

COVER SHEET

Witness Statement of [redacted] ¹ HN155, as supplemented

Dated signed:

IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO UNDERCOVER POLICING

² HN155, c/o Designated Lawyers, PO Box 73779, London WC1A 9NL, WILL SAY AS FOLLOWS:

On 13 January 2020, I made and signed a statement of 162 paragraphs which read as follows:

1. This witness statement is prepared in response to a Rule 9 request dated 7 October 2019 and concerns my deployment as an undercover officer ("UCO") within the Special Demonstration Squad ("SDS") from 1979-1983.
2. I have been shown the documents attached to the Rule 9 request but I have not otherwise refreshed my memory by looking at any other documents.
3. I am known in this Public Inquiry by my nominal number HN155. There is a restriction order preventing the publication of my real name.

Personal details

³ My full name is [redacted] HN155 and I was born ⁴ in 1940's [redacted]. I grew up in [redacted] Details of background [redacted]

⁵ [redacted]

Police career before and after serving with the SDS

5. I have seen an extract from my central record of service (Tab A, MPS-0726712) and my personnel file (Tab B, MPS-0726730) which gives a summary of my career history.

[REDACTED]

6

6. I joined the Metropolitan Police Service ("MPS") [REDACTED] in 1970's [REDACTED]. I completed the MPS training school course in [REDACTED] 1970's [REDACTED] (Tab B, MPS-0726730-59) and I was then posted to [REDACTED] police station as a uniformed officer.

7

8

7. I joined Special Branch ("SB") a few years later [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Details of Special Branch career prior to the SDS including work in B squad

[REDACTED]

9

8. I was a Constable when I joined SB. I was promoted to Detective Sergeant on [REDACTED] in early 1980's [REDACTED] whilst I was with the SDS.

9. I had done a fair amount of undercover work prior to joining the SDS. When I was involved with 'B' squad, I used to go undercover into pubs frequented by Sinn Fein. My cover identity included details about a cover employment and family background. My cover employment was always as part of the merchant navy because it was difficult for people to check.

Selection for the SDS

10. I am not sure when I first heard of the SDS, but I probably first realised that the SDS existed through meeting with Mike Ferguson. Before I joined the SDS, I was approached by Mike Ferguson, who had a senior rank within the SDS at the time. We used to have a drink together. I do not know if he established this friendship specifically to sound me out about joining the SDS, but he suggested I applied and said that it would be good for the SDS and myself. He told me that it required going deep undercover and said I seemed to have a background that was appropriate.

11. I note it is recorded in April 1978 that I had expressed a wish to join 'S' squad should the opportunity arise (Tab B, MPS-0726730-35). This would have been after I was approached by Mike Ferguson, although I did not actually join the SDS until sometime later.



12. My annual report dated 3 February 1982 (Tab B, MPS-0726730-26) suggests that I joined the SDS in around October 1979, but I think I joined slightly before this date based on my recollection. I cannot recall if I had a formal meeting about joining SDS but there must have been some form of scrutiny of me higher up than Mike Ferguson. I do not think there would have been a need for a more formal selection process as I had been in SB for two years by that stage, so my reputation would have been well-established within SB.
13. I joined the SDS because I had had a flavour of undercover work in 'B' squad, which I enjoyed. I was confident I could maintain my cover in a social setting, such as a pub. This was at a time when there were bombs going off in London and soldiers being killed in Northern Ireland. The SDS was aimed at obtaining intelligence to protect the public, and I considered this to be the ultimate task of being a policeman.
14. I cannot recall if any SDS manager spoke to me about the impact of SDS work on me and my family, although I imagine Mike Ferguson probably would have done. I was married at the time I joined the SDS, although my marriage ended in 9(i) early 1980's whilst I was in the SDS. I believe, at one point, the SDS managers wanted all UCOs to be married.
15. As far as I can recall, no SDS managers visited or spoke to my wife prior to my SDS deployment. However, I have seen comments to Operation Herne by ex-Commander, Barry Moss (Tab J, MPS-0728618) and Martin Gray (Tab K, MPS-0726655) about visiting my wife on one occasion. This would have been at the time my marriage was breaking down. I do not think I was present, although I was spoken to separately. I was instructing solicitors at the time because of a pending divorce. I paid what my solicitors told me should be paid, but my wife would have wanted me to pay her more. Geoffrey Craft said I should pay her more, but I said I would pay what I had been advised by my solicitors. As far as I recall, the SDS managers went to see her as they were understandably concerned that she might disclose information about my deployment. However, I am confident that she would never have disclosed anything about my deployment. I note that, when they spoke to my wife, she stated that everything was okay. I was generally quite impressed with the level of supervision

[REDACTED]

throughout my deployment, but it became reactive rather than proactive over time, and this was one occasion where I felt it was overbearing.

16. More generally, I would say that my SDS deployment was a significant contributory factor to my divorce, although it was not the sole reason. I did not see it coming. I was wrapped up in my undercover work and my wife did not know exactly what I was doing. I was often away from home and we had a young child. When I was at home, I often just wanted to recharge my batteries. I would try to reset to my true self just to maintain my sanity, but it was very difficult. As I became more involved, more and more people knew me in my undercover identity so, when I was out in my real identity, I was always looking around and did not really feel comfortable going out with my wife even when I was off duty. The more I became involved in my undercover work, the less I was investing in my marriage. It was a recipe for disaster.

Training and guidance in the SDS

17. I did not have any formal training when I joined the SDS, but I spent a significant period in the back office. I do not recall exactly how long I was in the back office, but it could have been up to a year. I learned from other officers' experience and built up my cover identity. I was being observed by the back office staff all the time and, as my deployment in the field came closer, the training became more formalised. The senior officers, DCI Mike Ferguson and DI ¹⁰ [REDACTED] HN68 [REDACTED], fired a lot of questions at me. For example, they would often suggest a scenario and ask what I would do in that situation. They had both been UCOs and they were good at highlighting key issues. As far as I know, the senior officers later in my deployment had not previously been in the field and so were not able to assist new UCOs in the same way.
18. I have been asked whether I was aware of the Home Office circular number 97/1969 "Informants who take part in crime" (Tab C, MPS-0727104) during my time with the SDS. I cannot recall seeing this document before and I cannot recall being informed of its contents.

[REDACTED]

19. I have been asked whether I was aware of a "Tradecraft manual" or binder containing guidance about how to behave whilst deployed undercover. I cannot recall ever seeing a manual or any documentation about how to behave whilst undercover. As the time grew near to leave the back office, I recall having at least one session where I was interrogated by Mike Ferguson and [REDACTED] HN68 [REDACTED] about my cover identity. One question that stuck in my mind as being particularly good was "what's your star sign?" as it is a fact that you just need to know.

11

20. I cannot recall specifically being given advice or guidance on how far it was acceptable to become involved in the private lives of the activists I met whilst undercover, or whether it was acceptable to enter sexual relationships in my cover identity. In my view, the deeper you become involved and have to maintain cover, the fewer distractions you want. The last thing I would have wanted to have done is to get involved in a relationship as it has the potential for destroying your cover rather than strengthening it. My brief was simply to obtain as much intelligence as I could. There were no boundaries on that as far as I was concerned. I am not sure sexual relationships were ever explicitly discussed, but I was never involved in any sexual encounters or relationships in my undercover identity. I cannot recall ever having knowledge of other UCOs doing so, and to do so would have been distraction and a danger.

21. I cannot recall being given any advice or guidance on how far it was acceptable to become involved in criminal activity or encourage others to do so. I cannot recall whether I was given any specific instructions on what to do if I was arrested, before a court, or party to legally privileged information. My understanding was that I should avoid getting into these situations in the first place.

22. My training was not really refreshed during the course of my deployment except through the discussions we had at SDS meetings, which were not particularly formal.

