

COVER SHEET

First Witness Statement of [redacted] HN333 as Supplemented

Date signed:

IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO UNDERCOVER POLICING

I, [redacted] HN333 c/o Designated Lawyers, PO Box 73779, London WC1A 9NL WILL SAY AS FOLLOWS:

On 17 October 2010 I made a statement of 116 paragraphs which read as follows:

1. This witness statement is made in response to a Rule 9 request dated 15 August 2018. It provides my full recollection of my deployment as an undercover police officer within the Special Demonstration Squad (SDS) of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) for nine months in 1968 to 1969 – which is 50 years ago.
2. I have been shown the documents attached to the Rule 9 request but I have not otherwise refreshed my memory by looking at any documents.
3. I am known in this Public Inquiry by the nominal HN333. There is a Restriction Order in force in respect of my real and cover names. When I was an undercover police officer, my rank was Detective Constable.

Personal details

4. I was born [redacted] in the 1940s. [redacted] My health is in general good.

Police career before and after serving with the Special Demonstration Squad

5. I first came to the MPS as a cadet [redacted] in the early 1960s. After my training, I joined the MPS as a police constable [redacted] in the early 1960s and was posted [redacted] that year to [redacted]. Some years later, [redacted] in the late 1960s I went

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

into Special Branch SO12, C Squad. Special Branch was small but my joining coincided with an increasing intake.

6. This was not long after the demonstration against the Vietnam War at Grosvenor Square on 17 March 1968. The demonstration was a watershed moment, taking place (as it did) against a backdrop of radical protest across Europe in the year 1968.
7. I was not at the 17 March 1968 Grosvenor Square demonstration, but went to the 27 October 1968 demonstration that same year, but not in the role of an undercover officer. I was then still a very junior member of Special Branch and went in plain clothes. Apart from that, as a junior officer in the Special Branch, but before joining the SDS, I dealt with files and paperwork, learning about the enquiries which went on within SB. [Please see additional information set out at paragraph 117 below.]
- 9 8. I joined the SDS on [REDACTED] late [REDACTED] 1968, after the October 1968 Grosvenor Square demonstration. After the end of my deployment, in [REDACTED] 1969, I 10 moved to another role with the police. I will maintain chronological order as much as possible, and will discuss my later career below.
9. The SDS was part of Special Branch, dealing with similar issues, but the approaches were different. A Special Branch officer may have been conducting enquiries, but would return to their desks whereas an SDS officer was not office based and was focussed on obtaining information from the group(s) that they interacted with, thereby contributing to a threat assessment with regard to Public Order.

Special Demonstration Squad – Formation

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

10. My understanding of the situation is that there was a need to improve Special Branch assessments of future protest and unrest, in order to determine the necessary police response required to facilitate peaceful protest. This was, and is, my understanding as to why the SDS was formed. It was at a time of new political movements emerging in Europe. There was public disorder not only in Grosvenor Square in 1968 but in France and Germany (often student based). The Vietnam War was seen to be unjust, and I can understand people's anger. It was a time of unusual political unrest, which dominated the news.

11. The police response to this was to assess and anticipate risk. The objective was to anticipate violent public disorder that could cause damage and injury by getting closer to those most likely to perpetrate such a state. There was always a risk that legitimate protest would be used by certain extremist groups to express their politics, potentially with violence. By virtue of the SDS being with the attendees undercover, better predictions could be made. This was Conrad Dixon's concept for the SDS. Therefore, the focal point of the SDS at its formation were the protest events that took place.

Selection for the Special Demonstration Squad

12. I was not part of the very first intake into the SDS. I had heard unspecific talk amongst my senior colleagues within Special Branch about the need for improved intelligence, but I did not know about the existence of the SDS until I was approached to join it. I would have heard talk about the need for it when socialising with my colleagues, but not much more than that. Secrecy was tight and many in Special Branch did not know about the SDS. The SDS did

not occupy police buildings at that stage. I believe it was referred to as 'S Squad' or 'X Squad' even before it was named the 'SDS' or the 'hairies'.

13. I cannot remember who first asked or suggested that I join the SDS. My vague memory is that it would first have been proposed informally by more senior colleagues. I must have been given some idea that it was undercover work.

14. I joined the SDS because I was asked to, and it seemed like a logical progression. I was aware at the time that we could not get the information to properly police events which could have become violent. I was a very junior member of Special Branch and enthused about joining without fully knowing what it was. There was nothing like an application in writing; from my point of view it was very informal. My joining was voluntary.

