

Was Gareth Jones's surname behind George Orwell's naming of 'Farmer Jones' in *Animal Farm*?

This is a 'work-in-progress' hypothesis by Nigel Colley, initially started in February 2004 (with several further revisions as and when new information was discovered; the last being in April 2007).

Through my on-going research into the mysterious murder of Gareth Jones in 1935 (two years after being the first-named journalist to internationally expose the Soviet Ukrainian famine-genocide), I became reacquainted with Orwell's own chapter on the famine in *Animal Farm*. In discovering the historical accuracy of his allegory, I decided to write my own line-by-line appraisal of his account and was most impressed by his in-depth knowledge of this Stalin atrocity. [Please [click here](#) for sight of my Orwell famine appraisal and for readers who are unaware of Gareth's life, a précis can be seen [here](#).]

Then, upon my discovery that Orwell had in his single word of 'coccidiosis', describing the explanation for his (Ukrainian) hens mortality due to disease, I was convinced that he was specifically alluding to Stalinist apologist, Walter Duranty's unforgivable *New York Times* 1933; "Russians Hungry, But Not Starving" article, in which he not only specifically denigrated Gareth Jones, but also stated that any peasant deaths were actually due to diseases from malnutrition. This was when I first became aware that Orwell would not have been able to have written his 'famine' section of his novel, without specific knowledge of Gareth Jones. I then actually found within the text, Gareth being alluded to as a 'human being'! Orwell wrote: "**Starvation seemed to stare them in the face. It was vitally necessary to conceal this fact from the outside world. Emboldened by the collapse of the windmill, the human beings were inventing fresh lies about Animal Farm. Once again it was being put about that all the animals were dying of famine and disease...**"

At this point, I entertained the thought that 'Farmer Jones', though quite obviously alluding to Tsar Nicholas throughout the book, actually had the same surname as my relation and curiously wondered if it was purely coincidental? After having sent a speculative email to an Orwellian website for informed opinion, I received a positive reply to my notion from [orwelltoday.com](#) and then embarked upon further research.

It wasn't however until I was able to give a more than plausible answer to the obvious question by Orwell scholars, as to why Gareth's name had never previously been found in Orwell's legacy, did I become convinced that my hypothesis was probably true. My answer relates to Malcolm Muggeridge's own extraordinary 'airbrushing' of Gareth Jones role in exposing the famine, a journalistic scoop which he considered he was denied at the time, coupled with Muggeridge's intended first biography of Orwell, when he would have had full access to all of Orwell's papers.... This hypothesis you will discover is truly an Orwellian 'Newspeak' concept in itself and I would kindly request learned readers either to disprove its validity or preferably elucidate upon it.

I don't profess that every one of my points is 100% convincing, but I kindly ask the reader to consider this document in its entirety, rather than dismiss it through the failings of one of its parts... Nevertheless, even if you are not totally convinced by my hypothesis below that Gareth Jones was the reason as to why Orwell decided to call his allegorical farmer, Mr Jones, then I am absolutely convinced you would agree that Gareth Jones was certainly a major influence upon Orwell in his writing of his chapter about the Ukrainian famine - But if you have doubts over my tenet, then I would hope you would at least contemplate the

reason as to why Gareth's Jones' name has never surfaced before in any Orwellian studies...

Finally, may I thank you in advance for consideration of this document and I look forward to any constructive feedback,

Kind regards,

Nigel Linsan Colley

April 2007

1) At the outset of this hypothesis, there is certainly no question that 'Farmer Jones' in *Animal Farm* actually alludes to Tsar Nicholas, but I would like to academically ask why he was called 'Mr Jones'?

