of the Permanent Heads Inquiry, take the matter no further.

Matter No.7 - Ethiopian Airlines

This matter was the subject of questions in the Senate in late 1974 and 1975. The contention was that the Judge, whilst Attorney-General, behaved improperly by accepting free or discounted overseas air travel as a result of his wife's employment with Ethiopian Airlines. Investigation revealed nothing improper in the appointment of Mrs. Murphy as a public relations consultant nor in the fact that in lieu of salary she acquired and exercised entitlements to free or discounted travel for herself and her family.

Whatever view one may take as to the propriety of a law officer accepting free or discounted travel in the circumstances set out above, the facts disclosed could not, in our view, amount to misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution and accordingly we recommend the matter be taken no further.

Matters No.8 and 30 Mrs Murphy's diamond; Quartermaine - Moll tax evasion.

These matters were the subject, in late 1984, of questions in

the Senate. It was alleged that the Judge had been involved, at some stage during or prior to 1979, in a tax avoidance scheme in Western Australia involving one Christo Moll, Murray Quartermaine and others and that Mrs Murphy had either purchased or been given a diamond by Moll.

Material was provided to the Commission in support of these claims and consisted of two diamond valuation certificates, a cheque butt of Moll's with the name Mrs L Murphy and a letter dated 18 June 1979 allegedly written by a Dr Tiller, one of the participants in the scheme, to Quartermaine, implicating the Judge in their activities.

These matters were investigated by the Commission and those investigations confirmed the conclusion to which the Australian Federal Police had earlier come that the documentation provided in relation to the alleged diamond was unreliable and in all likelihood false and that the letter from Dr Tiller was probably false and possibly written by Moll to discredit Quartermaine.

In the light of these circumstances it is in our view impossible to conclude that there is any prima facie evidence

of misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution and we recommend that the matters be taken no further.

Matter No.9 - Soviet espionage

Two individuals jointly made the claim that the Judge was a Soviet spy and a member of a Soviet spy ring operating in Canberra. This allegation was supported by no evidence whatever and rested in mere assertion of a purely speculative kind.

We recommend that the Commission should make no inquiry into this matter.

Matter No.10 - Stephen Bazley

Information was given to those assisting the Commission that Stephen Bazley had alleged criminal conduct on the part of the Judge. The allegation was made in a taped interview with a member of the Australian Federal Police and was that the Judge wanted Bazley to "knock out" George Freeman. Bazley said that the request had been passed on to him by a named barrister on an occasion when, according to Bazley, he and the barrister went to the Judge's home in Sydney.

The New South Wales Police had investigated this allegation in 1985 and the staff of the Commission was given access to the relevant New South Wales Police records.

Those records showed that the conclusion of the police investigation was that the allegation was 'a complete fabrication' and that further enquiries would be a 'complete waste of time'. These conclusions were based on Bazley's lack of credibility, his refusal to assist the New South Wales Police in their inquiry into this allegation, his refusal to adopt the statement he had made to the Australian Federal Police and the clear and comprehensive denial by the barrister in a signed statement that he had or would have spoken to Bazley in the terms alleged. Indeed the barrister said that he had met Bazley only twice, once when he had acted for him and once when Bazley had approached him in public and the barrister had walked away.

There being no material which might amount to prima facie evidence of misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution we recommend the matter be taken no further.

Matter No.12 - Illegal immigration

It was alleged that the Judge had been involved in an organisation for the illegal immigration into Australia of Filipinos and Koreans. It was not made clear in the allegation whether the conduct was said to have taken place before or after the Judge's appointment to the High Court. No evidence was provided in support of the allegation.

Those assisting the Commission asked the Department of Immigration for all its files relevant to the allegation. Examination of the files provided to the Commission revealed nothing to support the allegation; neither did inquiries made of the New South Wales Police which had made some investigations into the question of the involvement of Ryan or Saffron in such a scheme.

There being no material which might amount to prima facie evidence of misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution we recommend the matter be taken no further.

Matter No.17 - Non-disclosure of dinner party

This matter involved an assertion that the Judge should have come forward to reveal the fact that he had been present at a dinner attended by Messrs Ryan, Farquhar and Wood once it was alleged that there was a conspiracy between Ryan, Farquhar and Wood. It was not suggested that what occurred at the dinner was connected with the alleged conspiracy; neither was there evidence of a public denial by any of Messrs Ryan, Farquhar and Wood of the fact that they knew each other.

