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Statement made on behalf of: The Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis
Witness: N326
Statement No: 1
Exhibits: N/A
Date Statement Made: 2017

IN THE MATTER OF: PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO UNDERCOVER POLICING

Witness: N326
Occupation: Retired
Address: c/o Directorate of Legal Services, 10 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1N 3NR

I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed

1 I have been asked to provide an impact statement about the effect of disclosure of my real name and cover name by the Inquiry. I have not been shown any documents to refresh my memory in making this impact statement.

MPS Career

- 2 **Details of MPS career.** I was deployed into the SDS from 1968 to 1971.
3 **N326 was also involved in N16's deployment in an administrative role.**
4 **Other professional details**
5 I retired from the MPS some years ago.
6 **I believe these dates are correct.**

Undercover Deployment

- 7 **Details of deployment**
8 I didn't take anybody's birth certificate. I made my cover name up. **Further details.**
9 **Details of legend.**
10 I initially infiltrated a few anarchist groups early in my deployment. Some of them were quite nasty pieces of work.
11 I left them and went to the Independent Labour Party ("ILP") and Tri-Continental as well as some other funny sort of left wing offshoot groups like the Dambusters Mobilising Committee. I also visited the Campaign against Nuclear Disarmament headquarters once but I was never a member of that

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- organisation and I can't think why I was there now. I think I did have a membership card but it was all so long ago now.
- 12 Some of the people in these groups were really nice, pleasant, intelligent people. They were different politically in their views but in this country you can have different political views.
- 13 There were a couple of people in the ILP that I was close to. I was friendly but not too friendly because you've still got to distance yourself. I remember **Name**, who was an older man even back then. There was also **Name**. I would be amazed if these people were still alive.
- 14 I also went to the wedding of **Name** and **Name** at **Location** Town Hall. I remember I gave **Name** a wedding present, one of those fancy tin openers and he seemed quite pleased with it. There is no record of me being there and no photographs were taken of me. I had to go because I was invited; I could hardly avoid going.
- 15 **Details of deployment.**
- 16 **Details of deployment.**
- 17 **Details of deployment.**

Confidentiality

- 18 Discretion and secrecy was the order of the day – *stum und krum*. Say nothing about anything. This was communicated to me right from the very start. Even other members of my unit were not aware of my undercover name and which groups I infiltrated. It was very much "keep quiet about the whole thing". To be honest, I can't recall a conversation about secrecy at the end of my deployment. It was just the nature of the job that you didn't talk about it.
- 19 I was always careful about looking over my shoulder to make sure I wasn't being followed. At the time of my deployment, I was living with my parents. I told them I was on the Drugs squad; I didn't tell them what I was actually doing. They are both deceased now.
- 20 The media revelations have made me think that too many people have been talking too much about things that I have always understood to be secret. This bloke Francis has stirred it all up and I wonder how much truth is in the allegations that he's making. I think the whole thing has been blown out all proportion. But then, other people have fathered children and you can't have that.

Personal Circumstances

- 21 I **am retired**. I live together with my wife. We live in quiet anonymity and I want that to continue.
- 22 **Details of personal circumstances.**
- 23 **Details of personal circumstances.**
- 24 None of my friends have got the first idea about what I did in 1968. They know I am a former police officer but not anything more.

Health and Welfare

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- 25 **Details.** I don't want any of my medical records to be obtained.
- 26 Disclosure of my real name causes me worry and concern. I don't have anything to hide and I'll answer all questions, I won't mind. I don't want this all dragging up though when it was all 50 years ago. I just can't believe it.

Family Circumstances

- 27 Only my wife is fully aware. She can't quite frankly believe all the fuss that there is, particularly over people like myself when it was so long ago. She wouldn't want people coming around knocking on the door.
- 28 **Details of family circumstances**

Conclusion

- 29 I would like anonymity over my real name. I suppose my cover name is less important, you couldn't identify me from my cover name. What I am most concerned about is having my personal details and address being put out in the public domain. I have a vivid recollection of what happened to one of my friends when he was doorstepped at home causing him and his wife untold grief. The press, activists and lawyers could cause all manner of problems. I don't want to be exposed to that. Some of these people have been up to naughties but there was nothing like that in my day. I don't want the interference at my stage of life. I want to quietly go off into obscurity.