23. I was never given training on race or gender equality issues.

Undercover identity

[REDACTED]

Cover name

24. Whilst undercover with the SDS, I used the cover name "Phil Cooper". I did not recall this cover name until I was reminded as part of the Inquiry. When I left the SDS, I was told that this chapter in my life was over and I would not return to it, which makes many of the details very difficult to recall. I cannot recall being known by any other cover name or nickname.
25. I do not recall using a deceased child's identity. However, I am aware that this was the usual process at the time and so, on reflection, the likelihood is that I did. I have seen a document which reports a child with the same name born in October 1950 (Tab G, MPS-0740124). I do not recall using this child's identity but it suggests that I may have done so. As far as I understand, it would be convenient to use the identity of a child who was deceased as they would not have any records, such as school records, for people to check up on. I cannot recall looking through any death certificates in order to identify a deceased child. I am aware that such records were kept at Somerset House. I did go to Somerset House whilst I was on other squads but I cannot recall the purpose of those visits.
26. I have seen documents showing two dates of birth linked with my cover identity (Tab H, MPS-0739801; Tab I, MPS-0738983), but I cannot recall the date of birth I used in my cover identity or whether it was either of these dates. I do not know the person who created the first of these documents (Tab H) or what it relates to.
27. I have seen a briefing document prepared by Operation Herne based on a meeting I attended in 2013 (Tab D, [REDACTED]). I requested this meeting to raise my concerns about approaches made by journalists. I was not expecting the meeting to address my undercover work, nor was it the purpose of the meeting. I note the document says that I confirmed using a deceased child's identity. I had not seen this briefing document before viewing it in my witness bundle, and I was not asked to sign it at the time. I cannot recall now what was said in that meeting, however, I note there are some inaccuracies in the briefing document. For example, the document states that I work for [REDACTED] [12]
[REDACTED], but I have never done so; I worked for [REDACTED] [13]

[13]

[REDACTED]. Also, I did not work in surveillance after the SDS; I went straight to work in [another SB posting] [14]. In addition, Mike Chitty did not visit me [REDACTED] [15]; he just telephoned me. I would be surprised if I had confirmed that I used a deceased child's identity as I do not recall doing so, but I accept that it is possible as it was common practice at the time.

28. I cannot recall using any aspect of any other person's identity when constructing my cover identity. My cover identity did include details about my school and employment background. As far as recall, my cover was that I came straight out of school, into the merchant navy, and then into my cover employment. There was hardly anything else.

29. I think I said that I grew up in the Liverpool area. I also said that I had been in the merchant navy because it made me hard to trace. I think I did a bit of research into schools and addresses in the Liverpool area that no longer existed, e.g. due to redevelopment, so that I would be harder to trace and activists could not ask questions of people who lived there now. I cannot now recall the specific schools or addresses.

Cover employment

30. I arranged four different jobs as my cover employment. [REDACTED] [16]

[REDACTED] I generally chose driving jobs as it meant [REDACTED] [17]
I would be out and about and so not always accessible. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] To minimise the risk of compromise, I also used to tell activists not to frequently call me at work because it was frowned upon by my employer. [REDACTED] [18]

[REDACTED]

a. My first cover employment was delivering marble. I did actually go out and deliver marble on occasions, but not routinely. I probably only did this so that I knew first-hand what the job entailed, e.g. how to operate the lift to unload it. I cannot recall how long I did this job. [REDACTED] [19]

[REDACTED]

b. My second cover employment was for a coffee franchise. My role was to deliver the coffee and repair machines. Again, this entailed being out and about, and I would have done some work at the beginning to understand nature of the job and make sure I could fix a coffee machine. [REDACTED] [20]

[REDACTED]

c. My third cover employment was for a company [REDACTED] dealing with TVs. My role was to supply TVs and install aerials. I would have erected a few aerials and supplied some TVs, but not routinely. My cover employment probably would have cropped up in conversation and I probably would have been asked to get a TV for an activist. I would have done that occasionally when this happened [REDACTED] [21]

[REDACTED]

d. My fourth cover employment was with a cleaning company. I do not think I ever actually used this as a cover, but I always had my next cover employment lined up in advance. [REDACTED] [22]

[REDACTED]

31.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Cover accommodation

32. I have seen that my risk assessment mentions three addresses (Tab E, [REDACTED]). I recall having multiple addresses, but I only now recall the name of the Plasket Road address as it was a memorable name. I cannot recall the reasons why I changed my cover address during my deployment. I am not sure of the exact order I lived at these addresses, but I think the Blackheath address was for a very short period of time at the end of my deployment. All the addresses were bedsits, although one had a separate kitchen. I cannot now recall the details about any of them, how they were arranged, or how the rent was paid. I did not share any of my cover addresses with another UCO and no other UCOs would have attended these addresses, but activists would have visited my addresses from time to time.
33. Apart from my cover addresses, I do not recall living anywhere else. Occasionally, I may have stayed overnight somewhere on a sofa or floor, such as during a Right to Work march, but I did not live with activists for any significant period of time.

Legend building

34. My ordinary appearance was to have short hair and no facial hair. I changed my appearance when I was deployed by growing my hair long and growing a beard. I tried to choose my clothes based on what the activists wore.
35. I recall preparing for my deployment by visiting Liverpool, which was part of my legend. I do not think I visited anywhere else. [REDACTED]

25

[REDACTED] I also had a driving licence in my cover name.

[REDACTED]

36. I cannot recall exactly, but I think I would have familiarised myself with the area where I lived before approaching any activists. It was not an area I knew well, so I would have frequented local pubs to get my face known. It was probably in a pub where I first met an activist, or through buying the Socialist Worker newspaper.

26

37. I recall having a brown Triumph Dolomite. [REDACTED]

38. I have seen documents in my witness bundle relating to a car accident quite late in my deployment (Tab L, MPS-0731824). I cannot recall if I was given advice about what to do if I was involved in such an accident. I cannot recall reporting the accident, but I accept that it appears to have been reported to police under my cover name. I assume I did this as the car was registered in my cover name. I cannot recall if any consideration was given to the lawfulness of reporting this in my cover name. [REDACTED]

27

Deployment

Infiltration of groups

39. I was tasked to infiltrate the Socialist Worker's Party ("SWP"). The SWP would tag onto any activity that they could and give support to other campaigns so, as my involvement increased, I would have become involved with other groups as well. I cannot recall exactly which groups I would have been involved with, but I recall being the treasurer for the Right to Work ("RTW") campaign and note that the report dated 6 January 1982 records me being appointed to this role (UCPI0000017060). I recall the Torness Alliance so the Anti-Nuclear Group ("ANG") was perhaps one of the other groups with which I became involved. I note that my cover name is given as the treasurer of the steering committee for the Waltham Forest Anti-Nuclear Campaign ("WFANC") in the report dated 22 April 1980 (UCPI0000013893). I cannot recall holding this position, but it is

[REDACTED]

further evidence I was involved in the anti-nuclear movement. I cannot recall any specific involvement with the International Marxist Group ("IMG"), North London Anti-Nuclear Group ("NLANG"), the Labour Party Young Socialists ("LPYS"), or Greenpeace, but it is plausible I may have been involved with or attended meetings of any of these groups. However, I would only have been considered a member of the SWP; everything else was peripheral.

40. I have seen the numerous intelligence reports in my witness bundle. I have very little recollection of writing these reports or their contents, even those in which my cover name is listed. My cover name is only given on very few of these reports, and none of them are signed by me.
41. I cannot recall whether I typed any reports myself, but I do not recognise the style of writing in most of the reports, which suggests they were either not written by me or were edited by someone else. There are some particular reports that I think must have been typed up by someone else, such as the report dated 11 May 1982 (UCPI0000018091), which refers to my cover name as "Philip Cooper" when I always referred to myself as "Phil Cooper". Therefore, it is very difficult for me to state with any confidence whether I provided the intelligence on which these reports are based. However, I accept that I must have provided the intelligence for some of the reports in the witness bundle regarding the SWP, the RTW campaign and the ANC based on the dates of the reporting. On occasions, the reports have triggered a memory of a person or a place, but they are often people I knew over a number of years, or places I visited frequently, and so it does not help me to confirm whether I attended the particular meeting or event detailed in the report. I cannot say which other officer might have provided the reports in the witness bundle.
42. I have been specifically asked whether I provided the intelligence for the reports dated 8 April 1981 (UCPI-0000016599) and 4 March 1983 (UCPI0000018769). I cannot recall writing or providing the intelligence for these reports, although I do recognise the names of Pete Alexander and Paul Holborrow in the 1981 report. I note my cover name is also listed in the 1981 report and so I accept that I may

[REDACTED]

have provided the intelligence for that report. I only recognise the name of Pat Stack in the 1983 report and my cover name is not listed.

43. I attended demonstrations but I have not been provided with many reports of these events. That is the only category that I can confidently say is missing from the witness bundle. Most of the reports in the bundle appear to have been sent to Box 500, and so I may have provided intelligence for reports that were not forwarded to the Security Service. I also note that the first report of an SWP meeting in which my cover name is listed is a meeting on the 29 September 1980 (UCPI0000014591), but I would have attended and reported on SWP meetings before that date.
44. The earliest report I have been provided with is dated 18 December 1979 and records a public meeting on 24 November 1979 at which Arthur Scargill was speaking. I did attend events at which Arthur Scargill spoke, but I cannot recall the meeting described in that report or the exact date on which I began providing intelligence. I joined the SDS before October 1979 and I was in the back office for a time, so it is not unreasonable to think that I began providing intelligence around March 1980. However, my vague recollection is that I probably began reporting before that date as I think I may have started in the field in 1979. I think I was withdrawn from the field in early 1984. This is supported by the telephone call transcript dated 23 December 1983 referring to my withdrawal (Tab P, UCPI0000028712). I cannot recall any officer directly replacing me in the field.

