

C.T. Boulton, Esq.  
Secretary,  
Select Committee on  
the Conduct of Members,  
Journal Office,  
House of Commons,  
London. SW1

3rd February, 1977.

Dear Mr. Boulton,

Since the appointment of the Select Committee on the Conduct of Members, I have had conversations about it with the Prime Minister and the Attorney General and with individual members of the Committee, in which I have indicated my willingness to assist the Committee in its deliberations and investigations. I have also desired Mr. Simpson of Messrs. R.C. Moorhouse & Co. to convey the same message to yourself. You will no doubt be aware that I gave evidence before Lord Redcliffe Maud's Committee and before Lord Salmon's Royal Commission.

It occurs to me, however, that I ought to make to you on behalf of the Committee a formal "tender" of my availability to give evidence which I now do.

You will have received from Mr. Simpson a copy of the observations entitled "Guide Lines for Dealing with the Select Committee", which I and my junior, David Graham, recently compiled, and which I have also given copies to Mr. McNally of the Prime Minister's Office, and to the Attorney General.

From conversations with individual members of the Committee, this document does not yet seem to have been circulated to them. I attach considerable importance

...../2

to the propositions which it advances, the more so if I were to be invited to give evidence before the Committee.

I shall be glad to hear if the Committee wish me to appear before them.

Yours sincerely,

*MH*

Muir Hunter

4th February, 1977.

Rt. Hon. Sam Silkin, Q.C., M.P.,  
H.M. Attorney General,  
Attorney General's Chambers,  
Royal Courts of Justice,  
Strand, WC2.

Select Committee on Conduct of Members

I was glad to have the opportunity of discussing this matter with you the other day, and remain of course willing to help further in any way.

Arising out of a recent conversation with Emlyn Hooson as to whether I was going to give evidence before the Committee, I have written to the Secretary, Boulton, thereon and enclose a copy of my letter for your information.

Muir Hunter.



JOURNAL OFFICE  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON S.W.1

Telephone: 01-219 3000 (Switchboard)

01-219 3319 (Direct Line)

7th February 1977.

Dear Mr Hunter,

Select Committee on Conduct of Members

Thank you for your letter of 3rd February, which I have discussed with the Chairman. He has asked me to thank you for the indication that you are willing to give evidence.

You will be aware that the Committee have received the ready co-operation of Mr Simpson, and I was able to discuss with him the points raised in your note, 'Guidelines for Dealing with the Parliamentary Select Committee' when we met in Leeds. Since then he has sent me a copy of the note, and its text will be made available to the members of the Committee together with your letter of 3rd February.

The Chairman has asked me to assure you that there has been no impediment to the Committee's access to papers in the possession of the trustee in bankruptcy and the liquidator.

Yours sincerely,

C. J. BOULTON  
Clerk of the Committee.

M.V.S. Hunter, Esq., Q.C.,  
3 Paper Buildings,  
Inner Temple,  
London EC4Y 7EU.

acted 8/2

23rd February, 1977.

C.J.Boulton Esq.,  
Clerk of the Committee,  
Journal Office,  
House of Commons,  
London, SW1.

Dear Mr. Boulton,

Select Committee on Conduct of Members

Thank you for your confidential letter dated  
23rd February,

I will let you have the list referred to as  
soon as practicable.

Yours sincerely,

Muir Hunter.



JOURNAL OFFICE  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON S.W.1

Telephone: 01-219 3000 (Switchboard)

01-219 3319 (Direct Line)

23rd February 1977.

Private and Confidential

Dear Mr Hunter,

Select Committee on Conduct of Members

The Committee are hoping shortly to reach the stage in their enquiry when they can close the list of those Members of Parliament whose conduct they should investigate. They wish it to include all those persons who had a financial relationship with Mr Poulson or his companies in connection with his business affairs at a time when they were Members of Parliament.

As you will see, this test excludes a large number of Members whose names appear in the Poulson papers for other reasons. The Committee have asked, in view of your kind offer to assist them, if you would let them have all the names which in your opinion should appear in the list as defined above.

Yours sincerely,

C. J. Boulton  
Clerk of the Committee.

M.V.S. Hunter Esq., Q.C.,  
3 Paper Buildings,  
Inner Temple,  
London EC4Y 7EU.

*Send to  
Clyde & Co. 1/4/77*



ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE,

LONDON, WC2A 2LL

01-405 7641 Extn 3201

26<sup>th</sup> February 1977

Muir Hunter Esq QC  
3 Paper Buildings  
Inner Temple  
LONDON EC4Y 7EU

*Dear Muir,*

I am sorry to have taken so long to thank you for your letter of 4 February. I am glad you are in touch with Boulton. I think that it is important that you should at least tell the Committee what you know of those Members who had a business as opposed to a political relationship with Mr Poulson.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Sam*

4th March, 1977.

C.J.Boulton Esq.,  
Clerk to the Select Committee on  
the Conduct of Members,  
Journal Office,  
House of Commons,  
London, SW1.