In the absence of such suggestion or denial there would be no impropriety in the Judge not coming forward to disclose the knowledge that he had of such an association. The absence of action by the Judge could not constitute misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 and we recommend that the Commission should do no more than note that the claim was made.

Matter No.19 - Paris Theatre reference, Matter No.21 - Lusher reference, Matter No.22 - Pinball machines reference

These matters came to the notice of the Commission by way of

the so-called Age Tapes transcripts (Volume T1A, p.22 - 20 March 1979, Volume T1B, pps. 107-108, 7 February 1980). On the hypothesis that the transcripts could be proved, there were several conversations between the Judge and Morgan Ryan which included observations by the Judge first, that there was something in the newspaper about the Paris Theatre and that Ryan should know "what's bloody well on"; second, a conversation in which a discussion occurs about "every little breeze" and "the Lush or is it going to be the three board of ..."; and, third, a conversation where Ryan asked the Judge not to forget those " pinball machines ... ".

These three matters, to the extent they suggest a continuing and close relationship between the Judge and Ryan are covered by Allegation No.40.

These conversations could also lead to the inference that the Judge was involved in various kinds of sinister activities with Ryan. However, since they consist only of cryptic references not capable of investigation as allegations of substance, it is recommended that, except as part of Allegation No.40, these matters should merely be noted by the Commission but not investigated further.

Matter No.28 - Statement after trial

This matter was referred to in the House of Representatives (see pages 3447-8 of House of Representatives Hansard of 8 May 1986).

It was suggested that the Judge's comments, made immediately after his acquittal, that the trial was politically motivated constituted misbehaviour.

We submit that the conduct alleged could not on any view constitute misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution and that the Commission should merely note that the matter was brought to its attention.

Matter No.29 - Stewart letter

This matter was referred to in the House of Representatives (see p. 3448 of the House of Representatives Hansard of 8 May 1986).

Mr. Justice Stewart, in the course of the Royal Commission of

Inquiry into Alleged Telephone Interceptions, sent a letter to the Judge which contained seven questions. The letter was sent to the Judge in March 1986 shortly before the Judge was due to be re-tried. It was suggested that the Judge's failure to respond to that letter constituted misbehaviour.

The view has been expressed (Shetreet, Judges on Trial, p 371) that the invocation by a judge of the right to remain silent "was an indication that his conscience was not clear and he had something to conceal. Such a judge could not properly continue to perform his judicial functions without a cloud of suspicion." Nevertheless, we submit that in the particular circumstances of this case the conduct alleged did not constitute misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution and that the Commission should merely note that the matter was brought to its attention.

Matter No.31 - Public Housing for Miss Morosi

It was alleged that in 1974 the Judge requested the Minister for the Capital Territory to arrange for Miss Morosi to be given priority in the provision of public housing.

We submit that the conduct alleged could not on any view constitute misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution and that the Commission should merely note that the matter was brought to its attention.

Matter No.32 - Connor view of the Briese matter

(See attached memorandum of M. Weinberg and A. Robertson dated 16 July 1986).

Matter No.34 - Wood shares

This matter consisted of an allegation that in the late 1960s the Judge, whilst a Senator, was given a large parcel of shares by another Senator, Senator Wood. The inference the Commission was asked to draw was that there was something improper in the transaction.

The allegation was supported by no evidence whatever. As the former Senator who allegedly gave the Judge the shares is now dead and the shares cannot be identified, we recommend that the Commission should do no more than note that the claim was made.

Matter No.35 - Soliciting a bribe

It was alleged that in 1972 or 1973 the Judge, whilst Minister for Customs and Excise, solicited a bribe from Trevor Reginald Williams. Williams was at the time involved in defending a customs prosecution and he asserted that the Judge offered to "fix up" the charges in return for the payment of \$2000.00.

Williams was interviewed but the facts as related by him did not, in the view of those assisting the Commission, provide any evidence to support the claim.

There being no material which might amount to prima facie evidence of misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution we recommend the matter be taken no further.

