



Corres. No. 588

UNREG

694.

Minute Sheet No. ONE.

1.

Memorandum ..... 1A.

Commander

As you are aware the information obtained by Chief Inspector Dixon's men during the months preceding the "Autumn Offensive" demonstration was invaluable. We were able to provide 'A' Department with accurate and comprehensive assessments of the covert plans made by the numerous organisation taking part prior to the demonstration, and on the day officers of this special squad were able to relay rapidly to C.O. details of diversionary tactics employed by the demonstrators.

I am convinced that with discretion there are handsome dividends to be earned in this field and that the operation so successfully begun should be continued - a further demonstration is planned for March 1969.

I therefore recommend that favourable consideration be given to Chief Inspector Dixon's request at 1A.

S.B.  
8.11.68.

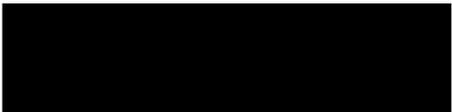
*A. Cunningham*  
Chief Superintendent.

2.

A.C.'C'

This request is for money to finance our coverage of the many different political groups who combine in the current protest movement.

At the beginning of August this year we formed a special squad to penetrate the groups concerned with the organisation of the October 27th Demonstration, and at its maximum strength the squad comprised some twenty officers. It was necessary to take this action because the conspiratorial nature of the groups, their diversity and fragmentation meant that normal methods of intelligence ~~covering~~ would be totally inadequate to meet the situation and produce the quality information required. As a result of the efforts of the penetration squad, a steady and most valuable stream of information was made available to our uniform colleagues, Home Office and the Security Service. Without that information we would have felt completely in the dark about the exact plans and intentions of the demonstrators. Among the more extremist groups, and even among those less extreme, there is a strong feeling that the 27th October Demonstration was a failure because it did not



lead to the confrontation with police that was hoped and expected, and which was indeed the secret purpose of the demonstration. Plans are therefore now being considered for another large demonstration in the Spring. Once again it will become absolutely necessary for this Branch to furnish to the Home Office, Security Service and our uniform colleagues, top class information. We have already discussed this and have agreed that it is necessary to maintain our penetration squad until the problems of public order, associated with the present protest movement, have subsided. The question of its continuance in other fields can then be reviewed.

In order to maintain contact with the different groups there will have to be a continuous close association of a number of our officers with them. Penetration is not always easy to achieve, and even when it is achieved it is not always easy to maintain it undetected. The leaders of the more dangerous groups are highly suspicious and we have already had experience of their making checks at the addresses of one or two of our officers engaged in this work prior to the 27th October. With good cover stories and cover addresses our officers have been able to pass scrutiny so far whenever an enquiry has been made.

The continuance of this policy of penetration over a long period, however, demands a more sophisticated technique than we have hitherto been able to effect. The requirements set out in Chief Inspector Dixon's memorandum have been carefully considered by Chief Superintendent Cunningham and myself and we are agreed that they are absolutely necessary.

At a meeting held on 6th November with [REDACTED] and other members of the Security Service, I was asked whether we intended to carry on with our penetration squad. When I said we did, this was warmly welcomed by them. I mentioned that the financing of the operation might be difficult and [REDACTED] promised to discuss this aspect with his Director General when the latter returns from sick list.

1A

Clearly, however, they cannot be expected to make any major contribution and therefore I consider it behoves us to approach our own Receiver to discuss the finances with him. The total estimated annual cost is £3,000.

You may also consider that this project might well be laid before the "Waddell Committee" to receive Home Office backing on the financial side.

*S. Smith*  
Commander

S.B.  
9.11.68.

Corres. No. 588

UNREG

694

Minute  
Sheet No. TWO

3.

A.C.C.

You spoke to me about this report. I am satisfied that the penetration achieved by Special Branch into the close consultations of the various anarchist groups gave valuable information to 'A' Department which they so essentially needed and was in great measure responsible for the success of our operation on 27th October.

We should not lose touch and I hope the Special Branch will be able to keep in close contact with any plans that may now be in the process of being formulated for next Easter. £3,000 is a small amount of money to pay compared with the cost of the whole operation. Will you please clear with the Receiver? Perhaps you and I should have a talk with Home Office.

13.11.68

*J. Valman*  
Commissioner

- 4 -

Receiver

In Minute 3 the Commissioner has asked me to let you see these papers.

After reading them you may wish to discuss.

15.11.68

*A.E. Diodic*  
A.C.C.

5.

A.C.'C'

We had a brief word about this.

A) There is no objection to the proposal from the point of view of finance, although I agree that it would be as well to mention what is being done to Mr. Waddell; and since I have no special point to raise I will leave this to you.

B) As regards ways and means, I suggest that the officer concerned in Special Branch should get in touch with [1] of F.2.

21st November, 1968.

