

<b>N</b>	<b>Timecodes</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Text</b>
1	00:00:00,000 00:00:10,680	Interviewer	for the sound to start off with I could have you state your name and what you had for breakfast today.
2	00:00:10,680 00:00:12,260	Annie Machon	My name is Annie Machon
3	00:00:12,269 00:00:14,589	Annie Machon	and I had a nice buttery croissant for breakfast.
4	00:00:14,589 00:00:16,589	Interviewer	lovely
5	00:00:17,920 00:00:28,890	Interviewer	Annie thank you for making this interviews
6	00:00:28,890 00:00:29,859	Interviewer	today. We are basically making interviews for the
7	00:00:29,859 00:00:34,399	Interviewer	interview archive. going histories simple village
8	00:00:34,399 00:00:38,149	Interviewer	and like first I would like to go back even
9	00:00:38,149 00:00:42,890	Interviewer	before you were recruited in the early 90th, as I understand.
10	00:00:42,890 00:00:46,590	Interviewer	But maybe you could go before how you were educated , what your education
11	00:00:46,590 00:00:52,289	Interviewer	was and the time leading up to to you time in MI5
12	00:00:52,289 00:00:55,090	Annie Machon	My education was fortunate. I grew up
13	00:00:55,090 00:00:59,850	Annie Machon	in the Channel Islands. I come from Gernsey families, where we had an education
14	00:00:59,850 00:01:02,359	Annie Machon	that was quite old-fashioned so there was the
15	00:01:02,359 00:01:04,890	Annie Machon	year 11 class, I passed that to go to a public school
16	00:01:04,890 00:01:07,630	Annie Machon	and then i got a scholarship to go to Cambridge university.
17	00:01:07,630 00:01:11,070	Annie Machon	So it was emm... yeah it was a a good education
18	00:01:11,070 00:01:15,500	Annie Machon	I ended up reading classics and it turns out that the intelligence agencies
19	00:01:15,500 00:01:19,500	Annie Machon	recruit a lot classisists from Uxbridge. I don't know why
20	00:01:19,500 00:01:25,140	Annie Machon	but they do so ehm come nineteen ninety I apply to the Foreign Office 'cous I
21	00:01:25,140 00:01:29,840	Annie Machon	quite fancy career as a diplomat and then I get this mysterious letter on
22	00:01:29,840	Annie	ministry of defense notepaper saying we may have

00:01:32,299 Machon other jobs that you

23 00:01:32,299 Annie might find more interesting so ehm my initial got  
00:01:37,350 Machon response was

24 00:01:37,350 Annie ohh fuck its MI5, I don't know why. and it turned out I  
00:01:43,530 Machon was right but I was

25 00:01:43,530 Annie going to ignore it because all it said was if you're  
00:01:46,450 Machon interested please ring this

26 00:01:46,450 Annie number and at that point MI5 had a really filthy  
00:01:50,509 Machon reputation in the wake of

27 00:01:50,509 Annie the eighty scandals with Clive Ponting and Kathy  
00:01:54,579 Machon Massiter and spy

28 00:01:54,579 Annie catcher and everything and the miners strike so I was  
00:01:58,159 Machon going to

29 00:01:58,159 Annie ignore it because I just didn't get involved in something  
00:02:00,689 Machon

30 00:02:00,689 Annie murky like that and emm my father who was an  
00:02:05,420 Machon investigative

31 00:02:05,420 Annie journalist, became the editor of the newspaper in  
00:02:09,220 Machon Gurnsy eventually

32 00:02:09,220 Annie and was also this huge spy aficionado he loved John  
00:02:12,640 Machon le

33 00:02:12,640 Annie Carre and things like that was in the room when I  
00:02:14,750 Machon opened the letter

34 00:02:14,750 Annie so he just said ohh please we need to see if it is MI5  
00:02:16,840 Machon

35 00:02:16,840 Annie to see if you are right and so that was that really. Ten  
00:02:21,780 Machon months later start working

36 00:02:21,780 Annie as an intelligence officer and it was funny because I  
00:02:27,319 Machon remember when I was a child

37 00:02:27,319 Annie watching... sitting up late with my dad you know..  
00:02:29,370 Machon

38 00:02:29,370 Annie I must have been like 11 years old or something  
00:02:33,010 Machon watching the Alec Guinness

39 00:02:33,010 Annie version of Smiley's people Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy  
00:02:36,150 Machon

40 00:02:36,150 Annie and just thinking god this is grim. Who would want to  
00:02:39,879 Machon live in a world like this

41 00:02:39,879 Annie populated with these gray misfits, these depressive  
00:02:45,190 Machon people.

42 00:02:45,190 Annie it was horrible so that's why I was sort of quite anti-spy  
00:02:48,470 Machon as well.

43 00:02:48,470 Annie The cultural thing that dad seemed to find riveting  
00:02:50,370 Machon

44 00:02:50,370 Annie erm but anyway.. I still fell into it  
00:02:53,300 Machon

45 00:02:53,310 Interviewer you mention the image of the agency before but also  
00:02:55,780 had gone through certain reforms at that point to what

46 00:02:55,790 Interviewer kind organization was it in your opinion that you  
00:03:05,750 stepped into at that time?

47 00:03:05,750 Annie hmm No it's interesting because they approach me  
00:03:08,080 Machon

48 00:03:08,080 Annie soon after massive reforms that was supposed to put  
00:03:11,379 Machon them on legal footing

49 00:03:11,379 Annie for first time so as I mentioned they had this really bad  
00:03:15,739 Machon reputation in the eighties

50 00:03:15,739 Annie because if the miner strike particularly and the  
00:03:19,569 Machon politicization of intelligence

51 00:03:19,569 Annie however because the whistle-blowing scandals like  
00:03:23,269 Machon spy-catcher

52 00:03:23,269 Annie the law had been reformed in 1989 so there were two  
00:03:28,120 Machon steps one was the... MI5

53 00:03:28,120 Annie was put on a special legal footing for the first time  
00:03:30,780 Machon

54 00:03:30,780 Annie with the security service act which meant that the first  
00:03:34,080 Machon time in eight years

55 00:03:34,080 Annie they officially existed and that MP's in Parliament could  
00:03:37,730 Machon of

56 00:03:37,730 Annie questions about them they couldn't actually investigate  
00:03:39,940 Machon what they

57 00:03:39,940 Annie were doing but you know, technically there was  
00:03:43,099 Machon oversight.

58 00:03:43,099 Annie and also as a counterbalance to that increased  
00:03:48,580 Machon legitimacy they reformed

59 00:03:48,580 Annie the Official Secrets Act 1911 which was there to  
00:03:51,769 Machon prosecute traitors

60 00:03:51,769 Annie and they put in place the 1989 act section 11 of which  
00:03:55,640 Machon

61 00:03:55,640 Annie specifically precludes whistleblowing criminalizes  
00:03:59,239 Machon whistleblowing.

62 00:03:59,239 Annie So anyone who is a current or former intelligence  
00:04:05,730 Machon officer for MI5 or any of the

63 00:04:05,730 Annie other intelligence agencies and anyone who is a  
00:04:09,569 Machon notified person for

64 00:04:09,569 Annie the purposes of the Official Secrets Act which include  
00:04:12,650 Machon senior government

65 00:04:12,650 Annie personnel people like the Prime Minister and the

00:04:15,239 Machon ministers

66 00:04:15,239 Annie and spin-doctors even like Alastair Campbell will be  
00:04:18,840 Machon notified

67 00:04:18,840 Annie for the purposes of the Act if they breathe a word  
00:04:22,250 Machon about

68 00:04:22,250 Annie their work apart from the agency with which they work  
00:04:25,639 Machon

69 00:04:25,639 Annie they are de facto breaking the law so the 89 act is very  
00:04:30,020 Machon clearly there

70 00:04:30,020 Annie just to prevent whistleblowing. and that is proven again  
00:04:34,960 Machon by the 1998 Act

71 00:04:34,960 Annie the emn... Public Interest Disclosure Act to  
00:04:37,330 Machon

72 00:04:37,330 Annie protect other whistleblowers. Which specifically  
00:04:40,860 Machon exclude intelligence

73 00:04:40,860 Annie and central government people. so emn... it was a bit  
00:04:46,370 Machon quid pro quo in 89

74 00:04:46,370 Annie yes and MI5 became official but yes and MI5 got a lot  
00:04:52,230 Machon more legal protection against disclosure.

75 00:04:52,460 Interviewer I'm gonna return to the Official Secrets Act  
00:04:55,280

76 00:04:55,290 Interviewer but first when you stepped into  
00:04:58,250

77 00:04:58,250 Interviewer the organization I don't know how much you maybe  
00:05:02,330 was

78 00:05:02,330 Interviewer thinking about laws like that maybe you could explain  
00:05:05,620 a bit

79 00:05:05,620 Interviewer about the person you were at that time when looking  
00:05:10,180 back at that.

80 00:05:10,180 Interviewer you started in a section called section2. explain a little  
00:05:13,240 bit about

81 00:05:13,240 Interviewer the work you were engaged with there?  
00:05:17,880

82 00:05:17,880 Annie mmm I suppose the best way I can  
00:05:20,760 Machon

83 00:05:20,770 Annie describe myself at that point I was 22 emn  
00:05:24,330 Machon

84 00:05:24,330 Annie and i'd sort of come of age under Thatchers Britain  
00:05:27,090 Machon and

85 00:05:27,090 Annie everything and I just found the whole political thing  
00:05:31,630 Machon quite repulsive at that

86 00:05:31,630 Annie point because it been so confrontational you know  
00:05:34,139 Machon

87 00:05:34,139 Annie the left, the right the... the union's been busted by  
00:05:37,419 Machon

Thatcher

88 00:05:37,419 Annie Machon all that sort of thing so I was actually quite apolitical  
00:05:39,880

89 00:05:39,880 Annie Machon emn I mean I was quite happy in bed reading Classics  
00:05:43,720 an things like that, you know

90 00:05:43,720 Annie Machon The old political fights not the modern so erm  
00:05:47,139

91 00:05:47,139 Annie Machon when I has been created they said specifically they  
00:05:50,289 wanted new generation

92 00:05:50,289 Annie Machon of intelligence officers this is post the berlin wall  
00:05:53,660 coming down

93 00:05:53,660 Annie Machon the end of the cold war and therefore they need to  
00:05:56,729 people

94 00:05:56,729 Annie Machon who could be recruited as counterterrorism officers  
00:05:59,530

95 00:05:59,530 Annie Machon not to do the old MI5 work which was  
00:06:03,990 counterespionage against the Soviet

96 00:06:03,990 Annie Machon Union and also counter-subversion which is  
00:06:07,880 investigating

97 00:06:07,880 Annie Machon reds under the bed in the UK or and indeed extreme  
00:06:11,250

98 00:06:11,250 Annie Machon right-wing activities well I mean National Front and  
00:06:13,259

99 00:06:13,259 Annie Machon the BNP and things. So this sounded sort of  
00:06:17,990

100 00:06:17,990 Annie Machon interesting to me. I mean the IRA was waging quite an  
00:06:22,319 efficient campaign at that

101 00:06:22,319 Annie Machon point and the idea investigating, gathering  
00:06:25,300

102 00:06:25,300 Annie Machon evidence, putting people on trial and potentially saving  
00:06:29,360 lives. I mean, you

103 00:06:29,360 Annie Machon know, it sounded quite sort of idealistic in a way, you  
00:06:32,720 know something

104 00:06:32,720 Annie Machon that could potentially make a difference I would not  
00:06:36,000 have wanted to get involved

105 00:06:36,000 Annie Machon in the political side but they said that was all over so it  
00:06:40,100

106 00:06:40,100 Annie Machon was a bit of a shock that my first posting was too a  
00:06:42,930 very small

107 00:06:42,930 Annie Machon section called F2 which was counter-subvertion and I  
00:06:47,949 was given the the duty of

108 00:06:47,949 Annie Machon investigating the socialist workers party which is a  
00:06:53,759 Trotskyist group...