Matter No.37 - Direction concerning importation of pornography

There were two allegations concerning the same conduct of the Judge whilst he was Attorney-General and Minister for Customs and Excise.

The allegations were that in 1973 the Judge had issued a direction that Regulation 4A of the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations, as they then stood, should be ignored with the result that pornography was imported without any written permission and thereby contrary to the regulations.

Investigations showed that the direction emanated from a meeting in June 1973 between the then Senator Murphy and senior officials of his Departments, the Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Customs and Excise. The direction given was under the hand of a G E Sheen for the Comptroller-General and was in terms that "customs resources engaged in screening imported goods should be primarily concerned with the detection of prohibited imports other than material which offends Regulation 4A ... For the time being there are to be no prosecutions under the Customs Act for offences involving pornography."

The direction resulted from the Attorney-General agreeing with proposals in a departmental paper on censorship policy. At that time it was proposed by the Government that the regulations be amended to correspond with Government policy.

It was noted in the Minutes of the meeting in June 1973 that the Attorney-General agreed that it would be necessary to compromise in the implementation of policy in order to meet the requirements of the current law.

The direction was continued until the amendments to the legislation were made in February 1984.

We submit that there is no conduct disclosed which could amount to misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution. We recommend that the matter be taken no further.

Matter No.38 - Dissenting judgments

A citizen alleged that the Judge through "continued persistence in dissenting for whatever reason, can engender towards him such disrespect as to rank his performance to be that of proved misbehaviour".

We submit that the conduct alleged could not on any view constitute misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution and that the Commission make no inquiry into this matter.

Matter No.41 - Comment of Judge concerning Chamberlain committal

In answer to questions put to him in cross-examination during the Judge's second trial, Mr Briese SM gave evidence that the Judge had commented on the Chamberlain case. The context of the comment was that a second coroner had, that day or recently, decided to commit Mr and Mrs Chamberlain for trial on charges relating to the death of their daughter. The Judge's remark was to the effect that the decision by the Coroner was astonishing.

It was suggested that this conduct by the Judge might amount to misbehaviour in that it was a comment upon a matter which might, as it did, come before the Judge in his judicial capacity: it was therefore, so it was said, improper for the Judge to make known to Mr Briese his view of the decision to commit for trial.

We submit that the Chamberlain case was a matter of general notoriety and discussion, that the Judge's comments were very

general in their terms and that therefore the Judge's conduct could not amount to misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72. We recommend that the matter be taken no further.

[REDACTED]

S. Charles

[REDACTED]

M. Weinberg

[REDACTED]

A. Robertson

[REDACTED]

D. Durack

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

P. Sharp

[REDACTED]

A. Phelan

21 August 1986

MEMORANDUM RE ALLEGATION NO 32

We have been invited to draft an allegation based upon the views of Mr Xavier Connor in his report to the second Senate Committee in 1984. In that report, Mr Connor suggested that even if it could not be shown that the Judge intended that Briese approach Jones with a view to inducing Jones to act otherwise than in accordance with his duty, the mere act of inviting Briese to make enquiry of Jones as to how the case against Morgan Ryan was progressing might amount to misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution. The difficulty which we have in drafting an allegation along those lines arises from Section 5 (4) of the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry Act 1986. That sub section provides the Commission shall not consider -

- a) the issues dealt with in the trials leading to the acquittal of the Honourable Lionel Keith Murphy of certain criminal charges on 5 July 1985 and 28 April 1986 and, in particular, the issue of the Honourable Lionel Keith Murphy's guilt or innocence of those charges; or

- b) whether the conduct to which those charges related was such as to constitute proved misbehaviour within the meaning of Section 72 of the Constitution except to the extent that the Commission considers necessary for the proper examination of other issues arising in the course of the Commission's inquiry.

