

# Cover Sheet

Date signed: 12 December 2019

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IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO UNDERCOVER POLICING

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I, **HN299/342** c/o Designated Lawyers, PO Box 73779, London WC1A 9NL

WILL SAY AS FOLLOWS:

1. This witness statement is made in response to a Rule 9 request dated 9 October 2019. 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).
2. I am known in this Public Inquiry by the nominal HN 299/342. There is a Restriction Order in force in respect of my real name dated 17 April 2019. When I joined the SDS my rank was Detective Constable. During my time in the field I was promoted to Detective Sergeant. I remained at that rank for the remainder of my career in the MPS.

**Personal details**

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3. My name is **HN299/342** and my date of birth is **in the 1940s**.



[REDACTED]

## Police career before and after serving with the Special Demonstration Squad

4. I joined the MPS in [REDACTED] 1960 and was posted [REDACTED] within London as a uniformed Police Constable.

5. I joined Special Branch in [REDACTED] 1964 at the rank of Detective Constable.

7.

6.

7.

Details of Special Branch postings prior to joining the SDS

8.

### *Pre-SDS undercover work*

9. During [REDACTED] one of my pre-SDS postings [REDACTED] I undertook undercover work as follows.

9.

10. [REDACTED] I went to London for a training course. I had grown a beard as I suffered from ingrown hairs on my neck. When I visited Scotland Yard, a senior Special Branch officer, [REDACTED] spotted my facial hair and called me into his [REDACTED] office.

[REDACTED] as chance would have it, he had a job for me.

11. He told me that Special Branch wanted coverage of meetings of the Vietnam Solidarity Campaign (VSC), who were planning demonstrations around

[REDACTED]

London, and a march from Aldermaston. Aldermaston was an atomic research facility in Berkshire. Due to my appearance, he thought that if I attended those meetings in my plain clothes I would be able to blend in.

12. I did as he said, and whilst I was in London for my training course I attended several VSC meetings in the evening and reported back what was said. I also attended the VSC march at Aldermaston. I wore casual clothes and think that I used a fake name. I cannot now remember what fake name I used. I was not instructed to use a fake name, but I thought it would be a sensible precaution.

13. Some of the reports that I submitted on the VSC are in my witness pack, but not all of them. I cannot say exactly how many reports I submitted, but I think I it was about 6 or 7.

14. The reports dated 8 February 1968 (Relativity ref MPS-0739885), 15 February 1968 (Relativity ref MPS-0739886), and 4 April 1968 (Relativity ref MPS-0732692) are some of these. This sort of reporting was very similar to the reporting I went on to do when I joined the SDS.

15. I was able to gather a lot of intelligence about upcoming demonstrations at those meetings, and my reports were very well received by my senior officers. I received a commendation for it. Arthur Cunningham, the Chief Superintendent in charge of 'C' Squad, was particularly complimentary of my work.

16. I think that the success of the reporting that I did during that assignment might have been one of the inspirations for the SDS being set up.

17. One notable success from that reporting was that I came to learn that several activists were intending on going and throwing stones at the Daily Mirror

[REDACTED]

building. The reason for this was that the Daily Mirror's 'sister' newspaper in Germany had, it was perceived, been reporting negatively on anti-Vietnam war protestors in Germany.

18. When the VSC activists turned up at the Daily Mirror building they were greeted with a substantial police presence. They later wondered how the police knew this activity was due to take place, although no one at the time said it might have been because of an undercover officer. I think members of these groups by and large knew that their activities were monitored by the police, either by informants or UCOs.

19. Once I had completed my course in London I returned to my normal Special Branch duties <sup>11</sup> [REDACTED] and did not do any further undercover work until I joined the SDS.

### **Selection for the Special Demonstration Squad**

20. Most members of Special Branch were aware of the existence of an undercover unit. However, before actually joining the SDS I did not have much idea about what it actually did.

<sup>12</sup>

21. I was recruited to the SDS in <sup>12</sup> [REDACTED] 1971 by the Chief Inspector of the unit at the time, Phil Saunders. I believe that he was aware of my reports on meetings of the VSC in 1968, and thought that I would therefore be a good candidate for the role.

[REDACTED]

22. He invited me to his office and asked me if I would like to join the unit. I do not remember the contents of that conversation now. He probably told me a bit about what the work would involve. I remember that it was a fairly informal conversation.

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23. Fairly soon after that meeting took place, I transferred [REDACTED] to the SDS. People who did undercover work either sank or swam. That challenge appealed to me and I knew I had some ability to do that sort of work because of the reporting I had done previously on the VSC.

24. I do not remember having any conversations with the SDS management before I joined the unit about what impact doing the work would have on me or my family.

25. I was married when I joined the SDS. I do not think that anyone spoke to my wife either before or during my SDS posting about what the work involved or the impact that it might have on our family life.

26. Other than my conversation with Phil Saunders before joining the unit, I was not told anything in advance about what work I would be doing. At the stage that I joined the SDS, the unit was still very much in its infancy. I do not think that the SDS management had much idea about what working in the field involved as they had not done it themselves.

## Training and guidance in the Special Demonstration Squad

27. I did not have any training, either formal or informal, for the role of an undercover officer. I did not spend a lengthy period of time in the office before I went out into the field, my recollection is that my deployment began very quickly after I joined the unit. I do not know why I did not spend time in the office before I was deployed, but it may have been that it was felt it was not necessary given my experience of reporting on the VSC in 1968.

28. I have been shown a document entitled "Home Office Circular No 97/1967 Informants who take part in crime" (Relativity ref MPS-0727104). I have no recollection of being shown this document either before or during my time in the SDS. However, I was aware during my time on the SDS that I should not seek to act as an agent provocateur.

29. When I was in the SDS, there was no 'Tradecraft manual' or any written guidance about how to behave whilst deployed undercover.

30. I do not remember being given any specific guidance on any of the following:

- a. How far it was acceptable to become involved in the private lives of those I met whilst undercover, or how close my relationships with them could be.
- b. How far it was acceptable to enter sexual relationships whilst deployed on an undercover operation.
- c. Participation in criminal activity whilst undercover.



- [REDACTED]
- d. Provoking or encouraging another to participate in criminal activity whilst undercover.
  - e. What to do if arrested.
  - f. What to do if brought before a court, whether as a defendant or as a witness.
  - g. What to do if I obtained as a result of my deployment information subject to legal privilege.
  - h. Any other ethical or legal limitations on the way in which I could behave whilst undercover.

31. Although I do not recall any specific guidance being given on the things listed above, we were all Special Branch officers who knew or should have known how it was appropriate to conduct ourselves whilst deployed. Further, I understand that SDS management tried to select people for the unit who could be trusted to exercise common sense and good judgment.

