

# BRITISH LEGAL ASSOCIATION

(Incorporating the Solicitors Association)

Administration Office: Metropole Chambers, Salubrious Passage, Swansea, SA1 3RT

DX: 92057 Swansea 3 Tel/Fax: (01792) 648096

9 January 2003

A Balogun Esq  
Secretary  
Campaign for Truth and Justice  
32 Riverside Road  
Stratford  
LONDON  
E15 2RG

As from: Glebe Cottage  
Broadwoodkelly  
Winkleigh  
Devon EX19 8ED

Dear Mr Balogun,

Thank you for the copy of your letter to The Attorney General dated 15 December 2002, which has only just reached me.

If you will let me have full details of the facts which are claimed to support your criticisms, I will happily look at them. My chambers, some distance away, have facilities for searching the web, but I really cannot find room for it here, so that I have to rely upon you.

The charges you make are very serious indeed, but whilst I have always shared the view of Lord Devlin, a judge of absolute integrity, that Henry Cecil (in his book Tipping the Scales) 'shows that judicial integrity in England has been painfully achieved. I think we may now say without complacency that it has been achieved; and also, which is just as important, that it is now manifestly seen to have been achieved' is correct, nevertheless, in the light of what you say, I shall keep an open mind. I do wonder, however, whether what you call corruption would be better termed a perception of bias, but I shall not make any judgment until I have considered your material. As a practising barrister, I am well aware of the concerns of members of the public from time to time, but so often the more startling the complaint, the less there is in it when examined. However, the most unlikely things do happen in this world and, as I have said, I shall keep an open mind, because if only a scintilla of what you claim was right, then it would be a matter for very serious concern indeed.

Yours sincerely



STANLEY BEST  
Chairman