15. I was not told very much about the consequences for my private and family life, and I didn't really think about it. I was single and my family did not live locally. There were no promises for my career or promotions. I would still have had to pass the usual exams if seeking promotion after my deployment.

Training and guidance in the Special Demonstration Squad

16. I received no formal training or courses. Once in the field, we would discuss our deployments at a group meeting and exchange our varied experiences and knowledge for future events. I discuss this further below.

17. I have been asked, in the Rule 9 request, to consider Annex B to a document entitled "Penetration of Extremist Groups" (Doc 1: MPS-0724119) which suggests that I was 'awaiting training' prior to my entry into the SDS. I do not know what that would have referred to. I can only speculate that it may be a discussion of what the work would entail and the objective of the group. I did

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

not have any other formal training. Obviously, we'd informally learn from colleagues.

18. I have been asked, in the Rule 9 request, whether I was made aware of "Home Office Circular number 97/1969, "Informants who take part in crime"" (Doc 2: MPS-0727104). I have no memory of this document, but I note that it is dated May 1969 and I left the SDS not long after that date.

19. However, it would have been obvious to me that you do not instigate or participate in crime. Involvement in crime never explicitly came up as a topic of instruction but it may have been assumed (and rightly) that I had the legal knowledge of any police officer. It was no part of a police officer's training that they should instigate or participate in crime. There was no specific guidance on what to do if arrested or brought before a court or if we obtained legally-privileged information but, equally, there was no expectation that we would go that far.

20. I do not remember being given any guidance about intimate relationships, sexual or platonic, but it was not relevant. It never came up. I did not have any intimate relationships whilst undercover. [REDACTED]

12

21. I did not receive any training on race equality from the MPS, but this is not unexpected because it was fifty years ago. I can't currently recall ever having had any from the MPS, but my last 10 years of work was a [REDACTED]

12A

Undercover identity

13 22. I adopted [REDACTED] as my cover name. This was not the name of a deceased child nor based on anyone else's identity. [REDACTED]

14 [REDACTED] Limited guidance on formation of cover names was given [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Other than this, there was no guidance on the creation of a false name; you just came up with it.

23. My cover background or legend was rudimentary. [REDACTED]

14A, 15 & 16

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. If anyone had really looked into my legend, it would have fallen apart quite rapidly.

24. I have been asked, in the Rule 9 request, about the Penetration of Extremist Groups document referred to above, and a section describing the process of creating a cover identity. I am asked whether this accords with the process that I went through. I did not write down my legend or autobiography, nor did I have it refined or corrected because it was not detailed. I imagine that I would have discussed it with a Sergeant.

25. As to false documents, [REDACTED]

16A

I tried to get a passport in my cover name, but it did not work.

[REDACTED] I was not given a driving licence, payslips or any other documents in my cover name.

Cover employment

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

16B

26. My cover employment was, as I said, [REDACTED]. I arranged it by direct

16C

contact with [REDACTED], but I did not reveal to them that I was an

16D & 17

undercover officer. [REDACTED]

Cover accommodation

27. I rented a bedsit in my cover name, and then a basement flat. You could do it monthly back then. I believe that I searched through estate agents but I am not sure. The landlord did not know it was for police work. I cannot remember why I moved during my deployment. I think I wanted to change address. Both places were [REDACTED] location [REDACTED]. I never shared this accommodation with anybody and I never lived elsewhere during my deployment. I cannot recall how the accomodation was paid for.

18

Legend building

28. My ordinary appearance in those days was fairly standard for a police officer in Special Branch. We were smartly-dressed, wearing dark suits, white shirts and dark ties.

29. In order to disguise my appearance, I grew my hair. Obviously, you do not want to look like a police constable. [REDACTED]

19

[REDACTED] I bought a second hand coat and

I wore desert boots, jeans and dirty t-shirts underneath. [REDACTED]

19A

[REDACTED]

30. I was not provided with a vehicle; anyway, I could not drive.

31. I have been asked in the Rule 9 request whether I lived for a time in my new identity before approaching my targets. I do not recall. However, documents I have been shown in the Rule 9 request (which I deal with at paragraph 35

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

below) put together with my SDS joining date lead me to believe that there was a period of around a month between joining the SDS and approaching my targets, but I have no detailed recollection of that time. I can surmise that I needed time to [REDACTED] find accommodation, and so on.

