

Having twice studied the video of your appearance before the House of Commons Inquiry chaired by Phil Willis, I can empathise with some of the difficulties you expressed.

As a scientist a little older than you and who shows the scars of the school of hard knocks more prominently, I offer the following in good faith.

1. Please add a statistician to your group. The reason is simple. There are far better statisticians working outside climate science, as Dr Wegman noted rather strongly.
2. Please consider inviting Mr Steven McIntyre of Canada, who is also an expert statistician, thus satisfying point 1. The reason is that you will avoid much accusation of bias in personnel selection if you succeed in attracting him. I do not mean that you should add balance with a “denialist” – he is not one, he is a neutral auditor – but I mean that he is abreast of the issues you are asked to examine, well ahead of most other scientists in the world. You would avoid some bias accusations that your committee did not know, hence examine, the real meaning behind the apparent meaning of some critical issues. For example, the phrase “hide the decline” is explained by Mr McIntyre in a way that few people have comprehended. I believe this explanation, made correctly, is important to your Terms of Reference, as would others be.
3. In sorting the emails the subject of the Inquiry, there is assistance available with a key word search at <http://www.eastangliaemails.com/index.php>
4. If one searches “money”, one finds several emails referring to the transfer of monies between countries, particularly Russia; of using Switzerland for money transfer; mentioning diversion of funds allocated for specified projects to other projects; and mentioning taxation avoidance. I would not word this email so strongly as to suggest that there is *prima facie* evidence of illegal activities involving monies, but I would express that important investigations commonly start from small beginnings and this is one that should be followed for a complete Inquiry. One can easily gain an impression that CRU held the keys to a vault that encouraged scientists to emphasise a certain line in their reporting of science. If that money was tainted, then the inference arises that the Science was tainted.
5. For reasons like these above, I recommended to the Willis Inquiry that your Inquiry should involve Police investigations. This was not meant to insult your prowess or motives in the least. It was simply that the document would be made public and it was not desirable to alert possible wrongdoers ahead of a prudent time.

As an *entrée*, I now add a few short passages from the “follow the money” search.

Yours faithfully,

Geoffrey H Sherrington.

Melbourne, Australia.

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From: "Tatiana M. Dedkova"

To: K.Briffa

Subject: schijatov

Date: Thu, 7 Mar 96 09:41:07 +0500

Dear Keith,

March 6, 1996

I and Valery Mazepa were in Krasnoyarsk during one month and together with E.Vaganov wrote the manuscript of book "Dendroclimatic Studies in the Ural-Siberian Subarctic". The problem now is to find money for its publication. If we find enough money soon (20 million roubles), the book will be published this autumn. We analysed 61 mean ring-width and 6 cell chronologies which we intend to publish in form of tables in the Appendix. We can send to you all raw measurements which were used for developing these chronologies.

Also, it is important for us if you can transfer the ADVANCE money on the personal accounts which we gave you earlier and the sum for one occasion transfer (for example, during one day) will not be more than 10,000 USD. Only in this case we can avoid big taxes and use money for our work as much as possible. Please, inform us what kind of documents and financial reports we must represent you and your administration for these money.

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From: "Isaak M. Khalatnikov"

To: k.briffa

Subject: Keith Briffa

Date: Tue, 10 Jun 97 07:18:26 +0400 (MSD)

Dear Keith,

Thank you for the message of 5 June, 1997.

I am understanding your difficulties with transferring money and I think the best way for us if you will bring money to Krasnoyarsk and I give you a receipt.

Rashit will go to Yamal at the end of June and I go to the Polar Urals at the beginning of July. We can find money temporary at our Institute and other sources for three months to fulfill our fieldworks. Now I am at two weeks holiday with my wife and grandmother near Moscow after the meeting of Russian Academy of Sciences where E.Vaganov was elected as the Academician. It is important for dendrochronological studies at our country and international collaboration.

Sincerely yours                      Stepan Shiyatov

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From: Keith Briffa

To: evag@

Subject: transfer

Date: Wed Nov 18 11:04:42 1998

Cc: stepan@

Eugene

I am told that the money transfer ( 5000 u.s. dollars) should have gone to the bank account you stated. Please let me know if this is received by you. I now also have the contract signed by INTAS and we must organise future work and I will talk to Fritz about us visiting Ekaterinburg next year. In the meantime I wish you and Stepan to organise major review papers of the Yamal and Taimyr long chronology status for inclusion in the Holocene ADVANCE-10K Special Issue. These need to be completed by June at the latest . They will each be 10-12 pages of print. I can suggest content, do some analyses and help with editing these . I am also sending Stepan's 5000 dollars to Switzerland now to be carried back by his colleague. I have yet to sort out how claims on the INTAS money will be handled. Have you received the details of the final contract?

best wishes