Dear Mr.Boulton,

I refer to your letter of 23rd February, which I formally acknowledged on the same date.

I have given this matter anxious consideration for the reasons set out in my "Guidelines". The following are persons who would seem to fall, or possibly to fall, within the Committee's area of enquiry.

Category I : Direct receipt of benefits in money or money's worth

- Rt. Hon. Reginald Maudling, M.P.
- Mr. Albert Roberts, M.P.
- Mr. John Cordle, M.P.
- Sir Harold Butcher, M.P. (deceased).

Category II : Receipt of money or money's worth from Mr.T. Dan Smith, possibly emanating from Mr.Poulson

- Mr. Edward Short, M.P. (now Lord Glenamara)  
(This depends on whether the known receipt pre-dated or ante-dated Mr.Poulson's "acquisition" of Mr.T.Dan Smith).

Category III : Receipt of money's worth, though probably not as part of a "financial relationship" with Mr.Poulson

- Rt. Hon. Anthony Barber, M.P. (now Lord Barber)  
(Please see the "Figaro" files held by the Attorney-General)
- Rt. Hon. Alice Bacon, M.P.

Cont...../

*Com to AS*



Category IV : Business relationship not known to have been accompanied by receipt of money or money's worth

Mr. Edward Garrett, M.P.

Category V : Unresolved doubt as to the identity of the recipient of money or money's worth

Rt. Hon. George Brown, M.P. (now Lord George Brown)

(Please see relevant Poulson transcript of 29th January 1973 hearing).

I will justify or amplify any of these categories if so desired.

Please assure the Committee that Category V is included out of no sense of personal grievance; but the identity of the actual recipient of the holiday in question (called "Mr. and Mrs. George Brown") has never been disclosed, although I believe that the police may have ascertained it from the travel agents who organised the holiday.

Please also assure the Committee that I had no personal connection with, or prior knowledge of, the news message in today's "Guardian" regarding Mr. Eddie Milne, in which I and the Committee are referred to.

Yours sincerely,

Muir Hunter.



JOURNAL OFFICE  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON S.W.1

Telephone: 01-219 3000 (Switchboard)

01-219 3319 (Direct Line)

7th March 1977.

Dear Mr Hunter,

Select Committee on Conduct of Members

Thank you for your letter of 4th March  
which will be put before the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

C. J. BOULTON

M.V.S. Hunter Esq., Q.C.,  
3 Paper Buildings,  
Inner Temple,  
London E.C.4Y 7EU.

SECRET

8th March, 1977.

Rt. Hon. Sam Silkin, M.P.,  
Attorney-General's Chambers;  
Royal Courts of Justice,  
Strand,  
London, WC2.

Select Committee

Thank you for your letter of 26th February.

I heard from Boulton on 23rd February in the form of the enclosed copy letter.

I replied on 4th March in the terms of which I enclose a carbon copy, giving five categories of persons possibly of interest to the Committee. I hope this is what they need for the time being.

Muir Hunter.

Enc.2.



JOURNAL OFFICE  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON S.W. 1

219-3319

Telephone: 01-930 6240 ext.

9th March 1977.

Personal and Confidential

Dear Mr Hunter,

Select Committee on Conduct of Members

The Committee have asked me to thank you for the information contained in your letter of 4th March. They are grateful to you for the thought you have given this matter.

The Committee have authorised me to let you know that they were aware of the need to examine the evidence relating to the Members mentioned in Categories I to IV, and that they have been satisfied by information obtained from the police that the person in Category V is not, and has no connection with, the peer of the same name.

Yours sincerely,

C. J. BOULTON  
Clerk of the Committee.

M.V.S. Hunter Esq., Q.C.  
3 Paper Buildings,  
Inner Temple,  
London E.C.4.



ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE,  
LONDON, WC2A 2LL

01-405 7641 Extn 3201

32<sup>nd</sup> March 1977

Muir Hunter Esq QC  
3 Paper Buildings  
Inner Temple  
LONDON EC4Y 7EU

*Dear Muir,*

SELECT COMMITTEE

Thank you for your letter telling me of the matters you had raised with Boulton. I am sure that your help in this very difficult matter is very much appreciated by the Committee.

If I receive any further enquiry from the Committee in respect of which your knowledge of the case may help, I hope that I may get in touch with you.

I am not clear what are the "Figaro" files which you say are held by me. Perhaps you could kindly drop me a line on this.

*Yours sincerely*

*Sam*

*25/3.*



ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE,  
LONDON, WC2A 2LL

01-405 7641 Extn

3201

27<sup>E</sup> April 1977

Muir V S Hunter Esq QC  
3 Paper Buildings  
Temple  
LONDON EC4Y 7EU

*My dear Muir,*

SELECT COMMITTEE

Thank you for your letter of 23 March which explains the "Figaro" files. I had not appreciated the allusion to the Barber of Seville.

*Yours ever,*

*Sam*