Tasking

45. My initial tasking was to go to East London and involve myself with the SWP in that area. Beyond that, I was left to my own initiative. I was tasked by the DCI at the start of my deployment, Mike Ferguson. I cannot recall a specific conversation, but I would have been tasked to gather intelligence from meetings, demonstrations, and other events about who was there and what was discussed. Although some parts of intelligence are fairly trivial, they go towards forming a complete picture of a group and their potential threat to public order.

[REDACTED]

46. The default period for a deployment was four years, during which my tasking broadened as my deployment evolved. I became a trusted member of the SWP, probably through being a good branch member, although I cannot now recall going to many branch meetings. I was able to direct my deployment within my tasking to infiltrate the SWP, although I would have told my senior officers everything I was doing. I do not recall being provided with information from other sources about my target groups except when I was shown photographs of activists they wanted me to identify.

Premises and meetings with other SDS UCOs

47. I recall the SDS having a back office in Scotland Yard, and a safe house in 28 West London. I did not go to the back office after I was deployed, but we had our weekly SDS meetings in the safe house. I also regularly requested a private meeting with an SDS manager around every week or so in order to discuss any particular issues that had arisen in my deployment. We would usually meet in a pub near to Victoria.

48. I cannot recall whether the SDS meetings were once or twice per week, but they were certainly regular and frequent. We had to present our SB diary with our hours and expenses claim. We would have handed them in straight away to have them signed off. I cannot recall writing any reports at my private address, and I would not have written them in my cover address, so I suspect I wrote them at the meetings. However, a lot of my reporting was given verbally to the back office over the phone, especially if there was a major demonstration imminent and they wanted up-to-date intelligence. Someone else would probably have written that up. I cannot recall if there were typewriters in the safe house, so the majority of reports were probably handwritten.

49. At the SDS meetings, the SDS managers raised any concerns they had, and this sometimes led to verbal advice or guidance about how to deal with that situation in the future. I cannot recall any specifics of these conversations. I would also have had one-to-one meetings with a SDS manager, although this reduced as my deployment went on and the management became more reactive rather than

[REDACTED]

proactive. There was general discussion amongst the UCOs during the SDS meetings, but I recall this being more social rather than about our deployments. I cannot recall exactly, but I would be surprised if I had spoken to my fellow UCOs about my deployment at all. My view was that the fewer people who knew what I was doing, the better. The same applied in respect of their deployments. There was a certain amount of unwinding that went on – we used to have lunch and I think I cooked on one occasion – but as far as I recall, we just discussed everyday matters. The SDS managers may also have been part of these discussions.

Pattern of life whilst undercover

50. My SDS work was completely different to my other SB work. At the beginning, I think I spent more time in my real identity but, as time progressed, I spent much more time in my cover identity. When I was on duty, my usual daily routine would be to do something with the SWP in the mornings, an SDS meeting at lunchtime, and an SWP meeting in the evenings. I often spent a couple weeks at a time at my cover address: I would often stay overnight at my cover address if meetings ended late and if we went to pub afterwards, as was usually the case. When there was a RTW march, I would have been away for the duration of the march, e.g. from Port Talbot to Brighton, and I would have been on duty all of that time. Even in a relatively non-eventful week, I would have stayed at my cover address for at least four nights, and the weekend was usually quite a busy time. I also used to deliver the Socialist Worker newspapers. The press was done late in the evening and I recall driving to the London rail terminals overnight once per week. I cannot recall how long I did this for, but it was a substantial period. As time went on, I also spent more time in the SWP main office and less time at the SWP branch.

51. I have seen an extract from my personnel file dated 28 November 1980 showing that DC [REDACTED] HN80 and I received commendations (Tab B, MPS-0726730-9). I cannot recall the circumstances that led to this commendation. However, I recall that DC [REDACTED] HN80 was also in the SDS and we were deployed at the same time. I think I received two commendations whilst I was in the SDS, but they were not published in police orders due to the sensitivity of the role.

Pay and over-time

52. As far as I recall, serving with the SDS greatly increased my take home pay due to the overtime. The UCOs were paid overtime for any work over eight hours per day, and this was a regular occurrence in my deployment. I would estimate that the overtime at least doubled my income, and I probably also had a reduced cost of living when I was serving in the SDS as I stayed at my cover accommodation frequently. I recall that, at some stage in my deployment, there was a significant cut back in the overtime payments. The Commissioner called all the MPS commanders to discuss where cutbacks could be made. However, I felt that all my overtime was necessary given the nature of my work.

Reporting on Waltham Forest Anti-Nuclear Campaign and Anti-Nuclear Group

53. I cannot recall any specific involvement with the Waltham Forest Anti-Nuclear Campaign ("WFANC") or the Anti-Nuclear Group ("ANG"), but it is plausible that I was involved to some level as part of my role in the SWP. The Torness Alliance was a campaign under the "anti-nuclear" umbrella, although I cannot recall if it was separate from the WFANC.
54. I cannot recall any specific personal relationships with members of the WFANC or ANG. More generally, I think it is unlikely that I had any significant personal relationships with members of the WFANC or ANG as I made it my clear intention not to get too close to individual activists, but just close to the organisations themselves. This meant that I had lots of acquaintances, but very few close relationships with activists.
55. I have seen the report dated 22 April 1980 (UCPI000013893) which refers to my being elected treasurer to the steering committee of the WFANC on 19 February 1980. I cannot recall submitting this report. I cannot say why the report is dated over two months after the meeting. As far as I recall, a large proportion of my intelligence was reported verbally by phone. Any other reports would have probably been handwritten at one of the SDS meetings. In either case, it is unlikely that I typed up the report myself. I cannot see any reason for delay in

[REDACTED]

providing my intelligence, which I would have provided as soon as possible when the events were still fresh in my mind. I can only conclude that the delay was due to the report being typed up.

56. I cannot recall being elected treasurer of the steering committee of the WFANC, and so I cannot comment on the circumstances that led to my being nominated and elected to this position, or the responsibilities involved. The only role I recall was treasurer of the RTW campaign, which is recorded in the report dated 6 January 1982 (UCPI0000017060).
57. More generally, I did not consider taking a position of responsibility as being off limits. My understanding was that I was tasked to gather intelligence and, in order to do so, I needed to be in the best position to receive that intelligence. The higher the level in the organisation, the better the sources of intelligence as you are privy to more information. However, I would not have sought to influence the actions of the group at all. My role was purely to receive and impart intelligence. I did not even aim to elicit information, but simply to gather what was said by others. I was never a secretary or a campaign organiser and so I was never in a position to influence the actions of a group. I cannot recall speaking to my managers before being elected to this or any other positions of responsibility, but I always kept them apprised of my actions throughout my deployment.
58. I have seen a report dated 30 April 1980 on the 'Torness Week of Action' (UCPI0000013918). I cannot recall these meetings and so I am unable to comment on the particular circumstances. I am not sure the report is based on my intelligence as I cannot recall going to Nottingham or Lancaster and I am not listed as having attended these meetings. However, I do recall being involved in the Torness campaign and camping on the beach. If the report is based on my intelligence, I would have informed my senior managers about these trips out of London and submitted any documents that were available to attendees.
59. I have seen a report dated 2 July 1980 (UCPI0000014093) regarding a conference in Oxford organised by the Torness Alliance. I cannot recall attending a conference in Oxford and my cover name is not listed in the report. Although I

[REDACTED]

was involved in the Torness campaign, I am not sure that this report is based on my intelligence and it may be that there were other officers who were also involved. Even if the report is based on my intelligence, I am unable to recall the particular circumstances after so much time.