19B

32. I have also been asked whether I visited places or people to prepare myself for deployment. [REDACTED]

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21

In order to research [REDACTED] I went to a library or bookshop on Charing Cross Road and to the [REDACTED] I probably bought books.

22

Deployment

33. I was deployed against [REDACTED] a left wing group that no longer exists [REDACTED]

23

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] This was my only tasked group and the sole group I reported on.

24

Described group and related groups

34.

25

Described group's ideology

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

35. I infiltrated my target group by answering a public advertisement [REDACTED]

25A

[REDACTED]. I answered this advert because it was suggested to me by someone in the SDS management, but I do not remember exactly who. I have been asked, in the Rule 9 request, to identify which advertisement it was.

26

[REDACTED]

I was provided with publications to assist me to do so. Describes advert and process of joining group'

36. When I went along to the meeting, I was partly greeted and partly grilled. [REDACTED]

26A

[REDACTED]

Description of size of group and further details of first meeting

I cannot remember the names of the individual members now, because we were not the closest and it is fifty years

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ago. I cannot confirm, after this much time has passed, whether the man mentioned as a contact in the advert was a member of the group.

37. I would have gone to another meeting of theirs within about two weeks of the first one. As far as I can remember, this would have been a demonstration. We met at events organised by groups that my target group were sympathetic to. We would also meet up casually at pubs and have a beer. There were a variety of pubs we went to, and I do not remember the names. We would sometimes have meetings above pubs, which were more serious and formal than the meetings downstairs in pubs. We would gather every two to three weeks, but more often at particular times. I would not necessarily have attended each meeting but I went along to demonstrations most weekends.
38. I continued to attend because my tasking was to do so, and to maintain my cover identity.
39. Spending time with the group meant that you could anticipate how people would protest from their characters and what they were advocating. I would report anything that was relevant, verbally, in our meetings at the safe-flat. The matters which I would have considered relevant were anticipated future events and some details of individuals within the group. Initially I would have reported on who the members of the group were, simply because they were members of that group. Later on, the types of details I would report would not be a full identification briefing but just things that I picked up which, added to others, could form an intelligence picture of upcoming risks of disorder.
40. I would try to report on the identity and activity of all of the group, but I did not always succeed. This was because people do not reveal all their details in ordinary social interaction, and I would not risk becoming conspicuous by

27

trying to find out. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

41. I never took the lead in any of the group's activities. I drifted along. I was a waif and stray that they wanted to indoctrinate. I was simply a member, and an irregular visitor. I became a member simply by going along. The group was a loose association, and there was no ritual to membership. [REDACTED]

27A

[REDACTED]

42. I remained in the group from the time of the first meeting I attended to the end of my deployment, with some interruptions. The longest interruption was a

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[REDACTED] few weeks [REDACTED] where I was sick with [REDACTED]

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43. I did not make decisions for the group, I listened. In terms of the group's activities, and the extent of my involvement in them, I helped to make posters one time. This strengthened my credibility as a group member and as an [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Also I visited a squat with the group to show our solidarity. I spent about 2 to 4 hours there. I did not support its existence or make it happen in any way. Squatting was suddenly popular. There were other squats going on whose existence I came to know about, and I passed on their locations to my managers.

31

44. I went to [REDACTED] a social event [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

45. As I say, however, the group's main activities were meetings and demonstrations. I do not think that I was right at the heart of violent protest, or at the inner core. I was able to feed information to the MPS though. I think my deployment was somewhat less effective because it was interrupted by my illness. But there is always a difficult question of how much to get involved. You could get really involved and then be sucked in over your head. Or you could drop in and out and not find out much of relevance. I believe that I gained my targets' confidence because I was once given an [item] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to look after. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [I have been asked for supplementary information, which I provide at paragraph 118 below.]

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Tasking

46. I have been asked about how I was tasked. Tasking was done by Conrad Dixon and the managers at our weekly meetings.

47. At the outset, the management decided who would be tasked to which areas. I was thought suitable for my targets perhaps because I was quite young. My job was to assume the attitude and convictions of [a member of the group.] and to monitor the intentions of [the group]. I do not remember being told how long my deployment would last.

48. There were no written instructions on how to carry out my tasking. Any guidance would have been verbal. Much of it was common sense: gain the targets' confidence, do not reveal your real identity, feed back information

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34

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

which is helpful to the deployment or uniformed branch. My tasking did not change over the course of my deployment.