In reply to an email I sent to Jackie Jura of Orwelltoday.com, she thought it quite possible that Orwell had Gareth in mind, in his specific choice of surname, Mr Jones, the farmer ([Click here](#) for a link on her own website to our initial email correspondence on the subject):

When I discovered your great uncle's writings last week (while looking up material on Muggeridge) I was thunderstruck by the magnitude of his contribution to Orwell's knowledge of life in the Soviet Union which was then so expertly woven into *Animal Farm* and *1984*. I knew without a doubt that Orwell would have read the Soviet articles by Gareth. I wondered for awhile why Orwell hadn't talked about or written about Gareth Jones. Nor is his name mentioned in any of the biographies. But then I realized that Orwell had his reasons and I also know what those reasons probably would have been. But I was kind of sad that Gareth Jones didn't receive any credit.

Then in the middle of the night two nights ago - in between waking up and falling back asleep - I started thinking again about Orwell and Gareth Jones and then it struck me that Orwell HAD mentioned Gareth Jones after all in the character of *Farmer Jones* in *Animal Farm*!! Just like how the Communists had killed the Tsar and all his family, so too had the Communists just as ruthlessly and cruelly killed Gareth Jones. And so Orwell gave the Tsar character the name of Jones. It is so obvious!!

In a 2004 email to myself, she wrote:

"In the most recent biography - *INSIDE GEORGE ORWELL*, by Gordon Bowker, he mentions on page 385 that one of the influences on Orwell in the writing of *1984* were the writings of Eugene Lyons... I think that more or less clinches that Orwell was aware of Gareth Jones and what had been done to him." [I.E. – the 'damning Jones as a liar' episode]".

Gareth knew he was a marked man in a letter to a friend in 1934:

"Alas! You will be very amused to hear that the inoffensive little 'Joneski' has achieved the dignity of being a marked man on the black list of the O.G.P.U. and is barred from entering the Soviet Union. I hear that there is a long list of crimes

which I have committed under my name in the secret police file in Moscow and funnily enough espionage is said to be among them... As a matter of fact Foreign Commissar Litvinoff sent a special cable from Moscow to the Soviet Embassy in London to tell them to make the strongest of complaints to Mr. Lloyd George about me."

However, in the 500-page Foreign Office report instigated after his murder, Soviet culpability was never once considered – though recently released British Intelligence files, show they knew, that the vehicle from which he was kidnapped, belonged to the NKVD.

In an earlier email dated 15th January 2004, Ms Jura wrote:

“...it struck me that Orwell HAD mentioned Gareth Jones after all in the character of *Farmer Jones* in *Animal Farm*!! Just like how the Communists had killed the Tsar and all his family, so too had the Communists just as ruthlessly and cruelly killed Gareth Jones. And so Orwell gave the Tsar character the name of Jones.”

2) Orwell, clearly well-read on the subject of the famine, though having never visited the USSR, must have known of Gareth's role in exposing of the famine possibly through; Gareth's own extensive series of April 1933 articles for the *Daily Express / Evening Standard & Cardiff Western Mail*, his published May 8th 1933 letter to the editor of the *Manchester Guardian*. ([Click here](#) for transcript), but certainly from Eugene Lyons' book "*Assignment in Utopia*",

In Orwell's '*1984*', he used a slogan from Lyons' book of ' $2+2=5$ ' which was a reference to the 5-year-plan - meaning that the five-year plan could be achieved through graft and sheer enthusiasm in just four years. Orwell reviewed Lyons' 1937 book for the *New English Weekly* on 9th June 1938 in an article entitled; 'Impenetrable Mystery' - Having read Lyons, Orwell would have discovered in the famine chapter, entitled; 'The Press Corps Conceals a Famine', that Gareth Jones two years after exposing the famine was murdered by Chinese military bandits:

"The first reliable report of the Russian famine was given to the world by an English journalist, a certain Gareth Jones, at one time secretary to Lloyd George. Jones had a conscientious streak in his make-up which took him on a secret journey into the Ukraine and a brief walking tour through its countryside. That same streak was to take him a few years later into the interior of China during political disturbances, and was to cost him his life at the hands of Chinese military bandits. An earnest and meticulous little man, Gareth Jones was the sort who carries a note-book and unashamedly records your words as you talk. Patiently he went from one correspondent to the next, asking questions and writing down the answers."