109 00:06:53,759 Annie Machon not communists so no chance for any support from a  
00:06:56,539

foreign

110 00:06:56,539 Annie Machon power, like, you know the Soviet Union had been  
00:06:58,620

111 00:06:58,620 Annie Machon and and actually I... I started learning about this group  
00:07:03,949 and thinking

112 00:07:03,949 Annie Machon why the hell are they being investigated. you know,  
00:07:07,699 what they're trying to do is to

113 00:07:07,699 Annie Machon achieve social change through democratic...  
00:07:09,960

114 00:07:09,960 Annie Machon leading to naturally evolving, potentially revolutionary  
00:07:13,770 steps

115 00:07:13,770 Annie Machon They're not subversive not entryist they are not  
00:07:18,150 subverting the state from within

116 00:07:18,150 Annie Machon They are trying to go about their democratic rights  
00:07:20,360

117 00:07:20,360 Annie Machon as citizens. So I really couldn't see the point.  
00:07:23,360

118 00:07:23,360 Annie Machon However the justification for investigation subversen...  
00:07:26,960 subversion was

119 00:07:26,960 Annie Machon decreasing rapidly because the Communist Party  
00:07:30,120

120 00:07:30,120 Annie Machon and was no longer a threat. Militant tendency was no  
00:07:34,150 longer a threat

121 00:07:34,150 Annie Machon and MI5 wanted to ramp up the threat from some  
00:07:39,160 subversive group in

122 00:07:39,160 Annie Machon order to justify keeping it's staffing levels up for a year  
00:07:42,849 or two

123 00:07:42,849 Annie Machon until they took over primacy for investigating the pro..  
00:07:45,940

124 00:07:45,940 Annie Machon provisional IRA in 1992 So they found any excuse.  
00:07:49,860

125 00:07:49,860 Annie Machon They made us bump up the excuse to keep the  
00:07:53,280 staffing levels in place.

126 00:07:53,280 Annie Machon say that then they can move all the staff across to the  
00:07:57,009 Irish questionamative

127 00:07:57,009 Annie Machon and they took it over. that was corruption of the highest  
00:07:59,310 order

128 00:07:59,310 Annie Machon because by keeping the staffing levels looking at these  
00:08:03,830 small political groups

129 00:08:03,830 Annie Machon you are invading UK citizens privacy needlessly to  
00:08:07,960 keep

130 00:08:07,960 Annie Machon the stuff leveled up in MI5 how sick it that...  
00:08:10,500

131 00:08:10,500 Annie Machon so that was my first emn... awakening should we say  
00:08:18,380

to the fact that MI5 was not all that rosy  
 132 00:08:18,520 Interviewer and going into that as well you  
 00:08:22,979  
 133 00:08:22,979 Interviewer meet your partner David Shayler both of you  
 00:08:31,210 experienced a series of incidents  
 134 00:08:31,210 Interviewer that led you to the believe that this was not what you  
 00:08:35,050 had  
 135 00:08:35,050 Interviewer signed up for maybe you can explain some of these  
 00:08:39,740 ,you mentioned  
 136 00:08:39,740 Interviewer staffing levels. and the IRA bombing but their was  
 00:08:43,000 several  
 137 00:08:43,000 Interviewer incident that kind of sparked this believe in this?  
 00:08:47,870  
 138 00:08:47,870 Annie ya... no I think the disillusionment swung in quite  
 00:08:53,410 Machon quickly because they said  
 139 00:08:53,410 Annie they weren't doing this Subversion anymore and then  
 00:08:56,290 Machon I'm posted their  
 140 00:08:56,290 Annie I mean doo... that was the first clue (laughing) that  
 00:08:59,899 Machon they may had lied to me during the recruitment  
 141 00:08:59,899 Annie process and I, I was very disillusioned by that  
 00:09:02,589 Machon  
 142 00:09:02,589 Annie and couldn't see the point so I was actually seriously  
 00:09:05,140 Machon going to  
 143 00:09:05,140 Annie resign.. thinking about resigning in 1993 Then I met  
 00:09:11,350 Machon my former partner David Shayler  
 144 00:09:11,350 Annie in the same section so we started a relationship and it  
 00:09:15,570 Machon became  
 145 00:09:15,570 Annie easier just to sustain the agency in build a life in  
 00:09:19,560 Machon London and all that sort of  
 146 00:09:19,560 Annie thing. So we sort of fell into another few  
 00:09:21,680 Machon  
 147 00:09:21,680 Annie years in MI5 and during that time had another two  
 00:09:24,350 Machon  
 148 00:09:24,350 Annie posting from F2 the subversion section too the Irish  
 00:09:28,950 Machon section  
 149 00:09:28,950 Annie and then to international terrorism. Now we thought  
 00:09:31,750 Machon the  
 150 00:09:31,750 Annie F2 section was a historic throwback and the other  
 00:09:36,350 Machon sections would be better  
 151 00:09:36,350 Annie but unfortunate what we saw was actually worse  
 00:09:39,529 Machon problems developing  
 152 00:09:39,529 Annie It was like a sort of process were boiling the frog. So  
 00:09:43,130 Machon things got worse

153 00:09:43,130 Annie and worse and worse rather than better and so for  
00:09:48,640 Machon example in F2 we saw

154 00:09:48,640 Annie the scope of the investigation into political activists  
00:09:53,890 Machon over a decades

155 00:09:53,890 Annie historically and how large it was the UK you know  
00:09:59,690 Machon hundreds of thousands of people

156 00:09:59,690 Annie were aggressively investigated and also they were  
00:10:03,690 Machon files on

157 00:10:03,690 Annie government politicians many of whom then went on to  
00:10:08,110 Machon become labor ministers

158 00:10:08,110 Annie after 1997, so again you have a situation with the tail  
00:10:11,970 Machon wagging the dog, you know

159 00:10:11,970 Annie who's in charge, is it the spies with the secret  
00:10:14,630 Machon information.

160 00:10:14,630 Annie or is it their notional political masters and then in the  
00:10:18,620 Machon Irish section we sow

161 00:10:18,620 Annie cases of bombs that could and should have been  
00:10:21,579 Machon prevented

162 00:10:21,579 Annie and MI5 not only failed to do that but then lied about it  
00:10:25,500 Machon to government

163 00:10:25,500 Annie ministers to cover up their mistakes  
00:10:27,980 Machon

164 00:10:27,980 Interviewer How could blablabla (be more precise  
00:10:31,800

165 00:10:31,810 Interviewer please) failed to prevent.. erm... is that anything  
00:10:36,810

166 00:10:37,080 Annie ahh yes err... one was Bishopsgate  
00:10:39,560 Machon

167 00:10:39,560 Annie In 1993 where the person who carried out the bomb  
00:10:43,970 Machon attack then

168 00:10:43,970 Annie and this was like the most expensive bomb attack in  
00:10:48,360 Machon the history of

169 00:10:48,360 Annie Irish Terror.. I think any terrorism in the UK.  
00:10:50,240 Machon

170 00:10:50,240 Annie In terms of insurance payment and things... erm  
00:10:54,730 Machon should have been arrested six months

171 00:10:54,730 Annie before he was under surveillance he knew he was  
00:10:57,930 Machon

172 00:10:57,930 Annie under surveillance. He took the piss out of surveillance  
00:10:59,360 Machon

173 00:10:59,360 Annie and went back to the republican of Ireland. and there  
00:11:04,110 Machon was a massive institutional

174 00:11:04,110 Annie failure from the security services to catch him at that  
00:11:08,230 Machon time



175 00:11:08,230 Annie and then they covered it up and lied about it. And there  
00:11:11,480 Machon was another attack

176 00:11:11,480 Annie again in 1993 in the northeast erm some Tyneside  
00:11:15,279 Machon bombings on gasworks

177 00:11:15,279 Annie where the... the investigation was botched when they,  
00:11:22,110 Machon they should have been aware of

178 00:11:22,110 Annie what he was doing... what the bomber was doing  
00:11:24,320 Machon

179 00:11:24,320 Annie and because incompetence they lost... they didn't  
00:11:27,730 Machon follow him around

180 00:11:27,730 Annie a crucial few days they lost key footage they lost key  
00:11:31,180 Machon evidence.

181 00:11:31,180 Annie and then erm they lied about it to government again.  
00:11:35,000 Machon

182 00:11:35,000 Annie So every time you hear a political Minister you know a  
00:11:38,630 Machon government Minister saying

183 00:11:38,630 Annie oh we know what the spies do, you know they tell us  
00:11:41,880 Machon everything, they brief us every

184 00:11:41,880 Annie week "blah blah blah"  
00:11:43,660 Machon

185 00:11:43,660 Annie from the inside I know how easy it is for them to game  
00:11:48,410 Machon that oversight system and

186 00:11:48,410 Annie lie These politicians don't have a clue  
00:11:51,880 Machon

187 00:11:51,880 Annie and it's not just me saying that from the 1990  
00:11:53,870 Machon

188 00:11:53,870 Annie we see this again and again since 9/11 where Lord  
00:11:58,709 Machon Blair

189 00:11:58,709 Annie Sir Stephen Lander the head of MI5 Jonathan... Sir  
00:12:03,470 Machon Jonathan Evans, Head of MI5

190 00:12:03,470 Annie baroness Man... Bullingham Manner.. Minningham  
00:12:06,500 Machon Buller

191 00:12:06,500 Annie (laughing) sorry that the old nickname for her in the  
00:12:09,410 Machon Service.

192 00:12:09,410 Interviewer If you could take that from her name again.  
00:12:13,630

193 00:12:13,630 Annie where we see Baroness Eliza  
00:12:16,370 Machon

194 00:12:16,370 Annie Manningham-Buller erm... where they've been caught  
00:12:19,700 Machon out

195 00:12:19,700 Annie and they have had to amid that they were economical  
00:12:22,870 Machon with the truth to the

196 00:12:22,870 Annie parliamentary committee where they should've said  
00:12:26,720 Machon more and actually sometimes

197 00:12:26,720 Annie where they had to amid that they lied Sorry misled is  
00:12:29,769 Machon the word they always

198 00:12:29,769 Annie use in the British Parliament. So even now over the  
00:12:33,160 Machon last ten years time

199 00:12:33,160 Annie and time again Senior spies got away with not telling  
00:12:36,350 Machon the account.. the

200 00:12:36,350 Annie committee that was supposed to hold them to account  
00:12:38,370 Machon

201 00:12:38,370 Annie what is going on and most recently we saw was where  
00:12:41,540 Machon

202 00:12:41,540 Annie erh we have this historic moment where the three  
00:12:46,410 Machon chiefs of the three key agencies in

203 00:12:46,410 Annie the UK gave evidence on TVto the ISC  
00:12:49,589 Machon

204 00:12:49,589 Annie whoopeedee Doo Dah and everything was saying this  
00:12:52,290 Machon is historic.