60. I have seen a report dated 20 May 1980 (UCPI0000013992) regarding an upcoming anti-nuclear demonstration in Dungeness, Kent. I cannot recall providing this intelligence or attending this demonstration. However, I would generally report information even if it suggested that there was unlikely to be disorder at a particular demonstration as the intelligence would have been used to determine the appropriate level of policing for that demonstration. My role was simply to provide the information so that others could judge how to police the event. I was never required to consider and I did not consider the continued proportionality of my deployment. As far as I was concerned, this was a question for more senior officers.
61. I have seen a report dated 28 August 1980 (UCPI0000014213) regarding a conference of the London region of the Anti-Nuclear Alliance. I cannot recall attending this conference, but I note that my cover name is listed as a contact for the WFANC. I cannot recall how I came to be a point of contact for the WFANC. As above, I believe any delay was in typing up the report. It is significant that both reports list a number of individuals whose SB references would need to have been obtained.
62. I have seen a report dated 18 September 1980 (UCPI0000014272) regarding a change of address of the central office for the ANC. I cannot recall providing the intelligence for this report, but it would clearly be of interest to senior officers as it identified the headquarters of an activist group that was participating in public demonstrations, which was the central focus of the SDS. It was not my role as a UCO to assess the relevance of any intelligence anyhow; my role was simply to report the information I received and to leave others to decide if and how to act on it.

[REDACTED]

Reporting on the SWP: Branch activity

63. I cannot recall being involved in any particular branch of the SWP, although I would have been involved in a branch at some point at the entry level. Neither can I recall any specific personal relationships with members of an SWP branch. My recollection is that I spent more time in the SWP main office than in branch meetings, and I do not recall any particular individuals from my SWP branch.
64. I have been asked how I was able to move from my previous target group into the SWP. However, to best of my knowledge, the SWP was the first group I became involved in. As far as I recall, any involvement I had with the ANC would have come out of my SWP involvement. Although the first report of an SWP meeting in which my cover name is listed is a meeting on the 29 September 1980 (UCPI0000014591), I would have attended SWP meetings before that date.
65. I have seen a report dated 26 August 1980 (UCPI0000014201) regarding a report of a meeting of the Waltham Forest branch of the SWP. I am not sure if I infiltrated this branch of the SWP. My recollection is just that I was tasked to infiltrate the SWP in East London, not this particular branch. However, I accept I probably first became involved with the SWP through a branch. I may have become involved through meeting activists in the pub or buying the Socialist Worker newspaper. The SWP was in the business of recruiting and so it was not difficult to get involved. It would have been a gradual process and I would not have rushed into joining so as to give cause for alarm.
66. I have been asked about a reference in the above report to rocks being thrown between members of an SWP branch and youth supporters of the National Front. The reference is from a different report also dated 26 August 1980 (UCPI0000014208). I cannot recall this event and so I cannot comment on it specifically, but it was fairly common at that time to have altercations involving street violence between left wing and right wing activists.
67. I have seen the reports dated 2 September 1982 (UCPI0000018588), 12 October 1982 (UCPI0000015753), and 11 March 1983 (UCPI0000018829) regarding the

[REDACTED]

Lewisham branch of the SWP. I cannot recall infiltrating the Lewisham branch of the SWP and I cannot recall the activists referred to in any of these reports. I came across members from a lot of branches through my involvement with the SWP, especially through the RTW campaign. However, as time went on, I spent less and less time with any particular branch of the SWP. These three reports are not about any particular meeting of the Lewisham branch, and so I could have come across this information without having attended a meeting or infiltrating this branch specifically. I may not have provided the information on which these reports are based.

68. I have seen a report dated 8 July 1983 (UCPI0000019296) regarding the Wood Green and Enfield branches of the SWP. I cannot recall any involvement with the Wood Green or Enfield branches of SWP but I may have known people from those branches. I recall Paul Holborrow, who is referred to in this report, but I cannot recall providing the intelligence for this report.
69. I have seen a report dated 13 October 1980 (UCPI0000014591), which is the first report of an SWP meeting in which my cover name is listed. As far as I recall, I was probably attending SWP meetings prior to this date, but I do not know why my cover name is not listed on earlier reports. I cannot recall whether I was involved in the organisation of this meeting.
70. I have seen a report dated 18 August 1980 (UCPI0000014184) regarding the breakdown of a relationship between two activists. I cannot recall either of the activists mentioned in the report and I cannot be sure that I provided the intelligence for this report. However, more generally, the purpose of providing such information is to provide a complete intelligence picture. This is built up of many, many parts, and what might seem irrelevant to the author of a report might be highly relevant to someone else who has the rest of the picture. In this particular case, the breakdown of their relationship suggests one or both of the activists might be likely to join another group or cause a division within that group. However, it was for others to assess the relevance of this information and any action that should be taken as a result.

- [REDACTED]
71. I have seen reports dated 18 September 1980 (UCPI0000014277) and 25 September 1980 (UCPI0000014554) regarding the employment and relationship status of two activists. I cannot recall these activists or providing the intelligence for this report. Both of these matters are useful for completing a full intelligence picture, but I repeat that it was for others to piece together this intelligence with other information and take any necessary steps. I cannot recall providing information about one of the activist's medical information and the fact that he had been refused employment.
72. I have seen various reports enclosing photographs of individuals. The purpose of these photographs was to assist in identifying activists. I do not know how these photographs were obtained. I would not have taken photographs myself, but I might have been shown photographs at an SDS meeting that had been taken by an SB photographer to see if I could identify them. I cannot recall providing the intelligence in the report dated 29 March 1983 (UCPI0000019117) but I vaguely recall the name of the activist mentioned.
73. I have seen two reports dated 5 February 1981 (UCPI0000016361; UCPI0000016409) regarding the SWP in the Glasgow area. I cannot recall providing the intelligence for these reports and I cannot recall ever travelling to Glasgow during my deployment. I am not sure these are my reports and I am unable to comment on the specific details.

Reporting on the SWP: Right to Work Campaign

74. I did not specifically set out to infiltrate the RTW campaign, and I was not specifically directed to do so by my managers, but the SWP was always looking for volunteers for various positions and they were not slow in asking people with a trusted pedigree. I cannot recall being asked to join the RTW campaign but it became a significant part of my deployment due its political nature, the threat of violence on marches, and my involvement as treasurer. The RTW campaign was of interest to the SDS because it involved large numbers of people on marches lasting a number of days. Hundreds or thousands of local activists would join the march along the way, which included Marxists and anarchists. There were

[REDACTED]

planned demonstrations in major towns along the route as the march passed through and it was important to provide intelligence to allow the local constabularies to assess the risk of public disorder and ensure an appropriate police presence.

75. I have seen a number of reports regarding the RTW campaign. I probably provided the intelligence for these reports either from attending events, meetings, or from information I received in my role as treasurer.
76. I only recall attending two RTW marches, but I may have attended more. I recall driving a lorry full of other people's luggage, and going to a wholesaler to fill up the lorry with food for the marchers. I think one of the marches I attended may have been the 1980 RTW march between Port Talbot and Brighton, ending at the Conservative Party conference. I note from the report dated 24 October 1980 (UCPI0000014610) that this march lasted from 23 September 1980 until 10 October 1980. I would have kept my managers constantly updated during a march, almost on a daily basis. I would not have come back to London during a RTW march, but I would have telephoned the back office. I cannot recall obtaining or submitting the list of people who registered for the 1979 RTW march between Liverpool and Blackpool, which is appended to the report dated 30 September 1980 (UCPI0000014548). I have been asked whether I was personally involved in the interaction with trade union officials recorded at paragraph 33 of the report dated 24 October 1980 (UCPI0000014610). I cannot recall being personally involved in this interaction.
77. I have seen a report dated 18 November 1980 (UCPI0000015182) regarding a RTW march between Manchester and Liverpool in November 1980. I do not recall being on the organising committee for this march, but I recognise the names of the organisers listed in the report as I think they were central committee members. I think I may also have attended this march, but I have no specific recollection of the event.
78. I have seen various reports that attach SWP weekly information sheets. I cannot recall these information sheets, but I think I am likely to have received them. I

[REDACTED]

note that the report dated 15 January 1981 (UCPI0000016147) states that the attached sheet was circulated on a restricted basis to all branch and district secretaries, national committee members and full-time party organisers. Therefore, I think I must have received these information sheets in my role with the RTW campaign. I would have submitted any documents that I came across in my deployment as they would form another piece of the intelligence picture.

