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MailOnline

How Prince Andrew shared a room at Epstein's Caribbean hideaway with a busty blonde who claimed she was a brain surgeon

By [Angella Johnson](#)

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The official-looking document, left casually on a desk, marked the beginning of the end for Cathy and Miles Alexander's eight years managing Jeffrey Epstein's private Caribbean island, Little St James.

'It said Warrant of Arrest, in big bold letters,' recalls Cathy.

'I picked it up and saw Mr Epstein's name on it.'



Inside view: Catherine and Miles managed Epstein's private island for several years

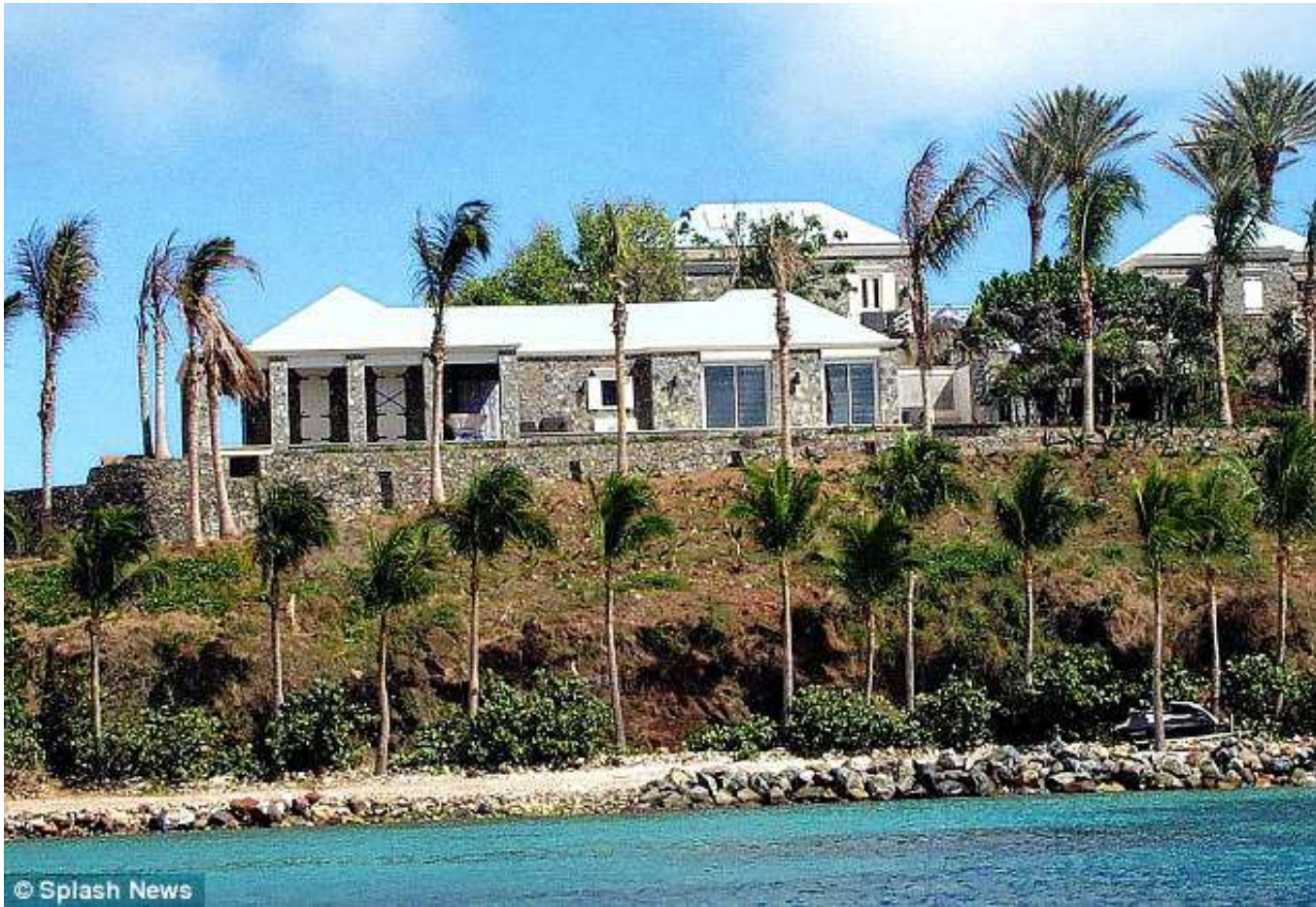
Shocked, she ran out of the room to tell her husband 'something bad is going on'.