205 00:12:52,290 Annie They have never done this in a hundred years and  
00:12:54,639 Machon then it turns out

206 00:12:54,639 Annie the whole thingwas staged they would not have  
00:12:59,980 Machon agreed to appear on TV

207 00:12:59,980 Annie unless they knew the questions in advance that is not  
00:13:03,220 Machon oversight

208 00:13:03,220 Interviewer Hold one second I will just change the microphone  
00:13:11,269

209 00:13:11,269 Annie I will take a swig of coffee  
00:13:19,950 Machon

210 00:13:19,950 Interviewer bla bla bla Gaddafi Plot, should we touch on that.  
00:13:39,930

211 00:13:40,120 Annie No I'm quite happy too  
00:13:40,900 Machon

212 00:13:40,910 Annie erm... I mean things got worse and worse when we  
00:13:44,620 Machon were in the

213 00:13:44,620 Annie international terrorism branch which is called G-  
00:13:49,600 Machon Branch, David was the head of the Libyan section  
there

214 00:13:49,780 Interviewer Could we explain the transition from the Libyan section  
00:13:57,300 there

215 00:13:57,550 Annie Two years in F branch two years in T-branch which is  
00:14:01,930 Machon the Irish... was the Irish section

216 00:14:02,160 Interviewer can we start from there  
00:14:06,380

217 00:14:06,380 Annie So yes when you're an intelligence officer you move  
00:14:10,420 Machon every two years, to a different posting

218 00:14:10,420 Annie so we had two years in the counter-subversion section  
00:14:13,690 Machon

F-branch

219 00:14:13,690 Annie Machon Two years in the Irish section which was T-branch then and then

220 00:14:16,920 Annie Machon and my final time in MI5 was in G-branch which is international terrorism

221 00:14:21,350 Annie Machon and David was the head of the Libyan section in G-branch

222 00:14:24,839 Annie Machon and developed an unusually close working relationship with his counterpart in MI6

223 00:14:29,550 Annie Machon which.. I mean normally the two agencies hate each

224 00:14:31,440 Annie Machon other and distrust each other and they don't get on

225 00:14:33,779 Annie Machon so it was unusual that he got on with erm... PT 16B as he was known

226 00:14:39,410 Annie Machon and it also meant that he was officially briefed

227 00:14:42,420 Annie Machon over a period of months battling an unfolding plot

228 00:14:45,279 Annie Machon which involved PG 16B in his boss PG16 erm... sending large amounts of money over

229 00:14:50,800 Annie Machon to fund an assassination plot against Cornall Gaddafi of Libya in 1996

230 00:14:55,730 Annie Machon and what basically happened was there was a, a walk in - a volunteer

231 00:15:00,019 Annie Machon erm.. who walked into the British Embassy in Tunis in 1995

232 00:15:04,149 Annie Machon saying he wanted to speak to the local spook. That is were the MI6 is always found

233 00:15:08,360 Annie Machon so he did and it turned out he was Leberian military intelligence officer

234 00:15:11,459 Annie Machon who was then codenamed "Tonworth" who said he had to quote "a rag-tag

235 00:15:16,240 Annie Machon group of Islamic extremists in Libya" who then turned out by the way to be the

236 00:15:20,949 Annie Machon nacent Al Qaeda in Libya erm and they wanted to try and depose

237 00:15:25,589 Annie Machon Gaddafi and the needed funding and planning to help that

238 00:15:28,509 Annie Machon and with very few checks MI6 got terribly excited about this

239 00:15:32,320 Annie Machon and started meeting Tonworth all over Europe giving him you know

240 00:15:35,579 Annie Machon forty grand here, forty grant there funding this Que attempt  
00:15:38,860

241 00:15:38,860 Annie Machon and David was briefed about this as well as were his  
00:15:41,940 stuff by the way

242 00:15:41,940 Annie Machon all the way through but thought it was one of these  
00:15:46,970 mad MI6

243 00:15:46,970 Annie Machon you know adventures that they would talk big talk but  
00:15:50,389 never actually do anything

244 00:15:50,389 Annie Machon any he briefed his bosses as well and said look I'm  
00:15:54,389 really concerned about this... is..

245 00:15:54,389 Annie Machon should be involved in this and MI6 erm.. reassured  
00:16:01,180 him that it was

246 00:16:01,180 Annie Machon okay because they had taken the case all the way to  
00:16:04,839 the top

247 00:16:04,839 Annie Machon as they called it which meant they'd actually got it  
00:16:07,970 approved by their

248 00:16:07,970 Annie Machon political masters the front secretary. That's what they  
00:16:10,810 told him.

249 00:16:11,040 Annie Machon Now it turned out afterwards from other  
00:16:12,600

250 00:16:12,600 Annie Machon investigations they hadn't, they lied to Sir Malcolm  
00:16:16,110 Rifkind who was

251 00:16:16,110 Annie Machon the Foreign Secretary at the time. Who is now  
00:16:20,060 currently the chair Intelligence

252 00:16:20,060 Annie Machon and Security Committee in Parliament who should  
00:16:22,649 know therefore

253 00:16:22,649 Annie Machon that he can be lied to by the spies, anyway that's a  
00:16:26,570 different story

254 00:16:26,570 Annie Machon So in early 1996 David is sitting at his desk in MI5  
00:16:31,060

255 00:16:31,060 Annie Machon and suddenly all this information is coming from  
00:16:35,310 different sources

256 00:16:35,310 Annie Machon saying they had indeed been an attack against Cornell  
00:16:38,070 Gaddafi

257 00:16:38,070 Annie Machon There had indeed been an explosion under a car  
00:16:40,310

258 00:16:40,310 Annie Machon in the cavalcade in which he was traveling but the  
00:16:43,699 explosion had happened under the

259 00:16:43,699 Annie Machon wrong car, innocent people died and innocent people  
00:16:48,279 had been killed in

260 00:16:48,279 Annie Machon the shootout out afterwards so we have here an  
00:16:53,870 operation that was

261 00:16:53,870 Annie illegal hadn't been cleared.

00:16:55,170 Machon

262 00:16:55,170 Annie It was amoral and it was bungled It went wrong and  
00:16:59,250 Machon innocent people had died

263 00:16:59,250 Annie So how much more heinous can you get so this is  
00:17:03,660 Machon what we decided to resign over

264 00:17:03,660 Annie and we went public over erm... so we left in late  
00:17:10,250 Machon 1996, we resigned

265 00:17:10,250 Annie David had already made contact with the journalist he  
00:17:13,449 Machon was going to work with

266 00:17:13,449 Annie he had taken some documents to prove all this and  
00:17:18,199 Machon given to the journalist

267 00:17:18,199 Annie and then there's a sort of.. a very slow courtship for  
00:17:21,400 Machon almost a year

268 00:17:21,400 Annie because there was distrust on both sides and finally,  
00:17:26,580 Machon finally the story broke back in 1997

269 00:17:26,700 Interviewer The decision to go public?  
00:17:31,280

270 00:17:31,280 Interviewer how did you arrive at that decision internal channels  
00:17:45,120 what was one supposed to do

271 00:17:45,340 Annie We tried in terms of our concerns  
00:17:48,820 Machon

272 00:17:48,820 Annie around all these issues over the years.  
00:17:51,940 Machon

273 00:17:51,940 Annie It wasn't just us. Many of our peer group had the same  
00:17:54,450 Machon concerns,

274 00:17:54,450 Annie many of them resigned the same reasons  
00:17:55,780 Machon

275 00:17:55,780 Annie erm... but yes we we were seen.. we were good  
00:18:01,750 Machon offices, we tended to get

276 00:18:01,750 Annie the performance related paying let and all that sort of  
00:18:04,130 Machon thing, such as it was

277 00:18:04,130 Annie erm... and we also seen as the awkward squad  
00:18:08,390 Machon because we were always the types of people

278 00:18:08,390 Annie who were asking these questions and challenging  
00:18:10,410 Machon

279 00:18:10,410 Annie erm.. so anyway must of us ended up resigning and  
00:18:14,870 Machon only David and I

280 00:18:14,870 Annie ended up in public, well actually one other did in our  
00:18:18,130 Machon support he was later...

281 00:18:18,130 Annie that's a different story... so and yes of course we're  
00:18:22,610 Machon raised

282 00:18:22,610 Annie all these things internally and most often we were just  
00:18:26,340 Machon told to shut up

283 00:18:26,340 Annie and not to rock the boat follow orders erm... and that

00:18:30,169 Machon was the sort  
 284 00:18:30,169 Annie of culture  
 00:18:30,799 Machon  
 285 00:18:30,799 Annie and if you have a culture that is not any conform  
 00:18:34,559 Machon  
 286 00:18:34,559 Annie but there is no external avenue, what so ever, for  
 00:18:38,210 Machon ventilation  
 287 00:18:38,210 Annie there's no where you can go.. There is no oversight  
 00:18:40,740 Machon body. There is nothing  
 288 00:18:40,740 Annie that you can meaningfully go to, apart from the head of  
 00:18:43,809 Machon that  
 289 00:18:43,809 Annie agency. You get into this real pressure cooker the  
 00:18:48,419 Machon environment, a group thing and which I  
 290 00:18:48,419 Annie think leads to more and more corruption That's what  
 00:18:50,950 Machon we've seen with them skeltering  
 291 00:18:50,950 Annie down to involvement in terrorism again...  
 00:18:53,760 Machon  
 292 00:18:53,760 Annie or extraordinary rendition or you know whatever.  
 00:18:57,600 Machon  
 293 00:18:57,600 Annie If there's no ethical ventilation then the corruption  
 00:19:00,120 Machon  
 294 00:19:00,120 Annie becomes more and more distilled and it is much easier  
 00:19:04,059 Machon for the people who  
 295 00:19:04,059 Annie don't want the boat to set the tone and that leads to  
 00:19:08,110 Machon these problems.  
 296 00:19:08,110 Annie So yes we tried on the inside and we're told to follow  
 00:19:14,610 Machon orders so we resigned to try something different  
 297 00:19:14,780 Interviewer So you gathered evidence  
 00:19:18,700  
 298 00:19:18,700 Interviewer on the cases before to put the question differently  
 00:19:23,970 differently.  
 299 00:19:23,970 Interviewer You decided to go to a journalist who need a certain  
 00:19:28,620 amount  
 300 00:19:28,620 Interviewer to prove to go this way that must have been a pretty  
 00:19:36,710 risky even just  
 301 00:19:36,710 Interviewer thinking in those it must take quite a lot of  
 00:19:41,230 determination  
 302 00:19:41,480 Interviewer Is that something you talk a bit about?  
 00:19:44,039  
 303 00:19:44,039 Annie ahh well actually it is quite easy to get information out  
 00:19:46,490 Machon as many whistleblowers since has proven (laughing)  
 304 00:19:46,490 Annie So I am not going to go into details about that.  
 00:19:50,380 Machon  
 305 00:19:50,380 Annie erm but David did. He took the documents to prove  
 00:19:54,650 Machon

what he was

306 00:19:54,650 Annie saying and he gave them to the journalists and the  
00:19:57,020 Machon

307 00:19:57,020 Annie journalists put them in the safe of the newspaper and  
00:20:02,039 Machon of course after the story broke the metropolitan

308 00:20:02,039 Annie police the Special Branch went around to the  
00:20:03,860 Machon

309 00:20:03,860 Annie newspaper with a production order and demanded the  
00:20:07,090 Machon documents back and they had

310 00:20:07,090 Annie to be handed over or otherwise the newspaper had to  
00:20:10,000 Machon be prosecuted

311 00:20:10,000 Annie and so we lost our prove... it's so easy In those days  
00:20:16,140 Machon you know this is pre-

312 00:20:16,140 Annie rampant internet and everything and then of course  
00:20:19,539 Machon you can be dismissed as

313 00:20:19,539 Annie and fantasist. Some documents relating particularly to  
00:20:23,159 Machon the

314 00:20:23,159 Annie Gaddafi plot did emerge subsequently which pretty  
00:20:27,630 Machon much stood up what David

315 00:20:27,630 Annie was saying but the key documents were lost because  
00:20:31,809 Machon that production order

316 00:20:31,809 Annie that's why erm.. for many years now ever since I  
00:20:35,309 Machon heard of organizations such like Wikileaks

317 00:20:35,309 Annie I have been a huge supporter People put your  
00:20:38,780 Machon documents there.