79. I have seen a report dated 23 February 1981 (UCPI0000016464). I cannot recall writing or providing the intelligence for this report. Neither can I recall the activist mentioned in this report, Privacy or attending this or any other court hearing. Although I cannot comment on this report specifically, such information would, again, generally be of interest to the SDS as part of the overall intelligence picture.
80. I have seen a report dated 26 February 1981 (UCPI0000016485) regarding a social function to raise funds for the RTW campaign. I cannot recall writing or providing the intelligence for this report. Neither can I recall going to the Regent Ballroom in Pontypridd. I am unable to say whether I attended this function. However, my understanding was that even the information in the report about individuals apparently unconnected with the SWP is still valid intelligence, as there were no clear lines between any of the groups and it may be that those individuals joined and became influential members of the SWP in the future. There were always political undertones even to social events and it was not for me to refuse to report intelligence simply because it was not to do with the SWP or because it was outside London. It was for others to determine the relevance of that information and the proportionality of reporting it.
81. I have seen reports dated 27 March 1981 (UCPI0000016563) and 23 September 1981 (UCPI0000015625), which include intelligence regarding school children. I do not recall writing or providing the intelligence for these reports, although it may be information that could have come across my view as treasurer of the RTW campaign. I cannot recall the child mentioned in the report dated 23 September 1981 (UCPI0000015625), or the National Union of School Students ("NUSS"). I have also seen a report dated 29 September 1983 (UCPI0000019542) regarding

[REDACTED]

the SWP National Student Aggregate. I recall the venue but I cannot recall going to this meeting specifically. The fact that the intelligence concerned children was not considered at the time, but I probably would not have involved myself. Once again, the information would have been reported as part of the overall intelligence picture.

82. I have seen the reports dated 23 November 1981 (UCPI0000016752) and 6 December 1982 (UCPI0000015994) regarding the SWP National Delegate Conferences in 1981 and 1982, respectively. I cannot recall attending these conferences or being an administrative staff member, although I accept that I must have had that role based on the information in these reports. I cannot recall what my responsibilities were but I do not think I was paid for this role. I cannot recall if I was specifically tasked to report on these conferences. I was tasked to infiltrate the SWP and so it was obvious that the SWP national conference would be of interest to the SDS. I note that the reports include lists of delegates, but I cannot recall obtaining these lists. I was in and out of the SWP main office even in 1981 to deliver the Socialist Worker newspaper, and so I would have probably been able to obtain a list of delegates from that office. I note that the 1982 report includes SWP statistics that were taken back by the SWP for shredding. I cannot recall these documents specifically, but I would have submitted any documents I came by with my reports.
83. I have seen the report dated 6 January 1982 (UCPI0000017060), which states that I was elected treasurer of the central planning committee for the RTW campaign. There was a different planning committee for each march, and this was probably for the march from Port Talbot to Brighton in 1982. I cannot recall how I obtained this role, but it involved receiving and paying in lots of cheques. I would pick up the cheques from the SWP main office and bank them. I also drove a lorry all over London once a week to distribute copies of the Socialist Worker to rail terminals.
84. I did not consider taking a position of responsibility as being off limits, but I would not have sought to influence the actions of the group. My role as treasurer furthered the aims of my deployment because it put me in the best position to

[REDACTED]

gather that intelligence. I was privy to more information due to my position in the organisation. I cannot recall speaking to my managers before being elected to this or any other position, but I always kept them apprised of my actions throughout my deployment, and they never raised any concerns.

85. I have seen a report dated 11 January 1982 (UCPI0000017085) regarding a meeting of the RTW march. I cannot recall attending this meeting or going to John Deason's house. However, I do recall the names of John Deason and [Privacy]

[Privacy] I cannot recall chairing this meeting, but I may have done so. This would simply involve directing the discussion through the agenda, but I was never in a position to influence the actions of the group. I was simply there to gather intelligence and report back.

86. I have seen the following reports:

- a. a report dated 29 November 1981 (UCPI0000020466) concerning an activist who had obtained false employment references;
- b. a report dated 27 January 1982 (UCPI0000017142) regarding a sponsored run for the RTW campaign;
- c. a report dated 12 February 1982 (UCPI0000017118) enclosing a letter from the West Hampstead Community Law Centre;
- d. a report dated 6 April 1982 (UCPI0000017997) enclosing a list of SWP speakers;
- e. a report dated 30 June 1982 (UCPI0000018373) enclosing a document agreed by the Women's Committee of the SWP;
- f. a report dated 20 October 1982 (UCPI0000015804) regarding the nomination of a prospective Parliamentary candidate; and
- g. a report dated 11 April 1983 (UCPI0000018898) enclosing a leaflet.

87. I cannot recall providing the intelligence in any of these reports, but I would have reported everything and left it for others to determine its relevance and importance. It is the nature of intelligence that its significance is not necessarily clear until it is put together with other pieces of intelligence to form an overall picture.

- [REDACTED]
88. I have seen a report dated 4 March 1982 (UCPI0000017230) enclosing an address book. I cannot recall providing this intelligence or even the owner of the address book. I am unable to say how I might have obtained it. More generally, this intelligence would have been important for establishing connections between activists and even between different organisations. As far as I was aware, the proportionality of reporting such information was not considered at the time.
89. I have seen reports dated 14 May 1982 (UCPI0000018180) and 20 July 1983 (UCPI0000019387) concerning the SWP annual rally at Skegness. I note that I am listed as having attended and I would have done so as I recall there being an annual event and think that I collected the entrance money. I think I probably obtained the list of attendees from the entrance money registration, although I cannot recall specifically. I do not recall the rallies themselves with any clarity, or whether there were any other SDS UCOs who attended. I cannot recall if I was specifically asked to attend, but I think it is unlikely. I think it would have been assumed I would attend as it was a significant event for the group I was tasked to infiltrate and therefore an important opportunity to gather intelligence. I would have informed my managers that I was attending and reported back afterwards.
90. I have seen two reports regarding the Reagan Reception Committee ("RRC"). I cannot recall the RRC or being involved in producing the enclosed leaflet. I am not sure that I provided the intelligence for these reports and I am unable to comment further on their contents.
91. I have seen a report dated 8 June 1982 (UCPI0000018247) regarding a visit to Dublin. I cannot recall going to Dublin and I do not recall providing the intelligence for this report. I am not sure that this is my report. Even if it is my report, it could be simply a report of a conversation held afterwards, as there is no suggestion the author attended.
92. I have seen reports dated 8 July 1982 (UCPI0000018426) and 4 August 1982 (UCPI0000018503) regarding the SWP Shop Stewards School. I cannot recall writing or providing the intelligence for these reports, and so I am unable to say how I obtained the enclosed documents. I do not recall the SWP Shop Stewards

[REDACTED]

School, although I note that Appendix B to the report dated 4 August 1982 lists me as being present. I cannot recall if I was specifically tasked to report on this event.

93. I have seen a report dated 27 July 1982 (UCPI0000018482) concerning a change of address for the SWP main office and enclosing a proposed floor plan. The floor plan appears to be in my handwriting. I also recall name of Mike Barton, with whom it appears I shared a desk. I also recall [Privacy] and [Privacy]

[Privacy] I had a desk at the SWP main office as result of my position as treasurer for the RTW campaign. Even though the office was for the whole SWP, I was only treasurer for the RTW campaign. I cannot recall if I had a desk at the previous SWP office but I would have attended the previous office in my role distributing the Socialist Worker newspaper. I note that the printers were next to previous SWP main office, so it is possible that I may have gone there. I never had a role on the SWP central committee, but I had a working relationship with the members of the committee in my position as treasurer for the RTW campaign. I think there would have been someone else who was the overall SWP central committee treasurer. I cannot recall exactly, but I think I would have initially attended the office at least once a week and, as time went on, more frequently and for longer periods of time. I was not involved in providing intelligence to the landlord of the previous SWP office. I would not have done so as it would have exposed me to the risk of compromise.

94. I have seen a report dated 29 September 1982 (UCPI0000018663) regarding a proposed picket at the Conservative Party conference at the conclusion of the 1982 RTW march from Port Talbot to Brighton. I cannot specifically recall SWP members using forged documents to gain entry to the conference, but it does not surprise me. I cannot recall going to the conference, but I may have been on the march. The information, particularly about the use of forged documents, is clearly important intelligence regarding SWP strategy and the potential public order risk at the conference itself.

95. I have seen a report dated 28 September 1982 (UCPI0000018675) regarding the position of the SWP Student Organiser. I vaguely recall the names of Pete

[REDACTED]

Alexander, Pat Stack, [Privacy] and Andy Skrowski, but I cannot recall the other activists mentioned in this report. I cannot recall providing the intelligence for this report or the events described in it. I would not have been involved in influencing any of the decisions made by the SWP hierarchy. My aim was to keep a low profile in order to protect the position from which I could continue to gather and pass on intelligence. As treasurer of the RTW campaign, I was never in a position to influence general SWP decisions, and there was no reason for me to do so as I was already in a position from which I could obtain good intelligence.