It is plain that there is a difference between the version given by Briese of the relevant conversation and that given by the Judge. That difference was fully explored during the course of the Judge's trials. It is impossible to know whether the jury which acquitted the Judge at his second trial did so merely because they were not satisfied that he had the requisite intent to pervert the course of justice, or because they were not satisfied that Briese's version of the conversation was correct. On any view the content of that conversation is central to the charge as laid against the Judge and ultimately disposed of by his acquittal. It seems to us that to raise this matter as a specific allegation in precise terms is to breach Section 5 (4) in that the matter in question is "an issue dealt with in the trial leading to the acquittal" of the Judge in the relevant sense, and to consider it would be

to consider "whether the conduct to which those charges related" was misbehaviour. We consider that the Commission is not empowered to consider the Connor view of the Briese matter except to the extent that it considers it necessary to do so for the proper examination of other issues arising in the course of the inquiry. We recommend that Allegation No 32 not proceed.

  
M Weinberg

  
A Robertson

16 July 1986



Telegrams 'IMMIGRATION' Canberra  
Telephone 64 1111  
Telex 62037  
P.O. Box 25  
Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

RECEIVED 23 JUL 1986

**Department of Immigration  
and Ethnic Affairs**

Benjamin Offices  
Chan St  
Belconnen, A.C.T. 2617

Our Ref: EL 8075

Your Ref:

Secretary  
Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry  
GPO Box 5218  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

ATTENTION: Mr David Durack

RE: MR JUSTICE L.K. MURPHY - YOUR LETTER OF 4 JULY 1986  
REFERS

This letter is to confirm telephone conversation of 18 July 1986 between Mr D. Durack of the Commission and Mr A. Robertson of this Department.

It is noted that departmental files on Sala Ramon have been collected by the Commission from the Sydney office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

As mentioned during the above conversation the individual files relating to illegal Korean migration were taken from the Department by the Australian Federal Police and subsequently, we understand, sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions in Sydney. The matter had been referred to the AFP in 1980.

The Department does not hold a specific file on Abraham Gilbert Saffron.

Any operational files located on the Korean matter will be forwarded to the Commission separately.

  
A. ROBERTSON  
for Secretary

21 July 1986

Mr W. A. McKinnon, CBE  
Secretary  
Department of Immigration & Ethnic Affairs  
Benjamin Offices  
Chan Street  
BELCONNEN A.C.T. 2617

Dear Mr McKinnon,

Re: Mr Justice L. K. Murphy

I refer to my letter of 13 June 1986 and to your subsequent discussions with Mr D Durack, Solicitor to the Parliamentary Commission (the Commission).

Mr Durack has advised me that on Thursday 3 June 1986 he collected from the Sydney office of the Director of Public Prosecutions two of your Departmental files:

File 74/60762 - Sala, Ramon - Central Office

File N74/64348 - Sala, Ramon - Sydney Office

I advise that these files will be returned to the Department as soon as the Commission has completed its work.

I refer to a telephone conversation of 3 June 1986 between Mr D Durack and Mr John Mahoney of your Department and to the request for information set out in my letter of 13 June 1986. In this regard I would appreciate it if the following files could be forwarded to the Commission as soon as possible:

- (i) any files relating to investigations into illegal Korean migration.
- (ii) any files relating to Abraham Gilbert Saffron.

I thank you for your co-operation and assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely

  
J. F. Thomson  
Secretary

4 July 1986

MEETING WITH SUPERINTENDENT KEN DREW, CHIEF OF STAFF  
TO THE NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE COMMISSIONER

At 2.30 on 16th of July, 1986 I met with Superintendent Drew at the 20th Floor of the Police Headquarters Building in College Street, Sydney. Also present were Patricia Sharp, Sergeant R Clarke of the Licensing Squad and Detective Sergeant R Lynch of the Breaking Squad.

I briefly outlined our function and said that we were seeking the co-operation of the NSW Police in relation to a number of allegations that had been made in relation to His Honour Mr Justice Murphy. We discussed briefly various provisions of our act.

