

COVER SHEET

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g, Brodie, O.B.E., Q.P.M.

[REDACTED]

Our ref. SB 500/URG/R/694
Yr. ref. QPR/661/8/5

30th November, 1970

Dear

You will recall writing to me on 23rd January, 1970, giving authority to maintain for the rest of the year certain arrangements for one of the Squads of Special Branch. You then asked that we review the matter before the end of the year.

There is no doubt at all that the Squad has proved its worth this year and the information it feeds through Special Branch to the uniform police dealing with meetings and demonstrations is of very good quality and of high value to them in their tactical planning.

There are many signs that activity in the field of interest to the Squad is on the increase. To name but one, on the issue of arms sales to South Africa there is an almost inevitable certainty that we will once again be faced with mass demonstrations on the "Stop the Seventy Tour" pattern should the Government go ahead with its publicised plans. We are at present very well placed by virtue of the Squad's work to obtain good knowledge of the plans of the militants involved.

There is an extremely frank and intimate day-to-day working liaison between the Squad and the Security Service and meetings are periodically held with them to discuss mutual problems, identify areas where cover can be improved and modify where necessary the plans of both organisations. I know the Security Service value greatly the work the Squad is doing.

Expenditure for the current year is likely to be about £3,000, i.e. some £500 less than the estimated £3,500 for which we have your authority. For security reasons there is a need to acquire new premises and it is likely that the expenditure next year will be some £750 higher than this. A sum of £4,000 should safely cover all contingencies.

The Receiver has been consulted and raises no financial objection. In fact, he has even been constrained to minute the file, "This is good value!"

J. M. Waddell, Esq., C.B.,
Home Office,
Whitehall, S.W.1.

The Commissioner takes a close interest in the activities of the Squad and is most firmly cognisant of the value we derive from it. He asked me to write to you to press for its continuance.

I therefore ask for your formal approval to maintain the Squad in its present form and for authority to draw up to £4,000 for next year's expenses.

Yours sincerely,

P. F. COOPER

Assistant Commissioner (Crimes)