96. I have seen reports dated 13 October 1982 (UCPI0000015769) and 1 December 1982 (UCPI0000015970) regarding the SWP National Council and Committee. I cannot recall [Privacy] but I recall [Privacy] I do not recall the SWP National Council: as far as I recall, there was only a SWP National Committee. I was never a member of the SWP National Committee. I note that the letter enclosed in the report dated 1 December 1982 is a template letter and so, even if I submitted this letter to the SDS, it does not suggest that I was a member of the SWP National Committee.
97. I have seen a report dated 21 December 1982 (UCPI0000016846) regarding bank account details. I recall John Deason but I cannot recall [Privacy] I cannot recall coming across bank details but I would have done so in my role as treasurer of the RTW campaign.
98. I have seen a number of reports regarding the SWP computer. I cannot recall the SWP having a computer or using it myself, although I note that it is recorded that I was authorised to do so. I note that the report dated 5 August 1983 (UCPI0000019386) encloses a distribution list for the Socialist Worker newspaper. I was never required to consider and I did not consider the continued proportionality of reporting this information. As far as I was concerned, this was a question for more senior officers. I cannot recall writing or providing the intelligence for the report dated 24 January 1984 (UCPI0000020522), and so I am unable to comment on why the SWP membership list would not be stored on the new SWP computer.

- [REDACTED]
99. I have seen a report dated 11 February 1983 (UCPI0000016988) regarding the Anti-Nazi League ("ANL"). I cannot recall being involved with the ANL but it is possible that I may have had some involvement as it was under the umbrella of the SWP and the SWP branches were always asked to support the ANL, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament ("CND") or the RTW demonstrations. I do not think I would have had any organisational role in the ANL.
100. I have seen a report dated 3 May 1983 (UCPI0000019060) regarding a meeting of the London branches of the SWP at the Cock Public House, NW1. I recall the location but I attended there on many occasions, so I cannot be sure whether or not I was at this particular meeting. I do not recall this meeting specifically and I would not have sought to influence the SWP's intervention in a strike as this would have gone beyond my remit to gather intelligence.
101. I have seen a report dated 4 October 1983 (UCPI0000019543) concerning a member of the SWP. I cannot recall the activist mentioned or providing the intelligence for this report and so I am unable to comment on how that intelligence was obtained.
102. I have been asked why there are no reports attributed to me from December 1983. I am unable to say why there are no such reports, except that I had made plans to withdraw and so the level of contact I was having with activists was reducing at that time. I note that there are three reports in the witness bundle from January 1984. Based partly on the telephone call transcript dated 23 December 1983 referring to my withdrawal (Tab P, UCPI0000028712), I think that it is likely that I probably withdrew from the field in early 1984, and so it is plausible that I was still producing a few reports at the very end of my deployment.

Reporting on the individuals

103. I have seen a number of reports relating to details of individuals in the SWP, or details of them joining or leaving groups. As far as I recall, I would routinely report this kind of information, although the relevance and importance of this intelligence was a matter for more senior officers.

104. I have been asked about various reports regarding individuals. I cannot recall writing or providing the information for any of the following reports, although I have noted where I recognise the name of the activists concerned. I am therefore unable to comment on the reasons that the particular information was reported beyond its usefulness in contributing to the overall intelligence picture:

- a. a report dated 24 April 1980 (UCPI0000013905);
- b. a report dated 12 May 1980 (UCPI0000013972);
- c. a report dated 10 June 1980 (UCPI0000014013);
- d. a report dated 24 February 1981 (UCPI0000016457);
- e. a report dated 15 July 1981 (UCPI0000015478);
- f. a report dated 1 June 1982 (UCPI0000018229);
- g. a report dated 28 September 1982 (UCPI0000018665);
- h. a report dated 7 December 1982 (UCPI0000015979) in which I recall the name of the activist;
- i. a report dated 8 February 1983 (UCPI0000016986) in which I recall the name of the activist;
- j. a report dated 29 July 1983 (UCPI0000019367) in which I recall the name of the activist;
- k. a report dated 24 August 1983 (UCPI0000019408) in which I recall the name of the activist.
- l. a report dated 9 September 1983 (UCPI0000019464).



Trade unions

105. I cannot recall joining any trade union or becoming involved in their affairs whilst serving in the SDS other than receiving donations from trade unions for the RTW campaign, which I deposited in the RTW campaign accounts.
106. I have seen reports dated 15 October 1982 (UCPI0000015782) and 28 July 1983 (UCPI0000019377) enclosing lists of SWP members stating any trade union memberships. I do not recall writing or providing the intelligence for these reports. However, more generally, I am aware that extreme left-wing activists intentionally made their way into trade unions with the primary aim of upsetting the operation of large companies rather than to simply improve the working conditions of employees. This information was therefore a useful piece of a larger intelligence picture regarding the presence of left-wing activists in trade unions at that time.

Public order

107. I did witness public disorder whilst deployed, but I cannot now recall any particular incidents. There were numerous confrontations between left and right-wing groups at demonstrations and on the streets at that time, such as that described in the report dated 26 August 1980 (UCPI0000014208). There was also violence between political groups and police, especially at workplaces. The SWP were heavily involved in pickets and supporting strikers. I might have attended pickets but cannot recall specific occasions. I attended some RTW marches and I would also have attended demonstrations. I always made sure I kept my distance when any disorder occurred, and so I never really feared for my safety. I did not participate in any public disorder.

Violence

108. I recall there being violence at demonstrations I attended, but I cannot now recall any particular instances. I was never involved in any violence as either the perpetrator or victim.

[REDACTED]

Subversion

109. I understood SB to have a role countering subversion. All through my time in SB, right from my induction, it was apparent that part of the function of SB was to counter subversion, and my role was gathering intelligence on matters that could lead to subversion.
110. The SWP engaged in subversive activity. At the time there was a large amount of industrial action that undermined the ability of businesses to carry out their work. The SWP were very confrontational towards people trying to break picket lines and would threaten violence towards anyone attempting to go back to work. They would also stop supply vehicles from entering business premises. It was these kinds of actions that crossed the boundary between legitimate strikes and, what I would call, industrial subversion.
111. I do not know why my reporting was copied to the Security Service, but I presumed it would be. The reason for this is a question for more senior officers. I cannot recall having any personal contact with the Security Service. It may be that the Security Service came to an SDS safe house on occasion, but I cannot say for sure.
112. I have seen a report dated 29 September 1982 (UCPI0000015751), which deals with aspects of the SWP which were of current interest to Box 500. However, I cannot recall ever being given a list of questions from Box 500 directly. I requested requests from the SDS managers, which may have been questions originally from the Security Service, but I would not have connected it with a request from Box 500. I understood that SB and the Security Service were distinct but had a connection. I have no particular view on where the line should be drawn between the work of SB and the work of the Security Service.
113. I have seen a Security Service file note dated 10 December 1982 (Tab O, UCPI0000027448), which appears to record a conversation between a Security Service officer and DI ³⁰ [REDACTED] HN68. The report gives a Security Service reference rather than my cover name, but I am told this relates to my deployment.

[REDACTED]

I would have had access to everything in SWP office as a frequent visitor, and so I could have obtained the SWP membership records. I cannot recall whether the SWP staff had shift patterns, but I recall that most of the people in the SWP office were voluntary. I was not made aware that any particular information I was providing was for the benefit of the Security Service, although it appears from this note that they had expressly requested it.

Sexual relationships

114. I did not engage in any sexual activity whilst in my cover identity.

115. I have been provided with a copy of my risk assessment (MPS-0746710) and I have been asked about the comments ascribed to me under the heading "Relationships entered into". I responded to the inclusion of these comments at paragraphs 9 to 13 of my impact statement dated 29 January 2019, as follows:

9. I have been shown the comments in the risk assessment regarding "liaisons", "relationships", "dalliances" and "groupies". I accept that I approved a draft of the risk assessment at a meeting with one of the risk assessors, but I need to make clear that the risk assessors have misinterpreted my comments. I was not as clear as I should have been about the dividing line between the specific, factual details of my particular deployment and more hypothetical comments about such deployments more generally.

10. I want the Inquiry to know about the sequence of events. The risk assessment process was conducted at some speed towards the back end of last year. During my interview with the two risk assessors, which lasted a couple of hours, I recall being quite clear that I did not engage in any sexual activity while I was undercover. To the best of my recollection, the risk assessors responded that it would have been quite possible and not surprising if my deployment had taken such a turn, given its length and depth. I accepted this and went on to discuss the SWP social scene, the status or cachet enjoyed by those within its inner circle, meetings in pubs,

[REDACTED]

flirtatious chat and the fact that sexual activity could have been an option. I did not want to appear naïve and wanted to be open about the fact that I lived my alter ego's life "to the full". Indeed, I think I may have said this to the risk assessors. I can understand how and why they came away thinking that I had been talking about myself, but this was not my intention and not what I meant. I do not remember hearing the words "dalliances" or "groupies" and doubt that I would have used them, but I cannot, personally myself, be sure about this.