318 00:20:38,780 Annie You know, anonymously as well wow how great and  
00:20:44,230 Machon and they won't be lost and then as

319 00:20:44,230 Annie the release happens you have two choices as a  
00:20:47,659 Machon whistleblower

320 00:20:47,659 Annie to put you're name to it as well or you can just leak  
00:20:51,140 Machon anonymously, which of

321 00:20:51,140 Annie course is what happened with Edward Snowden  
00:20:53,049 Machon

322 00:20:53,049 Annie the story start breaking. I was riveted just by the  
00:20:56,350 Machon stories and then you had the

323 00:20:56,350 Annie courage to come forward and say I am the guy who  
00:21:00,260 Machon did this and this is why

324 00:21:00,260 Annie did it and this is what I wanted people to... to learn  
00:21:05,799 Machon from this, what I did, so that is

325 00:21:05,799 Annie what a whistleblower does. but at least with just putting  
00:21:08,309 Machon something

326 00:21:08,309 Annie on an organization like Wikileaks you have that choice  
00:21:10,210 Machon

327 00:21:10,210 Annie you have that control still rather than having to turn  
00:21:13,750 Machon your life inside

328 00:21:13,750 Annie out and on the whim of a journalist  
00:21:15,710 Machon

329 00:21:15,880 Interviewer you mentioned the term that David had this courtship  
00:21:26,000 with the journalists

330 00:21:26,000 Interviewer risky relationship you can say. On both parts bla bla  
00:21:35,060 bla explain further

331 00:21:35,220 Annie No it took a long time for David and  
00:21:38,120 Machon

332 00:21:38,120 Annie the journalist to build up trust they had to get to know  
00:21:41,240 Machon each other

333 00:21:41,240 Annie and this is in the good old days before rampant  
00:21:44,669 Machon surveillance everywhere

334 00:21:44,669 Annie erm... and it took about 10 months so he was worried  
00:21:50,210 Machon they would shop him

335 00:21:50,210 Annie to MI5 and they were worried that it was some sort of  
00:21:53,860 Machon sting operation

336 00:21:53,860 Annie by MI5 trying to implant fake intelligence and ruin their  
00:21:57,570 Machon reputation or something

337 00:21:57,570 Annie So it went on and on with you know call box  
00:22:02,070 Machon telephones

338 00:22:02,070 Annie and you know burn phones and all that sort of things  
00:22:04,360 Machon

339 00:22:04,360 Annie and odd meetings all across London until eventually,  
00:22:08,809 Machon suddenly the editor

340 00:22:08,809 Annie said "right we're gonna run it now" "this weekend" So  
00:22:11,970 Machon we had three days

341 00:22:11,970 Annie warning after all these months of waiting This ramping  
00:22:16,070 Machon up of tension and there were

342 00:22:16,070 Annie indications as well that the spies were on to us, they  
00:22:19,320 Machon were getting

343 00:22:19,320 Annie suspicious. So David put out this erm.. a falls flag tail  
00:22:23,559 Machon really, is the best

344 00:22:23,559 Annie way of putting it. Saying he was writing a novel  
00:22:26,350 Machon

345 00:22:26,350 Annie so if anyone heard anything about David talking to  
00:22:29,390 Machon publishers or

346 00:22:29,390 Annie journalist or whatever. He just said it was about this  
00:22:33,809 Machon novel (laughing)

347 00:22:33,809 Annie so (laughing) but there were still episodes that  
00:22:35,890 Machon

348 00:22:35,890 Annie made us concerned and we became very paranoid  
00:22:38,460 Machon



about

349 00:22:38,460 Annie Machon talking about anything in our flat in our home  
00:22:41,140

350 00:22:41,140 Annie Machon erm... if we wanted to discuss anything we just go out  
00:22:45,030 somewhere

351 00:22:45,030 Annie Machon erm... so at that point rather than being the people  
00:22:49,960 who would be listening

352 00:22:49,960 Annie Machon to other people, we suddenly became very conscious  
00:22:53,690 being the people being listened in to

353 00:22:53,690 Annie Machon and that was in 1996 and I haven't felt private my in  
00:22:59,890 my own home since

354 00:22:59,890 Interviewer The first artickles that came out David wasnt  
00:23:08,799 mentioned in the artickles

355 00:23:08,799 Annie Machon No he was... right from the start yes erm... he wanted  
00:23:14,870 to put his name to the articles

356 00:23:14,870 Annie Machon they became the sort of Shayler files or something  
00:23:17,320

357 00:23:17,320 Annie Machon and he was very clear, I mean if anyone can ever  
00:23:21,100 unearth

358 00:23:21,100 Annie Machon the original copies of The Mail on Sunday  
00:23:23,140

359 00:23:23,140 Interviewer sorry for the misunderstanding but could you maybe  
00:23:33,500 start with that from the first article...

360 00:23:33,510 Annie Machon Yep, no, from the very first disclosures that David  
00:23:37,820 made in

361 00:23:37,820 Annie Machon the summer of 1997, he always put his name to them  
00:23:42,330 because

362 00:23:42,330 Annie Machon he realized that if you just leak the they are just  
00:23:45,480 anonymous leaks and they

363 00:23:45,480 Annie Machon can be dismissed and he wanted one to say this is  
00:23:50,419 why it's important. Its very clear

364 00:23:50,419 Annie Machon public interest and if anyone can find any of the old  
00:23:52,640 copies from

365 00:23:52,640 Annie Machon the Mail on Sunday August 24 1997 they will see very  
00:23:58,650 clearly that every

366 00:23:58,650 Annie Machon article is very carefully argued around public interest.  
00:24:02,120

367 00:24:02,120 Annie Machon Why this is a national importance and people need  
00:24:04,720

368 00:24:04,720 Annie Machon to have an investigation into these issues and that was  
00:24:07,539 just the low level stuff

369 00:24:07,539 Annie Machon It wasnt even the Gaddafi plot. So he he was always  
00:24:11,809 very very clear about that

370 00:24:11,809 Annie erm... but then you know there was never any inquiry  
00:24:18,969 Machon the new Labor government berried it

371 00:24:19,120 Interviewer And you went into exile in France. What led to that  
00:24:26,060 decition?

372 00:24:26,280 Annie Before the story broke we ermn...  
00:24:29,559 Machon

373 00:24:29,559 Annie we took legal advice about where we could go where  
00:24:32,760 Machon their would be less

374 00:24:32,760 Annie risk of extradition, so we actually did go on the run  
00:24:36,120 Machon

375 00:24:36,120 Annie and like with Edward Snowden we properly... I cant  
00:24:39,559 Machon recall anyone else who preemptively

376 00:24:39,559 Annie gone on the run Before an Intelligence disclosure like  
00:24:42,500 Machon

377 00:24:42,500 Annie that ermn.. and ironically the two countries we were  
00:24:46,590 Machon advised would be good

378 00:24:46,590 Annie was France which is where we ended up and that was  
00:24:49,630 Machon right

379 00:24:49,630 Annie that was good advice and the US because they're  
00:24:54,340 Machon strong constitution... ha ha

380 00:24:54,340 Annie What whistleblower would go there now. You would  
00:24:57,169 Machon have to have a death wish

381 00:24:57,169 Annie anyway so we ended up in France because it was  
00:25:00,130 Machon closer to the UK and

382 00:25:00,130 Annie you know and at least I could travel back also...  
00:25:03,220 Machon

383 00:25:03,220 Annie or so I thought without being arrested and so we did  
00:25:07,000 Machon preemptively

384 00:25:07,000 Annie flee ermn.. 12 hours ahead of newspapers  
00:25:10,070 Machon

385 00:25:10,070 Annie hitting the streets so I do remember sitting on that  
00:25:13,190 Machon plane

386 00:25:13,190 Annie thinking we were going to get arrested at some point  
00:25:16,309 Machon before we got on the plane

387 00:25:16,309 Annie and when it took off from the tarmac It was just "ohh  
00:25:20,340 Machon few" we are out, we are out

388 00:25:20,340 Annie we are out. so that was a huge relief and after  
00:25:23,909 Machon

389 00:25:23,909 Annie month and months of stress and we went literally on  
00:25:29,900 Machon the run for a

390 00:25:29,900 Annie month so ermn.. around Europe moving from hotel to  
00:25:31,620 Machon

391 00:25:31,620 Annie hotel and ... you know, disguises and all that sort of  
00:25:35,470 Machon thing

392 00:25:35,470 Annie it was, it was funny being the sort of Ginky who could  
00:25:40,039 Machon turn

393 00:25:40,039 Annie Pocher(?) but it was easier in those days you know  
00:25:41,799 Machon

394 00:25:41,799 Annie there wasnt this endemic surveillance we have now. It  
00:25:44,470 Machon would be virtually impossible

395 00:25:44,470 Annie to do that now unless you have some sort of super  
00:25:47,730 Machon geek

396 00:25:47,730 Annie mentality like Edward Snowden It would be so difficult  
00:25:50,580 Machon to cover your tracks

397 00:25:50,580 Interviewer It must still have been really hard to make that  
00:26:01,190 decision.

398 00:26:01,190 Annie We had no communication with our family in in the  
00:26:05,760 Machon run-up to it, nobody knew

399 00:26:05,760 Annie and we couldn't because we didn't trust our  
00:26:08,650 Machon communications

400 00:26:08,650 Annie we assumed our phones might be bugged and things  
00:26:10,559 Machon like that

401 00:26:10,559 Annie and we didn't want to warn them because if we had  
00:26:14,950 Machon

402 00:26:14,950 Annie and they were then arrested and questioned we  
00:26:17,620 Machon wanted to be pristine

403 00:26:17,620 Annie to be pure with know nothing it was protecting them  
00:26:20,700 Machon

404 00:26:20,700 Annie and again parallels with what Edward Snowed had  
00:26:23,669 Machon said in public

405 00:26:23,669 Annie that he didn't tell his family or anyone in order to  
00:26:26,990 Machon protect them

406 00:26:26,990 Annie It does give than legal deniability obviously they knew  
00:26:31,549 Machon nothing but because

407 00:26:31,549 Annie the obverse of that is that the first to hear about is  
00:26:34,360 Machon when they read the

408 00:26:34,360 Annie front page of the newspaper which is a huge shock for  
00:26:38,929 Machon any normal person

409 00:26:38,929 Annie (laughter) so I mean all stories I heard back from  
00:26:41,010 Machon

410 00:26:41,010 Annie all our family you know how they heard about it all  
00:26:43,039 Machon

411 00:26:43,039 Annie were appalling. I felt really bad about the stress they  
00:26:48,850 Machon went through with that

412 00:26:48,850 Annie and you know making the first phone calls from call  
00:26:52,620 Machon boxes across Europe

413 00:26:52,620 Annie thing that we're okay, we'll be okay and they were so  
00:26:58,150 Machon

upset and it was just awful

414 00:26:58,150 Annie  
00:27:03,789 Machon so the impact it had... emotionally was bad the impact  
it also then had as well

415 00:27:03,789 Annie  
00:27:07,669 Machon some of them were arrested on trumped-up charges  
around this case

416 00:27:07,669 Annie  
00:27:10,370 Machon in order to provide leverage they could use against  
David Shayler

417 00:27:10,370 Annie  
00:27:15,540 Machon so it was more than just the emotional trauma is also  
legal ramifications and things

418 00:27:15,540 Interviewer  
00:27:25,380 substantial times you stayed - two years,

419 00:27:42,419 Interviewer  
00:27:44,020 the time spent in complete hiding in summer

420 00:27:44,020 Annie  
00:27:46,120 Machon hmmn hmm, No the chronology of the story emm...

421 00:27:46,120 Annie  
00:27:48,390 Machon was... comes in tree parts really first of all the

422 00:27:48,390 Annie  
00:27:51,700 Machon first month where we were literally on the run and

423 00:27:51,700 Annie  
00:27:55,820 Machon around Europe knowing that MI5 and the Metropolitan  
Police were after us

424 00:27:55,820 Annie  
00:27:58,750 Machon to the extent - we found out afterwards that David did  
first interview

425 00:27:58,750 Annie  
00:28:02,830 Machon erm... in a hotel in Amsterdam I think it was, for  
newsnight

426 00:28:02,830 Annie  
00:28:06,929 Machon in the Ansel hotel and their inquiries to try and locate  
which hotel had that

427 00:28:06,929 Annie  
00:28:10,419 Machon wallpaper and background and thing It was that  
detailed

428 00:28:10,419 Annie  
00:28:13,529 Machon so we were still scooting around on these sort of  
international trains trying

429 00:28:13,529 Annie  
00:28:15,029 Machon to keep one step ahead

430 00:28:15,029 Annie  
00:28:19,620 Machon using different names and just cash you know all that  
sort of thing it was some...