[2]

- 6 -

6A - Letter from A.C.C. to Waddell, Home Office

- 7 -

A.C.'C'

[3] [redacted], F.2, called here this morning by appointment to discuss how best to provide the finance needed for the Special Operations Squad.

It was agreed that initially an imprest for £700 would be arranged forthwith which would enable us to pay any outstanding sums due and leave us with some money in balance which should see us through to the end of the year. Thereafter monthly imprests will be drawn under my signature and presented to [1] [redacted] personally.

Chief Inspector Dixon has been instructed to keep separate accounts for each set of premises and these will be passed quarterly to [1] [redacted] by me. [1] [redacted] is very conscious of the need for maximum security regarding these transactions.

S.B.  
25.11.68.

*J. Smith*  
Commander

8  
*Commander SB.*

*See. Thank you.*

*A.E. Dwyer*  
A.C.C.

25.11.68



9.

Special Branch memorandum ..... 9A

Commander

9A sets out the functions of the Special Operations Squad. I would make only one comment regarding the content and that is that not only is the information obtained by the Squad more accurate, but that a very considerable proportion would not have been obtained at all by our usual sources. (See page 1 under 'Object' (a)).

You may wish to send a copy of the paper to Box 500 (minus Appendix B).

S.B.  
27.11.68.

*A. Cunningham*  
Chief Superintendent

10.

Chief Superintendent 'Ops'

This is a very interesting and instructive paper but I think we should keep it within the Branch and not pass it to Box 500.

Incidentally, I spoke yesterday to [redacted] to tell him that our financial problems had been solved and that it would not now be necessary to call upon his Service for aid. For this he was duly grateful.

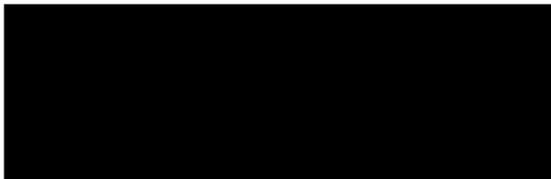
3A

S.B.  
28.11.68.

*J. Smith*  
Commander

11.

Memorandum on financial position ..... 11A



S.B. memorandum ..... 12A

A.C.'C'

You will wish to refer this to the Receiver in view of 'A' of minute 5.

With regard to 'B' of the same minute, you will see from minute 7 et seq that the details of the financial arrangements have been settled with [redacted], F.2.

*J. Smith.*

Commander

S.B.  
13.12.68.

13

*Receipt.*

*For information.*

16.12.68

*A.E. Snodhi  
A.C.C.*

Thank you. I shall be glad to know what ~~conclusion~~ conclusion is reached in six months time.

[5] [redacted]

17/12

14

S.B.

*Sum.*

*A.E. Snodhi  
A.C.C.*

19.12.68

15

Letter from H.O. (seen by Commander) — 15A  
Room 894 please R.B.F. for 1.6.69. 19.

S.B.  
14.1.69

*A. Cunningham  
Ch. Supt.*

16

Memoranda

16A & B

Corres. No. SB. 588 / UNREG / 694

Minute Sheet No. Four

17.

Memorandum ... .. 17A

Commander

To see please. If you agree I will make the necessary arrangements for the money to be paid to C.I.Dixon.

*Agreed*  
*8/43*  
*A. Cunningham*  
Chief Superintendent.

18.

Memorandum ..... 18A.

Commander

To see 18A with 12A and 15A please. The sum of £400 will cover rent, telephone and electricity payments for the Special Operations Squad until 1st July. The future of the Squad is to be reviewed next month, but whatever happens it will be necessary to pay the rents, etc. until the end of June.

Although there has been considerably less public disorder at extremist meetings and demonstrations over the past six months, the intelligence obtained by this Squad has been extremely valuable and has enabled our uniformed colleagues to take appropriate actions on various occasions to prevent disorder arising.

A |

I recommend that the £400 requested be paid and if you agree I will prepare a memorandum by the beginning of next month setting out our assessment of the position over the past six months.

*A. Cunningham*  
Chief Superintendent

S.B.  
5.5.69.



Chief Superintendent 'Ops'

7.5.

Action proposed at 'A' above is approved. We have discussed the question of the review of the desirability to continue operating the Special Squad which is due to take place next month. Your memorandum will take this into account and should be ready by the end of May.

*J. Smith*  
Commander

S.B.  
6.5.69.

Memorandum ..... 20A

Commander

To see, please. Prepared in accordance with directions at 19 above.

*A. Cunningham*  
Chief Superintendent

S.B.  
20.5.69.

A.C.'C'

Please see your direction on 15A.

I know you are well aware of the contribution the Special Squad has made to the sum of intelligence gathered about the activities of the Protest Movement groups. There is no doubt in my mind that the Squad has proved its worth and is good value for every penny spent on it.

