

ABOUT A SMUGGLING CASE

Who made the phone call?

As we hinted, the smuggling case discovered by the *Greek* authorities following the forced landing of the plane “*Bonanza*,” piloted by *Mr. de Chambrier*, enters a new phase.

If the *Greek* justice system will the smuggling issues, our justice system in Geneva will have to uncover the inside story of the case, and in particular get to the bottom of settling accounts.

We announced that the investigating magistrate, *Mr. Correvon*, had questioned *Mr. Nyad* to obtain the confirmation of his complaint of slanderous denunciations against *Mr. V.*, who had left for *Monaco*. The hearing, we said, was prolonged more than usual for the simple formality of confirming a complaint, especially when the accused is not present.

The situation becomes more complicated. The complaint of denunciations had been made in connection with the seizure of a diamond ring worth 22,000 fr. The seizure was made in *Paris* by two inspectors of the *Geneva* police assisted by French inspectors.

However, the complaint lodged by *Mr. V.* is full of irregularities. The jewel had not been sent on consignment as claimed by the complainant but sold under certain conditions which we will have the opportunity to revisit. Faced with these new facts, Judge *Correvon* ordered a new seizure of the jewel.

This complicated affair is gradually unveiling and revealing the illegal actions of a gang of traffickers that would use any means to achieve its ends [*tous les moyens étaient bons — all means were good*].

Without going back into the details of the entire chronology of this shady story, we point out that several months ago *Mr. Nyad* came out of a hotel on the Right Bank, and he met the industrialist *H.* there, who was mentioned on several occasions recently.

An American officer but of Greek origin, *Mr. Nyad* had held an important post at the Athens airfield. The traffickers, immediately thinking of the critical services he could render, proposed that he join their organization.

At the beginning everything went well. But how is it possible that 3 packages with an important sum of “*Napoleons*” vanished. [*“Napoléon” is the colloquial term for a former French gold coin*]: An English pilot had taken charge of the shipment this time. The traffickers accused *Mr. Nyad* of this disappearance, but *Mr. Nyad* told us he was not involved. Surely, even the traffickers didn’t believe that *N.* was the culprit in this disappearance of a hundred thousand Swiss francs. But, the alleged perpetrator left no evidence, unlike in the case of *Mr. N.* The best proof for what we argue, was to propose a

new investigation to "recover." However, it seems that *Mr. Nyad's* frankness caused some stir in the other camp. It was absolutely necessary to keep him away from the business and not to lose anything; to pursue this aim, a perfectly successful staging was prepared.

Mr. Nyad was at his lawyer's at that time when, from *Coppet*, where he lives, his wife telephoned to let him know that she had just been called from *Berne* by the Political Department, which asked to speak to *Mr. Nyad*.

Mr. Nyad told the fact to his lawyer who grabbed the phone and said to *Mrs. Nyad* something like this: "If they ask for your husband, answer that he has gone abroad". The lawyer warned *Mr. Nyad* that it was urgent for him to leave *Switzerland* the same day. Faced with this authoritative advice, *Mr. Nyad* returned to *Coppet*. He took two suitcases and that same evening arrived in *Paris* via *Lausanne*. Undoubtedly, he had been advised that it would be safer for him not to leave from *Geneva*.

A few days later in *Paris*, while *Mr. Nyad* decided to get back to *America*, the seizure of the jewel occurred. As *Mr. Nyad* was surprised and protested, one of the *Geneva* inspectors suggested that he return to *Geneva* and explain his position.

That's what *Mr. Nyad* did. We know of his arrival in *Cointrin* and the intervention of a private police inspector ... who did not allow *Mr. Nyad* to wait for his own car, which he requested by telephone at the garage where it was parked! Later, *Mr. N.* was taken to a certain office on *Boulevard Georges-Favon 23*, where he was "successfully" [« *positivement* »] discovered with a hefty sum of dollars contained in a suitcase.

Mr. Nyad realized what was shady in all these deals. After severing all relationship with his former lawyer, he told his worries and his misfortunes to *Mr. Alfred Borel*. This affair still holds many surprises; some over-greedy characters have also been exposed.

It is time that the actions of such individuals, organized as a real "mafia," cease, and that they are held accountable and brought to justice.

If you play with fire, you're going to get burnt. [*Tant va la cruche à l'eau qu'à la fin elle se casse. Literally: If you put the pitcher in the water too often, at the end it will break.*]

Ph. L.