

No.

588

UNREG

694 Pt.1V

Minute Sheet No.

One

1.

SDS Annual Report 1981 . . . 1A

Copy Memorandum re SDS Transport 1981 . . . 1B
(Original on TR 14/73/10 Pt.11)

Commander 'Operations'

DAC to see [1] please [redacted] 162

Since the late 1960's the political demonstration has become the norm rather than the exception in the Capital and the 1981 SDS Annual Report offers no hope of an abatement in this form of activity.

The organisations of the far left are working consistently on their protests against Government economic policies and the anti-nuclear movement grows apace. The right-wing factions remain a thorn in the side of police and social conditions in inner-city areas provide fertile ground for their virulent propaganda.

Chief Inspector Short, who has recently taken command of the SDS, is well aware of the challenges to be met in 1982 and I am confident that the Squad will maintain its tradition of providing the intelligence upon which 'A' Department can base operations.

With the prevailing uncertainty about the final level of local authority rates, budgetary predictions are difficult but I feel that the suggested figure of £30,000 should not be far out.

1A

[redacted]
G.T.M. Craft
Chief Superintendent.

SB
16.2.82

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TWO

6.

SDS Annual Report 1982	5A
Copy Memorandum re SDS Transport 1982 (Original on TR 14/73/10 Pt. 11)	6B

Commander 'Operations'

Chief Inspector Short's annual report presents a healthy picture of the Special Demonstration Squad. The overall objective has been well maintained and you will be aware of the contribution made in the public order sphere.

Steps have already been taken to increase coverage of extremist activities in 'priority areas' and planning is well advanced to target the violent minority within the animal liberation movement.

On the basis that the field strength of the squad is up to establishment for the first time in many months I believe that the proposed increase in budget is essential.

1B

SB
4.2.83

G.T.M. Craft

Chief Superintendent.

MINUTE SHEET



8.

AC'C'

The value of SDS to the Force, particularly in ascertaining the disorder potential of public events is increasing

1. To see the annual report at 6A, please.
2. For a letter, as at draft 7A, to be sent to Home Office for approval of the budget for the coming year please.

2



COSB
10.2.83

C V Hewett
DAC'C'(SB)

MINUTE SHEET

11

DACC(SB)

To note 10A.

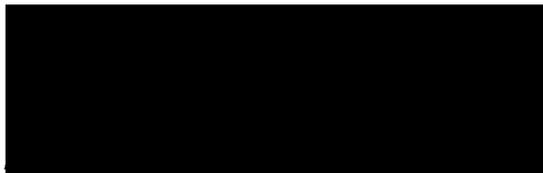
The excellent work of the SDS which for obvious reasons cannot be publicised, is much appreciated.

Sometime later in the year I would like to again visit them in the field, and I hope that the Commissioner will find it possible to attend.

We can discuss and arrange in due course.

3

8.4.83.



AC'C'



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12.

Commander 'Operations'

We discussed this morning the problem of placing officers after they have completed a tour of duty on the Special Demonstration Squad.

In this matter we have been guided by DAC's minute of 24.1.1975 at -/101 on 588/UNREG/694 Pt.1 (attached). Thus it has been the practice to accede to occasional requests by officers for attachment to C.O. branches beyond S.B. 4

[REDACTED] DS HN96 is due to begin a spell in that branch in the summer

DAC's directive, in the face of the projected reduction in SB staff, that all outside attachments shall cease, clearly affects the policy under which the SDS management may operate in considering the return of officers to normal duties. May fresh instructions be minuted, please.

4A

SB
24.5.83

[REDACTED]
G.T.M. Craft
Chief Superintendent

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Minute Sheet No. FOUR

16.

AC'C'

Subject to your agreement arrangements can be made for the Commissioner and yourself to visit the SDS in the field in November. My PS will arrange the date.

COSB
19.9.83

 [5]
C V Hewett
DACC'C'(SB)

17

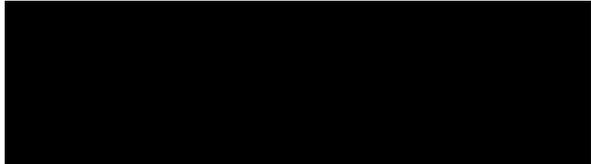
DACC(SB)

Friday, 25 November a.m. would be convenient to the Commissioner and myself to visit the SDS in the field.

Would you make the necessary arrangements please and let me have a brief note for information of the Commissioner giving details of the SB officers he is likely to meet.

19.9.83.

 [6]
AC'C' 24/11

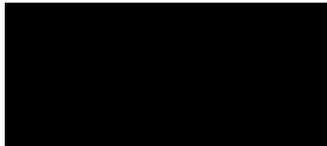
 [6]

AC'C'

18.,

The arrangements for the visit on 25th November have now been made. The programme at 18A has been agreed with the Commissioner's Private Office who have a copy, and note on individual members of the SDS is at 18B.

