OFFICIAL

Statement made on behalf of: The Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis
Witness: N330
Statement No: 1
Exhibits: N/A
Date Statement Made: April 2017
Pages: 2

IN THE MATTER OF: PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO UNDERCOVER POLICING

Witness: N330
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 make an impact statement about the effect that disclosure of my real or cover identity would have on me. In making this statement, I have not been shown a single document or report that refers to my work before and after my deployment which would allow me to refresh my memory after number of years. I presume they have all been destroyed.

2 In the light of my refusal to take part in the risk assessment pantomime it would appear that details of my deployment and irrelevant private affairs described therein were hearsay obtained from a former colleague. I trust that by doing so the assessor was able to gratify his prurient curiosity.

3 I am a former Metropolitan Police officer. I was born in the 1930s.

4 Details of MPS career pre SDS
5 Details of MPS career post SDS including reference to close protection

6 Details of supervisor

7 My specific instructions were to obtain information regarding the likelihood of a repetition of the public order breakdown which occurred in March 1968 when violent protesters attempted to storm the US Embassy in Grosvenor Square.

8 I therefore "attached" myself to marches and protests organised by the Havering (Essex) branch of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign. I was present at some of their meetings, both public and private and needless to say submitted a number of reports. I assume that they were all destroyed. I have been informed that the VSC no longer exists.

9 I used false names, false occupations and professed false political sympathies.

Signed: ……………………………………………………………………………… Date: ………………………………………………… 1
10 My last day with the Special Operations Squad was Sunday 27th October 1968, at the end of the last significant anti-Vietnam war protest at Grosvenor Square which took place on that day. Unlike the March event, there were sufficient numbers of police available and the US Embassy was not at risk of being invaded. On that day the VSC group to which I was attached went no further than Hyde Park and eventually dispersed. I then returned to the SOS office and resumed normal duties later that week.
11 I do not believe that anyone could have been personally harmed, compromised or in any other way adversely affected by my deployment despite its inevitable secrecy and concomitant deception. I have yet to learn how discreet enquiries can be done in any other way.
12 My activities during my extremely short SOS deployment were a straightforward public order matter.
13 My deployment, as it was performed, did not bear the remotest similarity to the events which were the reason why this UCPI was set up in the first place and whilst acutely conscious of the fact that I have no choice in the matter I deeply resent having been forced to be part of it by being imported 49 years after half-forgotten events in connection with a month’s “attachment” to a legal anti-Vietnam war protest group which no longer exists.
14 Other detail.
15 Finally, whether or not the Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis wishes to apply for my anonymity to be respected is a choice to be made by him, or her, as the case may be.

Signed: ____________________________ Date: ________________________