The justification for the formation of the Squad was the concern felt over the increasing disorders in the streets last year, and because of the diversity of the organisations involved, information gathering by the more traditional methods had proved ineffectual. Although there is at the moment a lull on the extremist political scene, nobody can say how long it is likely to last and as Chief Superintendent Cunningham's memorandum shows, the leaders

21 (continued)

of the Protest Movement are trying hard to find an issue which will again bring the demonstrators out on the streets in large numbers. To disband the Squad at this stage would, therefore, be premature. We now operate a fairly sophisticated organisation, and the technique of infiltration is such that it cannot be put into operation in a day. Careful selection of the officers involved is needed, and a reasonable lengthy grooming also plays its part. At the present time we are "in", but we would find it difficult to achieve our present position quickly were we to have to start again from scratch. The organisations concerned are themselves becoming far more security minded than they were last July, and entry would not be as easy to achieve today as it was then.

I know the Security Service would not be happy to see the end of the Squad as its operations are carried out in close liaison with them and the product of its efforts is shared with them.

The Home Office view may be that exceptional methods, as practised by the Squad, are only justified in the special circumstances when the importance of the product outweighs the political danger run by the Government should its existence and methods of operation be officially exposed. This, of course, is a matter for the Home Office and the Government. From our point of view all I can say is that the exercise is of exceptional value to Special Branch, and I am quite confident that our Uniform colleagues would wholeheartedly agree that their task is made easier through the type of quality information they are being provided with by the Squad.

*J. Smith*

Commander

S.B.  
23.5.69.

22

*Commander S.B.*

*Please draft letter for my signature to Waddell saying, in strong terms, that we should continue, at least to the end of the year, as we are doing at present.*

*K.E. Dwyer A.C.C.*

23

Letter to H.O. \_\_\_\_\_ 23A

R. B. F. in 1 month *JS*  
S.B. cancel *A. Cunningham*  
2nd June, 69 18.6.69- *bdh*

24.

H.O. letter ..... 24A.

(Seen by D.A.C. S.B.)

Receiver

You asked (vide minute 13) to be informed of the decision concerning the future of the Special Operations Squad. 24A gives Home Office blessing to our maintaining it in existence for the next six months. You will recall that £3,000 were allocated in December 1968 towards the running of the Squad, and in the first six months of this year £1,500 have been disbursed. Perhaps you will be good enough to ask [redacted], who is still handling these particular monies, to continue to pay the monthly sums to Special Branch to the limit allowed.

11.6.69

*A.C. 'C'*  
A.C. 'C'

25.

A.C. 'C'

Seen, thank you.

[7] [redacted] has been informed and he and his successor, [8] [redacted] will be prepared to make the necessary payments.

[9] [redacted]

Receiver

12th June, 1969

Corres. No. 588 / UNREG / 694 Minute Sheet No. SIX

26.

Memorandum from Receiver to A.C.'C' ..... 26A  
(C.I. Dixon informed of contents)

27.

Special Branch memorandum ..... 27A

28.

Special Branch memorandum ..... 28A

29.

Special Branch memorandum ..... 29A

30.

Special Branch memoranda ..... 30A

A.C.'C'

1. In his letter of 6th June, 1969, (24A) Mr. Stotesbury asks us to review the question of the continuance of the Special Squad towards the end of the year.

2. D.I. Saunders, who is at present in charge of the Squad, responsible direct to Commander Cunningham, prepared the memorandum at 30A on my direction. Because of the reference in it to a shortage of funds I had him prepare the further memorandum at 30B dealing with that aspect.

3. These memoranda adequately indicate the tremendous value to us and to our Uniform colleagues of the type of information obtained by our officers working in this particular field. Although there has been no real major violent demonstration during the past few months, we can never be complacent and say we are out of danger. The sudden development of events in Northern Ireland which took the authorities there unawares is a solemn reminder to us all of the need to have the best information possible about revolutionary and subversive organisations in our midst. I consider that this is best achieved through the Special Squad.

4. It would seem from Mr. Stotesbury's letter that what bothers Home Office most about the Squad is the unorthodox accommodation it occupies. I have discussed this with D.I. Saunders and I am satisfied that the present arrangements are ideal and are very safe indeed. We can think of no better alternative.

5. You will note that D.I. Saunders considers £3,000 insufficient to run the Squad properly and suggests that this sum be increased to £3,500. I consider that this is not an unreasonable request if the whole operation is not to be run on a shoestring with a consequent lowering of effectiveness.

/In

6. In paragraph 12 of 30A he raised the question of different arrangements for the hire of cars. I have spoken to him about this and he agrees that there is no need to alter the present procedure.

7. I would strongly recommend the continuance of the Squad in its present form and, if you agree, I would ask that the view of the Commissioner and the Receiver be sought before we write again to Home Office.

*J. Smith*

D.A.C.

