[02/07/2020, 19:57:31] Simon C: It is fucking extraordinary! I exploded at Dom over this (as did Lee). I will not work in an environment where Dom is constantly briefing out his plans and screwing up the rest of us in the process

[02/07/2020, 19:57:58] Mark Sedwill: But Dom never talks to the press. He told me! [02/07/2020, 19:59:33] Simon C: It is just awful. The PM has now (multiple times) outright told Dom to stop talking to the media in my presence. And then this stuff happens. This place is just insane. Zero discipline.

Irrelevant & Sensitive

[02/07/2020, 20:00:39] Simon C: I have asked Slacky to talk to James Forsyth and say that next time he wants to mention me in a column, we expect to be called to offer comment/steer away etc.

Irrelevant & Sensitive

[02/07/2020, 20:02:28] Simon C: At this rate, I will struggle to last six months. These people are so mad. Not poisonous towards me (yet), but they are just madly self-defeating [02/07/2020, 20:02:29] Mark Sedwill: Ok. I will fix. Irrelevant & Sensitive

Irrelevant & Sensitive

[02/07/2020, 20:03:38] Mark Sedwill: Yup! You're ok so far because you've been around for the good news phase. Wait until there are more Leicesters and then the fur will fly. Watch yourself.

[02/07/2020, 20:04:17] Mark Sedwill: As I pointed out to Eddie, it's hard to ask people to match to the sound of gunfire if they're shot in the back.

[02/07/2020, 20:06:16] Simon C: I've never seen a bunch of people less well-equipped to run a country. PM asked me today about who will replace Shinner when he goes (he'd heard he only has two weeks left). I was quite direct in telling him that lots of the top-drawer people I had asked had refused to come because of the toxic reputation of his operation.

Irrelevant & Sensitive

[02/07/2020, 20:11:23] Mark Sedwill: I told PM to sack Hancock (to save lives and protect the NHS) and replace him with Gove.

[02/07/2020, 20:11:46] Simon C: I think that's a great move

[02/07/2020, 20:13:42] Mark Sedwill: He could "rest" Hancock now (that total bullshit performance over Leicester was chilling and where was Chris) and promise him a new job at the full reshuffle after the summer.

[02/07/2020, 20:16:17] Mark Sedwill: Monday?

[02/07/2020, 20:17:55] Simon C: Leicester is a horrifying case. I was genuinely shaken by it. Made me realise how much nonsense we've been fed by Matt, Dido and others. We were told for a fortnight that all was under control (by JBC). And then we suddenly get told it isn't fine and we have a couple of hours to decide to lock-down a whole city. The previous data was junk. The current data we have isn't much better. There is no proper leadership around Dido's operation etc. Really appalling