As an aside, Tim Garton Ash in his article; "Orwell in 1998" wrote that; "**Orwell was an inveterate note-taker and list-maker,**" so the above description of Gareth would probably not have gone un-noticed by Orwell.

[For full transcript of this chapter XV; 'The Press Corps Conceals a Famine' from Lyons' 1937 book; '*Assignment in Utopia*' - then please [Click Here](#).]

3) Now consider that Orwell, whilst reading Lyons' famine chapter, that he could not have missed Lyons' first two opening paragraphs, which clearly cites *The New York Times*' famine denial, newspaper article:

“THERE is no actual starvation or deaths from starvation but there is widespread mortality from diseases due to malnutrition.”

This amazing sophistry, culled from a New York Times Moscow dispatch on March 30, 1933 [published 31/3/33] has become among foreign reporters the classic example of journalistic understatement. It characterizes sufficiently the whole shabby episode of our failure to report honestly the gruesome Russian famine of 1932-33.

Lyons goes on to state:

Throwing down Jones was as unpleasant a chore as fell to any of us in years of juggling facts to please dictatorial regimes—but throw him down we did, unanimously and in almost identical formulas of equivocation. Poor Gareth Jones must have been the most surprised human being alive when the facts he so painstakingly garnered from our mouths were snowed under by our denials.

The scene in which the American press corps combined to repudiate Jones is fresh in my mind. It was in the evening and Comrade Umansky, the soul of graciousness, consented to meet us in the hotel room of a correspondent. He knew that he had a strategic advantage over us because of the Metro-Vickers story. He could afford to be gracious. Forced by competitive journalism to jockey for the inside track with officials, it would have been professional suicide to make an issue of the famine at this particular time. There was much bargaining in a spirit of gentlemanly give-and-take, under the effulgence of Umansky’s gilded smile, before a formula of denial was worked out.

We admitted enough to soothe our consciences, but in roundabout phrases that damned Jones as a liar. The filthy business having been disposed of, someone ordered vodka and zakuski, Umansky joined the celebration, and the party did not break up until the early morning hours. The head censor was in a mellower mood than I had ever seen him before or since. He had done a big bit for Bolshevik firmness that night.

Orwell's 1949 "Crypto-Communist" list ([Click Here](#) for external link) contains the name of Walter Duranty, who was the Moscow correspondent of *The New York Times* until 1934 and then he only wrote sparsely on the Soviet issues for them after this time, except for when he was 'rolled out' for special occasions like to cover the Moscow Show Trials. One can assume Orwell was well aware of Duranty's pro-Soviet propaganda, which logically means he would certainly have been aware of his March 1933 personal denigration of Gareth. Of the selected names he put on his list, rhetorically why was Duranty an American, who he had never met, included? Unless the European-based Orwell sought out copies of Duranty's American newspaper, then it is more likely he would have been conversant with his work through Duranty's own books or more specifically books about Duranty, such as Lyons detailing his pro-Bolshevik reporting...

Therefore, for Orwell to have included Duranty in his Crypto-Communist list of eleven years after reviewing Lyons' book, would suggest that he was also well aware of Duranty's denial of Gareth's famine exposure, especially from a timeline point of view, as Orwell's states in his 1947 Preface to the Ukrainian Edition of *Animal Farm*: **"Thus the main outlines**

of the [AF] story were in my mind over a period of six years before it was actually written [in 1943]', which would have coincided with his reading of Lyon's book.