32. I did not receive any training on race equality from the MPS either prior to or during my time with the SDS.

#### **Undercover identity**

33. I used a cover name whilst I was deployed. I believe that cover name was David Hughes. Most people called me 'Dave'.

[REDACTED]

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34. [REDACTED] I do not remember how I came to use that cover name. I think I just made it up. I did not use the identity of a deceased child. I cannot remember if I had a cover date of birth.

35. My cover background was that I had come down from Glasgow looking for work.

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[REDACTED]

36. Shortly after I joined the SDS I made a trip up to Glasgow and knocked on the door of a well-known Glaswegian left wing activist, Tony Southall. I introduced myself (in my cover identity), told him that I was interested in left wing politics, and said I wanted to become more involved in it. He was friendly and encouraged me to do that.

37. Once I went into the field in London, I told people that I was friends with Tony Southall. Tony would come down to London occasionally to attend meetings or demonstrations and I would see him at those. It was useful to have someone like that who you could speak to and be seen with. It bolstered your cover background. He had no idea I was a Special Branch officer.

38. When I was initially deployed, my cover background was that I was unemployed. However, during the first six months of my deployment I obtained a cover job as a van driver. I have described this in more detail below.

39. I have been referred to a document entitled "Penetration of Extremist Groups" (Relativity ref MPS-0724119), and asked if the process I used to create a cover

[REDACTED]

identity is the same as is described in that document under the sub-heading "Identity and Background Material".

40. I did not submit an autobiography to SDS management about my cover identity, and I do not remember discussing my cover background with the SDS management or anyone else on the unit.

[16]

41. I did have a driving licence in my cover name [REDACTED] [REDACTED] but I did not have any other cover documents. I think that the process of constructing a cover background improved and developed over time. At the time I was in the SDS, however, it was pretty basic.

### Cover employment

42. As I have said above, I obtained cover employment as a van driver. I cannot say exactly when my cover employment began, but it was within 6 months of me going into the field.

[18]

43. [REDACTED] HN299/342 describes his cover employment as a van driver for a carpet supply and fitting service [REDACTED]

[19]

44. [REDACTED] I never did any actual work for my cover employer [REDACTED]

45. The arrangement with my cover employer was approved by the SDS office.



[REDACTED]

46. After I obtained cover employment, I would always keep a few rolls of carpet in the back of my cover vehicle in case anyone ever looked inside.

#### **Cover accommodation**

47. I had a number of cover flats during my deployment. I think that the first one I had was in Finsbury Park. I also had cover flats in Dulwich, Kilburn, and Streatham during my deployment. The reason I moved several times was purely for convenience. As the location of the meetings of the groups I was reporting on at a particular time changed, so did my cover flats.

48. I obtained my cover flats myself, but they were paid for by the office. I would try and choose places that were in between my real home and the meetings that I attended. This was to ensure that I could visit my cover flat regularly.

49. I would try and be seen at my cover flat as often as possible so it looked to the neighbours as though I actually lived there.

50. I think I obtained my cover flats through advertisements in local newspapers.

51. I never shared any of my cover flats, either with another UCO or with any other person.

52. Sometimes I would stay at my cover flat overnight, but generally I would stay at home.

53. On perhaps a dozen occasions during my deployment I went to meetings or demonstrations outside of London, and stayed on the sofa of a member of the

[REDACTED]

groups I reported on for the night. Other than that, I did not live anywhere other than my official cover accommodation.

### Legend building

54. Unusually for a Special Branch officer, I already had a beard and a moustache when I joined the SDS. I also had quite a lot of curly hair. When I joined the SDS, nothing really changed about my personal appearance other than that I became a lot scruffier and wore casual clothes, rather than my work suits.

55. Other than Tony Southall, I did not visit any other places or people to prepare for my deployment. I do not remember my trip to see Tony Southall being specifically authorised by the SDS office. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

56. I have been asked about an "SDS Policy document" with the Relativity reference MPS-0724125, where it is said that a sum of £16 is needed to pay for my rent. The Inquiry has indicated that it believes this may show I only had a cover flat for a short period in 1971. I do not think that is correct.

57. There is no document in my witness pack with that Relativity reference number, however within my witness pack there is a memorandum dated 28 October 1971 (Relativity ref MPS-0728971), which states the same information. I believe that relates to my monthly expenditure on rent, not my expenditure on rent for the whole of 1971. My recollection is that I went into the field shortly after joining the unit in [REDACTED] 1971, and that I obtained a cover flat straight away. I had cover flats for the entirety of my deployment.

[REDACTED]

58. After I obtained my cover flat I spent around 6 or 8 weeks visiting places in the local area to establish my cover background. I went to the local pubs, visited the local library, and shopped in the local shops so I was seen around the place. Once I had done that, I started attending meetings.

59. I understand that the first report that Inquiry has which it attributes to me is dated November 1971. I believe that I started attending meetings and submitting reports before that date, probably around August or September 1971, if my recollection of how much time I spent establishing myself in the local area is correct.

[REDACTED] 23 [REDACTED]

60. I had a cover vehicle (a Bedford Van) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Details of that cover vehicle can be seen in two documents I have been provided with in my witness pack (Relativity refs MPS-0732966 and MPS-0728979). It had all sorts of mechanical issues when I first received my cover vehicle. It failed its first MOT, and after a few weeks the whole engine failed and had to be replaced. 24 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

## Deployment

### *Infiltration of groups*

61. I have been shown an extract from my personal file (Relativity ref MPS-0722851) which indicates that I joined the SDS [REDACTED] 25 in [REDACTED] 1971. I believe that date is correct as it accords with my recollection that I joined the unit in [REDACTED] 26 [REDACTED] 1971.

[REDACTED]

62. I went into the field shortly after joining the SDS, and once I had established myself in the local area, I started attending meetings and submitting reports. As I have said above, I think my reporting would have begun before November 1971, which is the date of the first report from my SDS deployment that the Inquiry has provided me with.


63. I was promoted to Sergeant during my deployment but I remained in the field and continued to submit reports until I left the SDS in 1976.

64. I was not tasked to infiltrate specific groups; I was just told to attend meetings. Sometimes I would be asked by the SDS office if I was going to a particular upcoming meeting or demonstration, but my tasking was never more specific than that. My understanding was that I had to find out whatever information I could about whichever groups I came into contact with.

65. Time Out magazine used to have a section in it called "Agit Prop" where left wing groups would advertise their meetings. At the beginning of my deployment I went to lots of those sorts of meetings. I did not discuss with the SDS management which of those I would go to, I just went to whichever looked like they would be the most interesting.