As an opening gambit I suggest that the NSW Police Force must have collected a considerable body of intelligence on Abraham Saffron over the years. I asked whether any link between Saffron and His Honour had been uncovered at any time by the NSW Police. Superintendent Drew said that apart from what James McCartney Anderson had told Sergeant Warren Molloy (as to which see later) no link between Saffron and His Honour had come to light. That was confirmed by Detective Sergeant Clarke who from the early 1980's has been the Officer in Charge of the general licensing in the Kings Cross region; and by Detective Sergeant Lynch, who has been responsible for investigating the activities of Todor ('the Torch') Maximovich over the last few years. Sergeant Clarke said that Warren Molloy had a far more detailed knowledge of Saffron's operations because of his position as Special Licensing Sergeant in the Kings Cross region up until the time of the Bill Allen affair. Both Clarke and Molloy had at various times closed down The Venus Room, and Molloy is alleged to have a very detailed knowledge of the ins and outs so to speak of that establishment. Moreover, Molloy has been entertaining James McCartney Anderson in recent times. Apparently Anderson thinks that Molloy is a "good bloke" and is supposed to be singing like a canary to him. Molloy is overseas

until the 29th of July. Superintendent Drew is to arrange for us to meet Molloy as soon as possible after his return. He is also to arrange for us to see the people in charge of the Vice and Drug Squads in the late 70's early 80's. We were told that the Former Head of the Vice Squad, Ernie ('the good') Shepherd, may be able to tell us something about suggestions that Saffron procured females for His Honour. We were also told that the Vice Squad has been conducting a rather lengthy investigation into allegations that Phillipino girls were imported under some racket involving Morgan Ryan to work as prostitutes in The Venus Room. Details of that investigation are to be made available to us.

I then thought I would stir up the waters a bit by asking whether it had ever been explained of why when the NSW Police were busily tapping a fairly large number of known or suspected criminals in Sydney noone bothered to tape Abe Saffron's phone. There was an outbreak of mumbling by the police in the room at that juncture and I get the distinct impression that something very suspicious occurred at senior levels within the NSW Police Force to prevent such a tap being placed on Saffron's phone.

I then mentioned the statements by Egge to the Stewart Commission in relation to Luna Park and Central Railway, and the fact that very few of the other police examined by Stewart had been asked about those allegations. I gave him the attachment from the recent Stewart letter which listed all of the NSW Police Officers who'd worked for the BCI/TSU and asked Superintendent Drew to obtain for me the present location of each person listed therein. Superintendent Drew said he would do this (he complained of the logistics involved). He mentioned that the Police Commissioner had instructed police generally not to give evidence to other agencies without first being cleared by him. Superintendent Drew is to arrange clearance by the Police Commissioner. In any case, until that clearance is forthcoming, Superintendent Drew felt that none of the police would speak to us given that that instruction that is about not

speaking to outsiders had been drummed into them. I also asked Superintendent Drew to obtain, or at least locate, all of the diaries and notebooks of all of the people mentioned in that list for the relevant periods. He felt that those diaries may be with the National Crime Authority, but undertook to make enquiries. I specifically asked for the present location of [REDACTED], and Drew mentioned that he understood that [REDACTED] boat has recently been destroyed in a mysterious fire and he was not sure where he was presently hanging out.

I then said that with all of the information that was being gathered by the TSU/BCI there must have been some form of intelligence record created for each piece of information thus received. That is I felt it was an available inference that files would of been created within the BCI on His Honour if His Honour had been mentioned in any information gathered by the BCI/TSU. I asked Superintendent Drew to make inquiries to ascertain whether any such records exist and if so to obtain same. He felt that if any records had existed that they would have been destroyed. However he undertook to make the inquiries.

I then mentioned the evidence of Egge before the Stewart Commission concerning the Milton Morris allegation. In particular I mentioned Egge's statement that following the interception of a telephone conversation between His Honour and Morgan Ryan, wherein it was suggested that His Honour had set up a meeting between Morgan Ryan and Milton Morris on the steps of Parliament House, the BCI/TSU had staked out the steps to observe said meeting. I asked for all of the records of the BCI/TSU relevant to any such inquiry. I asked whether any stakeout might have been done by the Observation Squad, the BCI itself, or some other organisation and asked that all relevant records be checked. Superintendent Drew undertook to make those inquiries.