Indeed it was, for the shamed financier, a close friend of Prince Andrew (who visited the island at least three times), had been arrested the previous day for under-age sex activities.

But 24 hours after his arrest in July 2006, a visibly pale and shell-shocked Epstein stood in his designer kitchen complaining to the South African couple who had run his island paradise since 1999 that he was a victim of entrapment.

Speaking at their home in South Africa, where they live in semi-retirement, the Alexanders reveal they had

watched with increasing concern the beautiful girls who paraded about the house topless or naked whenever their boss was in residence – until Cathy became so disturbed that she insisted they part company with Epstein in 2007, a year before he was sentenced to 18 months in jail for solicitation of prostitution.



Paradise retreat: Little St James, a private 72-acre island three miles off the east coast of St Thomas in the U.S. Virgin islands owned by America billionaire Jeffrey Epstein

'I saw some girls who I thought were very young-looking – about 16 or 17 easily – and it bugged me because I have a daughter and, although she was in her 20s, I didn't like the idea that another woman's child was in that situation. I didn't feel comfortable about it,' she said.

'They looked like they had stepped out of an underwear catalogue. They walked around with very few clothes on or lounged around by the pool with nothing on. It was like that most of the time. I was concerned about their ages. A few of them looked very young and I couldn't help but wonder if their mothers knew where they were.

'One very young-looking girl was called Tila. I just thought, "You really shouldn't be here", but I made myself switch off as I had no proof.'





Island guest: Model Naomi Campbell stayed as a guest on Epstein's Caribbean island

The couple, who have been married for 24 years, still find it hard to comprehend that Epstein is a convicted sex offender.

'He was a very kind man and, while I don't approve of things he's been accused of, I liked him very much,' says

Miles.

While Cathy says she was always suspicious about the girls' ages, Miles insists: 'I took the view that what went on behind closed doors was not my business and it is not my place to judge. If anything was going on we didn't want to know.'

'Our job was about discretion. We have a clear conscience that we didn't witness anything untoward. Whatever went on at the other houses – and yes, we heard things from other members of staff – it didn't, to my knowledge, happen at our property.'

Miles also says that on several occasions he refused Epstein's requests to smuggle female guests in by boat, to circumvent the strict immigration policies of St Thomas, the island with authority over Little St James, which would have meant logging names and passport numbers.

But he was aware that Epstein found others to do his bidding. For as the couple were told when they were hired: 'What Jeffrey wants, Jeffrey gets.'

The words came from Ghislaine Maxwell, who was then Epstein's girlfriend. She flew to South Africa with Andrew Shannon, a lawyer, to interview the Alexanders in 1998, after they had replied to a small ad for 'management couple sought to run private island'.

After apparently passing the interview, they were invited to meet Epstein in New York.

'It was very strange,' said Miles. 'We were taken by a driver to an office near Madison Square Garden. A gentleman wearing a polo shirt and jeans stepped out of the lift, asked if we had a good trip, shook our hands and left. That was it. Then Miss Maxwell came back and said we had the job.'

Ghislaine then took them to 'the big house' in Manhattan, which is said to have been the scene of sex parties and where young girls were allegedly hired as playthings for Epstein's wealthy male friends.

'We spent five days there shadowing the staff to see how they did things,' says Cathy.

'A dinner party was held on the fourth night, but it was very formal and businesslike. I saw no girls – young or otherwise – at the time. We would never have willingly put ourselves in that kind of situation.'