66. I believe that is the way that all undercover deployments began at the time. You would go to publicly advertised meetings and meet people. Those people would sometimes invite you along to other meetings, and you would naturally find yourself falling in with a certain group. In my case I met a lot of members of the International Marxist Group (IMG), and that is the group I reported on most during my deployment. As is evident from the reports in my witness pack, I was





involved with several other groups, including the International Socialists (IS), and the North London Claimant's Union.

67. I do not remember membership of any of these groups as being an official status. I do not think that any of them had formal membership registers or anything of that sort, but if you went to a few meetings you would start to strike up friendships with people. People drifted in and out of these groups all the time, they were not very organised.

68. The group that is most likely to have regarded me as a member in the 'informal' sense is the IMG. I was involved in that group for the majority of my deployment. I cannot now remember the exact dates, but I became involved with it early on in my deployment, and only stopped being involved with it a few months before I left the field.

69. The North London Claimant's Union may well also have regarded me as an informal member. I was involved with it for 2 or 3 years and attended several conferences, including conferences in London, Oxford, and Birmingham.

70. I am not sure that any other groups would have regarded me as a member even in the informal sense. As is evident from the reports in my witness pack, I associated with several groups for various periods of time. I cannot now remember exactly how long I associated with each, or the dates that I did so.

71. I became associated with these groups either by going to publicly advertised meetings, or by being invited along to them by people I met at publicly advertised meetings. Future meetings of a particular group would generally be

[REDACTED]

announced as the last order of business, so you would make a note of when those were.

72. Throughout my deployment I attended between 1 and 6 meetings per week and quite often a demonstration at the weekend as well. I would also sometimes go for a drink with members of these groups after their meetings.

73. I have been asked whether the contents of my witness pack correlates with the amount of reporting I recall providing. It does not. I think that I submitted far more reports during my deployment than are contained in my witness pack. My witness pack contains fewer than 200 reports, but I would put in a report for every meeting and most demonstrations that I attended.

74. The only demonstrations I would not submit a report on were large demonstrations. Reports on those would be prepared by another unit of Special Branch after they had taken place. However, when I went on a demonstration I would submit to the SDS a list of everyone who I had seen in attendance, or sometimes give names over the telephone to someone in the SDS office so that could be included in the main Special Branch report.

75. My witness pack is definitely not the totality of the reporting I provided. Indeed I think that the Inquiry is missing large numbers of my reports. For example, I remember submitting a lot of reports towards the end of my deployment on a Marxist Class that I attended in Streatham. I have not seen a single report on those classes in my witness pack. Most of my reports on the North London Claimant's Union are also missing.

[REDACTED]

*How my reporting was done*

76. How I would report intelligence would depend on the urgency of the information.

If I came across information that a demonstration was going to happen at some point in the next few days, I would telephone to the office rather than submit a written report. I would speak to the SDS office every morning to confirm that I was OK, so generally I would pass on information then. I would sometimes also inform the SDS office of information like this during meetings with them at the SDS safe houses.

77. Sometimes I would not know exact information about things like the numbers of people who were likely to attend a particular demonstration, but I would report whatever information I came across. I understand that this information would be used a part of a broader assessment prepared by Special Branch in advance of demonstrations to inform how that demonstration would be policed.

78. I would telephone in urgent information about demonstrations quite often. None of that sort of reporting appears in my witness pack, but I assume it would have been condensed into writing by the SDS office and passed on to the relevant Squad in Special Branch.

79. I also submitted a lot of written reports on future meetings and upcoming demonstrations and as I have said above, most of those are not present in my witness pack.

80. My written reports would always be handwritten in draft and then submitted to the SDS office to type up. The SDS office would add in file references and

[REDACTED]

things like that. My recollection is that the report would then come back to me with my name on the bottom and I would sign it.

### *Tasking*

81. Meetings with SDS office took place 2 or 3 times a week at one of the SDS safe houses. I would sometimes be asked if I would be going to a particular meeting or demonstration, and if I was not already I would make the effort to do so.

82. The Chief Inspector or Inspector of the unit would normally come to the meetings at the safe house and task you in that way. Other than that, I was never really told what to do whilst undercover, or how to do it. To a large extent I was left to my own devices.

83. Very occasionally I would ask the SDS office for the Special Branch file of someone who I came across in the field. I might do this if I came across someone who was obviously very active, but I did not know a great deal about. I would be given that file to look through at the SDS safe house.

84. I was not told how long I was expected to serve on the unit at the outset, but I understand the maximum was 4 or 5 years.

85. There were certain kinds of information that the SDS office was always interested in knowing:

- a. Any advance notification of any event at which there might be a public order issue.



[REDACTED]

b. Any information material to public order policing at forthcoming events.

c. The identity of individuals who had attended meetings or demonstrations. The SDS office were particularly interested in individuals who were 'active' within groups, rather than those who only occasionally attended meetings and demonstrations.

d. Any major changes within groups, such as if anyone was adopting a more prominent role within a group, or if people were leaving a group who was replacing them.

e. Who was in charge of organising things within groups, and who was in charge of deciding policy.

86. My tasking did not really change during my deployment. To a certain extent I made my own judgments about what was important to report or not, but what information I reported was informed by my experience of Special Branch reporting previously when I conducted enquires. I knew the kind of information that Special Branch were interested in and would want me to include in my reports.

87. Most of my reports were about meetings where I would report what was said and who attended them. If I came across someone I had not encountered before I would include their name in my report because I did not know whether they would go on to achieve a position of prominence in future. Sometimes they would have no further involvement with the group at all.

88. Tasking was certainly not rigid, you found out what you could and that meant taking an inclusive approach to what you reported.

*Premises and meetings with other SDS undercover officers*

89. There were several SDS safe houses during my time on the unit. I think there were about 5 or 6 in total. They moved around if the SDS office felt that our presence was being noted by people who lived in the area, or if another property became available that sounded more suitable than the one the unit was currently using.

90. I remember that there <sup>27</sup> were safe houses in West London <sup>28</sup> one in South East London <sup>29</sup> one in South London <sup>30</sup> and one in North West London. I think there was another safe house during my time on the SDS but I cannot remember its location.

91. All undercover officers attended meetings at an SDS safe house 2 or 3 times a week.

92. The SDS also had an office at Scotland Yard, but no undercover officers attended it once they went out into the field.

93. Meetings at the SDS safe house all served the same purpose. UCOs would hand in their draft reports and the SDS office would provide them with reports that had been typed up for signature. The SDS office would generally tell the UCOs about anything of interest that was happening in Special Branch. Sometimes the SDS office would ask if you would be attending particular meetings or demonstrations, and sometimes UCOs would speak to them, in front of other officers, about meetings they had attended.

94. If a UCO had any personal difficulties, they could have a private conversation with the SDS office. I did not need to do that during my deployment.

