

**Mr. Teillet:** That is no answer.

**Mr. Hamilton:** I want to go on and quote.

**Mr. Stewart:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Teillet:** If you have any accusations to make, make them.

**Mr. Stewart:** Is the hon. gentleman assuming responsibility for the accuracy of the statements he is putting on the record? This is the rule of the house, as we all know.

**Mr. Greene:** And stake his seat on it.

**Mr. Hamilton:** I do not know why hon. members are objecting. I am reading an article which is available to everyone and if the actions that they want to take are not taken we can only assume the statements are accurate.

**Mr. Stewart:** The authority of the information is very important.

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Rinfret):** If the hon. member for Qu'Appelle reads an article contained in a newspaper, he is also assuming responsibility for the accuracy of these different points that have been put forward in the article.

**Mr. Teillet:** Mr. Speaker, provided he will read the article and leave out the asides he is making, then we will accept that.

**Mr. Nielsen:** You put in the asides.

**Mr. Hamilton:** I will be glad to accept that admonition. I will have no more asides if the minister will keep quiet. I continue to quote:

I asked whether Mr. Lawford was a party worker and the answer was not clear. Mr. Lawford had been on the staff of Queen's University. His training was in law, and he was much interested in the parliamentary process. Innocent enough. I asked what brought him to the gallery so often. Did he have some friendship or association with some reporter? The person I questioned wasn't sure. He hadn't thought about it before but it was true that Mr. Lawford was drifting around on many occasions during the day and evening.

About this time the prospect of a storm over affairs in the Department of Justice was developing. Erik Nielsen had said that he would be naming names on bankruptcy matters and the Spencer case was becoming more and more of an issue. I began to hear the odd hint that the government wasn't worried about Nielsen and any of his charges; that the government had some juicy items of its own about the Diefenbaker administration and that some truly exciting revelations were in store.

Naturally I was all ears and I am sure the same attitude prevailed among most newspapermen. Now this kind of hint was not new. It had been dropped

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repeatedly at the time of the Rivard brouhaha. In fact, some of the ugliest stories I have ever heard were running below the surface at that time, involving members of all parties. Stories to make the seamy ones in Arthur Hailey's *In High Places* seem tame.

I remember that I wrote a column at the time which tried to make the point that morally the federal politicians were as good or better than the people they represented.

In tracing these hints to a source I found that most of them seemed to lead to Mr. Lawford. It seemed that in his excursions through the gallery a few reporters were told that they could expect or might get some real sensations very soon, that the government had more than enough to put the Tories in their place. Of course, these hints got back to Mr. Diefenbaker. That's what he was referring to with his sentence: "Don't go around telling members of the press gallery: 'If we were to tell what we know, we would be devastating!'"

When Mr. Cardin dropped his Monsignor reference, the cat was out of the bag. The reporters or some of them had been given just enough information to have the most lurid outline for a breaking story. Thus the first line of one reporter's story . . . "The photograph shows a voluptuous blonde, nude, lying in bed with a man. Ordinarily, it might be just another smutty picture. But the woman is Olga Munzinger, an East German, who was considered a security risk by the R.C.M.P. and the man was a minister in the Diefenbaker government in 1961."

Now, this reporter was not around Ottawa in 1961. He is not an old hand in Ottawa. His information was a tip from someone in the government. I have to conclude that it was given him deliberately as part of a plan, that Mr. Lawford was the source or one of the sources for it.

**Mr. Teillet:** May we know who the hon. gentleman is quoting now? Will you let us know whom you are quoting now?

**Mr. Nielsen:** Lawford.

**Mr. Hamilton:** I know you cannot protect me from this type of thing, Mr. Speaker. I promised I would not interrupt my reading if the minister would keep quiet.

**Mr. Teillet:** I should like to know from whom he is quoting now.

**Mr. Hamilton:** I am quoting now from a reporter by the name of Douglas Fisher who is quoting from a newspaper known as the *Toronto Star*.

**Mr. Nielsen:** Not always friendly to this side.

**Mr. Hamilton:** I continue to quote:

Since Mr. Lawford is working out of the P.M.'s office and is a contract employee with the responsibility of advising the government on problems of parliamentary procedure (that is, he is not a petty clerk) it seems clear that the Munzinger revelations are part of a calculated government plan to shift attention to the behaviour of the Diefenbaker government.