S.B.

17.11.69

- 31 -

Commissioner

The financial provision for the Special Operations Squad of Special Branch comes to an end on 31st December.

I entirely agree with D.A.C. Special Branch's recommendation that the Squad should be continued in its present form and, in giving my agreement to this, I have paid careful attention to what Stotesbury said in the third paragraph of his letter at 24A.

If you concur with my view, perhaps I may have your authority to ask the Receiver and the Home Office to make the necessary financial provision for a further period of twelve months.

*A.E. Dunlop*  
A.C.C.

19.11.69

32.

A.C.C.

I cannot emphasize too highly the value I place on the work of the Special Operations Squad and I am confident that our success in dealing with subversive organizations is relative to the amount of infiltration we can make and the information received therefrom.

The intensity of this work inevitably must vary in tempo and there will be quiet times. On the other hand we cannot afford to lose our connections for it would be difficult to introduce our men into organizations at the last moment when the emergency is just about to erupt.

I approve the continuation of the Squad in such numbers as you feel, together with the necessary equipment that they must have, and I should be grateful if you would make the necessary arrangements with the Receiver and Home Office for the next twelve months.

*J. Valman*  
Commissioner

20.11.69

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Minute  
Sheet No.

7

33.

Receiver

To see from minute 30.

Before writing to Home Office may I have your financial blessing for this Squad for the next twelve months.

24.11.69

*Ret Jerochie*  
A.C.C.

34.

A.C.'C'

Seen, thank you.

There is no financial objection to an approach to the Home office for £3,500 for this purpose for the next twelve months.

10

27th November 1969Receiver

- 35 -

D.A.C., S.B.

To see from Minute 31. Please prepare a letter for Home Office for the continuance of this Squad with increased finances for the next 12 months.

27.11.69

*Ret Jerochie*  
A.C.C.

36.

A.C.'C'

I attach at 36A a draft letter as directed.

4.12.69

*J. Smith*  
D.A.C.

37

Copy letter to H.O. \_\_\_\_\_

M.P.

37A

[P.T.O.]



38

Letter from HO to A.C.'C' .....38A  
(Seen by Commander (Ops))

39

Receiver

Please see 38A which gives Home Office authority for us to continue the expenditure on the Special Operations Squad until the end of 1970. You will recall that the sum involved is £3,500. I shall be grateful if you will kindly inform [redacted] who is handling these monies to continue paying the monthly sums to this Branch to the limit allowed.

SB  
26.1.70

*J. Smith*  
DAC

[12]



28

40.

DAC Special Branch

[11]

This has been noted and [redacted] will proceed accordingly.

[13]



Receiver

28th January 1970.

41

Special Branch memorandum ..... 41A

42

Special Branch memorandum ..... 42A

43

Special Branch memorandum ..... 43A

44

SB minute sheet and attachments

- 44A



File No. S 13 588 / UNREG / 694

Minute  
Sheet No. EIGHT

S.B. memorandum

USA

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 46A

DAC

1. Please see 46A. While the current year, apart from the Stop the Seventy Four demonstrations, has been relatively quiet, the benefits accruing to the Branch and the Force as a whole, from the work of the Special Operations Squad have been considerable and CI Saunders and his team are to be congratulated on a difficult job well done.
2. There can be no question that the intelligence the Squad has gathered relating to public order has been of a very high calibre and much of it could not be obtained from other sources. In addition there have been some first class by products where individual officers have been assisted in difficult enquiries and the Security Service has been given valuable information regarding their operations. The special deployment of these officers and money spent have been more than justified and there is now no doubt that the Squad is completely viable.
3. I recommend that the Squad continues during 1971 and that the allocation of money, £3,500, be approved together with the use of four private hire cars, two permanent, and two as needed.

SB  
21.11.70

*A. Cunningham*  
Commander

47.

ACC

1. I fully endorse the recommendation by Commander Cunningham in his minute above that the Special Operations Squad should continue for another year. The information it supplies both to the Security Service and to ourselves - in very many instances for the ultimate benefit of 'A' Department - is of a high order. Without it our uniform colleagues could not receive from us the fore-knowledge they have now come to expect regarding the plans of militant demonstrators in the Metropolis.



2. I have discussed with Chief Inspector SAUNDERS his proposition to take on new premises. The reason is primarily a security one - he is unhappy at perhaps some fourteen officers meeting together in one place and the premises he has in mind should remove the risk he now fears of undue attention being drawn to the present premises.

3. With current expenditure running at about £3,000 per annum we should be able to finance the new accommodation provided we can carry forward any balance remaining from the present financial year. If this can be arranged there should be no need to ask for extra money in 1971.

SB  
25.11.70

*S. Smith*  
DAC

Commissioner (thro' Receiver) *No<sup>-48-</sup> financial objection: this is good value [14] [redacted] 27/11*

At 38A you will see Waddell's letter giving Home Office authority for the Special Squad to be continued until the end of this year.