[REDACTED]

95. To a limited extent UCOs would talk to each other about what they were doing in the field. Most of us worked in different fields, but we would occasionally come across each other. If we were involved in related activities we might discuss with one another a particular upcoming demonstration, or things that were going on in groups we reported on, such as an internal dispute or a change in leadership. Sometimes management were around for those conversations and overheard them, sometimes they were not.

96. Sometimes during meetings at the SDS safe house someone would cook a meal and all the UCOs and the SDS office would eat together. Most of the time we would talk to one another about everyday things unrelated to our undercover work. After management had left we would sometimes stay at the cover flat for a while and carry on chatting.

97. Occasionally I would go for a drink with another UCO. Normally we would just discuss everyday things unrelated to our work. As I have said above, the SDS office would rarely join us for something like that.

*Pattern of life whilst undercover*

98. I went to my cover flat as frequently as I could. As I have said above I would choose my cover flats because they were located between the meetings I attended and where I lived at the time.

99. I spent quite a lot of time in and around my cover flat making sure I was seen by my neighbours and others in the local area. I would go to between 1 and 6

[REDACTED]

meetings per week. I also went to a lot of pickets and demonstrations of various sizes, normally at the weekend.

100. The demonstrations I went to were generally put on by broad front organisations such as the VSC or the TOM which attracted people from a wide spectrum of the left. I would go along and report back on who was there.

101. I cannot now say how many hours a week I spent on duty in my cover identity, but I would work undercover 5 or 6 days a week.

102. In addition to work in my cover identity I also had follow on work to do. I would write draft reports about all the meetings and demonstrations I attended. I would prepare those as soon as possible, when it was fresh in my mind as to who was at a demonstration or meeting, and what was said.

103. I would always write my draft reports at home, never in my cover flat. You would not want to have draft intelligence reports laying around in your cover flat in case someone dropped by unexpectedly.

104. Writing a draft report might take an hour or so, sometimes less. It depended on how lengthy the meeting was. Reports on conferences would take quite a while because of the number of attendees and the amount that was said.

105. As I have said above, I would also attend meetings at the SDS safe house 2 or 3 times per week.



[REDACTED]

106. I would take a day or two a week off, depending on what was happening, but there was no set pattern to which days I would take off. I would also take annual leave when I could.

107. What I did on a particular day depended on what was going on. It did not have set start time and end times. Sometimes I would be very busy, sometimes I would not be.

108. Life on the SDS was completely different to normal Special Branch work.

109. Life in other Special Branch postings was generally very structured. Most of my Special Branch postings were like a normal office job with set hours, though I would also go out on enquires visiting places or addresses. Special Branch officers would frequently be asked to undertake an enquiry on an individual to update the information known about that person. You would be asked to find where they were working and what they were currently doing. The manner in which I conducted normal Special Branch enquiries informed the manner in which I reported on individuals whilst undercover.

110. Life in the SDS was much less structured and entirely depended on what the individuals in groups you were reporting on were up to.

#### *Pay and overtime*

111. Serving on the SDS definitely increased my take home pay. I worked a lot of overtime, particularly in the evening at weekends. How much my pay

[REDACTED]

increased changed week to week depending on how active those I was reporting on had been.

112. All UCOs kept a diary of the hours that we had worked and the expenses that we had incurred. I do not remember there being a hard and fast rule as to when overtime could be claimed.

113. I cannot say exactly how much overtime added to my income, as I have said above, it depended how busy I was week to week.

114. My cost of living was not reduced due to serving on the SDS. Although we would be paid expenses for things such petrol costs incurred whilst on duty, and a small subsistence allowance if we worked over a certain number of hours in a day, these were not great sums.

*Reporting on Spartacus League/IMG (International Marxist Group)*

115. I have been asked about a report dated 11 November 1971 (Relativity ref MPS-0732356). This is my reporting. I do not think that it is a report of the first meeting that I attended, nor do I think that it is the first report that I submitted.

116. I do not remember the meeting, but I do remember [Privacy] and [Privacy], who are two of the people mentioned in this report. The latter was a bank robber with a history of violence.

117. I cannot remember if I introduced myself to anyone by my cover name at this meeting. Do not remember how I came to be invited to it, but I would

[REDACTED]

have been invited by someone else who attended as it is not the kind of thing that would be advertised in the "Agit Prop" column of Time Out.

118. I have been asked about a report dated 12 November 1971 (Relativity ref UCPI0000015678) which states that the IMG had some success in infiltrating factories and influencing workers who were "clearly more ripe for revolutionary change".

119. I reported this information because I understand that Special Branch had a role in monitoring subversion. The IMG employed 'entryism' and sought to infiltrate both the Labour Party and Trade Unions. The fact that the IMG felt it was achieving success in spreading its ideas to factory workers was symptomatic of activity like that.

120. The infiltration of those organisations by extreme political groups was of concern to both Special Branch and the Security Service.

121. The SDS office would sometimes mention that senior MPS officers were meeting with the Security Service or the Home Secretary to discuss intelligence of this sort. I understand that there was a lot of high level cooperation in relation to subversion.

122. I was not specifically tasked by the SDS office to obtain intelligence about subversion, but I always reported it if I became aware of it.

123. The report goes on to state that an IMG member stated that the IMG gave unqualified support to the IRA. I have been asked why I thought Special Branch needed to know that.

[REDACTED]

124. Special Branch closely monitored the activities of the IRA and organisations that were supporting them. The IRA were an active terrorist group. I understand Special Branch would report information that it learned about the IRA to the Security Service, who would action that information as appropriate.

125. I have been asked what actual support the IMG gave to the IRA when I reported on it. To my knowledge, the only support that the IMG provided to the IRA was verbal statements of support, and attending demonstrations in support of Irish Republicanism.

33

126. [REDACTED]

127. I have been asked several questions about a report dated 31 January 1972 (Relativity reference UCPI0000007940). I do not know what task the three volunteers who were asked to "break the law" were asked to undertake. If I had known that I would have reported it. I did not identify those three individuals, if I had I would have included that in my report. I do not know if those individuals were arrested and prosecuted for any illegal acts that they carried out. I went on a lot of student marches, and I do have any specific recollection of the march where they were asked to carry out this task.

128. I have been asked about a report dated 26 April 1972 (Relativity reference UCPI0000008129). I reported names of people I recognised at this conference. When I did not recognise them I provided a description.



[REDACTED]

129. During my deployment, I kept an index book of everyone who I met. When attending a big meeting or demonstration I would see a lot of people. When I was preparing my draft report I would go through my index book and make sure that I mentioned everyone that I had seen. I did that to make sure that I did not accidentally miss anyone out. I do not remember what I did with that index book when I left the unit. It may have been destroyed or handed in to the SDS office.