431 00:28:19,620 Annie  
00:28:22,210 Machon it was literally on the run it was really frightening

432 00:28:22,210 Annie  
00:28:25,899 Machon great way to lose weight by the way that worked really  
well

433 00:28:25,899 Annie  
00:28:29,669 Machon and then after a month I knew I had to go back, you  
know I was just the

434 00:28:29,669 Annie  
00:28:31,730 Machon girlfriend at that point I had done nothing wrong

435 00:28:31,730 Annie  
00:28:34,450 Machon but I've knew I would properly face arrest, so at that

point

436 00:28:34,450 Annie our lawyer was John Modern(check name) he was the  
00:28:38,559 Machon head of Liberty then, he was great

437 00:28:38,559 Annie and he flew out to Barcelona which was where we had  
00:28:43,220 Machon ended up and flew back with me

438 00:28:43,220 Annie to be arrested I was turning myself in and they knew  
00:28:47,570 Machon that and they still grabbed

439 00:28:47,570 Annie me at the immigration desk at Gatwick Airport  
00:28:49,809 Machon

440 00:28:49,809 Annie and hurled me off. you know Six big special branch  
00:28:54,240 Machon officers and things

441 00:28:54,240 Annie so when I saw what happened David Moranda, you  
00:28:57,049 Machon know Glenn Greenwalds partner

442 00:28:57,049 Annie he got done under the counter-terrorism laws  
00:28:58,600 Machon

443 00:28:58,600 Annie it brought back some memories should we say so they  
00:29:02,850 Machon they grilled me for a day in

444 00:29:02,850 Annie the counter-terrorism suite in Charing Cross police  
00:29:06,520 Machon station. Done nothing wrong so they

445 00:29:06,520 Annie let me go but they kept me on Police bail for a month  
00:29:08,309 Machon

446 00:29:08,309 Annie err... no for six months so I had to keep going back to  
00:29:13,889 Machon answer that and I had a week...

447 00:29:14,040 Interviewer interrupts for sound (hand in hair)  
00:29:18,780

448 00:29:18,789 Interviewer taking it from when you get back in the airport  
00:29:23,480

449 00:29:23,480 Annie emm, yeah no I flew back with my (sound interference)  
00:29:27,580 Machon

450 00:29:27,580 Annie my layer John Morden, Liberty at the time and was  
00:29:31,059 Machon arrested at the

451 00:29:31,059 Annie immigration desk by six burly special branch offices  
00:29:35,610 Machon and taking off to Charing Cross

452 00:29:35,610 Annie police station where they interviewed me in a terrorist  
00:29:38,450 Machon suite

453 00:29:38,450 Annie for the day. I had done nothing wrong so they release  
00:29:42,230 Machon me on police bail

454 00:29:42,230 Annie which they kept up for six-month erm... and then the  
00:29:48,049 Machon next day in can.. court

455 00:29:48,049 Annie a coordinated dawn raid they arrested David's brother,  
00:29:52,390 Machon or tried to

456 00:29:52,390 Annie and arrested his two best friends on trumped-up  
00:29:54,649 Machon charges too

457 00:29:54,649 Annie So the circle spread quite quickly even then to try and

00:30:00,480 Machon hel (hold) them on police bail

458 00:30:00,480 Annie for months to  
00:30:01,669 Machon

459 00:30:01,669 Annie to try and box David in because they knew that if he  
00:30:05,080 Machon did anything new

460 00:30:05,080 Annie then his loved ones would be at risk so it was very  
00:30:08,659 Machon clever way of

461 00:30:08,659 Annie getting control over him. Anyway, so I had a week in  
00:30:13,149 Machon the UK dealing

462 00:30:13,149 Annie with the traumatized families and trying to pack up our  
00:30:15,559 Machon

463 00:30:15,559 Annie our flat in Pimlico in London which had been smashed  
00:30:19,399 Machon up again in a

464 00:30:19,399 Annie counterterrorism style rage erm n raid... rage (laughing)  
00:30:24,669 Machon thats a funny...

465 00:30:24,669 Annie Our flat in Pimlico that had been smashed up weekend  
00:30:28,120 Machon counterterrorism style raid

466 00:30:28,120 Annie and where they had pulled up the carpet and ripped the  
00:30:31,390 Machon bath apartment

467 00:30:31,390 Annie and smashed the furniture and everything was  
00:30:35,059 Machon destroyed and they

468 00:30:35,059 Annie found nothing of relevance of course becource there  
00:30:37,960 Machon were nothing of relevance

469 00:30:37,960 Annie So I had a week in the UK and then went back to...  
00:30:39,960 Machon

470 00:30:39,960 Annie I was told get to a station in the middle of nowhere in  
00:30:44,390 Machon the center of France

471 00:30:44,390 Annie in the dead of night and I would be meet and I was  
00:30:48,649 Machon David meet me

472 00:30:48,649 Annie in he had found this remote little primitive  
00:30:51,260 Machon

473 00:30:51,260 Annie French farmhouse in the middle of nowhere where we  
00:30:57,990 Machon hid out for 10months... So (laughing)

474 00:30:57,990 Annie it was quite strange I'm not sure if they knew where we  
00:31:01,559 Machon were

475 00:31:01,559 Annie they tried to say afterwards of course we always knew  
00:31:04,630 Machon where they were but I

476 00:31:04,630 Annie think I know when they found out where we were  
00:31:06,340 Machon

477 00:31:06,340 Annie and that was a few months into it but it was a very very  
00:31:09,640 Machon primitive

478 00:31:09,640 Annie erm n... two miles from the nearest village sort of thing  
00:31:16,039 Machon and we could have no

479 00:31:16,039 Annie car because that would have required registration  
 00:31:19,059 Machon

480 00:31:19,059 Annie we could have no TV or any media or anything  
 00:31:21,799 Machon

481 00:31:21,799 Annie so it with quite stark. Very difficult as well because we  
 00:31:27,010 Machon had all this pressure

482 00:31:27,010 Annie coming in on us you know you know with media  
 00:31:30,010 Machon interest and things

483 00:31:30,010 Annie erm.. and we were sort of stuck just the two us  
 00:31:33,320 Machon

484 00:31:33,320 Annie in this remote place the other problem with our  
 00:31:37,419 Machon whistleblowing

485 00:31:37,419 Annie and this is something we could never have factored in  
 00:31:40,250 Machon a thousand years

486 00:31:40,250 Annie was that our story broke in August 1997 and  
 00:31:43,820 Machon

487 00:31:43,820 Annie for the first week there was a lot of debate you know  
 00:31:47,340 Machon

488 00:31:47,340 Annie the usual stuff about "he's a traitor he's a  
 00:31:49,169 Machon

489 00:31:49,169 Annie hero, we got to have an inquiry blah blah blah"  
 00:31:51,750 Machon

490 00:31:51,750 Annie and then the government did what we expected them  
 00:31:55,100 Machon to do which was to injunct

491 00:31:55,100 Annie the media and injunct David Shayler personally as well  
 00:31:58,830 Machon

492 00:31:58,830 Annie so then of course you get the whole media rather than  
 00:32:01,730 Machon saying you are he is traitor,

493 00:32:01,730 Annie saying you cant injunct us we are the free British  
 00:32:03,460 Machon media

494 00:32:03,460 Annie We thought great we've got some support and that  
 00:32:07,580 Machon was on a Friday... Saturday night

495 00:32:07,580 Annie a Saturday... and then we wake up the next day to find  
 00:32:12,519 Machon that headline said Prince Dianna

496 00:32:12,519 Annie had died in Paris that night and that was the end of  
 00:32:17,049 Machon coverage for months

497 00:32:17,049 Annie so that's when we found ourselves literally lost  
 00:32:19,279 Machon

498 00:32:19,279 Annie in this French farmhouse with no media support, no  
 00:32:23,590 Machon nothing

499 00:32:23,590 Interviewer but that changed  
 00:32:27,810

500 00:32:27,940 Annie erm.. well we had John Modern fighting for us and  
 00:32:32,720 Machon negotiating with the government saying

501 00:32:32,720 Annie let David Shayler come back and give his evidence

00:32:35,429 Machon

502 00:32:35,429 Annie in need be to the IRC in secret but let's have an inquiry  
00:32:38,809 Machon

503 00:32:38,809 Annie they kept saying no, they wanted us to rot abroad so  
00:32:41,519 Machon

504 00:32:41,519 Annie So eventually come summer 1998 arh... David pushed  
00:32:48,769 Machon Panorama

505 00:32:48,769 Annie on the BBC erm... to do an interview with him on a  
00:32:51,700 Machon

506 00:32:51,700 Annie special about about the Gaddafi plot which had not  
00:32:53,970 Machon been disclosed

507 00:32:53,970 Annie initially because the Mail on Sunday wanted to stand it  
00:32:58,440 Machon up for

508 00:32:58,440 Annie themselves erm... so panorama had this in the can  
00:33:01,950 Machon

509 00:33:01,950 Annie and then David went back to the Mail on Sunday  
00:33:05,110 Machon saying "look this is getting ridiculous"

510 00:33:05,110 Annie "come on you've had enough time just break the  
00:33:09,409 Machon bloody story" so eventually they did

511 00:33:09,409 Annie so we end up in Paris in August 1998 ermmn....  
00:33:13,600 Machon

512 00:33:13,600 Annie under the terms the injunctions that had been taken  
00:33:16,860 Machon out against the media

513 00:33:16,860 Annie the Mail on Sunday then had submit the Gaddafi plot  
00:33:20,330 Machon story

514 00:33:20,330 Annie to the government for clearance and he did this on a  
00:33:23,760 Machon Friday afternoon

515 00:33:23,760 Annie in the beginning of August 1998. Most civil servants  
00:33:28,350 Machon would be gearing up for

516 00:33:28,350 Annie the weekend two hours after the submission there's an  
00:33:30,919 Machon

517 00:33:30,919 Annie urgent extradition request to the French government  
00:33:34,279 Machon saying he is a

518 00:33:34,279 Annie super spy selling secrets to an enemy power you've  
00:33:37,769 Machon got to arrest him, we want you to

519 00:33:37,769 Annie extradite him and so the French sort of swupt' on him,  
00:33:41,799 Machon

520 00:33:41,799 Annie grabbed him off the street and he disappeared into the  
00:33:44,700 Machon legal system

521 00:33:44,700 Annie in Paris. I couldn't find him for three days and then he  
00:33:50,570 Machon was in prison for almost four-months

522 00:33:50,570 Annie awaiting hearing about extradition for most of that time  
00:33:55,510 Machon I wasn't allowed to

523 00:33:55,510 Annie see him because the French believe what the British



00:33:58,860 Machon said - he was a traitor

524 00:33:58,860 Annie so his put under a ruling called "mise au secret" which  
00:34:05,049 Machon meant he was held in isolation

525 00:34:05,049 Annie when the French finally got the paperwork around the  
00:34:07,940 Machon case they realized actually what

526 00:34:07,940 Annie all about - he was a whistleblower So suddenly  
00:34:11,099 Machon everything relaxed, I could go

527 00:34:11,099 Annie and see him, his family could see him it became much  
00:34:13,530 Machon easier

528 00:34:13,530 Annie and then we had the hearings and then he was  
00:34:16,379 Machon released of course so it was

529 00:34:16,379 Annie all theatrical really, you know, the British  
00:34:18,750 Machon

530 00:34:18,750 Annie even most of the media said he was going to be  
00:34:21,770 Machon extradited but the French stuck to

531 00:34:21,770 Annie their legal guns and said it's clear you blow the whistle  
00:34:25,720 Machon on these sort of matters

532 00:34:25,720 Annie it's a political offense we do not extradite for political  
00:34:28,619 Machon

533 00:34:28,619 Annie offenses - clear so the... very early legal advice we  
00:34:32,500 Machon had

534 00:34:32,500 Annie about where to go was absolutely right. France was a  
00:34:35,349 Machon good

535 00:34:35,349 Annie place to be as a whistleblower then... not sure if it  
00:34:40,300 Machon would be now

536 00:34:40,300 Annie anyway so then we were free you know, he had to stay  
00:34:43,980 Machon within France

537 00:34:43,980 Annie because had he gone to other countries in Europe the  
00:34:46,980 Machon Brits might have tried

538 00:34:46,980 Annie the same thing again to extradite him but we  
00:34:50,060 Machon

539 00:34:50,060 Annie had, we could live very openly, we lived in Paris  
00:34:51,679 Machon

540 00:34:51,679 Annie for two years and more of the information came out  
00:34:56,470 Machon erm...