If, therefore, the Squad is to be kept in being in 1971 renewed Home Office authority is required.

I recommend to you in the strongest possible terms that application should be made for continuance of the Squad.

In the current financial year £3,500 was allocated to defray expenditure. It seems probable that only £3,000 will be expended and there will be a surplus of £500. In paragraph 16 of 46A Detective Chief Inspector Saunders speaks about some additional accommodation which he considers necessary. D.A.C., S.B., is most anxious that we should have the additional accommodation but this will bring our forecast for the cost up to almost £4,000, £500 in excess of the current year's allocation but, of course, there is going to be a saving of £500 this year. Therefore, if the Receiver feels able to adjust things, we can in theory continue to run for the years 1970 and 1971 at an average cost of £3,500 per annum which is, in fact, the sum provided for this year.

May I have your authority to send a suitable letter to Waddell at the Home Office.

26.11.70

*A.E. Duode*  
A.C.C.



49.

A.C.G.

I have read with considerable interest the report by Det. Chief Inspector Saunders and the comparatively small amount of money we spend on the activities of the Squad is more than justified.

I think we can say that although there is a dearth of big parades, discontent is bubbling underneath the surface and as soon as a suitable catalyst comes along we may well have trouble. It is therefore fundamental that penetration into all groups is maintained and that we are kept informed of those where there is difficulty.

I shall be grateful if you will write to Waddell and press in the strongest terms for the continuation of the Squad and the small increase in funds required.

27.11.70.

*J. Valman*  
Commissioner

50.

Copy letter to Home Office ..... 50A

51

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 51A

52.

[15] [redacted] HO letter ..... 52A

[redacted] Commander Ops

1. To see please and inform CI SAUNDERS. He can now go ahead with his plans for new accommodation.

2. RBF on 15.11.71 for a fresh application to be made to HO for the continuance of the Squad.

*J. Smith*  
DAC

SB  
22.12.70



53.

Special Branch Memorandum ... .. 53A

54

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 54A

55

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 55A

56

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 56A

57.

Special Branch Memorandum ... .. 57A

58.

Special Branch Memorandum ... .. 58A

59.

DAC

1. Please see folio 58A. It will be seen from para 4 that a wider field of militant ultra extremist organisations has now been penetrated to the considerable advantage of the Branch, uniform police under the lead of AB, and the Security Service. The Special Operations Squad has enjoyed a very fruitful year in the timely supply of intelligence not otherwise obtainable, and Chief Inspectors Saunders and [HN332] (who [18] took over control in August) are to be congratulated, together with the members of their team.

2. Chief Inspector [HN332] [18] gaze into the future (paras 20-24) in my estimation is a realistic appreciation of what may confront us in due course. For the immediate future the results accruing from the squad coverage that has now been built up in the Irish field will, I feel, prove to be inestimable. When taken together with the entré now available in the anarchist world I have no hesitation in forecasting that this squad will continue to provide important data in the months ahead as it has done over the past three years.

3. I therefore recommend that approval be given for the squad to carry on operations during 1972 with an allocation of £4,500. At first sight this suggests an increase in the 1972 budget of £500 over the previous year. The allocation of £4,000 for 1971, however, was boosted by £971 which was carried over from the previous year, and at the termination of 1971 it is anticipated that £300 will be available to be carried forward into 1972. This would provide an aggregate sum of £4,800 for the forthcoming year, which should prove sufficient.

*M.D. Rodger*

File No.

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Minute  
Sheet No.

TEN

60.

ACC

This file is brought forward at the present time as HO authority must be obtained for the expenditure involved in running the Special Squad.

The report by CI <sup>19</sup> HN332 at 58A indicates the scope of the Squad's activity, and in my view reflects its growing professionalism. This latter quality is illustrated by its penetration of the London branch of Sinn Fein - a highly difficult, and indeed dangerous, area for an officer to work.

The information produced by the Squad gives us a far greater appreciation of the likely temper and extent of demonstrations and this assists 'A' Department in deciding the amount of uniform cover to give to any operation. We also continue to obtain a considerable bonus of information about the day-to-day activities of the various organisations penetrated, and here the Security Service share the benefit.

You will note that CI <sup>19</sup> HN332 in para 19 of his report asks for £5000 for the coming year, while Commander Rodger has lowered the figure to £4500. I have discussed this with both officers. It appears that <sup>19</sup> since CI HN332 wrote his report a change of ownership at our present main flat has been effected, and it is felt it would be unwise to continue operating in these premises under the new owner who is an unknown quantity from the security point of view and who might start asking awkward questions. The old owner, however, has found us new premises which I am assured are most suitable and have the benefit of being available at a lower rent. <sup>19</sup> CI HN332 therefore feels confident he can get by in the coming year on £4500 plus, of course, the balance of some £300 which is likely to be left over at the end of this year.