49. Initially you were given more guidance. It was suggested you take this route, or go to this meeting, say this or that. But I was not specifically tasked from week to week. I used my initiative instead. I could preannounce what I was going to do at our meetings, and the management would say if they thought it was a good idea. I do not remember any specific thing I might have wanted guidance on, but I have no doubt that I would and could have asked if the need had arisen. Given that the objective was to gain intelligence, the management could not be too prescriptive. Much depended on what protests were planned, how situations developed, and which relationships could be built.

50. In the time I was deployed, the meetings which took place at the safehouse were catch-ups over the designated geographical areas and subject matters. Conrad Dixon and/or Phil Saunders would have been present, along with other SDS colleagues. As many of the unit that could attend would do so. We would report around a table. [I have been asked for supplementary information, which I provide at paragraph 119 below.]

51. The meetings began with a debrief about what had happened before. We would then talk through how to approach what was coming up, and get tips from others. The managers of the day would talk us through it. We would discuss the different factions we were looking at.

52. I rarely wrote anything down, so I assume the management wrote intelligence reports based on debriefs/meeting at the safehouse. I was not provided with

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

information from other agencies. [I have been asked for supplementary information, which I provide at paragraph 120 below.]

Premises

53. The safehouse was a residential flat [REDACTED], but I do not remember the exact address. We typically met there between one and three times a week, but it varied. The unit was not based at the safehouse. It had an office but I do not know where that was, and I never visited it.

36

Pattern of life whilst undercover; pay and overtime

54. I have been asked about my pattern of life whilst undercover. It is very difficult to say when your work began and ended. I never went into a police station except once to see the medics when I was very ill [REDACTED]. You had to maintain a certain front at all times. My walk and voice changed. I found myself being a chameleon among my targets. My accent became more [REDACTED] and this just felt natural.

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55. I did see myself as working all day because you had to assume your identity. I mostly spent my evenings at my cover accommodation and I had lived in section houses before that. I spent quite a bit of time at my cover addresses, evenings and overnight. I was a single man. I spent much of my time at the flat [REDACTED] as part of my legend. I would go on demonstrations during the week or at the weekend.

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39A

56. I did not really have a home life. My family home was not in London and I went on one family holiday in the UK while I was deployed. That was the only time I saw my parents during my SDS deployment. In my spare time, I would have a meal or pint on my own, or I would have gone for walks, or visited

galleries and libraries. The [REDACTED] music scene near my cover flat was very good then. I had one week's annual leave abroad during my deployment.

57. In order to protect my identity, I withdrew myself from my friends. My social circle was only as big as three to four people at the time. I explained away my appearance by pretending I was doing something with the drug squad.

58. I cannot, now, assess the proportion of time I spent on duty and off duty. We worked on the basis of an eight-hour day, but sometimes the hours were longer and they almost always included irregular hours. If I was on duty, I was in my assumed identity.

59. We were paid overtime but nobody took advantage, and we would not have been allowed to if we tried. The management checked our diaries and signed them off. [I have been asked for supplementary information, which I provide at paragraph 121 below.]

60. I expect that I received a little more overtime pay in the SDS than I would have done previously, but not a lot more. This is because overtime could include sitting in a pub drinking with targets. However, I cannot think of any other way in which my take-home pay was affected by the work.

61. Expenses would be claimed for at the meetings. Everyone had a normal CID diary in which they recorded their daily activities, details of their duties, expenses incurred and hours on duty. I believe they were made available to us until full. I expect these diaries were disposed of. [I have been asked for supplementary information, which I provide at paragraph 121 below.]

62. I claimed expenses for things like beer or meals bought in the pubs when on duty. They were paid retrospectively. I had a bank account in my real name.

40A

63. I am asked how the work differed from other Special Branch work. See paragraph 9 above. SDS was unique in that SDS activities dominated your whole life.

Public order and violence

64. I did see people and police officers being pushed and shoved during demonstrations but nothing on a large scale. Spontaneous demonstrations would sometimes use violence and you never quite knew where or when it would break out.

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65. I did not see any close, direct criminal damage myself but it was known to happen on demonstrations. At the squat mentioned above, there was some trespass and property damage. They had items handy, such as baseball bats, to use as weapons if there had been an attempt to evict them.

66. I did not participate in any public disorder myself. I did not fight or throw stones at shop windows. I got shoved around, including by uniformed police, but never came to fisticuffs over it. The most I ever did was shout. I never posted bills but I saw some on the walls which I recognised as being my target group's.