COSB
21.11.83

 [7]
C V Hewett
DACC'C'(SB)

M.P.

[P.T.O



19.

S.D.S. Annual Report 1983 19A

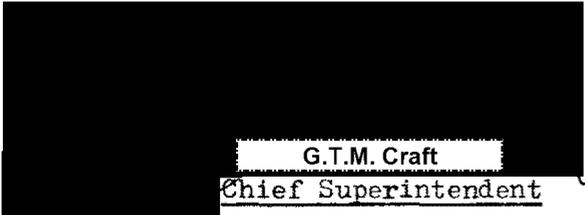
(Copy Memorandum re S.D.S. Transport 1983 -
Original on TR14/73/10 Part 11) 19B

Commander 'Operations'

The Special Demonstration Squad has had another excellent year and I cannot remember a period when morale has been at such a high level. The quality of information produced, particularly in the troublesome Animal Liberation and Anti-Nuclear areas, has been first class and much credit is due to Chief Inspector Short and his staff.

The replacement of worn out furniture and equipment in headquarters flats has been held back by budgetary considerations and I believe it necessary, not least on grounds of appearance for security purposes, that the reins be eased a little over the next twelve months. I therefore support the proposal for an increase of 20% in the 1984/85 budget.

7A



SB
14.2.84

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21.

AC'C'

You will see from the Annual Report at 19A that the SDS is being tasked effectively and is producing public order intelligence of high calibre. The increase in the budget sought for 1984/5 to £42,000 from the 1983/4 sum of £35,000 may seem a little high in percentage terms; it is due to increases in various essential operating costs and £7,000 in relation to overall costing of SDS is a minimal amount. May a letter as a 21A please be sent to Home Office.

COSB
24.2.84

8

C V Hewett
DAC'C'(SB)

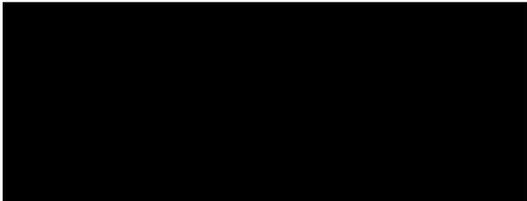
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24.

AC'C'

Roy HARRINGTON (F4 Division Home Office) came to this office on 5th June 1984 and discussed the Special Demonstration Squad with Commander Phelan.

HARRINGTON told PHELAN that enquiries by Sir Brian CUBBON had instigated PARTRIDGE's letter. Sir Brian was concerned to know that the SDS could



be defended as a current response to current problems and was not just something which had been allowed to drift on after having been set up for a specific purpose in 1968.

PHELAN showed HARRINGTON the Annual Report of the SDS for 1983 and underlined the very sensitive nature of its content. HARRINGTON was allowed to make some notes and he expressed the view that he had enough material to allay Sir Brian CUBBON's fears and to answer more than adequately the points raised in PARTRIDGE's letter. He proposed to do this by way of an internal HO note the terms of which he discussed with PHELAN in sufficient detail to ensure that nothing in it could jeopardise the security of our operations.

In future, I think we should include in the annual letter for renewal some comment on the targetting of the Squad and the results being achieved. If you agree, I will ensure that the draft letters are prepared accordingly.



COSB
7.6.84

C V Hewett
DAC'C'(SB)

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29.

Commander 'Ops':

1. The effectiveness and expertise of the Special Demonstration Squad increases each year and it is now an invaluable aid in our search for high quality intelligence so essential to our uniform colleagues dealing with the threat to public order in the Capital. The escalation, intensity and severity of attacks and crimes committed by some animal liberation supporters has necessitated our infiltration of some groups suspected of harbouring the most extreme activists and SDS intelligence has been instrumental in leading to the arrest of several individuals involved in serious cases of criminal damage and assault.

2. Over the past year due to economies which have been made the SDS has stayed within its budget. The amount of £2,636 which is being carried forward into 1985 may seem high but this has to be offset against the fact that in the near future two officers will become operational and this will account for the surplus by the end of the current financial year. Because of soaring costs, we sought an increase in our 1984/85 budget and the sum of £42,000 was

...../.....

approved but unless there are unforeseen circumstances, I do not consider that an increase is necessary to our 1985/86 budget.

10

COSB
4/2/1985

R G Tucker
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

MINUTE SHEET

31.

AC 10/18/85

You will see from the Annual Report at 28A that the Special Demonstration Squad has continued to prove its worth. The budget set for the 1984/5 financial year certainly seems to have been an accurate forecast and we are not asking for an increase for 1985/6.

You will recall that we agreed last year that you would provide Home Office with more information about targetting and the results achieved by the Squad. The draft letter at 30A has been prepared accordingly.

11

COSB
14.2.85

C V Hewett
DAC(SB)