4) Indeed, Orwell's 1938 review of Lyons contains a clear and early form of the allegory later used in *Animal Farm*. Here, he postulates that the allegations against Trotsky in the 1938 Moscow Show Trials are ludicrous, by transposing Trotsky's name for Churchill. He fantasises:

"... Mr Winston Churchill, now in exile in Portugal, is plotting to overthrow the British Empire and establish Communism in England. By the use of unlimited Russian money he has succeeded in building up a huge Churchillite organisation which includes members of Parliament, factory managers, Roman Catholic bishops and practically the whole of the Primrose League. Almost every day some dastardly act of sabotage is laid bare - sometimes a plot to blow up the House of Lords, sometimes and outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the Royal racing-stables. Eighty per cent of the Beefeaters at the Tower are discovered to be agents of the Communist International. A high level official at the Post Office admits brazenly to having embezzled postal orders to the tune of 5,000,000 pounds, and also to having committed lese majeste by drawing moustaches on postage stamps. Lord Nuffield, after a 7-hour interrogation by Mr Norman Birkett, confesses that ever since 1920 he has been fomenting strikes in his own factories. Casual half-inch paras in every issue of the newspapers announce that fifty more Churchillite sheep-stealers have been shot in Westmoreland. And meanwhile the Churchillites never cease from proclaiming that it is *they* who are the real defenders of Capitalism and that it is the government that is no more than a set of Bolsheviks in disguise.

Anyone who has followed the Russian trials know that this is scarcely a parody. "

Author, Peter Davison suggests that *Animal Farm*; "originated from the incident that suggested its genre: the little boy driving a huge cart-horse, which could easily overwhelm the child had realised its own strength" (*The Lost Orwell*, Davison, 1996, p.125), but I suggest that this 'cart-horse' episode may well have occurred around the time of Orwell's use of Soviet 'parody' in his above Lyons' review. Therefore, if Davison is correct, then from the outset of writing *Animal Farm*, Gareth's Jones' name would have been at the fore, through Orwell's knowledge of Lyons' book? Surely, it is quite conceivable that if the story was being formulated around this period, that a relevant Mr (Gareth) Jones could have been a 'work-in-progress' character name which could have subsequently become merged with Tsar Nicolas' character for literary reasons?

5) In my mind, what clinches Orwell's 'Mr. Jones' being named after Gareth Jones is that Orwell would have seen the unusually high number of times the word "Mr. Jones" was used within Duranty's *New York Times* hastily written "Russians Hungry, But Not Starving" article :

1. "Its Author is Gareth Jones..."
2. "Mr. Jones is a man of a keen and active mind,"
3. "...but the writer thought Mr. Jones's judgment was somewhat hasty"
4. "But to return to Mr. Jones."
5. "Since I talked to Mr. Jones..."

Then, Gareth's stinging, published reply to the *New York Times*' Editor of the 13th May 1933, was simply entitled: "MR JONES REPLIES ([Click here](#) for transcript)

Furthermore, it is a complete misnomer that Orwell ever wrote the phrase 'Farmer Jones' at all in his book; his farmer is only ever referred to as "Mr. Jones".

6) If the above link with Duranty's 'Mr Jones' is not sufficiently convincing, then consider that Orwell actually portrayed Gareth and Muggeridge in the following paragraph from *Animal Farm* as the specific "human beings [who] were inventing fresh lies...[that] the animals were dying of famine and disease":

Starvation seemed to stare them in the face. It was vitally necessary to conceal this fact from the outside world. Emboldened by the collapse of the windmill, the human beings were inventing fresh lies about Animal Farm. Once again it was being put about that all the animals were dying of famine and disease, and that they were continually fighting among themselves and had resorted to cannibalism and infanticide. Napoleon was well aware of the bad results that might follow if the real facts of the food situation were known, and he decided to make use of Mr. Whymper to spread a contrary impression.

Orwell possibly portrayed Duranty here as in part the 'go-between', Mr Whymper "to spread a contrary impression" (the other parts being either former French prime minister Edouard Herriot who was given extra special 'red carpet' treatment in September 1933 (Orwell would likely have read this in Ewald Ammende's 1936 'Human Life in Russia' published by Allen & Unwin) or alternatively from Lyons separate chapter on Bernard Shaw's 1931 trip to Moscow, where he was happy to be led around by the nose. Lyons' account was also included in Muggeridge's; *The Thirties*, which Orwell reviewed in 1940).