Subversion

67. I am asked in the Rule 9 request whether I understood the MPS to have a role in countering subversive activity. Special Branch was formed for this very

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

purpose. Special Branch monitored a variety of organisations and political philosophies that may have fomented subversion. Special Branch was the primary police resource for this purpose, and indeed originally had responsibility for monitoring Irish terrorism. There were other forms of extreme political extremism, including violent, that it kept under observation also. The MPS wanted to protect the Queen's Peace, and Special Branch would have been involved in this by pre-empting violence or gleaning advance knowledge of potential violence. I gained this understanding of Special Branch's role through working in Special Branch, particularly during years of political unrest.

68. I am asked whether my reporting was copied to the Security Services. I do not know whether or not my own reporting was or was not exchanged. I had no personal direct contact with the Security Services in that period. I imagine that my verbal reports would be discussed within the SDS hierarchy and, if appropriate, taken to a higher level and may have been passed to the Head of Special Branch. I believe the main use for my reporting was for planning appropriate policing presence at future public events.

Other issues

69. I am asked with which individual or individuals I formed the closest personal relationships during my deployment. I would say it was the other SDS members. I did not assume any position of trust among my targets during this time, nor get into close friendships.
70. I did not participate in any criminal activity when I was deployed as an undercover officer.
71. I was never arrested, charged, tried or convicted of a criminal offence whilst serving as an undercover officer.

72. I did not provoke, encourage or cause any other person to participate in any criminal activity whilst I was deployed.

73. I did not provide any intelligence which was used to further a criminal investigation.

74. I did not provide any evidence for use in a criminal prosecution during this time.

75. I was not involved in any legal proceedings in my undercover identity, nor in any complaint against a police officer or any disciplinary proceedings against a police officer.

76. I did not become aware of any member of the public's information which was legally privileged while serving in the SDS.

77. I did not report on elected politicians.

78. Looking back on my time in the SDS, I played a small part in amalgamating a risk assessment so that uniformed police officers could be better aware and prepared for violent public disorder, riot, damage and injury. I believe the police were better equipped, and the public better protected, as a result.

Withdrawal from my target group

79. I have been asked to look at the Penetration of Extremist Groups document mentioned above and am asked about a rule that officers serve no longer than twelve months undercover. I did not know of such a rule.

80. My withdrawal was planned. Due to my health, I spoke with my managers, who were sympathetic to my deployment ending. They saw it was in my best interests.

81. I could then give my excuses to my target group. I do not remember what I said, something like I was emigrating or a member of my family had died, or

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

something. I did not maintain any further contact with them, nor did I ever use my cover name again.

End of SDS posting

82. I do not remember who debriefed me, but certainly somebody of Inspector level or above. I cannot remember now. I was asked to write a few notes which I do not have and which have probably been destroyed after all this time. I wrote down what had happened and what I thought about it. The written debrief addressed welfare issues that might have been affecting me.

83. Arrangements were made for me to do various training courses. [REDACTED]

42

[REDACTED] I had some leave, but I do not remember how much. The courses helped me to phase out of the SDS and I cut my hair again. I felt that I was being looked after and that they were keeping an eye on me. Not that there was an organised system, it was just a friendly environment. Back in Special Branch I was just down the corridor from the management office and senior officers there would have known which unit I had come from. Friendly and informal conversations would be started by senior officers about how I was doing. It was supportive without being formal or intrusive.

43

84.

[REDACTED]

Sets out the two subsequent police roles

85. These arrangements were very good for the time, and I was grateful. The management realised that here was a young man who had been through challenging times (including recovery from a health issue), and quite often on his own.

86. The arrangements for welfare were ad hoc but effective. The mentorship scheme worked well for me.

Senior management and oversight bodies

87. I am asked how Conrad Dixon managed the SDS. From my perspective as a junior officer, he managed it like any other police operation, but in an informal and intelligent way. [I have been asked for supplementary information, which I provide at paragraph 122 below.]

88. I am asked what he was seeking to achieve. His own ambitions appeared to be no more and no less than the aims of the SDS itself: improved assessments of potential unrest which allow for more appropriate and targeted policing. I believe it was a good scheme and worked well overall. Conrad had already had a distinguished career and he was not in it for personal glory.

89. I am asked about the chain of command in my time, and whether it changed. Conrad Dixon was the head as Detective Chief Inspector, and Detective Inspector Phil Saunders immediately below him. There were three or so Detective Sergeants that supported the management. They would be out and about on demonstrations (but not associating with any particular group) and they were at SDS meetings. This did not change in my time. [I have been asked for supplementary information, which I provide at paragraph 123 below.]