541 00:34:56,470 Annie information emerged anonymously from the CIA  
00:35:00,640 Machon saying yes indeed

542 00:35:00,640 Annie they knew about the Gaddafi plot and MI6 funding it.  
00:35:04,550 Machon Information came out

543 00:35:04,550 Annie eventually from the DGSE is well substantiating what  
00:35:08,740 Machon he said.

544 00:35:08,740 Annie Documents appeared from MI6 substantiating largely  
00:35:12,480 Machon what he said and

545 00:35:12,480 Annie despite all is the British government still said he  
00:35:15,010 Machon

546 00:35:15,010 Annie was a fantasist and there was no need for an inquiry  
00:35:18,310 Machon

547 00:35:18,310 Annie so there has never been an inquiry they've never taken  
00:35:22,220 Machon as evidence about

548 00:35:22,220 Annie Gaddafi plot not that it matters now because the  
00:35:24,579 Machon

549 00:35:24,579 Annie of course the CIA and the MI6 funded exactly the  
00:35:28,079 Machon same

550 00:35:28,079 Annie groups in 2011 to depose Gadhafi and this time they  
00:35:31,650 Machon succeeded

551 00:35:31,650 Annie and killed him in and most violent way  
00:35:35,130 Machon

552 00:35:35,130 Annie and that's that was done openly not in secret In the full  
00:35:40,280 Machon glare of international media and

553 00:35:40,280 Annie nobody cared then so I think that just places the  
00:35:43,770 Machon terribly

554 00:35:43,770 Annie moral journey we in the West have made from 1996  
00:35:46,730 Machon were it

555 00:35:46,730 Annie was a shameful secret to we in 2011 where it's the war  
00:35:52,290 Machon on terror who cares

556 00:35:52,480 Interviewer Do you feel that history is repeating itself some way  
00:36:19,440

557 00:36:19,440 Annie erm ya, watching what has happened in  
00:36:21,480 Machon

558 00:36:21,480 Annie Lybia of course I've had a ongoing interests  
00:36:23,460 Machon

559 00:36:23,460 Annie I mean in things like the Bell Hardge (check) case as  
00:36:26,070 Machon well

560 00:36:26,070 Annie and the fact that after Gadhafi's 'em... deposing and  
00:36:31,880 Machon murder all these documents were

561 00:36:31,880 Annie found in the head of the erm.. the former head of the  
00:36:34,740 Machon intelligence

562 00:36:34,740 Annie agency. Their is a guy called Musa Cusa (check) wily  
00:36:38,599 Machon old man

563 00:36:38,599 Annie One of David targets in the old day and he fled to  
00:36:42,540 Machon Britain initially and then...

564 00:36:42,540 Annie bumped off to Qatar I think, erm god knows were he  
00:36:45,609 Machon is now

565 00:36:45,609 Annie but all these documents were left showing the  
00:36:49,490 Machon increasing ties and

566 00:36:49,490 Annie cooperation and corruption between British intelligence  
00:36:53,550 Machon and the Libyan

567 00:36:53,550 Annie regime after the Gaddafi plot attempt and it  
00:36:57,770 Machon

568 00:36:57,770 Annie became very clear that erm... the Shayler disclosures  
00:37:01,450 Machon around the

569 00:37:01,450 Annie assassination plot were being used as a negotiating  
00:37:05,150 Machon point by the Ga...ga the

570 00:37:05,150 Annie Gadhafi regime and as late as 2009  
00:37:08,920 Machon

571 00:37:08,920 Annie So you know the British regime always makes the  
00:37:12,599 Machon point about you know the Yvonne Fletcher

572 00:37:12,599 Annie murders and Lockerbie and "blah blah blah"  
00:37:14,530 Machon

573 00:37:14,530 Annie and the Gaddafi regime was using things like the  
00:37:18,640 Machon assassination plot back

574 00:37:18,640 Annie so it's interesting watching that tune through  
00:37:22,280 Machon

575 00:37:22,280 Annie and yes I think events that have occurred you know in  
00:37:27,550 Machon terms of the politicization of

576 00:37:27,550 Annie intelligence, the faking of intelligence to take the Iraq  
00:37:32,660 Machon war for example erm...

577 00:37:32,660 Annie what happened in Libya whats happened in  
00:37:36,030 Machon Afghanistan and also what they tried to

578 00:37:36,030 Annie do in Syria last year with the sort of fake chemical  
00:37:40,220 Machon attacks committed by God knows

579 00:37:40,220 Annie whom they tried to says it was the regime but then  
00:37:42,810 Machon

580 00:37:42,810 Annie evidence points is probably CIA backed rebels or  
00:37:46,900 Machon whatever, who knows

581 00:37:46,900 Annie the point is I think is interesting they're still trying to  
00:37:50,390 Machon

582 00:37:50,390 Annie do it may still seem to think that most people are  
00:37:52,599 Machon

583 00:37:52,599 Annie credulous enough to fall for it I think more and more of  
00:37:58,980 Machon us is not... hopefully

584 00:37:58,980 Annie N. back to France a rather to the days  
00:38:04,000 Machon

585 00:38:04,000 Annie before erm... right when you went to UK  
00:38:08,050 Machon

586 00:38:08,050 Annie and Shayler was prosecuted if you could start from  
00:38:16,010 Machon him actually going back?

587 00:38:16,360 Annie hmm yes erm...  
00:38:18,440 Machon

588 00:38:18,460 Annie well we had two years in Paris living fairly openly  
00:38:22,420 Machon

589 00:38:22,420 Annie where all this other information was coming out  
00:38:24,619 Machon

590 00:38:24,619 Annie  
00:38:28,220 Machon substantiation what he was saying and and watching  
journalists

591 00:38:28,220 Annie  
00:38:31,790 Machon and student activists being arrested and prosecuted in  
some

592 00:38:31,790 Annie  
00:38:36,190 Machon cases for these ongoing disclosures so the ripple  
effect got bigger and

593 00:38:36,190 Annie  
00:38:39,930 Machon bigger erm... around this official secrets case and  
then finally in

594 00:38:39,930 Annie  
00:38:42,130 Machon August 2000 he voluntarily returned

595 00:38:42,130 Annie  
00:38:45,210 Machon to stand trial knowing he be charged with the breach of  
the Official Secrets Act

596 00:38:45,210 Annie  
00:38:48,300 Machon 1989 but wanting his day in court so that he could

597 00:38:48,300 Annie  
00:38:51,609 Machon read the Gaddafi plot into the public record because  
the government kept denying it

598 00:38:51,609 Annie  
00:38:56,119 Machon despite all this other proof coming out so is a  
calculated risk he took and

599 00:38:56,119 Annie  
00:39:00,210 Machon when he came back the UK there was a series of pre-  
trial hearings

600 00:39:00,210 Annie  
00:39:04,099 Machon trying to determine what legally he could say in front of  
a jury

601 00:39:04,099 Annie  
00:39:06,540 Machon without compromising national security, national  
interest, whatever.

602 00:39:06,540 Annie  
00:39:09,869 Machon I mean these ideas are always conflated anyway and

603 00:39:09,869 Annie  
00:39:13,210 Machon by the time he got in front of a jury in late 2002...

604 00:39:13,210 Annie  
00:39:16,339 Machon charged only with the very early disclosures not with  
the Gaddafi plot

605 00:39:16,339 Annie  
00:39:21,230 Machon it wasn't even mentioned in court erm... he wasn't  
allowed to say anything

606 00:39:21,230 Annie  
00:39:24,510 Machon pretty much he couldn't cross-examine the witnesses

607 00:39:24,510 Annie  
00:39:28,040 Machon from MI5, he couldn't say why he done what he done.  
He couldn't

608 00:39:28,040 Annie  
00:39:30,359 Machon breathe the word Gaddafi plot because he would have  
been done for

609 00:39:30,359 Annie  
00:39:33,369 Machon contempt of court because the government took out  
injunctions

610 00:39:33,369 Annie  
00:39:39,530 Machon erm.. err... PII; government injunctions for the  
duration of his six-week trial

611 00:39:39,530 Annie  
00:39:43,820 Machon so that none of the British media could breathe a

612 00:39:43,820 Annie Machon mention of the Gaddafi plot  
 00:39:47,780 in case it... fed into the jury's decision so even

613 00:39:47,780 Annie Machon though this story been all over international media for  
 00:39:52,130 by that time

614 00:39:52,130 Annie Machon four years for those six weeks the Gaddafi plot  
 00:39:55,320

615 00:39:55,320 Annie Machon didn't officially exist (laughing) I mean it was just crazy  
 00:39:59,829 and

616 00:39:59,829 Annie Machon then as soon as he was convicted very... you know,  
 00:40:04,140 minor, early disclosures

617 00:40:04,140 Annie Machon than everyone could start writing about the Gadhafi  
 00:40:06,440 plot again

618 00:40:06,440 Annie Machon but for those six weeks it did not officially exist. It was  
 00:40:11,190 quite Kafkaesque

619 00:40:11,190 Annie Machon and of course because all they had to do actually  
 00:40:15,079 under the law was prove he had worked

620 00:40:15,079 Annie Machon for MI5 and prove he had spoken with someone  
 00:40:17,480 outside MI5

621 00:40:17,480 Annie Machon about his work under the eighty-nine act he was found  
 00:40:20,520

622 00:40:20,520 Annie Machon guilty that was a done deal effectively erm... he was  
 00:40:26,119 charged three times so he was

623 00:40:26,119 Annie Machon facing technically six years in prison  
 00:40:28,650

624 00:40:28,650 Annie Machon but he ended up a six-month and the jury, some of  
 00:40:33,130 them were in tears when

625 00:40:33,130 Annie Machon the guilty verdict came in, they knew  
 00:40:34,609

626 00:40:34,609 Annie Machon They remembered but they couldn't not follow the  
 00:40:39,770 orders of the judge which is

627 00:40:39,770 Annie Machon if that's the case... he worked there, he said that, he's  
 00:40:41,940 guilty

628 00:40:41,940 Annie Machon so... it was... very very difficult to live through that  
 00:40:48,260 stress. I mean,

629 00:40:48,260 Annie Machon you know, a high.. am Old Bailey trial for six weeks is  
 00:40:53,060 intensely stressful

630 00:40:53,060 Annie Machon and then you have to deal with the media coverage  
 00:40:56,630 afterwards so again you have a

631 00:40:56,630 Annie Machon situation, you are sitting there watching the journalists  
 00:40:59,500 write down the

632 00:40:59,500 Annie Machon official ruling at the end of the case Shayler did what  
 00:41:02,710 he did in what he

633 00:41:02,710 Annie thought was the public interest.. he... there was no  
00:41:05,970 Machon financial motivation

634 00:41:05,970 Annie and no lives were put at risk by his whistleblowing and  
00:41:09,250 Machon yet the headlines the

635 00:41:09,250 Annie next day said precisely opposite Shayler sells agent  
00:41:14,079 Machon life down the river for

636 00:41:14,079 Annie money and its...that was almost more of an erm...  
00:41:18,510 Machon

637 00:41:18,510 Annie moral rape then being found guilty and going to prison  
00:41:21,440 Machon

638 00:41:21,440 Annie you know for a few months to has his reputation  
00:41:26,569 Machon shredded in that way

639 00:41:26,569 Annie misconstrued in that way was far more damaging, for  
00:41:30,450 Machon far longer

640 00:41:30,450 Annie I mean it haunts his life... it will haunt his life for  
00:41:35,240 Machon evermore. and that's why they did it.

