

File No.

588

UNREG

694 Pt III

Minute
Sheet No. 1

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S.D.S. Annual Report 1A

Copy S.B. Memo re Transport 1B

(Original at 26a - TR14/73/10 - Pt II)

Commander Operations.*DAC to Lee please*

1. You will see from the annual report of the Special Demonstration Squad that 1978 was again a successful year for all the officers concerned. Problems in the field of public order continue to grow, especially with regard to picketing and the on-going confrontation between the National Front and the left-wing, thus the need for reliable information remains paramount.

2. Strict control is always exercised over finance and, although we shall be within our budget for this financial year, it is necessary to ask for a further increase for 1979/80, both to combat inflation and to deal more directly with the payment of 'incidentals' (paragraph 8 refers).

3. The enthusiasm shown by the young field officers remains undiminished, despite the exacting conditions under which they have to work, and much of the credit for this can be attributed to the day to day supervision by their senior officers.

1.2.1979.

Derek J. Kneale
Derek J. Kneale.
Chief Superintendent.

2.

Copy letter to HQ from ACC 2A

ACC (thro' Receiver)

The SB Special Demonstration Squad (SDS) Annual Report is submitted for your consideration. The work of the unit scarcely needs extolling and its members have yet again made most valuable contributions in the public order field. Election year will no doubt increase the demands upon them but I have every confidence in their ability to respond.

It is clear from the report that SDS has not indulged in any unnecessary expansion with regard to extra facilities or personnel. They are very closely supervised, and carry out their unusual and exacting work without fuss or, more importantly, repercussions. It is with that perspective I

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support what seems to be a sensible request, set out on page 12 of 1A, for the listed expenses to be included with the budgetary requirement for 1979/80. I hope you will feel able to support this relatively small amendment to the calculation of more realistic basic expenses, and also give favourable consideration to the overall increase in the budget for the squad from £11,200 to £16,880 (an increase of £5,680 of which £4,000 represents the listed expenses mentioned above and which would release a proportional amount for re-allocation to other spheres of Special Branch operational activity which have suffered minor financial cut-backs in order to accommodate the increased needs of the SDS).

I also attach a letter to Home Office for your approval and signature, please.

SB
26.2.79

R.P. Bryan

DAC

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TWO

SDS Annual Report

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Cong SP Memorandum re: Transport

55

(Original at 31A, TR14/73/10, Part II).

Commander Operations

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DAC to see please

- 1) The Annual Report of the S.D.S. shows that the Field Officers concerned have upheld the traditions of the Squad by obtaining valuable intelligence in a discreet and professional fashion. The year under review has proved unexceptional in that public order problems have abounded, and there is every indication that 1980 will be another difficult period for the Police Service as a whole in this sphere. The provision of accurate intelligence and information is, therefore, essential.
- 2) Inevitably, with escalating costs, an increase in the budget is requested. Needless to say stringent control is exercised in the financial affairs of the S.D.S., and it is to the credit of the Officers concerned that they are able to forecast expenditure so accurately year by year.
- 3) The Field Officers continue to work in a cool and efficient manner in what are at times unsavoury conditions, and this is undoubtedly attributable in no small degree to the senior officers of the Squad who are so closely involved with their day-to-day activities.

Special Branch
4.3.1980

R. Wilson
R. Wilson
Det. Chief Superintendent


6.

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1/3

A.C.C. (thro' Receiver)

The SB Special Demonstration Squad (SDS) Annual Report for 1979 is presented for your perusal and consideration. Once again the Squad has proved its worth in the quality of intelligence provided by its members; this has proved invaluable in assessing uniformed policing requirements not only in the Metropolitan Police District but also, on occasions, in the provinces. In particular the General Election was a focal point for intensive



activity by several extremist organisations and the resulting demands made of the SDS were invariably dealt with satisfactorily.

It is to be anticipated that the determination of the Government to carry through legislation curtailing the extent of picketing will provoke bitter opposition from the Left which will be used by the extremists as a platform for further demonstrations. The continuing confrontations between extreme right and left-wing movements is a further indication that 1980 will be another busy year for the SDS.

The operations of the Squad continue to be carefully monitored by senior officers. Although stringent control is exercised over the section's expenditure, the continuing escalation in costs generally make it necessary to ask for an increase in the coming year's budget of £2,520 - (£19,400 compared with the 1979/80 budget of £16,880).

I attach a letter to the Home Office for your approval and signature please.

7



COSB
7.3.80

R P Bryan/
DAC

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SDS Annual Report 1980

12A

Copy Memorandum re SDS Transport 1980
(Original on TR 14/73/10 Pt.11)

12B

Commander Operations

1. In 1980 the Special Demonstration Squad continued to play its part as a vital component of the police effort to maintain law and order. The activities of the multifarious fringe political groups brought about the inevitable drain on police manpower and 1981 is showing no sign of the problem abating.
2. Morale remains at a high level and has been further boosted recently by 100% success achieved in the PC to PS Competitive Promotion Examination.
3. Careful financial management has always been a feature of squad supervision and I would support the proposal for a 15% increase in the budget for 1981/82. The operation is run at a minimum level necessary to achieve the required result and the inflation factor is unavoidable.

8

SB

12.3.81

Chief Superintendent

(G.T.M. Craft)

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15.

A/AC'C'

At 12A is the 1980 Annual Report on the Special Demonstration Squad. Once again the officers in the field have gathered intelligence which would have been extremely difficult, or perhaps impossible, to obtain by other means. The Squad continues to concentrate on the extremists who are likely to cause or foment public order problems within the MPD; consequently, as in the 'Right to Work March' terminating in Brighton, they gather information which is also invaluable to other forces.

The economic and political climate is such that we can anticipate public order problems in the coming year, and no doubt extremists will also take advantage of controversial issues such as nuclear disarmament.

Close control of the Squad includes a careful scrutiny of expenditure. However the effect of price increases for basic items such as gas, electricity and telephones has to be acknowledged and I must support the request for a fifteen per-cent increase in the budget for 1981/82 from £19,400 to £22,310.

I attach the customary letter to the Home Office for your approval and signature please.

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COSB
23.3.81C V Hewett
Deputy Assistant Commissioner**MINUTE SHEET**

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