Then again from Chapter VII of *Animal Farm*:

"Nine hens had died in the meantime. Their bodies were buried in the orchard, and it was given out that they had died of coccidiosis. Whymper heard nothing of this affair, and the eggs were duly delivered, a grocer's van driving up to the farm once a week to take them away. "

The first sentence probably relates to an estimate by Orwell of nine million Ukrainian deaths. However, and more importantly, in the next sentence: **"it was given out that they had died of coccidiosis"** - and to my mind this absolutely without doubt, directly refers to Duranty's famine denial article where he wrote; **"There is no actual starvation or deaths from starvation, but there is widespread mortality from diseases due to malnutrition.**

7) In this same infamous "Russians Hungry, But Not Starving" article, Duranty is often remembered for his much used quote relating to Bolsheviks having to commit murder for the greater Stalinist cause: **"But---to put it brutally---you can't make an omelette without breaking eggs.."** In *Animal Farm*, this same Duranty phrase is alluded to in the following extract:

"For the first time since the expulsion of Jones, there was something resembling a rebellion. Led by three young Black Minorca pullets, the hens made a determined effort to thwart Napoleon's wishes. Their method was to fly up to the rafters and there lay their eggs, which smashed to pieces on the floor. Napoleon acted swiftly and ruthlessly. He ordered the hens' rations to be stopped, and decreed that any animal giving so much as a grain of corn to a hen should be punished by death."

8) Now consider the first two words of Orwell's book: **"MR JONES of the Manor Farm, had locked the hen-houses for the night, but was too drunk to remember to shut the pop-**

holes." Well, on a Welsh farm, Mr. Jones would have been an appropriately common name for a farmer, but on Manor Farm, a typical English farm, however, where *Animal Farm* is supposedly set, then Mr. Smith would have been far more appropriate, or otherwise a name directly alluding to Tsar Nicholas, such as Farmer Nick or perhaps Nicholson would have been much more apt.

Orwell does indeed use the name Jones (and also Smith) in other works - like for instance in '1984', there is an executed Jones or in his 1935 poem which he wrote at the end of 1935:

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I dreamt I dwelt in marble halls,  
And woke to find it true;  
I wasn't born for an age like this;  
Was Smith? Was Jones? Were you?
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However, Garton Ash refers to Orwell's pernicky attention to historical detail in his "Orwell in 1998" article:

Also, in the same essay, there is in my opinion, an oblique reference, in part, to Walter Duranty:

"The fog of lies and misinformation that surrounds such subjects as the Ukraine famine, the Spanish civil war, Russian policy in Poland, and so forth, is not due entirely to conscious dishonesty, but any writer or journalist who is fully sympathetic for the U.S.S.R. - sympathetic, that is, in the way the Russians themselves would want him to be - does have to acquiesce in deliberate falsification on important issues."

Orwell clearly knew of a press cover-up about the famine as in his 1945, Proposed Preface to *Animal Farm* he wrote:

"...it was considered equally proper to publicise famines when they happened in India and to conceal them when they happened in the Ukraine. And if this was true before the war, the intellectual atmosphere is certainly no better now."

10) In March 1933, Malcolm Muggeridge was a freelance journalist in Moscow for the *Manchester Guardian* - In the week before Gareth exposed the Soviet famine, Muggeridge actually had three unsigned articles of his own reporting the famine. Unfortunately for him, they went almost entirely unnoticed, but primarily because of the credence of Gareth's position with Lloyd George, Gareth's own exposé made worldwide news. In hindsight, there is now little doubt that this irked Muggeridge, who was evidently extremely jealous that his own unsigned scoop at the time went entirely overlooked. He clearly made amends after Gareth's murder and through the fog of time was conveniently able to 'airbrush' Gareth's role almost completely out of the story. In précis, Muggeridge never mentioned Gareth's name in any publicly spoken or written word and even had the audacity through his own brand of sophistry to allow others to wrongly believe that it was he who single-handedly exposed the famine; for example, in his 1972 *Green Stick* autobiography he wrote on page 258:

As it happened, no other foreign journalist had been into the famine areas in the USSR except under official auspices and supervision, so my account was by way of being exclusive. This brought me no kudos, and many accusations of being a liar, in The Guardian correspondence columns and elsewhere.

