

NOTE : Transcription d'une entrevue réalisée dans le cadre d'une émission radiophonique humoristique. L'animateur (Marc-Antoine Audette) a pu joindre Bernie Ecclestone par téléphone en se faisant passer pour le Premier ministre du Canada.

NOTE : The following is a transcript of an interview done during a humoristic radio show. The host (Marc-Antoine Audette) was able to reach Bernie Ecclestone on the phone by pretending to be the Canadian Prime Minister.

LE 11 AOÛT 2003 - AUGUST 11 2003 – CKAC MA 730 MONTRÉAL (Québec, CANADA) Réseau Radiomédia

LA GANG DE MALADES – 15H30 – 7min – 280746-1

IMPOSTURE TÉLÉPHONIQUE AVEC BERNIE ECCLESTONE – PRANK TELEPHONE CALL ON BERNIE ECCLESTONE

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE (HUMORISTE) :
Yes, hello, Mister Ecclestone.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE (PRÉSIDENT, FORMULA ONE ADMINISTRATION) :
Yes.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :
Yes, hello, this is Jean Chrétien¹ speaking.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :
Yes, good afternoon. Sorry, morning.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :
How are you?

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :
I'm fine thank you.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :
Yes, well, it's been quite a week.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :
It has, it has.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

Really my friend I can't believe the news today. I want to close my eyes and make it go away.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

(inaudible)

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

Sunday, bloody Sun...

BERNIE ECCLESTONE : With their sponsors, with their tobacco sponsors, have to compete in so many races or they could miss so many races. It can't reduce their sponsorship. That's what the (inaudible). We had a beautiful relationship with you over the years for which I thank you know the government very, very much indeed. And I was hoping we could... You know I was thinking that we were going to continue that exemption. When I was informed it stopped. Then it put us in a very difficult position obviously.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

I understand.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

We're not trying to blackmail you, not trying to... Believe you me. Believe you me.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

I see.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

We have enough people that want races so it's not that. We love Canada, we love Montréal, we love... You know, everybody's happy...

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

Yes, of course, I understand, like we say in French, *vous êtes des esti de crosseursⁱⁱ*, you are gentlemen! Of course.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE : Well, we all know what we... We always try to honour whatever we agreed to.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

Yeah, I understand.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Is there any way we could continue the exception we had in the past?

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

Hmm... This would be tough because I just spoke with top advisors, Sébastien, Benoîtⁱⁱⁱ, (inaudible) and Mahé Paiementⁱⁱⁱ, well you know them...

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Yeah, yeah.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

We... The people... The public of Canada is pretty... How can I say? is pretty furious right now.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

We don't want to put you in... (inaudible)

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

Ah ah! Familiprix!^{iv} You must understand a lot of tough things happened to Canadians this season. I mean, my God, I mean, Jacques Villeneuve's season, Jacques Villeneuve's season...

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Not very good. I don't know if this is a problem with Jacques or... It does seem to be... I really don't know... I think he was grossly overpaid and he was there just to take the money. I mean I'm a very good friend of his and I try to help him as well.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

I see. The cancellation of Formula one, the cancellation of Wiz (?), it's been tough, it's been tough really.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Would you like... Look, do you want to think about what we could do between us and see what we come up with?

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

What would be the best thing for you? Tell me.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Just carry on the way we were.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

You mean with the tobacco industries and all.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Yeah, like we did in the past, with the restriction, but basically so the teams can compete without losing a large amount of money.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

It's tough, you see, I'm not able to concentrate right now. I think too much about working with Mahé Paiementⁱⁱⁱ *cette après-midi*^v.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Look, the worst thing we... What we don't want to do is to put you in any position where you're compromised because of this. This is the last thing we want to do. There's no way we want to do that.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

How can I say? *On a l'air d'une belle gang de malades*^{vi}. We look like fools, on the eye of the public.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Which we don't want to do. The public are very much warm to keep strong anti-tobacco (inaudible).

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

Yes it is, well the problem is you're telling me that you're not blackmailing Canada but I understand but it sounds like, it appears to be.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Yes, it appears to the public.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

And it's rather tough.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

That's why we're not saying... We could just come to you first and say : if you don't do this, we'll do this. As far as I'm concerned, you know, we wouldn't put you on the calendar. If you come back and we talk... Whatever you want is ok with me.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

We could do a press conference in Montréal, maybe, I don't know, we could do that at the studio at the CKOI studio.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Let me do something, I'm not in UK at the moment. I'm travelling. I'll be back in the office probably on Wednesday, this is what I anticipate. Can I call you Wednesday morning your time and see how we could do...

Maybe we could do it sort of a telephone if I can't be there, a telephone connection, you know?

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

Well this could happen, we could do that chez Paré, yeah, this could... Let me see. You see, I'm a great Formula One lover and I'm going to go to a retirement in a couple of months...

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Yes but you don't want to put yourself in a bad position politically because you're an enthusiast.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

Exactly. And maybe we could manage to arrange something. You know, I like to travel a lot and I was wondering, maybe if I could, I don't know, have another career with your organization...

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Yes. Yes.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

I like Formula 1, it's a passion for me.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Let's see what we can do. I will call you Wednesday morning, your time or whatever time you want, nine o'clock... Then we see when you speak to your advisors and we see what we can put together for which is good for you.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

That's great. *Vous êtes vraiment des... Merci^{vii}*, thank you. Thank you. So then if I seek communication job maybe in the next year, this could be arranged ?

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Maybe for North America or something like that. We're very... You know, we're not strong in North America. Maybe this, we could...

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :

If I can have something official for me, well we could have something official for you.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :

Ok, we'll see what we can do. I will call you nine o'clock your time and I will see what exactly what sort of a...

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :
Ok, well then I think we have a deal.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :
Ok.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :
It's simple, in Novembre 2003 I'm going to retire and maybe let's say one year after that we could work together.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :
That would be nice. I'm sure...

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :
I'm sure I can convince parliament to maybe soften a little bit the loss.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :
Super, super, super, super, nine o'clock Wednesday morning I'll call you.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :
Good, good, it's excellent. Just a moment. *Je vais m'allumer une bonne cigarette, ça ça va faire du bien. Aline ! Aline !ⁱⁱⁱ Apporte-moi donc mon pack de smokes !^x*

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :
(inaudible) Ok Johny thanks a lot there.

MARC-ANTOINE AUDETTE :
Hmm! Hmm! Oh my God, oh it's good! Okay, that's it.

BERNIE ECCLESTONE :
Ok. (JL)

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ⁱ Premier ministre du Canada / *Prime Minister of Canada*

ⁱⁱ *You are rotten double-crossers*

ⁱⁱⁱ Animateurs bien connus d'émissions télé / *Well known TV show hosts*

^{iv} Slogan publicitaire pour une chaîne de pharmacies / *Advertising slogan for a pharmacy commercial*

^v *This afternoon*

^{vi} *From a popular song; means "We look like fools"*

^{vii} *Really, you are ... Thank you*

^{viii} Épouse du Premier ministre / *Prime Minister's wife*

^{ix} *I'll light up a good cigarette, it will do me good. Aline! Aline! Bring me my pack of smokes*