130. Piers Corbyn used to attend a lot of meetings and I knew what he looked like. I do not remember talking to him during my deployment, but if I did it only would have been in passing. I do not remember if talked to him at this meeting.

*Reporting on Irish Solidarity Campaign and the Anti-Internment League*

131. I have been asked about a passage in a report dated 15 February 1972 (Relativity ref UCPI0000008275). [REDACTED] Privacy was not a well-liked man, but he was prominent on the political scene. The interpersonal relationships within the groups that were being monitored were of interest to Special Branch. That sort of information was passed to the Security Service. I do not think Special Branch itself did anything with the information other than file it away.

132. I have been asked about a report dated 19 December 1972 (Relativity ref MPS-0728891). I do not remember the event or submitting this report, but I attended lots of small events like this. I agree that the tone of the report is sarcastic. This group engaged in a lot of events like this which seemed to be a complete waste of time and did not really achieve anything.

[REDACTED]

133. Sometimes my personal views crept into my reporting. The SDS office never told me that this was inappropriate or not permitted.

134. Although the events described in this report sound like something that might stick in your mind, I do not remember the event or what role I played at it. I do not remember how I knew that the AIL lost £20 as a result of the demonstration.

*Reporting on other related interest groups*

135. I have been asked about a number of reports dated 8 March 1972 (Relativity ref UCPI0000008407), 11 April 1972 (Relativity ref UCPI000000795), 13 April 1972 (Relativity ref UCPI0000008952), 17 December 1973 (Relativity ref UCPI0000016222), 19 February 1974 (Relativity ref UCPI0000008946), 10 May 1974 (Relativity ref UCPI0000008824), 15 May 1974 (Relativity ref UCPI0000008823), and 14 June 1974 (Relativity ref UCPI0000014712).

136. I have been asked how I came to know that these meetings were taking place. I would have heard about almost all of them through word of mouth, though some may of them may have been publicly advertised in the "Agit Prop" column of Time Out. Of those I was invited to, I cannot now remember who invited me to them.

137. Although my name is on these reports, and therefore they must be mine, I do not remember a great deal about specific events in these reports that occurred nearly 50 years ago. I doubt I would have been specifically tasked to attend these meetings. I would have attended them because a member of a

[REDACTED]

group had invited me, or because I read about the meeting and thought it was likely to be of interest to Special Branch.

138. Very occasionally would contribute to meetings, but generally I would just sit and listen. I do not think that I ever made any significant or noteworthy contributions at meetings, but it would have seemed suspicious if I had always just sat at the back and said nothing at all. I would have introduced myself to people in my cover name when it was appropriate to do so.

139. I have been asked about the report dated 17 December 1973 (Relativity ref UCPI0000016222) which contains intelligence that a group called Fight On who would "whip up a militant aggressive mood in demonstrators" by showing them emotive film clips before heading out to demonstrations. I considered it important that Special Branch knew this information. Uniformed police at demonstrations attended by members of Fight On would know that those demonstrations would have more of a propensity to become violent, and so appropriate preparations could be made.

140. I have been asked about the report dated 10 May 1974 (Relativity ref UCPI0000008824). I do not remember the events described in this report so I do not remember how I came to find out that [Privacy] and [Privacy] [Privacy] had been flyposting. I do not remember being present when they were flyposting, and I do not remember what view my supervisors expressed on arresting those men as a result of this report.

141. I have been asked about the report dated 15 May 1974 (Relativity ref UCPI0000008823), where one of the attendees said that two million people, including senior police officers and senior members of the Conservative Party



[REDACTED]

would need to be "liquidated" when the Socialist revolution took place. The attendees at this particular Marxist class were particularly politically extreme. Not all members of that Marxist class shared his belief, but some of them did. These sort of views were present to varying degrees in activist groups like the IMG, but the majority of people I encountered during my deployment were not that extreme.

142. I have been asked about a report dated 14 June 1974 (Relativity ref UCPI0000014712), which suggests that Special Branch spies who were uncovered should get a "good hiding". To my knowledge, I was never under suspicion of being a Special Branch spy. I do not really remember that statement being made, or that particular meeting, but it was quite common for members of the groups I reported on to say things like that.

143. Some of the members of the groups I reported on had criminal records, including for violent offences. I do not remember feeling particularly threatened when I heard things like that said. I heard that kind of thing so often that I just normalised it. As far as I remember, no extra steps were taken to protect my welfare after that meeting. My colleagues all had to deal with similar things. A lot of groups were on the lookout for police spies.

144. I have been asked about a trio of reports between 21 August 1974 and 23rd September 1974 (Relativity references UCPI0000008854, UCPI0000014716, and UCPI0000014717), which relate to an internal dispute at a Marxist-Leninist Class I attended. [Privacy] and [Privacy] were well known and rather divisive figures. They would frequently be involved in squabbles and disputes with other members of groups they were in, and I would do my best not to become

[REDACTED]

involved. I would keep my views to myself and if asked my opinion would not come down strongly in favour of either side. In that way I was able to carry on attending the meetings held during this dispute without arousing suspicion.

145. I have been asked about a report dated 7 February 1973 (Relativity ref UCPI0000014725). I was not specifically tasked to provide information about this particular relationship, but the information I reported about the [Privacy] falling out with [Privacy] it is the kind of information that Special Branch was interested in.

146. As I have said above, [Privacy] and [Privacy] fell out with other members of groups on a number of occasions. Special Branch wanted to know what was happening in these groups. They wanted to know who was influential, and where the rivalries and disagreements were. A rift developing between certain members might mean that they would wield less influence in the group in future. Special Branch was only really concerned with intelligence gathering rather than taking any action in relation to that information, but it would be passed to the Security Service.

147. I have been asked about a report dated 13 November 1973 (Relativity ref UCPI0000017868). In particular, I have been asked how I was able to compile the list of names in the report.

148. As time went by I was able to recognise more and more people. As I have explained above, I kept an index book of everyone I met during my deployment. When I attended a large meeting or demonstration I would go through that index and then record in my report everyone who I remembered

[REDACTED]

seeing at the event. Because of that, my reports used to contain a lot of identifications of individuals.

149. I can see that there are not many reports from 1973 in my witness pack. I carried on submitting reports as normal during 1973 so I do not know why this is.

150. I have been asked about my tasking in relation to the Marxist-Leninist Classes at 10 Blair Street. As far as I remember I was not specifically tasked to infiltrate this group by the SDS office. I do not remember ever discussing this group or their activities with my managers, but I may have done.