On 12th June 2003, Martin Sieff, Senior News Analyst of United Press International - coincidentally Lyons' own press agency - eloquently wrote of this issue ([Click here](#) for Sieff's full article)

Jones was long mourned by his family and close friends but otherwise he was forgotten. Indeed, Malcolm Muggeridge, the other British journalist who had done the most to expose the famine, gave him no acknowledgement, even though Jones had generously praised Muggeridge's three unsigned articles in his own New York Times response to Duranty.

Indeed, Pye, Muggeridge's "truth-sayer" character in his novel "Winter in Moscow", published in 1934, is depicted in many respects as the mirror opposite of Jones. He is old where Jones was young, cynical where Jones was idealistic and a hard drinker and chain smoker where Jones was a teetotaler. It is as if Muggeridge, a cynic, smoker and chronic drinker himself, was driven to expurgate the very image of Jones, even though he had written him a letter of support during the controversy.

And even when Muggeridge wrote his phenomenally successful memoirs "Chronicles of

Wasted Time" 40 years later, with his coverage of the famine as its highlight, he airbrushed Jones out of existence and gave him no credit at all. Muggeridge even misrepresented Duranty's notorious March 31 article as if it had been written to rebut his three previous Manchester Guardian articles when Duranty never referred to them once, and made clear it was Jones' article he was seeking to refute.

One might just notice that in *Winter in Moscow*, Muggeridge portrayed Gareth as a 'hard drinker' which is exactly the same as Orwell portrayed his own Mr Jones the farmer! So did Orwell pick up upon this abstinence anomaly, as anyone who knew of Gareth would have readily remarked upon his devout Welsh non-conformism, which included his signing of the teetotaling 'pledge'?

12) Now moving my argument on, a few years after Orwell's death, Muggeridge was commissioned by his then 'intimate' friend, Mrs Sonia Orwell to write the first 'Official' biography of Orwell - Muggeridge's own biographer, Richard Ingrams, wrote about the 'stock response' Muggeridge gave for resigning his job as editor of *Punch* magazine in 1957 was because; "he wanted more time to write - particularly the biography of Orwell he had undertaken, but was subsequently to abandon, saying that he had found out too much about Orwell that he would rather not have known".

Though it would now be almost impossible to prove, Muggeridge would have certainly have had full access to all of Orwell's papers, so is it beyond the realms of possibility that he took it upon himself to covertly remove any mention of Gareth's name, akin to Orwell's own 1984 concept of 'Newspeak'? In 1960, Sonia Orwell donated Orwell's papers to the University College of London for his archives. When Orwell biographer, David Taylor, was approached over the concept of Gareth's name being behind Mr Jones the farmer (and without sight of the arguments on this page) he wrote in an email dated 12th February 2004; "*I must admit that I'd never heard of Gareth Jones! I suppose it's plausible enough, although there's no mention of him in the index to GO's collected (twenty volume) works.*"

Curiously, none of the books, which Orwell would most probably have consulted regarding the Ukrainian famine were present in his personal library after his death in 1950. [For a [hyperlink to a list of his known library](#) please see [HERE](#) - though the date of initial compilation is not revealed] - Predominantly, Lyons' *Assignment in Utopia* is missing, but also Muggeridge's *Winter in Moscow* and W. H. Chamberlin's *Russia's Iron Age*, nor were any of Duranty's own books - though one should also remember that Duranty was personally cited in Orwell's Crypto-communist list ([Click HERE for a link to the list](#)). The only book which is listed in Orwell's library (which oddly has only the briefest of references to "serious food shortages" in the USSR in 1931 and not the word 'famine', nor relating to the years 1932-33), was written by Muggeridge, himself, published in 1940, entitled *The Thirties*.