I value the work done by this Squad most highly and I therefore recommend that HO be asked to approve payment of £4500 for the coming year so that the work of the Squad may continue.

The Receiver, of course, will have to see these papers.

SB  
6.12.71

*J. Smith*  
DAC

61.

Commissioner (thro' Receiver)

I consider it absolutely essential that the work of the Special Squad should continue and recommend that Home Office be asked to approve the payment of £4500 for the coming year towards the expenses of the unit.

If you agree I will write to Waddell accordingly.

7.12.71

*A.E. Waddell*  
ACC



62

COMMISSIONER

These arrangements have been operating since the latter part of 1968, subject to periodic reviews. Initially, the expenditure involved was authorised to cover the period leading up to the next review and since the end of 1969 this authority has been for expenditure over a calendar year. £3500 was authorised for 1970 and £4000 for 1971. If the arrangements are to continue, which I fully agree they should, it would be best if the accounting could be brought onto the basis of a financial year like all other police expenditure and I have placed within a note, which has been agreed with DAC Special Branch, on how this could be done, together with some draft paragraphs which could be included in the letter to the Home Office.

20



RECEIVER

15 December 1971

63.

A.C.C.

It is of paramount importance that the Special Squad should continue their clandestine activities. Security is vital and we must ensure that changes in staff brought on by necessity do not prejudice the anonymity of its members.

Will you please include the Receiver's paragraph in your letter.

16.12.71.

*J. Ballin*  
Commissioner

64.

Copy letter to Home Office ..... 64A

65.

21

Commissioner (thro' Receiver)

*Noted*



*29/12*

Please see 64A. ....

*S. Smith*

SB  
23.12.71

DAC



*12*

*J. Ballin*

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Special Branch memorandum ... .. 66A.

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Special Branch minute sheet & attachments .... 67A

68.

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 68A

69.

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 69A

70.

S.B. Memorandum ————— 70A

71

SB. Minute Sheet ————— 71A

72.

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 72A

73.

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 73A

74.

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 74A

75

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 75A

[REDACTED]

76.

Special Branch memorandum ... .. 76A

77.

DAC

[22]

1. At 76A DI [HN294] reports upon the work of the SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION SQUAD during the past fourteen months and portrays a composite picture of a small segment of Branch activity which increasingly demands a degree of professionalism and a sensitivity of appreciation and approach. The quality and quantity of intelligence acquired during the period under review has been of increasingly high order, in itself a tribute to all officers concerned.

2. The potential for violence or public disorder is inherent to a greater or lesser extent in all the organisations, ranging from the IRA to anarchism, receiving the attention of the SDS and experience has shown that intelligence to assist in detecting wrongdoers and frustrating their unlawful plans cannot invariably be acquired with immediacy or any degree of accuracy by any other existing method.

3. DI [HN294]<sup>[22]</sup> acknowledges the areas of vulnerability from a security standpoint which are present in an undertaking of this nature (para 17 et seq). I am confident that all the officers are aware of the potential dangers and the need for the utmost prudence in all their operational activities and I am satisfied that everything possible is done to reduce the risk of detection or embarrassment to minimal level.

4. While all manner of political unrest continues at its present level, ready to be exploited on any pretext by extremists of various persuasions, I recommend that the SDS be authorised to carry on its operations for a further year. The request for a budget of £5,500 for the 12 months beginning 1 April 1973 compares with a similar sum for the previous fifteen months which in fact is liable to fall short of actual expenditure by about £100. Allowing for the inflationary spiral in the cost of accommodation etc, the sum requested would appear necessary and adequate.

5. As regards the proposal for a second HQ premises (paras 23 and 27) for reasons of security, the principle for such a need was accepted in 1970 (Minutes 47 and 48 hereon refer), and has only gone by default because of the lack of finance and suitable premises. I consider that a reserve sum should be set aside for this eventuality.

SB  
19.2.73

  
A/Commander

[REDACTED]

78.

ACC

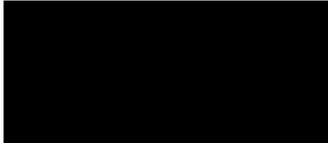
Covering authority is now required from Home Office if the work of the Special Demonstration Squad is to be continued beyond the end of March 1973. The previous letter of authorisation is at 64A, and I strongly support the case for an extension of the Squad's activities for a further year as made out at Minute 77.

Security of the Squad's operations is a major consideration in this enterprise and this has been reflected in increasing costs during the year. While the overall number of SB officers engaged on this work has not increased significantly since the formation of the Squad in 1968, the numbers and types of premises we have rented in order to provide adequate security cover has grown, as have the basic rents and maintenance costs. Thus, while our expenditure for 1970/71 was £4,000 and our budget for 1971/72 was £4,500 (increased by £1,000 to cover the extra period from January to March 1973), we shall in fact have overspent by about £100 at the end of March, and the forecast for 1973/74 is that £5,500 will be required to cover our present level of expenditure on accommodation and ancillary costs.