The following day they were flown to St Thomas and transferred by boat to Epstein's island house, a sprawling single-storey complex with white walls and a blue roof, maintained by several gardeners, two boat captains, two laundry ladies and two other women who cared for the house.

Again the couple were there to observe, but after three days they were woken in the night by a phone call telling them they had to leave the island because a VIP was making an unexpected visit. They were later told by staff that the guest had been Prince Andrew.

They went back to New York, where Ghislaine explained more of their duties.

'She said we had to keep quiet about what we saw or heard on the island,' Cathy recalls.

'She told us that although Mr Epstein and she were a couple, we would see lots of beautiful girls passing in and out, but that was his nature.'

'She said that he gets what he wants but that she was always the "Queen Bee" and the one in charge.'

'She often described herself in this way. Although she could be very friendly, I discovered that she was also rather arrogant.'

Miles took up his post in March 1999 and Cathy followed a month later. Miles realised the kind of lifestyle their boss enjoyed when, on his first day, Epstein arrived with five young ladies in tow.

'One was definitely under age, but she had a letter of consent from her parents and was under the guardianship of a model agency,' he says.



Friends in high places: Lord Mandelson has also vacationed on Epstein's island

The Alexanders admit finding a box of sex toys in Epstein's bedroom, but insist they never saw nor organised any raunchy parties for him or his guests. Cathy recalls that Prince Andrew was the first guest to visit during their tenure.

'The Duke came via helicopter with his bodyguard and a woman in her 30s, who said she was a brain surgeon,' Cathy says dryly.

'She was tall, bleached blonde and had big boobs. They shared a room and spent most of their time on the beach windsurfing, sailing or doing other water sports.

'One day he came back into the house in great mirth. He said that his guest had stepped on a sea urchin and he urinated on her foot as a remedy. "The royal member has done its duty," he chuckled. He was great fun and very undemanding.'

The Prince stayed for two weeks and left a tip of \$350 (£220).

'He slipped it into my hand when we said goodbye,' says Miles.

'It was unexpected because other guests didn't.'

Andrew would visit at least once more, that they recall, with Ghislaine and Epstein.

'He also flew over the island on his way to Montserrat after the volcano had erupted and got the pilot to dip the wings as a signal to us.'

The Prince's ex-wife, Sarah Ferguson, who became embroiled in the Epstein controversy last week when it was revealed that she had accepted £15,000 from the sex offender to pay her debts, visited once with her daughters. Epstein refused a second request for her to visit on her own.

'Lots of people came and went,' says Miles. 'It was like running a five-star hotel where no one paid.'

Others who passed through included model Naomi Campbell, who arrived for two days with what Miles and Cathy called her 'coffin' – a huge oversized trunk filled with clothes.

Peter Mandelson holidayed there with his long-term boyfriend Reinaldo, who suffered sunburn and whined about it 'like a baby', says Cathy.

Numerous academics, architects and some of the most prominent scientific and business minds also enjoyed Epstein's generous hospitality.

'I can only surmise he might have wanted favours from these people,' Miles suggests.

For all his wealth, Epstein appears to have led a simple life on the island.

'Dinner was very informal, he never drank alcohol and we rarely had it in stock.

'He also had a habit of not eating meals in front of people. Instead he would have nibbles such as crab cakes in his room.'

His most obvious luxury on the island were his daily massages. Former Epstein 'masseur' Virginia Roberts says these were usually little more than foreplay to a sex act.

According to the Alexanders, whatever went on was performed in his bedroom.

'We were warned by Miss Maxwell never to disturb him there. It was absolutely forbidden,' they say.

Between 1999 and 2004, Epstein would visit at least once a month and Ghislaine was invariably with him.

Miles says: 'In our final meeting, he told me I had always been his conscience. I'm certainly battling with my conscience now.'

Riddle of phone numbers for 'friends' he'd never met

Revealing an extraordinary network of power and influence, extending into the fields of politics, finance and showbusiness, Jeffrey Epstein's 'little black book' showed just how important a man he had become.

Yet when The Mail on Sunday contacted the people listed in the document, which was kept online, many said they had never met or even spoken to the disgraced financier.