641 00:41:35,240 Interviewer bla bla  
00:42:08,440

642 00:42:08,520 Annie year I think... I mean this is a pattern you see with all  
00:42:13,360 Machon big intelligence whistleblowing cases that there's this  
initial flurry

643 00:42:13,380 Annie of excitement we got a new toy to play with from the  
00:42:16,150 Machon media

644 00:42:16,150 Annie usually that how they see it all we can make our  
00:42:19,680 Machon careers on the back this

645 00:42:19,680 Annie really sexy story or stories and is the gift that just  
00:42:24,050 Machon keeps giving

646 00:42:24,050 Annie for the journalists but for the whistleblower after the  
00:42:27,810 Machon initial excitement dies down

647 00:42:27,810 Annie and there are legal proceedings and you get the grind  
00:42:32,190 Machon of government spin

648 00:42:32,190 Annie and you get the grind of the intelligent agency spin  
00:42:35,220 Machon working away

649 00:42:35,220 Annie at the mainstream media drip drip of little bit's poison  
00:42:38,710 Machon

650 00:42:38,710 Annie ah... well you know he was overlooked for promotion  
00:42:42,550 Machon or he was to

651 00:42:42,550 Annie junior to know what he was talking about he was  
00:42:44,900 Machon sacked or

652 00:42:44,900 Annie he was disgruntled all the usual phrases thy use for  
00:42:48,410 Machon every single whistleblower

653 00:42:48,410 Annie that comes out of the intelligence agencies and if they  
00:42:52,260 Machon keep dripping this poison in

654 00:42:52,260 Annie long enough people generally start to believe it  
 00:42:54,700 Machon

655 00:42:54,700 Annie so initially you're a hero, you're a whistleblower 'em...  
 00:42:59,240 Machon

656 00:42:59,240 Annie and then you know this a... attrition goes on  
 00:43:02,839 Machon

657 00:43:02,839 Annie and the longer it goes on the longer the case goes on  
 00:43:05,440 Machon more

658 00:43:05,440 Annie attrition sets in. So for David's case for example, I  
 00:43:11,720 Machon mean it started for us in 1996

659 00:43:11,720 Annie and ended in 2003 when he had served his sentence  
 00:43:14,420 Machon

660 00:43:14,420 Annie That's seven years, its a long time for this drip-drip of  
 00:43:17,380 Machon poison

661 00:43:17,380 Annie 'em... and for the whistleblower himself I mean  
 00:43:21,210 Machon

662 00:43:21,210 Annie one: your a hero and you know on the other hand you  
 00:43:24,800 Machon a traitor

663 00:43:24,800 Annie and that duality is 'em... very very hard to live with  
 00:43:29,599 Machon

664 00:43:29,599 Annie particularly because people then say, oh you know  
 00:43:32,099 Machon

665 00:43:32,099 Annie you did it for money or you did it for glory or  
 00:43:33,750 Machon

666 00:43:33,750 Annie you're are narcissist or whatever it is and actually what  
 00:43:37,750 Machon you doing is living on

667 00:43:37,750 Annie your wits and on your nerves on the breadline with no  
 00:43:40,990 Machon prospect

668 00:43:40,990 Annie of any future employment or any normal life afterwards  
 00:43:44,970 Machon

669 00:43:44,970 Annie the pressure every which way is very intense. and I  
 00:43:49,480 Machon know that's the case for every

670 00:43:49,480 Annie Whistlerblower coming out of any sector they face that  
 00:43:52,420 Machon vilification

671 00:43:52,420 Annie they face the loss the professional standing and  
 00:43:56,359 Machon professional income and everything

672 00:43:56,359 Annie but for intelligence in central government and military  
 00:43:59,960 Machon whistleblowers particularly

673 00:43:59,960 Annie there is that de facto criminalization and the full weight  
 00:44:04,300 Machon of a

674 00:44:04,300 Annie national if not an international community of  
 00:44:06,770 Machon intelligence

675 00:44:06,770 Annie coming... pushing back at you So I think that the  
 00:44:12,270 Machon stakes are higher

676 00:44:12,270 Annie and the powers to obstruct you and to crush you a

00:44:16,440 Machon much

677 00:44:16,440 Annie greater, even for most other brave whistleblowers  
00:44:19,920 Machon coming out of other sectors and

678 00:44:19,920 Annie that's why it's so crucial to offer intelligence  
00:44:22,760 Machon

679 00:44:22,760 Annie whistleblowers particularly 'em... international level of  
00:44:26,280 Machon support

680 00:44:26,280 Interviewer So is your opinion that the press swell was  
00:44:33,960 manipulated or even?

681 00:44:33,960 Annie (laughs) oh yeah yeah  
00:44:35,520 Machon

682 00:44:35,520 Annie the press is always manipulated is very easy to  
00:44:38,250 Machon manipulate them, I think that's

683 00:44:38,250 Annie a whole different interview which would last  
00:44:39,900 Machon

684 00:44:39,900 Annie about an hour but yes there is soft power which is you  
00:44:42,930 Machon know

685 00:44:42,930 Annie the charm bit 'come in to our circle, do what we say  
00:44:46,200 Machon and we will give you nice stories

686 00:44:46,200 Annie and then as a whole battery of laws, the hard power,  
00:44:50,230 Machon that they can use to

687 00:44:50,230 Annie suppressed reporting, suppress brave journalists who  
00:44:54,119 Machon want to get these stories

688 00:44:54,119 Annie out prosecuting them or whatever, so yes it's  
00:44:56,530 Machon

689 00:44:56,530 Annie very easy for the intelligent agencies  
00:44:59,310 Machon

690 00:44:59,310 Annie the (mic interference) British intelligence agencies  
00:45:01,060 Machon particularly...

691 00:45:01,060 Annie ,and I think the Americans ones now are learning very  
00:45:04,010 Machon well from this,

692 00:45:04,010 Annie are the most legally protected of any western country  
00:45:08,020 Machon

693 00:45:08,020 Annie and also the least accountable in any western country  
00:45:15,000 Machon so they have it easy you know they love it

694 00:45:15,000 Interviewer I'm asking specifically into that also  
00:45:18,240

695 00:45:18,250 Interviewer because if there is certain 'tell signs'  
00:45:21,960

696 00:45:21,960 Interviewer or something because there's a lot of those stories  
00:45:25,710 now coming out from

697 00:45:25,710 Interviewer the intelligence sector so media and news stories are  
00:45:30,890 of great interest

698 00:45:30,890 Interviewer to people but it is also difficult to see through  
00:45:35,530



699 00:45:35,530 Interviewer sometimes... as in the cases with Bradley Manning,  
00:45:40,810 what would you be

700 00:45:40,810 Interviewer you analyze of the media representations of  
00:45:50,670 whistleblower cases?

701 00:45:50,670 Interviewer it seems like there's a specific interest when you read  
00:45:56,069

702 00:45:56,069 Interviewer through articles that comes from whistleblowers from  
00:46:00,200 the intelligence

703 00:46:00,200 Interviewer some that they seem more severe are even....

704 00:46:06,619 Interviewer the lines are drawn up harder between hero and traitor  
00:46:10,780 then what you normally see

705 00:46:10,780 Annie 'em... I think the... you can always tell the gravity of the  
00:46:15,670 Machon whistleblowing

706 00:46:15,670 Annie in the issues at stake by the push-back, so David  
00:46:19,230 Machon Shayler

707 00:46:19,230 Annie was probably one of the most pushed back against  
00:46:22,260 Machon intelligence

708 00:46:22,260 Annie whistleblowers in the UK 'em... in modern history, way  
00:46:26,869 Machon more than any

709 00:46:26,869 Annie other I can actually think of, I mean there has been of  
00:46:29,430 Machon course other very important

710 00:46:29,430 Annie cases like Catherine Gun and Craig Murray  
00:46:31,980 Machon

711 00:46:31,980 Annie 'em... even Richard Tomlinson, sort of (laughing) but  
00:46:38,660 Machon 'em... that was a sort of...

712 00:46:38,660 Annie tended to be one issue where as David had a whole  
00:46:41,640 Machon series of issues

713 00:46:41,640 Annie that because of the injunction, everything came out  
00:46:45,760 Machon over a period of time so the whole

714 00:46:45,760 Annie case went on far longer and the pusheback  
00:46:47,369 Machon

715 00:46:47,369 Annie became ever more vicious in order to crush him 'em...  
00:46:51,540 Machon but to look at

716 00:46:51,540 Annie the sheer scale of the pushback against someone like  
00:46:53,220 Machon

717 00:46:53,220 Annie Chelsea Manning, or Edward Snowden Thats global  
00:46:57,210 Machon 'em... and I think that shows

718 00:46:57,210 Annie the scale of what they are talking about  
00:46:58,710 Machon

719 00:46:58,710 Annie and the importance to all of us as global citizens,  
00:47:01,359 Machon particularly

720 00:47:01,359 Annie the Snowden case as well I think he is the most  
00:47:04,790 Machon significant

721 00:47:04,790 Annie whistleblower of modern times... modern history  
00:47:07,599 Machon there's no doubt about it

722 00:47:07,599 Annie It's not just about the erosion of the American  
00:47:10,780 Machon Constitution, is not just about the

723 00:47:10,780 Annie erosion of Americans and their rights within America  
00:47:14,550 Machon

724 00:47:14,550 Annie is what's happened to all of us... and it... you know  
00:47:17,540 Machon

725 00:47:17,540 Annie Great, there is a great discussion going on in America  
00:47:19,319 Machon

726 00:47:19,319 Annie that might reform or at least pullback, rain back a little  
00:47:22,599 Machon

727 00:47:22,599 Annie the NSA's power there but then the rest of us is still,  
00:47:26,240 Machon you know

728 00:47:26,240 Annie Johnnie foreigners, they can do whatever they want to  
00:47:28,730 Machon us.

729 00:47:28,730 Annie We have no right so I think 'em...  
00:47:32,500 Machon

730 00:47:32,500 Annie legally it's become and 'em... politically it's become  
00:47:33,990 Machon

731 00:47:33,990 Annie virtually impossible to resist the intelligence security  
00:47:39,430 Machon complex

732 00:47:39,430 Annie and that's what is now globally, it's big business.  
00:47:41,809 Machon

733 00:47:41,809 Annie Our best hope is to resist it technically and that's  
00:47:46,440 Machon where activists and hackers

734 00:47:46,440 Annie and geeks coming in 'em... and that's why I think we  
00:47:49,849 Machon seeing particulary

735 00:47:49,849 Annie a new generation of whistleblowers who tend to be the  
00:47:53,569 Machon ubergeeks on the inside

736 00:47:53,569 Annie they're the ones who can actually resist most  
00:47:56,829 Machon effectively and

737 00:47:56,829 Annie you know evade the powers of darkness as well most  
00:48:01,339 Machon effectively

738 00:48:01,339 Annie so I really... you know, this is why 'em... many of us  
00:48:05,690 Machon now is supporting

739 00:48:05,690 Annie the new courage foundation, its an international  
00:48:08,170 Machon global....