11. So far as concerns the fact-checking, within about a fortnight of the above interview I was asked to "fact check" a draft risk assessment at short notice and quite urgently. On that Saturday I met one of the risk assessors in my local pub in the early evening where he presented me with a lengthy hard copy document. My understanding was that I was just there to pick it up. I was hosting a dinner party that evening for six guests and I was meant to be cooking and entertaining. When I asked if I could take it away and read it I was told that I could not. I asked if there was an executive summary and was directed to the conclusions at the end, which I read as carefully as I could. I had confidence in the risk assessors and was happy to be guided by them. I said I was happy with the document but did not read it in depth. I can only apologise for the resulting confusion. I have produced a table at Exhibit 1 detailing all of the mistakes within the risk assessment. There are numerous errors within it.

12. The risk assessment says that I "clarified during the fact check that these were purely social encounters". I may well have said something along these lines because the social encounters I had while undercover were just that - social, informal and personal, but certainly not sexual.

13. I would never have any sexual relationship with a target – it would have jeopardised my own relationship. It would also be a road to disaster because a relationship would scrutinise your own cover to a much greater extent. I am happy for my cover name to be released - I am certain that no female will come forward.

[REDACTED]

Other relationships

116. I would not say that any of my relationships with activists were close personal relationships. I deliberately spent time with lots of different activists and so I had many acquaintances and did not rely on one person for gathering intelligence. I would not have allowed an activist to become a very close friend.
117. I would meet people in a work context in the SWP main office, and in a social context in the pub after a branch or a RTW campaign meeting. I cannot recall hosting any social occasions at my cover address and I cannot recall going to any private SWP social events, although there may have been some. Although I was away from home for periods during the RTW marches, I recall driving the van and I think I did this alone, so I was not constantly in the company of activists. I also recall that I was alone when I distributed the Socialist Worker newspaper each week in London.
118. The closest personal relationships I had whilst undercover were with other RTW committee members because we spent time together working on the RTW campaign. I certainly recall the name "John Deason" who was the RTW national secretary and is mentioned in a number of the reports (e.g. UCPI0000017152). However, I note that John Deason said [REDACTED] 30A [REDACTED] that I am "not a mate" [REDACTED]. I think this bears out that this relationship was not particularly close. I also recall Mike Barton, whose name I have seen on the floor plan attached to one of the reports (UCPI0000018482). I think I was in contact with him quite regularly regarding the distribution of the Socialist Worker newspaper and I think he was a full-time worker in the SWP main office.
119. I did not assume any positions of trust of any kind with the activists I mixed with whilst undercover, except in my official roles as treasurer.



Criminal justice

120. I did not participate or encourage any other person to participate in any criminal activity whilst undercover with the SDS. I was never arrested, charged, tried or convicted of a criminal offence whilst undercover, nor did I appear in criminal proceedings in my undercover identity.

121. As far as I am aware, the fact I was an UCO was never disclosed in connection with any arrest or court proceedings, nor was my reporting ever disclosed in any criminal investigation or prosecution.

122. As far as I can recall, I never provided evidence in support of any prosecution arising from my SDS deployment.

Other legal or disciplinary proceedings

123. I was not involved in any other legal or disciplinary proceedings in my undercover identity.

Legal professional privilege

124. To the best of my recollection, I never became aware of any legally privileged information whilst I was deployed as an UCO.

Elected politicians

125. I cannot recall reporting on elected politicians, although I may have reported on elected politicians if they had been speakers at any events I attended. I was never specifically tasked to report on any elected politicians.

126. I have seen the MI5 file note dated 30 July 1982 (Tab N, UCPI0000027515). Based on this report, I accept that must have had some contact with Ernie Roberts MP, but I cannot recall having any contact with him. I think my limited involvement with him is supported by the reports dated 3 February 1982

[REDACTED]

(UCPI0000017152) and 11 May 1982 (UCPI0000018091), which state that Ernie Roberts MP was only nominally a treasurer of the RTW campaign to give the organisation some credibility. I cannot recall him ever being practically involved or even auditing the accounts. I was not aware of the concerns raised and they were never discussed with me.

The use to which your reporting was put

127. I do not know exactly what happened with the intelligence I provided, although at the time I was aware the reports based on my intelligence may have been passed on to other parties.

128. I have been asked what contribution my reporting made to policing. I think my reporting and that of other SDS officers would have been invaluable to ensure an appropriate police presence at demonstrations. This helped prevent violence and injury to demonstrators, police and the general public. I think our reporting would also have helped prevent subversion.

Exfiltration

129. My deployment ended in January 1984, at the end of the usual SDS tenure. I recall four years being the standard deployment but I cannot recall ever seeing a written policy about it.

130. I have been provided with a MI5 file note dated 12 July 1982 (Tab M, UCPI0000027446) of a meeting [REDACTED] ^{30B} on 29 June 1982 between an MI5 operative, ³¹ [REDACTED] **HN68** [REDACTED] Geoff Craft, and David Short. I have not been told that the Security Service reference relates to me but I presume that this is the case. I do not recall there being an issue with my leaving my cover vehicle at my private address, or any disciplinary action arising from this. As far as I recall, it was not against SDS practice to leave your cover vehicle in the vicinity of your private address. I had a garage so there was no issue with leaving my vehicle there as it was hidden from public view. As UCOs, we were trusted to dry-clean ourselves when we went home, and I always took appropriate precautions.



131. I find some of the other comments in this file note particularly objectionable. I note that Geoff Craft was present at this meeting and is reported as being "friendly and relaxed" and having a drink over lunch, which may explain some of its contents. I also note that I continued as a UCO for around 18 months after this meeting, which suggests that, if it is about me, the issues raised did not lead to me being withdrawn. Apart from the issue regarding my divorce, which is addressed above, none of these concerns were raised with me.
132. I have seen a transcript dated 23 December 1983 (Tab P, UCPI0000028712) of a telephone call between [REDACTED] ^{31A} and [REDACTED]. I recall formulating my withdrawal a while before this date, and I think my exit strategy may have led to this telephone call rather than the other way around. As far as I recall, I withdrew at this stage simply because I was coming to the end of the usual SDS deployment, rather than due to any compromise event. I think the RTW campaign had finished by this time. This is supported by an annual report from my personnel file dated 4 April 1984 (Tab B, MPS-0726730-19), which states that I had just completed a 4-year posting.
133. My withdrawal strategy was to say that I was leaving to rejoin the merchant navy after spending some time in Paris. I can recall there being a certain amount of dismay amongst the SWP that I was going to leave. I think I let on that I was considering it a while beforehand to slowly suggest to people that was my intention, but there must have come a point when I announced it at the SWP main office. I think this may have been the "very strange story" referred to in the telephone call.
134. It was always going to be difficult to leave when I had become national treasurer of the RTW campaign as the SWP were suspicious of a lot of people who were no longer part of the activist scene. It was great kudos for them to expose a "spy", so I am not surprised by the comments in the transcript (Tab P, UCPI0000028712). Clearly my cover story did not satisfy them but I was never publically outed as a UCO.

[REDACTED]

135. I think I was made aware of the telephone call at the time. I cannot recall exactly how it was raised with me, but I recall having a discussion about whether my cover had been compromised. I had the impression that my senior managers were very concerned about this as they were worried about the effect on obtaining future intelligence, but I do not think I changed my withdrawal strategy because of it. A great deal of care was taken when leaving the field, and I allowed my withdrawal strategy to play out as planned. I did not have any particular concerns for my safety due to this telephone call. There was no other occasion when I recall being concerned about being compromised. I cannot recall my cover ever being tested.

136. When I withdrew from the field, I did actually go to Paris for possibly a few weeks, as I think I had friends in Paris. I recall sending a couple of postcards [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] I would have discussed my withdrawal plan with my managers, but do not recall specifically.

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[REDACTED] I had no further contact with any activists save for the postcards I had written, and I made no further use of my cover name.

Managers and administrative staff

137. I have seen a list of names of individuals who may have been SDS managers during my deployment. Having seen that list, I recognise the following officers as having been in my chain of command: initially DCI Mike Ferguson and DI [REDACTED] [REDACTED] later DCI Trevor Butler and DI Mike Barber, DS Chris Skey and DS Paul Croydon, and Chief Superintendent Geoff Craft. I also recall Barry Moss, who I think was a superintendent, as well as Martin Gray, Mike Couch and David Short.