90. The Detective Sergeants managed us verbally. They were protective of us too. For example, they visited my cover accommodation on a few occasions and they pulled me from the field when I was sick with [REDACTED] They were conscious of risks to undercover officers and to the public more generally. A

concern for the public pervaded our work at the time. I felt part of the group and I had a lot of contact with the management.

91. I would not have used the expression 'cover officer' but I would have perhaps said 'mentor'. One more senior officer in particular mentored me, Roy Creamer. He and I would chat at the safehouse. He would make sure that I was OK, not feeling threatened, and that I had enough expenses. I would have seen him every week. He would give me an indication of what was going on elsewhere in London. In the era and the circumstances, I could not have asked for more oversight. The management were good, sensitive and responsive. They dealt with me pretty well, including my illness. At the end of the deployment they sent me on courses outside London.

92. I have been asked to look at the 'Penetration of Extremist Groups' report mentioned above and asked whether my chain of command accorded with Appendix A of that document. I had not seen this document before and it looks, to my mind, like a proposal rather than a backward-looking description of a state of affairs. However, I am not sure about this because my own knowledge may be limited on this point. I do not recognise much in it. The full extent of my contact was with two or three members of the senior team and the sergeants which the plan mentions. Those were my only contacts in the SDS, and I predominantly had contact with one or two of the sergeants. There were no press/liaison officers that I know of. There were more field officers than the document seems to provide for, and I discuss this further below. I don't recall dealing with any administrative or back office staff. [I have been asked for supplementary information, which I provide at paragraph 123-4 below.]

[REDACTED]

93. Contact with managers was primarily face-to-face, and we did not use the telephone often. I had no telephone that I could use other than a public phonebox. Contact took place at the safehouse in meetings that were at least weekly (if not more frequent). We could anyway go along to the safehouse whenever necessary. There was always one person there (although the unit's office was not based there), and we could have contacted someone in an emergency by telephone. I never had cause to call outside normal hours.

94. I am asked what my managers' response to my reporting was. I believe my managers valued my reporting, or I hope so. I do not recall any performance reports or reviews, but they could have been compiled without my knowing.

95. I did not receive any form of commendation for my work as an SDS officer.

96. I cannot remember specifically whether any senior managers (Superintendent or above) visited the SDS but it may have happened.

97. I am asked whether anyone from an outside body with regulatory responsibility for policing visited the SDS during my time there. I know of nothing in that respect, but I was not living at the safehouse and I never visited the office.

Deployment of contemporaries

98. I have been provided with a list of names and asked whether my service in the SDS overlapped with any of the names. I would like to stress that I never expected to have to give evidence about the SDS, in particular about colleagues. My service in the SDS overlapped with the following: Roy

45 Creamer, Conrad Dixon, [REDACTED] HN326 [REDACTED] HN135 [REDACTED] HN68 46 & 47

48 [REDACTED], HN336, Phil Saunders, and [REDACTED] HN332 I do not think 49

there is anyone else who served with me who has been missed off the list.

There are other names on the list, some of which I recognise, but not from my time in the SDS.

99. I am asked some specific questions about named people. My response is as follows:

a. I do not know whether Conrad Dixon used a cover name. Nor do I know whether Phil Saunders used a cover name. I simply knew them in their capacity as managers and would have had no occasion to call them by a cover name.

b. I would not call Roy Creamer's role 'administrative'. I would call him a mentor because he would see how I was getting on. It is right to say that he was not undercover. He could have been doing things other than mentoring but I do not, and would not expect to, know anything about this.

50 c. I do not know whether [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED] used a cover name. It would be unusual for one undercover officer to know the cover name of another undercover officer because no context would arise for its use.

51 d. I believe [REDACTED] HN68 [REDACTED] was a member of the SDS throughout the time that I served in the unit.

52 e. I know [REDACTED] but I do not know if he was ever a member of the SDS. I did not meet him in that context.

f. I do not recall what role or roles Joan Hillier or [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED] played 54 in the SDS, if any. Their service did not overlap with mine as far as I can tell.

55 g. I do not know whether [REDACTED] HN331 [REDACTED], Mike Tyrrell, David Fisher, Helen

56 Crampton, [REDACTED] HN294 [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] HN324 [REDACTED] used cover names, 57

nor can I say anything about any SDS work they may have done, because their service did not overlap with mine. [Please see further paragraph 123 below.]

h. I cannot help with the Inquiry regarding the existence or identity of persons by the name of Wilson as members of the SDS. [Please see further paragraph 123 below.]