[N.B.- each of Muggeridge's main biographers suggest different dates for when he was supposed to have been commissioned by Sonia Orwell to write the first biography, namely - Ingrams (page 180), after Muggeridge left the editorship of *Punch* (in 1957); Ian Hunter, (page 179) almost straight after Orwell died in 1950 and Gregory Wolfe (page 255), who dates the episode as the early 1960s. Was this confusion yet another imaginative episode in Muggeridge's life? As Wolfe wrote of Muggeridge's autobiographies; "Even one of his most sympathetic friends, the journalist Christopher Booker, felt disappointed by Malcolm's memoirs. With their "protestations of humility, confessions of weakness, eagerness for the joyful release of death and all", these memoirs began to read "just a little too much like a carefully prepared cover story"]

Admittedly, it is conceivable, though perhaps unlikely, that the V2 rocket which dropped on Orwell's home towards the Second World War may have destroyed any references to Gareth, however through my research of Muggeridge in relation to this subject, and I have on several occasions discovered Muggeridge to possess an inveterate fantasy imagination, in which he clearly felt no remorse for changing the facts to suit his own needs. For instance, I do not deny that Muggeridge championed the cause of the oppressed in the Communist countries of post-war Eastern Europe, nor especially raising awareness of the Ukrainian famine-genocide, but it now seems unlikely that he never actually visited Kiev in 1933 during the height of the famine; but just reported what he (and every correspondent in Moscow) knew to be true, but unlike Gareth was unable to verify firsthand (For a transcription of an 'embryonic' speech I delivered in 2005 at Donetsk University on this subject - which does not contain several further 'clinching' pieces of circumstantial evidence, that I have subsequently discovered, then please [Click Here](#) - For the new evidence, then please contact me directly).

In winding up this paper on Orwell's Mr Jones, I wonder if Gareth was possibly also alluded to in '1984' as the 'too clever by half' employee of Newspeak, Syme, whom Orwell described as; **"Syme was not only dead, he was abolished, an unperson. Any identifiable reference to him would have been mortally dangerous"**. Did Orwell recognise that by Gareth's murder, he was not only effectively silenced, but to all intensive purposes so too was his memory... He had quite simply been airbrushed out of history.

Malcolm Muggeridge on the other hand, certainly saw his 'Mr Jones' as an unperson and could therefore perhaps be seen as Syme's Newspeak colleague, Parsons (relating to Muggeridge's later persona of St Mugg). From his exile in Moscow, Muggeridge's war-time boss, Kim Philby, during his last ever meeting with his biographer Philip Knightley in 1988, remarked of his former colleague; "I foresaw years ago that he would end up in the Catholic Church... If you see him, say: 'Hello, you old rascal' for me."

13) **In conclusion**, though there is no real doubt that Orwell knew of Gareth's role in exposing the famine and he is certainly alluded to in conjunction with Duranty in the text, the question still remains was Gareth, Orwell's Animal Farm 'Mr. Jones'.

Though at first sight, it sounds almost implausible that Muggeridge might have removed any reference to Gareth from Orwell's papers, he clearly had some major issues which forced him to lie in his autobiography over Gareth's role in exposing the Ukrainian famine.

However, Orwellian experts should perhaps ask themselves as to why Gareth Jones' name has never been found in any of Orwell's effects?

Ironically, one may even consider, did Parsons expurgate Syme from Orwell's very own Newspeak archives? And in doing so, 'literary' airbrush the true identity of Orwell's Mr. Jones from history... Now, just what would Squealer have to say on the subject?

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