*Reporting on Troops Out Movement, North London Claimants Union and IMG*

151. I have been asked about a report dated 24 February 1975 (Relativity ref MPS-0728690). I do not remember this meeting, but I remained in the field after I was promoted to Sergeant, so I probably did attend it given that the report bears my name at the bottom.

152. I have been asked about a series of reports between 22 November 1974 (Relativity Ref UCPI0000015058) and 11 March 1976 (Relativity ref UCPI0000012238) which do not bear name.

153. I remember reporting on the TOM, the IMG and the North London Claimant's Union during this period so it is possible that these reports are mine. I remember a lot of the names, but I do not have any specific recollection of the meetings these reports describe.

[REDACTED]

154. I did not attend very many meetings of the TOM. I also recognise very few of the names in any of the reports which date from the middle of 1975 onwards.

155. My recollection is that I always received my reports back with my name on the bottom once they had been typed up. It is therefore very difficult for me to say with certainty whether or not these are my reports.

156. I have been asked why these reports contain information about people's living arrangements, and shown a report dated 27 October 1975 (Relativity ref UCPI0000009245) as an example.

157. Where someone was living, and who they were living with, was definitely the kind of information that I would have reported. That is the kind of information that you would try and find out as part of a usual Special Branch enquiry. If Special Branch or the Security Service needed to find someone, it would know their address. People who lived together tended to share similar political views.

158. The particular report I have been shown contains far more information than just an address and who lived there. It has obviously been prepared by someone who has visited the flat of [Privacy], the subject of the report.

159. The name [Privacy] is vaguely familiar, but I do not remember her well, or visiting her flat, or submitting this report. [REDACTED]

33a

[REDACTED] The only explanation I can think of is that [REDACTED] the flat might be of interest to the Security Service if they were planning on attending it and planting a listening device.



[REDACTED]

160. I have been asked about a report dated 11 March 1975 (Relativity ref UCPI0000006903) which states that the IMG were trying to reach positions of domination within the TOM. Special Branch wanted to know information like that because if a group with extreme politics such as the IMG got control of a broad front organisation such as the TOM, it would dramatically affect the politics and nature of that group. Because some members of the IMG advocated violence to achieve their political aims, an IMG controlled TOM could present a serious threat to public order.

161. The IMG were intelligent and motivated group. Its members tended to be very astute and able at infiltrating other organisations, and being influential within them. It also wanted to control over broad front organisations such as the TOM them to prevent its political rivals on the left from doing the same thing.

162. I have been asked about a report dated 17 September 1975 (Relativity reference UCPI0000007598). I cannot say for certain whether I am the author of this report, but I certainly could be.

163. I was aware during my deployment that the IMG were trying to infiltrate the Labour Party, and employed entryist tactics. In particular, the IMG tried to take over local Labour Party groups and shape their policies. I do not remember which individuals I associated with joined the Labour Party, but I know it went on to a considerable degree. The IMG saw the Labour Party as a vehicle by which they could achieve national prominence.



[REDACTED]

*Reporting on a People's Democracy Member*

164. I have been asked about a report dated 18 September 1973 (Relativity reference UCPI0000008158) which records that an individual named [Privacy] resigned from the group Peoples' Democracy due to the group's unconditional support for indiscriminate bombing in Northern Ireland by the Provisional IRA. The report says that [Privacy] believed that only specific targets such as big businessmen, politicians, and other capitalists should be attacked.

165. Support for indiscriminate lethal violence in Northern Ireland was not particularly common amongst the supporters of Irish Republicanism that I encountered during my deployment, but there were individuals who held those views. Many more supported more targeted lethal violence of the sort that [Privacy] believed in.

166. However, I would say that more than half of the people I encountered during my deployment who supported Irish Republicanism did not believe that any lethal violence was justified.

167. Most people just gave verbal support and attended marches of broad front organisations such as the TOM, but did not do anything further than that. As I have said above, some individuals in groups I reported on travelled to the Republic of Ireland and had meetings there, but whether that resulted in any involvement with, or active support for, lethal violence, I cannot say.

[REDACTED]

*General questions about reporting*

168. I have been asked whether the reports I have referred to above are all authored by me.
169. The reports which bear my name on the bottom must be mine, though I do not remember the content of many of them.
170. The reports which do not bear my name but relate to groups which I did report on such as the IMG and the North London Claimant's Union are possibly mine, but I cannot say definitively that they are. Some of them could have been authored by <sup>34</sup> [REDACTED] HN340 or <sup>35</sup> [REDACTED] HN338 who were also involved with <sup>36</sup> [REDACTED] left the SDS before me so he cannot be the author of the reports towards the end of my witness pack.
171. I have been asked if my methods of gathering intelligence in the SDS differed from those which I used in Special Branch before joining the SDS.
172. Other than my reporting on the VSC in 1968, I did not do any undercover work in Special Branch before joining the SDS. I would occasionally attend meetings of activist groups in plain clothes, but I would never use a cover identity. Before I joined the SDS I certainly would not attend social events of groups or anything of that sort.
173. The style and content of the reports I submitted on the SDS were roughly the same as my Special Branch reporting before I joined the unit when I was conducting an enquiry on an individual, group, or event.

[REDACTED]

*Trade Unions*

174. Whilst serving as an undercover police officer I joined the Transport and General Workers Union (T&G) in my cover identity. I joined this to bolster my cover identity. It seemed to me to be a natural thing to do for someone who was involved in the politics that I was.

175. I did not become involved in Trade Union affairs in any way, but if a big T&G meeting was held I would sometimes go along to see who was speaking and listen to what the general drift of the discussion was. I probably would not have submitted a report on that, because those meetings would be covered by an ordinary Special Branch officer.

176. The purpose of me attending big T&G meetings, and Special Branch monitoring them more generally, was to see if there were any members of extreme political groups involved in that Trade Union, and if they were seeking to attain a position of prominence. Special Branch was very concerned about entryism being employed by extreme political groups in organisations such as the T&G.

*Public Order*

177. I do not remember witnessing any public disorder whilst serving undercover in the SDS, nor did I participate in any.

[REDACTED]

*Violence*

178. I did not witness any violence to people or property whilst serving undercover with the SDS, nor was I involved in any, either as a perpetrator or as a victim.

*Subversion*

179. I understood that MPS Special Branch had a role in gathering intelligence about subversive people and subversive activities, and relaying that information to the Security Service. I do not think that Special Branch actively engaged in counter subversion activities as that was not within its remit.

180. During my deployment I witnessed lots of people espousing subversive views. The entryism employed by the IMG in relation to the Labour Party was subversive, but in the end it was not successful. Generally, people I reported on talked about revolution a lot, and attended a lot of demonstrations, but did not actually engage in subversive activities.

181. I understand that copies of my reporting were sent to the Security Service because they had responsibility for counter subversion.