And they were appalled to discover he had their contact details, often including home and mobile telephone numbers.

Lord Palumbo, the former Arts Council chairman and godfather to the Duke of York's eldest daughter Beatrice, said: 'I have never, never, met him. I am shocked I am in there. I am affronted. I don't know him at all.'



Never heard of him: Both Toby Young (left) and Sir Richard Branson, were surprised to find themselves listed in a contacts books owned by Jeffrey Epstein

Dame Gail Ronson, a charity fundraiser and wife of the multi-millionaire British developer Gerald Ronson, said: 'I've never, ever, met him. I swear, you've completely gobsmacked me. It's really distressing, horrible.

'I lead a very private life so to find out you're on this list, it's very unsavoury.'

Her shock was echoed by the celebrity milliner Philip Treacy.

'This sounds crazy, I'm amazed,' he said.

'I'm a hatmaker, I've never met Jeffrey Epstein and never had any reason to. I make hats. Does he look like the kind of person who would wear a hat? Bizarre.'

The 'book' also had numbers for the JCB tycoon Sir Anthony Bamford, but a spokesman insisted: 'There doesn't appear to be any connection. Sir Anthony doesn't know Jeffrey Epstein.'

The journalist Toby Young, said: 'I've never been within 100 yards of him and we move in completely separate worlds. If you said I was in Colonel Gaddafi's Little Black Book I couldn't be less surprised.'

There were also numbers for the influential Rothschild family, including Sir Evelyn de Rothschild and his daughter Hannah. Last night she said: 'I have no idea why Mr Epstein would have my numbers as I don't know him.'

A print-out of the contacts book came to light after it was subpoenaed for use in a civil case against the financier by one of the young girls he employed as a masseuse.

The list included 16 numbers for Prince Andrew under his title The Duke of York.

His ex-wife, Sarah Ferguson, was entered under the Duchess of York and there were 18 numbers for her and her associates as well as an email address.

The 'book' also appeared to contain contacts of Epstein's former girlfriend Ghislaine Maxwell, including her extended family, friends and brief acquaintances.

One prominent journalist, who asked not to be named, was horrified to discover her parents' details were listed. She said: 'I knew Ghislaine once but that was more than 20 years ago. To be honest I find it really spooky.'

Artist Kate Stracher was also baffled by her inclusion.

She said: 'Ghislaine and I were at Oxford together but I haven't seen her since. I'm not at all glamorous and not at all well-connected. I definitely shouldn't be there.'

Others have had only the briefest of meetings. Philippe Amon, a Swiss industrialist, said: 'I think I came across Epstein some years ago in New York but I honestly don't think I would recognise him walking by in the street.'

A spokesman for Richard Branson said: 'Jeffrey Epstein has the island next door to Necker but Richard has literally only met him once for about five minutes. That's the extent of it.'

Those who clearly do have a connection are, perhaps unsurprisingly, less keen to talk about it.

Lisa Walker is listed alongside her friend Caroline Stanbury, a former girlfriend of Prince Andrew. She said: 'I met Epstein with Caroline.'

Asked if Prince Andrew was also present, Miss Walker said: 'I wish I could help but I don't think I should say any more.'

Police chief's fury over plea bargain



Leaned on: Police chief Michael Reiter

Michael Reiter was a popular small-town police chief with a lifetime's experience in finding the balance between patrolling the millionaire's playground of Palm Beach, Florida, and its blue-collar neighbour West Palm Beach, home to unglamorous social housing projects and trailer parks.

Throughout his 28-year career, he prided himself that his force treated the wealthy on his patch just the same as the very poorest. But his investigation into the lifestyle of predatory paedophile Jeffrey Epstein exploded his illusion that law enforcement could ever be impartial.

He soon discovered at first hand that a man such as Epstein, with almost unlimited wealth and influential friends including former President Bill Clinton, Prince Andrew and Israeli defence minister Ehud Barak, can effectively bend the law to his whim.