The case for a second headquarters flat for these officers who are not permitted to use CO or other police buildings makes sound operational sense, and I would recommend that covering authority be sought to increase the 1973/74 budget to £6,500, this figure to include the possibility of our finding suitable extra accommodation.

If these proposals can be approved I shall make confidential arrangements with 'F' Department for an independent audit of these accounts.

23



DAC

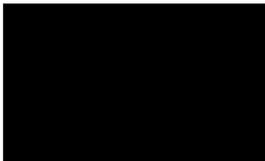
SB  
19.2.73

*Commissioner (no Receiver)*

79

*If you agree, I propose to write to HQ as in the attached draft letter*

24



*FA*

*20<sup>2</sup> 73*

Commissioner

80

No comment, except that it  
is probably as well to say  
that I have seen and have no  
financial objection to the proposed  
increase in expenditure.

25



See

21/2/73

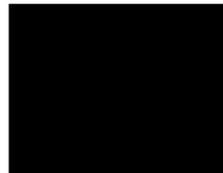
81.

Acc.

Include Receiver's comment at

80 and send.

26



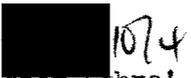
82.

20/2

Home Office letter .. .. .

82A.

27



1074

83.

Commissioner (thro' Receiver).

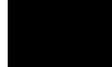
Noted thank you

Please see reply from Home Office.

I have informed D.J.F. of  
the new limit for 1973-4

Arrangements have been made with 'F' Department for confidential  
audit of these accounts.

28



29



1074

S.B.  
10.4.73.

File No. / /

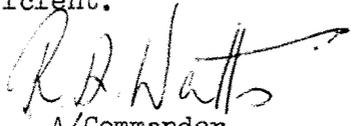
Minute  
Sheet No.

84.

Special Branch Memorandum ... .. 84A

A/DAC

1. <sup>[30]</sup> CI HN294 reports at 84A upon the operations of the Special Demonstration Squad during the past twelve months and gives a detailed account of its achievements and the problems posed. Once again it illustrates the high degree of ability and professionalism needed for such work and clearly the excellent standard of previous years is being maintained. The introduction of much improved transport arrangements has been a great advance both in operational efficiency and from a security viewpoint.
2. That the potential for violence continues, whether by mass demonstration or 'sit-in', by Irish or Marxist, is self-evident. Accurate fore-knowledge of the plans of extremists in conjunction with intelligent handling of that information greatly reduces the likelihood of clashes by demonstrators with our uniformed colleagues, which must in turn dissuade would-be agitators from pursuing such tactics if they are thwarted at every turn.
3. <sup>[30]</sup> CI HN294 fully appreciates that security is of paramount importance and this is borne out by the absence of adverse publicity since the creation of the Squad in 1968 (paras 20-24). I am glad to note this aspect is under constant review as a matter of routine and am confident that this will continue to be the case.
4. There can be no doubting the unique value of the SDS in gathering intelligence on public order matters and of providing material on allied subjects. I therefore recommend that the SDS be authorised to continue its operations for a further year as from 1 April 1974. The budget request of £6,500 for the coming year is the same as for 1973/74 (£5,500 plus £1,000 for a second flat, which was taken up) and whilst actual expenditure may be slightly in excess of £6,500, any deficit will be met by the surplus from the current financial year. This request would seem to be reasonable and sufficient.

SB  
11.3.74
  
A/Commander

85.

ACC

1. Covering authority from Home Office is now required if the Special Demonstration Squad (SDS) is to continue beyond the end of March 1974. As stated at minute 84, the value of intelligence from the SDS on public order and allied matters is quite unique and I therefore recommend strongly the extension of the Squad's activities for a further year. The previous letter of authorisation is at folio 82A.

31

2.

Although the activities of both the right and left wing organisations have proved to be somewhat less troublesome in the field of public order during the period under review, the current unsettled political situation, coupled with the known policies of many ultra-left bodies, makes our continued operations in this field very necessary.

3. Accurate and well assessed intelligence has continued to be provided by the Squad enabling uniformed police to be in a position practically without exception to provide the degree of coverage necessary whereby law and order can be maintained. Furthermore, this has been achieved without exhibiting any show of excessively high numbers on marches, demonstrations, etc, which can have the capacity to inflame militant feelings quite apart from the important issue of welfare and the attendant need for ~~all~~ <sup>all</sup> officers to enjoy their rostered leave days without the frustration of frequent last-minute cancellation.

