



Dear Leslie,

How are you-I hope well. I heard from Neville that you had been to New Zealand to see relies some months ago. Good to hear you are as peripatetic as ever.

I am writing about an ARM kerfuffle which you may have come across in the SA news recently.

A scandal mag called noseweek (wh Neville has brilliantly renamed snotnose) had a long piece alleging inter alia

-that Anthony de crespigny had been a british spy-because he was linked to John Lang as director-for six months-of two dummy Cos JL set up to purchase his boat and plane.

-that Lang had received 000's of pounds from western intelligence agencies in the early 60s This is based on a 10 page report by Lang setting out what he had done with the first L25,000 he had received for the NCL and asking for another L20,000. How this document fell into security hands is an interesting question in itself.

-that Lang must have received his money from western intelligence sources

-that therefore (preposterous though it sounds) western intelligence sources were behind the turn to violence in the early 60s and in fact that NCL was even behind the emergence of MK.

All this nonsense originates with one Piet Swanepoel who was Director of Research for the National Security Service (under Barnard). I interviewed Swanepoel some years ago and got from him a 66 page report called the "de Crespigny mystery" which he had prepared for NIS. In this he tells the story<sup>of</sup> how in the early 80 when de C was on the Presidents Council he became suspicious, checked de C in the files, found a connection w J Lang and got permission to interview de C. Anthony as you perhaps know is a rather paranoid soul who has created such enmity wherever he goes that he quickly sees threatening conspiracies where none necessarily exist. He starting lying during the interviews (2) and to cut a long story short suddenly (within days) decamped SA even though he was chair of the politics department and had this hi appointment. *and even tho they had nothing illegal on him.*

Swanepoel meanwhile had been reading a wacky American historian who argued (I exaggerate a bit here) that an anglo-american institution called THE ROUND TABLE was pretty much behind everything that happened in the world. This thesis plus the document from Lang in which he sets out all the money he received for NCL and asking for more plus the de C connection w Lang and subsequent flight convinced Swanepoel that there had been a vast Western conspiracy agst SA in the 60s. The Swanepoel document was given to some one called Saunders ( Sampsons assistant on the Mandela big ) and he wrote it up for noseweek. In other words 1 + 1 = 100.

I was asked to write a comment/refutation of this nonsense for the Weekly Mail and did so.

In it I mention that Lang got his money from Ghana and not the west but I also comment on "why" Ghana. I mention that you provided the contact for Lang to meet the Ghanaians-based on the info you gave me when I interviewed you a while back.

Neville was concerned that you might be badgered by the press about this once my piece appeared. I hope this has not happened. But just in case you are questioned I want to send you the piece so that you know what I said.

Also please let me know if there is anything in the piece that you find problematic? inaccurate etc.

I also want to send you a copy of Lang's report to the Ghanaians on what he did with the first batch of money. You mention<sup>ed</sup> in our interview that you thought Lang had sent you a first letter in which he set out plans to buy<sup>y</sup> the boat and plane etc. You also thought you might still have this in your files.

I wonder if you do. It could be a crucial document for the story I am wring about the ARM.

Do you have a fax number for me to send you the Lang document? If not Ill send it by snail mail.

Jan and I will be in SA in February so hope to see you then.

All the best

Magnus