

**Zeitschrift:** Der Kreis : eine Monatsschrift = Le Cercle : revue mensuelle  
**Band:** 35 (1967)  
**Heft:** 10

**Artikel:** Nicolas James  
**Autor:** [s.n.]  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-568532>

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 03.04.2026

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

From: Sunday Times, London

NICOLAS JAMES

*is thirty-eight, a precise square-built man, with lovat-tweedy clothes. No one could look less homosexual. Six years ago he was dismissed from the RAF with ignominy. After four unpleasant years looking for work he became a civil servant and has just been promoted. He says:*



I'm still bitter about being cashiered. I don't think it should have happened the way it did. It's a complicated story, but briefly: I was a personnel officer at a Bomber Command station. One day I was given details of a young airman who'd been convicted of what they call 'gross indecency' with a civilian. To my distress I realised this civilian was a man with whom I had once had an affair, and wrote to him about it.

It's Air Ministry policy to discharge anyone convicted of a homosexual offence, whatever the sentence. In this case, as the airman had been only cautioned, and as he had only a short time still to serve I recommended that he be retained. This was my undoing.

A little later another young airman on my staff came to ask my advice. He said he was frightened he might become homosexual.

I tried to give him advice, and arranged for him to go to a Harley Street specialist, Unfortunately at about this time he was transferred to an office where he could see files on secret atomic work.

At the same time a new a commanding officer arrived on the station, and *heard* rumours about our friendship. Instead of asking me about it he referred the case to the RAF security police. From that moment life was a nightmare. The police questioned everyone ruthlessly, no privacy was left. They tried everything to get us to admit to a homosexual relationship—but there was none.

Then they found a copy of a letter I had sent to the civilian. He was questioned and admitted we had had an affair. They then persuaded me if I pleaded guilty they might not drag the others into the case. After I did so they nonetheless tried all of us at a court martial. The charges of «undue familiarity» with the airmen were dismissed, but I was cashiered. And the sentence was ordered to be posted on notice boards in every Bomber Command station. I gather the authorities were worried at the time about growing homosexuality in the RAF.

Even if the law for civilians is amended, the Army, Navy and Air Force Regulations will still be as strict as before. I concede that it is wrong for any serviceman to have a relationship with someone of another rank—that could lead to trouble. But if Squadron-Leader Snooks wants to have an affair with a civilian that is strictly his affair. And that was my only real offence.

# CONTI-CLUB ZÜRICH

Köchlistrasse 15, II. Etage, 8004 Zürich  
Das Clublokal der KREIS-Abonnenten

Geöffnet: Mittwoch von 20.00—23.30 Uhr Samstag von 19.30—23.30 Uhr

Eintrittspreise: Abonnenten Fr. 4.40 Gäste Fr. 6.40

Gäste müssen sich durch gültige Ausweispapiere legitimieren und können nur durch Abonnenten eingeführt werden.

Alle Getränke bitte mitbringen.

Gläser und Tassen stellen wir zur Verfügung.

Fredy

## ISOLA-CLUB BASEL

Gerbergässlein 14 (im Stadtzentrum)

geöffnet jeden Mittwoch von 20.30—24.00 jeden Samstag von 20.00—01.00

DER GEDIEGENE TREFFPUNKT IN BASEL

CANNES - FRANCE

## Hôtel P.L.M.\*\*

3, Rue Hoche

Propriétaires : Jean et Charly  
ex-Casanova

English spoken — Man spricht Deutsch

## Hotel ALSTER-RUHE

Am Langenzug 6

HAMBURG 22

Tel. (0411) 22 45 77

Man spricht englisch - italienisch - skandinavisch.

Redaktion: Postfach 547, Fraumünster, 8022 Zürich

Rédaction: Case postale 547, Fraumünster, 8022 Zurich

Postcheck: / Compte de chèques postaux: Lesezirkel «Der Kreis», Zürich 80 - 25753

Abonnementspreis inklusive Porto, vorauszahlbar: /

Prix de l'abonnement, port inclus, payable à l'avance: Schweiz/Suisse: 1 Jahr Fr. 50.—

France: sous lettre fermé, 1 année Ffrs. 60.—

Deutschland: 1 Jahr, verschlossener Brief DM 50.—

Ausland: 1 Jahr, verschlossener Brief Schw.Fr. 55.—

Etranger: sous lettre fermé, 1 année Sfrs. 55.—

Abroad: by letter 1 year \$ 13 or £ 4/10/—