4. The need for security remains paramount and every possible step is taken by intelligent anticipation, coupled with close supervision to prevent exposure. No complacency is permitted on this vital issue and clearly the maintenance of strict security has been helped quite considerably by the acquisition of a second headquarters flat last year. The changed method of transport, whereby older vehicles have been purchased for the exclusive use of each field officer as opposed to the renting in previous years of three or four hire cars, has proved most useful, not only from a security point of view but also from operational mobility.

5. It will be seen from paragraphs 30/31 that a surplus of approximately £900 is anticipated for the current financial year. This should enable the SDS to operate on a budget of £6,500 for 1974/75 which remains the same as last year and should make a favourable impression with Home Office.

6. Previous authority was dealt with at /79.

32

SB

18.3.74

File No.

588 / UNRES / 694

Minute Sheet No.

86

Commissioner (Mrs. Reeves)

If you agree, I will write to Sir James Landon as in the draft at 86<sup>A</sup>

33

Acc

20<sup>3</sup>/<sub>74</sub>

87

We can't carry over a surplus from one financial year to another, but the same result will be achieved by asking for £7500 for 1974-5. I'm sure we can rely on the squared not spending more than is entitled. I have suggested an amendment for paragraphs 8 and 9.

34

filed 21/3/74

88.

Re.

86A agreed as amended by  
reviewer.

35



20/3/74

36

from



20/3

89.

Copy letter to Sir James Waddell ..... 89A

90.

H.O. Letter (giving covering authority for  
fuller year i.e. 31. 3. 75.)

C. Inf. Kneale has seen.

SB

3<sup>4</sup>/74.

M D Rodger  
Comster

91.

Specize Branch memoranda

- 91A-D.

92

S.B. Minute Sheet

92A

(Re HN300 and Clark)

37

93

Specize Branch memoranda

- 93A/B/C



File No.

/ /

Minute Sheet No.

94.

Copy correspondence from 'F' Department .....	94A-B
SB memorandum .....	94C
Copy letter to 'F' Department .....	94D

95

<i>SB memorandum</i>	—	<i>95A</i>
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96.

<i>SB memorandum</i>	—	<i>96A</i>
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97.

G.P. memorandum and minute sheet (action thereon)	—	97A
---	---	-----

98

S.B. Memorandum	....	....	....	98A
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99

SB memorandum .....	99A
---------------------	-----

Commander 'Ops' to see.

38

HN332 has deemed an SDS officer's deployment a success. HN332 recommends to Commander Rodgers that this officer be officially recognised by way of a DAC commendation and requests his agreement to prepare the paperwork.

M.P.

S.B.  
22.1.75.



**HN332**

39

Chief Superintendent

[P.T.O.]

DAC

Please see minute 99 and relevant memorandum. There is nothing I can add to the fulsome praise given to this SDS officer by Chief Supt [HN332]

40 [redacted] Indeed, he epitomises the efforts of all his colleagues on the Special Squad, both past and present, and this makes it exceedingly difficult to decide, if DAC's Commendations are to be awarded in appreciation for such service, who shall qualify for them.

41 There are arguments both for and against, but having thought at length on this matter I feel one should not attempt to distinguish fish from fowl in such first-class company. They are all volunteers; they are all thoroughbreds, and I would find it most invidious to make any selections as suggested by Chief Supt [HN332]

42 I am visiting the Unit on Wednesday 29 January and would welcome your presence so that personal appreciations can be made to officers including HN298 for their contributions.

43 [redacted]

Commander [redacted] 44

45 To see and implement terms of last paragraph. *pe*

HN332 Chief Supt HN332 46 to see. *pe*

SB  
22.1.75

*M.D. Rodger*  
Commander

Commander Ops

I share your reservations about the merit of embarking upon a policy of awarding commendations to members of the Special Squad, except in rare cases. If we were to pursue such a course we would quickly be obliged to consider awarding commendations to every member of the Squad and that would inevitably devalue the whole procedure. We do, and should continue to, take every opportunity to treat these officers as "special" and to reward them in the way they are supervised, by the record on their AQRs and in regard to promotion opportunities, and also in the way their personal wishes are accommodated in relation to their duties, especially when they return to ordinary duty from the Squad. This policy clearly suffices for I have never known the morale of the Squad to be as high as it obviously is today.

I shall be happy to accompany you to the Squad on 29 January and shall wish to say something to the members on this subject

SB  
24.1.75

47 [redacted]  
DAC

~~SB~~

102

Cl. Supt. 5<sup>th</sup> Squad

Please see minutes 100 & 101 and  
return to me for safe keeping. As you will  
note DAC intends visiting the Unit with  
myself on 29 January.

SB.  
27/75

M. D. Rudge  
Comdr

103

Commander "Ops"

Seen, thank you. Since this file has run  
now for over five eventful years (and 100 photos)  
I have had it closed to Paul II. Returned  
to your safe custody.

SB  
27/75

48

**HN332**