

Court,  
Kew Road,  
Richmond,  
Surrey

Mr. M. Reed,  
Registrar General,  
Somerset House,  
London,  
WC2R 1LR.

26th April 1971

Dear Mr. Reed,

Thank you for your letter (undated) which I received recently.

During my absence the other day a person describing himself as an "enumerator" left a form containing an introduction alleged to be written by you. However, the person claiming to be you has not signed this introduction, and furthermore has given an address different from yours. I suspect therefore that the form is a hoax, a suspicion which is confirmed by the nature of the questions - ranging from the ridiculous to the impertinent. It is unlikely for instance that you would ask me the date of my birth, since you must know that it is already recorded in your own office.

I am therefore returning the form, and would be glad if you would either sign it personally, or else confirm that it is a hoax.

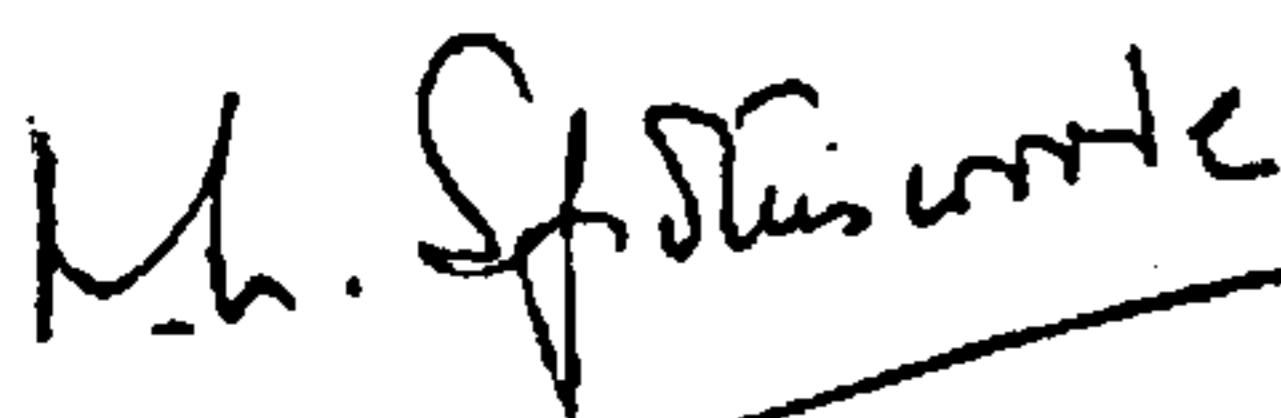
In case the form is genuine, I enclose my Form N.L.S.I. (Application to have a Form filled in). If you will complete this and return one copy to me (together with your own form) I will consider, which of your questions I am prepared to answer in the light of your replies to my questions.

In view of the current investigations into possible leakages of confidential information given to the Department of Trade and Industry, please pay special attention to questions E and F.

I have just heard that one of your "enumerators" has been prosecuted for illegal disclosure of information, and I must therefore insist that this correspondence should be between us personally.

I greatly appreciate, for instance, your concern about the standard of plumbing in my flat, but I would not care to give any information to a stranger who knocks at the door and may, for all I know, be an agent for some shady firm of "plumbing consultants". Until I received this form I was perfectly happy that the connection between my sink and the waste pipe was reasonably permanent, but now I am worried. If you are concerned about this point, perhaps you would care to call and inspect it yourself. I have had a look at the connection which appears to be 1½" B.S.P., but I don't have the right sized spanner, so perhaps you would bring one yourself. In the meantime, I have put a bucket under it, just in case.

Yours sincerely,



N.L. Spottiswoode