182. I did not have any direct contact with the Security Service during my deployment.

[REDACTED]

*Sexual relationships*

183. I did not engage in any sexual activity whilst in my undercover identity.

*Other relationships*

184. During my deployment the individuals I formed the closest personal relationships with were:

- a. [Privacy] I met him through the North London Claimant's Union. He would have seen me as a fairly close friend. I went round his house several times, and went out for drinks with him.
- b. [Privacy] I met him through IMG meetings. He would have seen me as a friend and we went for drinks socially.
- c. [Privacy] I also met him through the IMG. He would have seen me as a friend and we went for drinks socially.
- d. The couple who ran Marxist classes in Streatham: The husband was called [Privacy] but I cannot now remember the name of the wife. Their surname might be [Privacy] but I am not sure. At the time they would have seen me as a friend.
- e. [Privacy] cannot remember his surname but I also met him at the Marxist classes in Streatham. He would have seen me as a friend.

185. I would say that members of groups trusted me, although they did say quite often that we must be continuously on the lookout for Special Branch



[REDACTED]

spies. I did not assume any particular positions of trust with them beyond friendships.

*Criminal justice*

186. I did not participate in any criminal activity whilst deployed undercover.

187. I was not arrested, charged, tried, or convicted of a criminal offence whilst serving undercover.

188. I did not ever appear in criminal proceedings as a witness in my undercover identity.

189. The fact that I was an undercover officer was never disclosed in connection with any arrest, prosecution, or anything else of that nature.

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

191. To my knowledge, none of the product of my reporting was ever used in support of, or otherwise disclosed in connection with, a criminal investigation or prosecution.

192. I did not provide evidence for use in any prosecution arising from my undercover deployment.

[REDACTED]

*Other legal or disciplinary proceedings*

193. I was not involved in any way in my undercover identity in any legal proceedings.

194. I was not involved in any way in my undercover identity in any complaint against a police officer or any disciplinary proceedings involving a police officer.

*Legal professional privilege*

195. I did not receive any legally privileged information whilst I was deployed.

*Elected politicians*

196. None of the people upon whom I reported were elected politicians at the time I reported on them. Kate Hoey, who is now a Member of Parliament, used to attend IMG meetings that I reported on, but she was not an MP at the time.

*The use to which my reporting was put*

197. I understand that public order intelligence that I submitted was sent by the SDS office to the uniformed branch of the MPS which would be policing the demonstration.

198. Reporting of any other sort would just have been added to Special Branch records and forwarded on to the Security Service.

[REDACTED]

199. I believe that my reporting helped uniformed police effectively manage demonstrations I provided advance information on. I would frequently report information about upcoming events which would assist in making sure uniformed officers were present in the right numbers and ready to deal with any issues that I knew may arise, such as groups splintering off from the main demonstration.

200. I believe that my reporting also assisted the Security Service in discharge their duties in relation to counter subversion by providing them with detailed information on subversive individuals and groups.

#### *Exfiltration*

[37]

201. My deployment ended [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] 1976. The document with the Relativity reference MPS-0732936 suggests I left the SDS [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] 1976, which sounds about right. I think that my deployment was of standard length.

202. I understand that deployments did not generally last longer than 4 or 5 years because there was concern about the effect doing that sort of work for too long would have on a UCO and their family.

203. The "Penetration of Extremist Groups" document (Relativity ref MPS-0724119) states that deployments should not last longer than 12 months. That was obviously not true in my case, and I was surprised to read that.

[REDACTED]

204. It takes a while to build up a history with a group so you are known by and accepted by them. In that context, 12 months is a very short time, and I do not think it would be practical for deployments to be that short.

205. To my knowledge no UCO was only in the field for 12 months apart from those who did not get on with the work, and those who were compromised.

206. My tactic for withdrawing from my deployment was to gradually stop attending meetings. It was very common for people who were not undercover officers to come and go in these groups. People would often join, become very influential within them, and then just completely fade from the scene. The process of my gradually leaving the group would not have aroused any suspicions as a result. I eventually told people I was going back to Glasgow, and stopped attending meetings entirely.

207. My withdrawal and the strategy that I employed to withdraw was planned and agreed with the SDS office.

208. I do not think that many SDS officers were deployed for longer than 5 years. I think that it was the office who suggested that I should start to begin the process of withdrawing a few months before I came out of the field.

209. I had no further contact with those on whom I had been reporting, nor did I make any further use of my cover name, after I left the SDS.

*Managers and administrative staff*

210. It is correct that I was recruited to the SDS by Phil Saunders.



[REDACTED]

211. I am fairly sure that Phil Saunders was the senior manager of the SDS when I joined it. [39] [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED] became the senior manager in charge of the SDS later during my deployment. I cannot remember the date when he took over. Phil Saunders was very laid back and relaxed in his management style. [40] [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED] was a bit more formal.

212. During my time on the SDS, it was always jointly managed by a Chief Inspector and an Inspector. There would also be a Sergeant in the SDS office who would deal with administrative matters, often with the help of an officer who was preparing to go into the field. There was then [41] a number of officers in the field.

213. During my time on the unit I recall the following individuals being a part of the SDS management:

a. Phil Saunders: He was a Chief Inspector

b. Dave Smith: He was an Inspector.

c. Derek Brice: He was a Chief Inspector.

[42] [REDACTED] HN294 [REDACTED] He was an Inspector and then became a Chief Inspector.

e. Geoff Craft: He was the Superintendent of 'S' Squad at one point, though not directly involved in the management of the SDS at the time I was in it.

f. Derek Kneale: He was a Chief Inspector.

214. In terms of those who fulfilled administrative roles on the SDS I remember the following individuals:



a Sergeant and others

*Management and supervision: general arrangements*

215. Throughout my time on the unit I had regular routine contact with the SDS office.

216. I would telephone into the SDS office every morning to tell them which meetings or demonstrations I had attended the previous day, and to tell them that I was alright. During this call I would also pass on any urgent intelligence.

217. I would see either or both of the Chief Inspector and the Inspector in charge of the unit at meetings at the SDS safe house. Those would take place 2 or 3 times a week, and would last an hour or so.

218. At the safe house I would hand in my draft reports and we would normally discuss some or all of the following:

- a. What was going on in Special Branch;
- b. Which meetings and demonstrations I had attended that week;
- c. Any particularly interesting information about the groups I was reporting on, like a major rift in the group.

[REDACTED]

d. I was sometimes asked if I was going to a particular demonstration or meeting.

44

219. Some officers [REDACTED] had very involved conversations with their management about individuals they were reporting on and what they were up to, but I did not do that.