100. I am also asked questions about specific activities of my contemporaries. Responding to those, I did not hear of any of my contemporary undercover officers committing a criminal offence whilst undercover. Likewise, so far as I am aware, none of my contemporaries were arrested, charged, tried or convicted in their undercover identity.

101. As far as I know, there were no long-term relationships with targets in my era. I would have been surprised if I had heard of such a thing. If I had heard of it then everybody in the unit would also have known, and most of the officers were married. [I have been asked for supplementary information, which I provide at paragraph 125 below.]

102. I do not know if any of my contemporaries provoked, encouraged, or caused a third party to commit a criminal offence whilst undercover because I do not know all of the things they did.

103. I do not know whether any of them were involved in incidents of public disorder, or violence or other criminal activity but I did not hear of any such thing.

104. I do not know if any of my contemporaries reported legally privileged information.

105. I do not know if any of them reported on elected politicians.



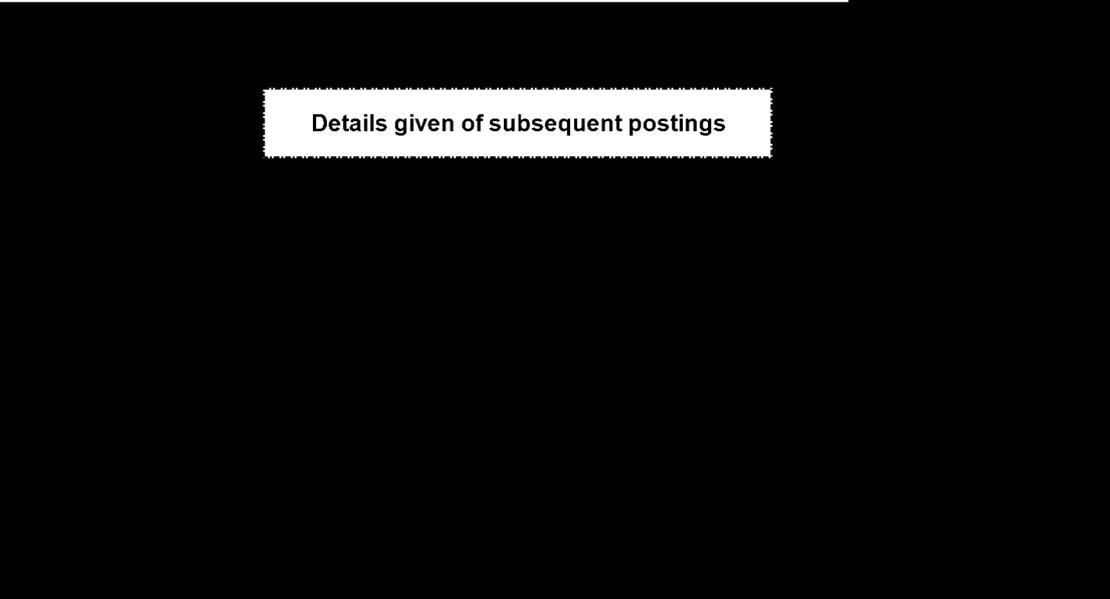
Post deployment

106. I am asked if there was a period of rest between the end of my time in the field and taking up duties in my next role. As I have said, I went on some courses. The courses contributed a lot to my development.

107. I do not know exactly why my subsequent posting was chosen. I am asked what influence my service in the SDS had on my subsequent postings: It gave me some wider knowledge of Special Branch concerns than I would otherwise have had. However, I did not return to related fields.

108. I am asked whether working as an undercover officer had a long-term effect on my welfare. I had a relatively short deployment and the support I received within the MPS was adequate for my needs. There was no long-term effect on my wellbeing prior to the announcement of this Public Inquiry which has caused me a certain amount of stress and inconvenience by having to participate and to try my best to recall events of 50 years ago about which I never expected to even talk about.

109. Much of my remaining career was in Special Branch.



58

Details given of subsequent postings

110.

111.

112. After I left the MPS, I did not do any undercover work in the private sector, nor did I receive any guidance about doing so should I have wished to.

113.