I also asked for all of the running sheets of the BCI/TSU for the period 1978 to 82 at least. Superintendent Drew believed

that these had been destroyed by Mr Blisset in the early 1980's following the disclosure about the existence of The Age tapes. However he undertook to make inquiries to see whether any of the running sheets still existed. I then turned to the matters disclosed in the second chapter of the second volume of the Stewart Commission Report. I asked whether any investigation had been carried out into any of the allegations raised by Stewart. Superintendent Drew told me that a Task Force had been established to thoroughly investigate all of the allegations. That Task Force is headed by Detective Superintendent Stephenson. Its establishment was delayed by Justice Stewart in handing over the relevant information, but now appears to be in full swing. All of the Stewart information is being fed into computer and I understand that police have begun their inquiries. Highest priority is the Cessna Milner Matter. Also high on the list is the alleged involvement of His Honour, Ryan, Saffron, the Yuens, and police in the Dixon Street Casinos matter. It will also appear that some further investigation has been conducted into the Lowe and Shaw attempt to influence Lewington. Superintendent Drew indicated that nothing had come of this investigation. Superintendent Drew then introduced me to Detective Superintendent Stephenson and told Superintendent Stephenson that he was to co-operate fully with our inquiry. I understand from what Superintendent Drew told me that this Commission will have full access to the ongoing investigations by the NSW Police into the various allegations raised by Justice Stewart. I intend meeting with Superintendent Stephenson at some date in the not too distant future, when the NSW Police inquiries have achieved some headway.

Finally, I mentioned the Morosi break-in in February 1975. After briefly outlining the charges brought (namely larceny and illegal use of motor vehicle) Superintendent Drew expressed his disbelief that such charges would have been laid in those circumstances - invariably, no matter what the amount involved, charges of break enter with intent are brought; moreover the charge under the Motor Traffic Act is "part of ancient

history". I asked Superintendent Drew to make inquiries to find out whether the break-in was ever reported to the NSW Police and if so, I asked him to obtain any of the files and papers that may still exist within the Police Archives relevant to that matter.

Superintendent Drew is to get back to me in the next couple of weeks in relation to all of these matters and in particular, to set up the meeting with Molloy and the other people previously mentioned.

Signed:



Andrew Phelan

16.7.86

0110M

Extract from Weinberg/Phelan Memorandum  
dated 3 July 1986 (full copy on File C51

ALLEGATION NO. 12 - ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION RACKETS

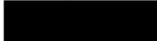
We've been told that the Judge was involved in an illegal immigration racket regarding Philipino immigrants (particularly women). Irrespective of whether this occurred while he was Attorney General, or a Judge of the High Court, such conduct would constitute a criminal offence, and would amount to misbehaviour. It would amount to a conspiracy contrary to Section 86 (1) of the Commonwealth Crimes Act (conspiracy to defeat the execution of a law of the Commonwealth).

Matters to be investigated

The following witnesses should be interviewed:

1. Morgan Ryan

2. 

We do not at this stage recommend any further, or other investigations apart from speaking to  and raising the matter with Morgan Ryan if he is prepared to speak with us (which seems highly unlikely).

PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

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STRICTLY PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr W A McKinnon, CBE  
Secretary  
Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs  
Benjamin Offices  
Chan Street  
BELCONNEN ACT 2617

Dear Mr McKinnon

PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

As you may be aware the Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry has commenced its task of inquiring into and advising the Parliament whether any conduct of the Honourable Lionel Keith Murphy has been such as to amount, in its opinion, to proved misbehaviour within the meaning of section 72 of the Constitution.

In the course of its inquiry, the Commission is seeking to establish the extent and nature of a relationship apparently existing between the Judge and Morgan John Ryan.

In this regard, the Commission would be considerably assisted by knowing whether Ryan or Sala were in contact with or made any approaches to the Judge in his capacity as Attorney-General or Minister for Customs and Excise; and whether, as Attorney-General or Minister for Customs and Excise, or otherwise, the Judge intervened on behalf of Ryan or Ramon Sala - or any other person - in relation to immigration matters. As well, the Commission is seeking to establish whether Ryan or Abraham Gilbert Saffron have been involved in matters concerning immigrants from Korea or the Phillipines who have entered or sought to enter Australia unlawfully.

It occurs to the Commission that there may be information within your Department (in documentary form or otherwise) that may shed light on these matters. It would be appreciated if you would arrange for some inquiries to be made within your Department with a view to identifying any such information. If

any material touching on these matters is available, the opportunity of examining it would be appreciated, as would be the opportunity of interviewing any appropriate officers.

I should mention that the request for information in this letter is not made pursuant to any specific section of the Commission's statute.

Yours sincerely



J F Thomson  
Secretary

13 June 1986