

NOTE FOR

Policy file

Copied to

Liaison file

1. Det Ch Insp Derek Neale of MPSB rang me on 7 January drawing my attention to letters, sent from FLB under references [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] asking for identifying enquiries to be made. Neale said that these referred to SDS members under alias, who had now left IS.
2. I asked Neale to come to discuss the problem of replies to these letters. He did so, together with Det Insp Geoff Craft on 8 January 1976.
3. I told them that it was purely coincidence that the three requests had come in close together since two were based on [redacted] reporting [redacted], referring to old records. I explained the system we had of keeping our agent files out of the general registry and suggested giving these three the same protection. This was accepted. We agreed that I should annotate the file appropriately when [redacted] filing them and that should any follow up letters from FLB be received, SB would send those direct to F6 rather than reply.
4. Whilst on the subject of the SDS I mentioned that the question of police forces using their own young DCs for a while as agents in subversive organisations, had been raised at our last SB symposium.
5. The question, from Det Insp [redacted] of Sussex was "Why don't you try to persuade CCs to adopt the MPSB system of using young SB officers as agents?" I had parried the question in open session, but had subsequently taken it up with Det Ch Supt Stanton of Merseyside to see whether this concept was widely known in provincial SBs. He had said that it was, and that in fact the SB course run by MPSB had a whole lecture on the SDS and its successes including the penetration of [redacted].
6. I did not give Neale details but told him I had sidestepped the question and was now merely asking whether MPSB did discuss this concept of agent running with provincial branches. He said it had once been discussed on one course only by Det Con Dixon, and that it had been a mistake. The subject was not now mentioned and when raised as a query was sidestepped precisely as we had sidestepped it. He thanked me for letting him know, and hoped we would continue to keep the whole subject as close a secret as possible.

[redacted]

16 January 1976.