60

Sets out subsequent career and that officer now retired

Request for documents

114. I have no documents or other evidence that could assist the Inquiry to fulfil its terms of reference.

115. I have been shown no documents other than those appended to the Rule 9 request.

Diversity

60A

116. [REDACTED]

Information to supplement my first statement following request and to correct the same

117. With reference to paragraph 7, above, I have been asked what I was tasked to do (and what I did) whilst attending the 27 October 1968 Grosvenor Square demonstration and what interactions I had with members of the public. There would have been a briefing from a senior officer (I cannot remember who) to a number of plain-clothed Special Branch officers. The activity would be to mingle in the crowds to listen to pick up what the demonstrators intended to do next, i.e. to anticipate violent or other actions of concern, e.g. moving off the proclaimed route. I wouldn't have asked questions of others in the demonstration but I would have acted as if I was a law-abiding member of the public on a demonstration and may have chatted with those that I was walking near. Had I picked up information of concern I would have tried to make contact with a senior officer also present or, perhaps, by phone from a public telephone box. We did not have radios. I can't particularly recall gleaning any information of note or which would have required me reporting it back.

118. With reference to paragraph 45, above, I have been asked about the [REDACTED] item [REDACTED] there mentioned. I had it in my possession for a short period of time (perhaps 1-2 days) and [REDACTED]

61

[REDACTED] HN333 took the item to the safe house and explains what he did with it and why [REDACTED]



119. With reference to paragraph 50, above, I have been asked to expand upon “designated geographical areas” and “subject areas”. The former refers to the fact that 2 people may have been infiltrating similar groups but in different areas of London. The latter refers to the groups infiltrated by those present at the meeting and, where appropriate, might have also covered an upcoming demonstration where multiple groups or factions would attend. I have also been asked how many of the unit tended to attend the meetings. As far as I can recall, about 10-12 people would attend each meeting.

120. With reference to paragraph 52, above, I have been asked a number of questions. I should stress that I don’t ever recall seeing something which I would describe as “my intelligence reports” and I assume that my intelligence would contribute to some sort of amalgamated report which, again, I don’t recall ever seeing. Therefore, I do not recall reading or signing “reports” and I am not aware of how file references would appear on typed intelligence reports of the SDS at that time (obviously I have some knowledge of some SB files over the years). On the rare occasions that I did write something down, it would have only been a name or an event as a reminder to myself (perhaps to mention verbally at the debrief) and which I would not have kept. I cannot recall whether I ever handed over such a reminder. Generally speaking, I would rely on my memory for my reporting. Given my experience, I cannot helpfully answer question 110.2 (about the dating of reports) as I did not, to

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

my recollection, have sight of written reports or see their dates whilst on the SDS.

121. I have been asked further questions with reference to paragraphs 59 and 61, above, where I refer to CID diaries. A typical entry might have been about “refreshments” i.e. the cost of a meal during overtime including where taken, when and the cost. Additionally, an entry might have been about “incidentals”, where you’d paid for something for someone else (e.g. buying a group member a drink). I can’t recall whether I ever wrote names down in the diary (although you would have in other Special Branch roles in that era). As far as I am aware, the diaries were retained by the office and made available to us at our meetings. I had presumed that the diaries were destroyed simply due to the passage of time.

122. With reference to paragraph 87, above, and the way Conrad Dixon ran the SDS. He was a good manager in many respects and not in any way oppressive. It was “man to man” rather than hierarchical. I don’t think I would have called him “Sir” whilst on the squad. Perhaps I would have called him boss. He was approachable - I think I could probably have gone to him with any issues if necessary. I believe that he was genuinely concerned about the wellbeing of officers under him.

123. With reference to paragraph 89 and 92, above I am asked about sergeants and senior managers. I have also re-read paragraph 99, above, which needs to be corrected. It is difficult to precisely recall the short period of time in my life half a century ago, particularly when my path crossed with various people at different stages of my police career, making it harder to differentiate between different jobs and eras. I had already mentioned D.S.

62

Cremer. I now recall [redacted] HN294 [redacted] as being on the SDS, but I had remembered him as being a D.S.. I see from the Penetration of Extremist Groups Document that he may have been a D.I. but I can't help on that issue. I do now recall Ribey Wilson as being on the SDS, but I recall him more so from my later career.

124. With further reference to paragraph 89, above, I would infrequently see the Detective Sergeants amongst demonstrators. They would be in informal plain clothes. We would not interact with each-other. I presume that they didn't do anything other than mingle as I described myself doing above but I cannot speak for them.

125. With reference to paragraph 101, above, I was not aware of any sexual activity between my colleagues and others whilst they were in their cover identity.

I believe the content of this statement to be true.

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Signed: [redacted] HN333 [redacted]

Dated: ... [redacted] 20.11.2018 [redacted]