The 53-year-old police chief, who retired in 2009, was so furious at what he believed was obstruction by state prosecutors, who he felt had downplayed charges against Epstein, that he outlined his frustrations in an extraordinary letter to Florida state attorney Barry Krischer in May 2006.

He wrote: 'I must urge you to examine the unusual course that your office's handling of this matter has taken and consider if good and sufficient reason exists to require your disqualification from the prosecution of these cases.'

After failing to get a satisfactory response from prosecutors he believed had been 'got at' by Epstein, he referred the case to the FBI.

He wrote to one of Epstein's victims, saying: 'I do not feel that justice has been sufficiently served by the

indictment that has been issued.'

Epstein's conviction for solicitation of prostitution came after an unprecedented plea bargain designed to protect him from future charges.

Mr Reiter later complained in sworn testimony connected to civil actions brought against Epstein that prominent politicians had repeatedly leaned on him to downplay the allegations against the financier.

Mike Fisten, an ex-FBI taskforce supervisor who has led the campaign for the Epstein case to be reopened, said: 'Reiter went up against the entire town of Palm Beach to do what was right but he is not chief any more because of this.'

'And eventually Epstein was given an immunity from prosecution deal the like of which I have never seen in my entire career.'

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One Law for "them" and another for the rest of us. There must be prominent beings (that have some skeletons in the closet) connected to Epstein's abusing underage girls. There is no one above the law so I say DM keep digging- the truth can never be buried so deep. Expose the scumbugs! Kudos to both Fisten and Reiter for not getting compromised by money. There is definately more to life than money.

- Nakasinde R, Planet Earth, 13/3/2011 09:56

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True, these men are not very nice characters. But paedophiles? No! The young women are aged over 16 and usually experienced slappers. You see them much younger in any UK town or village, drinking alcohol, or pushing their children in buggies.

- Anne Wotana Kaye, London England, 13/3/2011 09:54

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Keep digging. God knows what will come out of this if you keep up looking in to this sordid matter. I bet a lot of so called influential people are scared witless.

- SB, Cynic, 13/3/2011 09:28

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"Busty blonde". Good grief, Daily Mail, isn't it about time you moved on from the 1970s?

- Lizzie, London UK, 13/3/2011 08:27

Click to rate Rating 22

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I had to laugh....whenever there is a sleaze story you will eventually scroll down to a picture of Mandeslon.

- charlie, chocolate factory, 13/3/2011 08:16

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In the same way that an STD is transmitted and one person can infect many, such is the case for contacts. If you have ever received or forwarded an email, you could be surprised at where your own contact details will show up! The Queen must wonder what on earth she did wrong. Regardless of any suggestion that Andrew was involved with the (underage) girls, he still was happy to visit a place where very young women were parading around semi naked, skin on tap as it were. Does this sound like the sort of man we expect the Royals to be? No, it leaves him in a position where he could be subject to blackmail, a position where he could be influenced or be persuaded to use influence. In a normal person this would be unwise, in his case it is not just an error of judgement. He is surrounded with advisors and others who no doubt will have tried to persuade him that he should not have any dealings with the likes of Epstein. He is arrogant enough to ignore such advice.

- sandra, Alicante+spain, 13/3/2011 07:03

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"Prince Andrew shared a room at Epstein's Caribbean hideaway with a busty blonde who claimed she was a brain surgeon". So what, he obviously needs a brain surgeon!

- Skipper38, Singapore, 13/3/2011 04:01

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'I took the view that what went on behind closed doors was not my business and it is not my place to judge. If anything was going on we didn't want to know.' Seems a bit like the Nuremberg defence, if she had any concerns or morals she'd have contacted the authorities. Amazing how easily any crisis of conscience is forgotten on receipt of a pay cheque.

- Alison, Cardiff, 13/3/2011 03:47

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The busty blonde would not be kept busy with Air Miles brain, the hardest job would be finding it.

- Mike, Thailand, 13/3/2011 03:14

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Prince Andrew is about as much use as the two faced Blair.

- Alan ex pat, Canada, 13/3/2011 03:12

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