220. I received a generally positive response to my reporting by SDS management.

221. I do not remember having much contact with the SDS office outside my morning telephone call and the meetings at the SDS safe houses. They would be wearing suits so we would rarely go for a drink with them in case we were spotted.

222. Generally, I thought we were reasonably well managed. My SDS managers were all quite 'hands off' and let me conduct my deployment how I felt most appropriate in terms of which meetings and demonstrations I attended.

45

223. Other than [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED], who I understand had done a bit of undercover work at one of the VSC demonstrations in Grosvenor Square, none of my managers had any experience of being in the field. They trusted us to know what we were doing. I believe the SDS office tried to select field officers who were self-reliant and did not need to be micromanaged.

224. Other than the daily phone call to confirm we were alive, there were no formal arrangements that I was aware of for them monitoring our welfare. I did, however, feel that management were conscious and aware of our welfare.

[REDACTED]

225. If you had a serious welfare problem whilst undercover, it was, however, incumbent on you to raise with the SDS office. Managers sometimes struggled to deal with those. There was one UCO, <sup>46</sup> [REDACTED] HN344 [REDACTED], who faced detailed inquiries by members of the groups he was infiltrating into his background. My recollection is that the SDS office did not really know how to deal with the situation, and he left the field shortly after.

### Senior management and oversight bodies

47

226. During my deployment I recall that the SDS cover flat in North West London was visited by Sir Robert Mark. It was in 1972 or 1973 when he was the Commissioner of the MPS. It was obvious to me that he had concerns about the SDS. I remember him saying words to the effect that "you realise that you [the SDS] could cause me tremendous problems under certain circumstances".

227. I do not remember any other visits from senior MPS managers during my time on the unit.

228. No one from any outside body with any form of regulatory or oversight responsibility for policing visited the SDS during my time on the unit.

229. I received a commendation for my reporting on the VSC in 1968, but I did not receive any formal commendations for my SDS work.

[REDACTED]

## Deployment of contemporaries

230. The following were members of the SDS and their service overlapped with mine:

- a. Geoff Craft: He was a Chief Inspector of the unit.
- b. Derek Kneale: He was an Inspector and subsequently a Chief Inspector of the unit.
- c. Phil Saunders: He was a Chief Inspector of the unit.

231. I have been asked about Matthew Roger. He was the Commander of Special Branch when I was on the SDS, but I do not recall him being involved directly with the SDS.

232. The following undercover officers were contemporaries of mine:

48

HN45, HN68, HN298, HN301, HN303, HN338,  
Richard Clark, HN13, HN353, HN300,  
HN200, HN343, Jill Mosdell, HN348, HN340,  
HN356/124, HN344 and others

233. [49] [HN294] was not an SDS field officer when I was on the unit, but he was a member of SDS management.

234. [50] I have been asked about [HN68] He was on the unit when joined but think he left the SDS before I did.



[REDACTED]  
51

235. I have been asked whether [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED] used a cover name whilst serving with the SDS. I do not know if he did. I did not work with him in 1968 when I reported on the VSC.

52

236. I have been asked whether [REDACTED] HN294 [REDACTED] used a cover name whilst serving with the SDS. I do not think that he did. He was a manager, not a UCO.

237. I have been asked if any of my colleagues were ever committed a criminal offence whilst undercover.

53

238. [REDACTED] HN68 [REDACTED] was arrested during a demonstration at Twickenham during a rugby match. I believe it was an anti-apartheid protest. He and several other demonstrators interrupted play by running across the pitch. It was all over the newspapers at the time. I believe he appeared in Court in his cover identity and was fined. He may have told me about this, or I could have heard it from one of our mutual colleagues.

239. Some of my colleagues may also have engaged in bill posting, but I cannot now say who would have done that.

240. Other than that, to my knowledge, none of my contemporary undercover police officers committed a criminal offence whilst undercover.

241. To my knowledge, none of my contemporary undercover officers whilst deployed provoked, encouraged or caused a third party to commit a criminal offence.

242. To my knowledge none of my contemporary undercover police officers engaged in sexual activity with others whilst in their cover identity.

243. Other than [redacted] HN68 [redacted] as set out above, to my knowledge none of my contemporary undercover police officers were, whilst deployed, arrested, charged, tried or convicted in their undercover identity.

244. Other than as set out above, to my knowledge none of my contemporary undercover police officers were, whilst deployed, involved in incidents of public disorder, violence or other criminal activity.

245. To my knowledge none of my contemporary undercover police officers, whilst deployed, reported on the activities of any elected politicians.

246. I believe that my contemporaries achieved the same things that I did for the benefit of policing.

247. Every time there was a big demonstration we would provide advance information about those demonstrations to the SDS office. That information would end up with the uniformed branch of the MPS responsible for policing that demonstration. The police would have advance notice of likely numbers, whether there was likely to be any violence, and whether there were plans for splinter groups to break away from the demonstration.

248. My contemporaries also achieved the same things as me in assisting the Security Services in achieving its work. They provided a considerable amount of intelligence on subversive individuals and groups.

[REDACTED]

**Post deployment**

*Period immediately post deployment*

249. I cannot remember having a period of rest following the end of my deployment.

250. I do not remember being debriefed by anyone.

251. I do not remember being offered any advice or support by MPS or the SDS following my withdrawal from the field.

*Post SDS police career*

55

252. [REDACTED]

253. [REDACTED]

Details of HN299/342's post-SDS postings

254. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

255. I do not think that in any of my subsequent roles I, or those I managed, sought received, used or disseminated intelligence emanating from the SDS.

256. I do not think that being in the SDS had any long term effect on my welfare.

257. I am not aware of there being any welfare services or support available to me as a former UCO.

#### *Leaving the police*

258. My rank when I left Special Branch and retired from the MPS was Detective Sergeant.

259. I retired from the police in the early 90s after completing more than 30 years' service.

56

260. [REDACTED] Sets out post police employment [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

#### **Undercover work in the private sector**

261. I did not receive any instructions or guidance about working undercover in the private sector, or using any aspect of my assumed identity in the private sector, before leaving the MPS.

262. Did not do any undercover work after leaving the MPS for any organisation in the private sector.



**Any other matters**

263. I do not believe there is any other evidence which I am able to give from my knowledge and experience which is of relevance to the work of the UCPI.

**Request for documents**

264. I do not believe that I have any documents or other information which are potentially relevant to the Inquiry's terms of reference. I thought that I may have a photograph of myself taken during my deployment where I am standing next to the gravestone of Karl Marx, but I have not been able to locate it and I think that it is now lost.

265. My memory has not been refreshed by any document which is not in my witness pack.

**Diversity**

266. I am a white British male.

I believe the content of this statement to be true.

57

Signed:

HN299/342

58

Dated:

12/12/19