740 00:48:08,200 Interviewer (N interrupts to change battery) chatter...  
00:48:22,880

741 00:49:29,560 Interviewer through legislation? governmental reefers, whatever  
00:49:50,760 here in the UK specifically

742 00:49:51,200 Annie thats a very good point I mean should we  
00:49:52,609 Machon

743 00:49:52,609 Annie expect better legislative oversight 'em... even if we get

00:49:58,000 Machon better oversight

744 00:49:58,000 Annie at national level what they're trying to oversee is  
00:50:00,920 Machon

745 00:50:00,920 Annie globalised, so it's borderless and they are powerless  
00:50:04,869 Machon effectively

746 00:50:04,869 Annie 'em... one thing that slightly encourage me was the  
00:50:08,900 Machon openness of the hearings going on

747 00:50:08,900 Annie in the European Parliament  
00:50:10,130 Machon

748 00:50:10,130 Annie The Liber committee where they are taking evidence  
00:50:12,140 Machon from

749 00:50:12,140 Annie international whistleblowers and technologists 'em...  
00:50:16,079 Machon as well as

750 00:50:16,079 Annie politicians and I think they making some very good  
00:50:19,619 Machon recommendations

751 00:50:19,619 Annie so for example if they follow up on what was the  
00:50:22,940 Machon Echelon report

752 00:50:22,940 Annie which came out in July 2001 about pushing back  
00:50:28,480 Machon against this sort of

753 00:50:28,480 Annie five-eyes, spy thing and creating something unique  
00:50:30,760 Machon

754 00:50:30,760 Annie and separate for Europe then that might be a step  
00:50:34,099 Machon ahead although

755 00:50:34,099 Annie then we'd have to trust the European agencies so is  
00:50:38,910 Machon difficult

756 00:50:38,910 Annie they may say they have oversight, they may say hay  
00:50:42,569 Machon have laws, there are laws

757 00:50:42,569 Annie in the UK,  
00:50:43,339 Machon

758 00:50:43,339 Annie there is RIPO regulation of Investigatory Powers Act  
00:50:45,569 Machon

759 00:50:45,569 Annie which is supposed to rain in what GCHQ does and we  
00:50:49,230 Machon know

760 00:50:49,230 Annie how they can gain it, we know how they can bend the  
00:50:52,369 Machon rules and get away with doing

761 00:50:52,369 Annie what they're doing under RIPO they are supposed to  
00:50:54,440 Machon put

762 00:50:54,440 Annie in separate individual requests to look at separate  
00:50:58,349 Machon targets 'em...

763 00:50:58,349 Annie what they've been doing is what they used to call  
00:51:00,119 Machon

764 00:51:00,119 Annie omnibus (check) warrants to look at multiple targets  
00:51:02,240 Machon

765 00:51:02,240 Annie which is supposed to be really unusual Looking at

00:51:06,960 Machon 'em... an area, just for a certain  
 766 00:51:06,960 Annie amount of time, for exceptional circumstances and  
 00:51:10,390 Machon actually what we are seeing with  
 767 00:51:10,390 Annie these omnibus warrants which is apparently what  
 00:51:12,349 Machon William Hague  
 768 00:51:12,349 Annie has been signing off on 'ah, they cover entire country's  
 00:51:16,440 Machon indefinitely  
 769 00:51:16,440 Annie that not oversight, that's appalling so even nationally  
 00:51:21,099 Machon it's going to be very difficult  
 770 00:51:21,099 Annie to deal with this globalised surveillance state  
 00:51:23,520 Machon  
 771 00:51:23,520 Annie and that's why I think no matter how well-intentioned  
 00:51:26,150 Machon  
 772 00:51:26,150 Annie 'em... and well-motivated 'em, and indeed even  
 00:51:28,750 Machon  
 773 00:51:28,750 Annie impowered the politicians can be they will never really  
 00:51:33,200 Machon know what the  
 774 00:51:33,200 Annie capabilities are behind the scenes that in the future  
 00:51:40,130 Machon  
 775 00:51:40,130 Annie whistleblowers come out to show those laws are being  
 00:51:43,450 Machon broken and then might...  
 776 00:51:43,450 Annie some of those spy agencies, might be held to  
 00:51:44,859 Machon  
 777 00:51:44,859 Annie account and prosecuted that would be good, absent  
 00:51:48,829 Machon that  
 778 00:51:48,829 Annie we have to rely on the technology and is like and  
 00:51:53,490 Machon asymmetrical  
 779 00:51:53,490 Annie information warfare you know, get these great  
 00:51:56,869 Machon lumbering beast's  
 780 00:51:56,869 Annie and you get these agile activists you know... running  
 00:51:59,760 Machon rings around for  
 781 00:51:59,760 Annie a little bit and they have to move on to the next area  
 00:52:02,510 Machon and the next area...  
 782 00:52:02,510 Annie and that's is what... that is our best line of defence, I  
 00:52:05,089 Machon think at the moment  
 783 00:52:05,089 Annie it's not to say we give up on the political side or the  
 00:52:08,910 Machon legal side  
 784 00:52:08,910 Annie but we need to accept that actually we might need a  
 00:52:13,480 Machon bit more help then that  
 785 00:52:13,480 Interviewer you have been fighting for more transparency or better  
 00:52:19,480  
 786 00:52:19,480 Interviewer protections for whistleblowers for a long time now  
 00:52:23,030 involved  
 787 00:52:23,030 Interviewer in a new project protecting Journalistic sources could

00:52:30,150 you speak about that?

788 00:52:30,160 Annie Machon Yes 'em... no I'm very excited about this new courage foundation  
00:52:33,720

789 00:52:33,740 Annie Machon I have been asked to be involved in, head up, because this is a...  
00:52:36,770

790 00:52:36,770 Annie Machon a fund to raise money to cover the legal costs or  
00:52:41,710

791 00:52:41,710 Annie Machon particularly intelligence whistleblowers because as I explained before they are de facto  
00:52:46,349

792 00:52:46,349 Annie Machon criminal... de they are de facto criminalized which  
00:52:48,730

793 00:52:48,730 Annie Machon means de facto they will raise... they will require to pay  
00:52:52,230

794 00:52:52,230 Annie Machon lot of legal bills potentially around the planet  
00:52:55,190

795 00:52:55,190 Annie Machon so they need what help they can get so 'em... having a foundation  
00:52:59,240

796 00:52:59,240 Annie Machon that can raise this money I think is a step in the right direction  
00:53:02,660

797 00:53:02,660 Annie Machon and also just to advocate for them, to explain  
00:53:05,339

798 00:53:05,339 Annie Machon what the basic issues are around what they're trying to do  
00:53:08,480

799 00:53:08,480 Annie Machon and show that there is hope some whistleblowers do  
00:53:11,190

800 00:53:11,190 Annie Machon survive the process not all of us have to be crushed so  
00:53:13,859

801 00:53:13,859 Annie Machon So hopefully that position will also encourage  
00:53:17,250

802 00:53:17,250 Annie Machon other future potential whistleblower and say 'well, look the risk are high, sure  
00:53:21,480

803 00:53:21,480 Annie Machon - the risk of not doing what you want to do  
00:53:24,550

804 00:53:24,550 Annie Machon for society a hugely high too so... you know  
00:53:28,540

805 00:53:28,540 Annie Machon do what you think is right and there will be a group out there who can help you  
00:53:32,450

806 00:53:32,450 Annie Machon and support you and help you survive the process so that's what we're trying  
00:53:35,790

807 00:53:35,790 Annie Machon to do with courage and this sort of global legal defense fund  
00:53:41,020

808 00:53:41,020 Annie Machon and any help from anyone would be gratefully received  
00:53:45,190

809 00:53:45,190 Annie Machon what is also great though, speaking out about whistleblowers is  
00:53:48,859

810 00:53:48,859 Annie suddenly realising that their is so many national  
00:53:54,420 Machon support groups already in existence

811 00:53:54,420 Annie or getting started 'em... who are there not just to  
00:53:57,960 Machon support intelligence

812 00:53:57,960 Annie whistleblowers because they are very rare but there  
00:54:01,339 Machon are so many other whistleblowers

813 00:54:01,339 Annie coming out, you know, from health from finance 'em...  
00:54:04,940 Machon from the city

814 00:54:04,940 Annie from politics, whatever, local government 'em... all  
00:54:10,440 Machon risking their professional lives

815 00:54:10,440 Annie the professional reputations and there very way of life  
00:54:15,119 Machon by speaking out about

816 00:54:15,119 Annie criminality and incompetence and mistakes that, you  
00:54:20,150 Machon know, can put lives at risk too

817 00:54:20,150 Annie (doorbell) with the NHS scandals in the UK  
00:54:23,030 Machon

818 00:54:23,030 Annie so this new organization in the UK 'the Whistler' is  
00:54:28,040 Machon fantastic too, because that provides

819 00:54:28,040 Annie pro-bono legal advice, it provides support it provides  
00:54:32,920 Machon psychological advice, I mean...

820 00:54:32,920 Annie all the things again, if you blow the whistle you tend to  
00:54:36,420 Machon feel very isolated

821 00:54:36,420 Annie to have an agency, an organization like that can help  
00:54:38,930 Machon you

822 00:54:38,930 Annie and can provide that network and say 'look all this  
00:54:41,609 Machon other people have

823 00:54:41,609 Annie been through it, they know what it is like come and join  
00:54:45,480 Machon us anyway, we can help you

824 00:54:45,480 Annie I think is fabulous and so... it great that the... 'the  
00:54:48,809 Machon Whistler'

825 00:54:48,809 Annie is getting started in UK it's great that so many other  
00:54:52,309 Machon

826 00:54:52,309 Annie whistleblower support networks are evolving from so  
00:54:54,000 Machon many other

827 00:54:54,000 Annie national countries and it's great that they're beginning  
00:54:56,299 Machon

828 00:54:56,299 Annie to interlink, because I think the whistle...blowwer now,  
00:55:05,320 Machon is probably the regulator of last defence for our  
democracies

829 00:55:05,320 Interviewer thats sound like the answer to my last  
00:55:10,080

830 00:55:10,089 Interviewer question.. (laughing) you hear a lot of

831 00:55:14,119 Interviewer criticism toward... especially in intelligence but also

00:55:19,589 towards Whistleblowers in general

832 00:55:19,589 Interviewer you hear that that you shouldn't rock the boat 'em..  
00:55:22,150

833 00:55:22,150 Interviewer you, you don't know, you don't have the full picture and  
00:55:25,869 your

834 00:55:25,869 Interviewer you, you damaging national security is an often heard  
00:55:27,569 one. you have seen these things

835 00:55:27,569 Interviewer from the inside, what do you have to say to the  
00:55:35,690 harshest critics when it comes to whistleblowing?

836 00:55:35,690 Annie the harshest critics always say you are damaging  
00:55:37,940 Machon

837 00:55:37,940 Annie national security and you shouldn't rock the boat  
00:55:39,670 Machon

838 00:55:39,670 Annie and all the rest of it... well 'em.. I think there was a  
00:55:43,410 Machon group called

839 00:55:43,410 Annie the nazis who tried to use that defence, which was just  
00:55:46,970 Machon follow orders

840 00:55:46,970 Annie which is what intelligence whistleblowers is always told  
00:55:50,210 Machon

841 00:55:50,210 Annie that doesn't work legally you've got to have a moral  
00:55:53,609 Machon conscience

842 00:55:53,609 Annie as a functioning democratic system you know just  
00:55:58,540 Machon because something is the

843 00:55:58,540 Annie law doesn't mean it's morally right and the law is  
00:56:03,240 Machon constantly evolving so if

844 00:56:03,240 Annie the intelligence agency start going down the moral  
00:56:06,329 Machon slide

845 00:56:06,329 Annie and doing things which are not only immoral but  
00:56:09,250 Machon actually demonstrable

846 00:56:09,250 Annie illegal like kidnapping and torture fabricating evidence  
00:56:13,730 Machon to go to illegal

847 00:56:13,730 Annie wars, there is a duty as a citizen I think, an duty as a  
00:56:17,299 Machon moral

848 00:56:17,299 Annie human being to try and effect change from that  
00:56:21,099 Machon

849 00:56:21,099 Annie and anyone who thinks that just following orders is a  
00:56:25,160 Machon defence

850 00:56:25,160 Annie is a throwback 'em... and things have got so bad,  
00:56:29,589 Machon people don't trust the political

851 00:56:29,589 Annie classes anymore, they don't trust the big corporation's  
00:56:32,790 Machon so

852 00:56:32,790 Annie I would suggest that the whistleblower is regulator of  
00:56:37,220 Machon last... def...

853	00:56:37,220 00:56:39,549	Annie Machon	you know, last choice... last defence we have to rely on that
854	00:56:39,549 00:56:45,429	Annie Machon	we have to rely on them to try and keep any seemliness (check) of democracy going now
855	00:56:45,680 00:56:53,869	Interviewer	thanks you so much, great...