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138. I cannot recall there being any other managers who were serving in the SDS but were not part of my chain of command. It was a well-organised structure in terms of supervision and line of reporting.

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139. I recall that [redacted] HN45 [redacted] was an administrator during my deployment. I suppose all of the managers were administrators to some extent as they were all based in the back office. The DCI and DI were obviously more operational and the DSs also had an operational role. The DSs would come out to the safe houses to see the UCOs, and I think they talked to us and received reports and diaries as well. I had regular contact with the DSs as much as the DCI and DI, as I would have spoken to them on the phone and in person at SDS meetings.

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140. Initially, I was under Mike Ferguson and [redacted] HN68 [redacted], both of whom had extensive experience out in the field. I think they had a better understanding of the role than later managers, who had not been UCOs themselves. This meant they were more effective, as they were able to be proactive rather than reacting to situations. We also benefitted from the experience of Trevor Butler. My view was that the chain of command above my immediate managers was very influential. It appeared that the managers above them were almost on the verge of panic when issues occurred. For example, my senior officers were overly anxious about my potential compromise in the telephone call on 23 December 1983 (Tab P, UCPI0000028712). It did not seem that they understood how the activists thought as well as Mike and [redacted] HN68 [redacted] 35

Management and supervision: general arrangements

141. I had routine contact with the SDS managers at the weekly SDS meetings. The managers would be at these meetings without fail, along with a DS. There was nothing that I did that the managers did not know about, and the weekly meetings were a key part of their supervisory role. I also contacted the back office by phone if there was anything urgent to report. I cannot recall which phone I would have used. I do not think I would have phoned from my private address, so I would probably have used a public phone box. I would call the back office frequently, but not routinely.

142. I also arranged a one-to-one meeting with a manager almost every other week because I felt it was better to explain what was happening face-to-face. I would

[REDACTED]

meet with the managers in a bar or café, and I recall meeting Mike Ferguson, Trevor Butler, Barry Moss and ³⁶ [REDACTED] HN68 [REDACTED] quite a few times.

143. In terms of providing intelligence, I think most of my intelligence was reported by phone to the back office. I would have handwritten most of my other reports at the SDS meetings. I cannot recall typing up any report, but I think I would have typed the lengthier reports because I would have known the detail. I did not get any specific feedback on my reporting, but I suppose it must have been fairly good as I received two commendations from the Commissioner.

144. I have been asked about the arrangements for monitoring my welfare. On the whole, the UCOs were expected to look after ourselves. I cannot recall ever being asked how I was keeping, which leads me to think there was very minimal monitoring of our welfare. However, I do not recall thinking that there should have been more support, except during my divorce, which I think was handled in a deplorable way by the SDS senior management. The only other occasion that could have been handled more sensitively was my withdrawal. During that period, I felt that some of the senior officers were more concerned about losing intelligence and the repercussions for their careers rather than concern for my safety or welfare. I think that there was more concern for our welfare earlier in my deployment, probably because the managers had also been UCOs. That is not a criticism of the later managers, but they could not help beyond their experience.

Senior management and oversight bodies

145. I recall police commissioners visiting the SDS meetings on occasions. I also went to visit a commissioner once on a one-to-one basis, although I cannot recall who it was now. We met in the pub, and I think it was to do with either the SWP conference or an upcoming RTW march. I think someone from the Security Service may have visited our SDS meetings once or twice as well, although I think that was just to thank us for the reporting that was being sent to them. I do not recall a regulatory body ever visiting the SDS.

[REDACTED]

146. I received two commendations for my work in the SDS, although they were not published in police orders for obvious reasons. I cannot recall the exact reason for these commendations, but think one was for supplying a full list of the SWP membership. I can now see that this was something that the Security Service were requesting, although I did not know this at the time.

Deployments of contemporaries

147. I have been shown a list of names of individuals who may have been SDS UCOs during my deployment. I recall the following being SDS UCOs:

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[REDACTED]

HN12, HN19, HN20, HN65, HN67, HN80, Roger Pearce, HN106, HN296, HN304, HN354, HN356/HN124 and others

All of these officers had deployments that overlapped with mine, except possibly [REDACTED] HN19 and [REDACTED] HN296 [REDACTED] Martin Gray was in the back office whilst I was in the field.

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148. I have been asked if I was aware of any allegations regarding [REDACTED] HN67 [REDACTED] I was not aware of any such allegations. More generally, I cannot even recall any conversations about relationships with activists or fathering children. Given that I have no personal recollection of these allegations, I am unable to comment on the extent to which other UCOs or the managers were aware of them.

149. I have been asked whether I was aware of any unhappy working relationship between members of the SDS. For some officers, I think there was an element of "them and us" between the back office staff and the UCOs. This was a culture that developed, perhaps due to a lack of understanding of the pressures of working undercover by some of the managers, and led to some fairly forthright conversations between UCOs and the managers. However, I never understood this attitude and never shared this feeling towards the back office staff.

150. As far as I recall, none of my contemporary officers committed or encouraged others to commit a criminal offence, engaged in sexual activity in their cover identity, were charged, tried or convicted of any criminal offence, were privy to

[REDACTED]

any legally privileged information, or tasked to report on the activities of elected politicians. I assume that the other UCOs were present during incidents involving public disorder, violence or other criminal activity, just as I was. However, to the best of my knowledge, that did not extend to encouraging or participating in that behaviour.

151. My contemporaries provided valuable intelligence that ensured appropriate police presence at demonstrations to maintain the peace and prevent injury to demonstrators and the general public. That was the raison d'être of the SDS. I do not know exactly what my contemporaries achieved to assist the Security Service except by providing intelligence on extreme activists and lessening the effect of subversion.

Post deployment

Period immediately post deployment

152. Immediately after my SDS deployment, I went to Paris for a short period. I never took any leave whilst in the SDS, so I then spent around three months at home as I had so much leave outstanding. I seem to recall redecorating my new flat during that time. I cannot recall being debriefed by anyone, apart from my managers speaking to me about the telephone call on 23 December 1983 (Tab P, UCPI0000028712). I was not offered any advice or ongoing support by the SDS or the MPS following my withdrawal.

Post SDS police career

153. I have seen an extract from my personnel file (Tab B, MPS-0726730) which has refreshed my memory about my career history.

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154. After my SDS deployment,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Details of post deployment Special Branch career

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I cannot recall encountering any SDS intelligence during my subsequent work in SB.

155. I have been asked whether my SDS deployment had any long-term effect on my welfare. It is perhaps unsurprising that living in an alter ego for such a long period tends to make you a bit unsure of who you are. I did not find that there was anything in place to help me solve those identity issues. My deployment still has an effect on me now, especially having to speak about things that I thought were in the past as part of the Inquiry. The effects are quite deep-rooted, and have probably made me more of an insular and secretive person. I am not aware of any welfare services within the MPS being available to me as a former UCO.

Leaving the police

156. I retired from the MPS in ⁴² [REDACTED] 1980's at the rank of Detective Sergeant.

157. I have seen an SDS Discussion Paper written by Bob Lambert in May 1994 (Tab F, MPS-0726956) that refers to the circumstances in which I left the MPS. I strongly disagree with the contents of that report. I did not write a letter to the MPS Commander of Operations threatening to expose the SDS operations. I accept that I was subject to a disciplinary investigation, and I simply said that I was mindful to appeal to the Home Secretary. The background of the incident was not fully disclosed in the disciplinary hearing. I did not actually appeal in the end, but at no point did I threaten to expose the SDS. If I had wanted to expose the SDS, I would have appeared in True Spies or one of the other documentaries. I have never met Bob Lambert and so his report is not based on any personal knowledge of me.

158. I am now retired.


Undercover work in the private sector

159. I was never given instructions or guidance about working undercover in the private sector and I never did any undercover work in the private sector.

Any other matters

160. There is no further relevant evidence that I am able to give.

Request for documents

161. I do not have any documents that are potentially of relevance to the Inquiry's terms of reference. I have not referred any other documents which were not included with the Rule 9 request.

Diversity information

162. I am a white British male.

Supplementary Material

On 14 February 2020, I made and signed a statement of 4 paragraphs which read as follows:

163. This witness statement is made to supplement my first statement of 13 January 2020 that was made in response to a Rule 9 request dated 7 October 2019.

Further document

164. I have been told the Inquiry has conducted a "top up" exercise, by which I have been provided one further document which the Inquiry considers relevant and necessary, dated 13th November 1979 (UCPI0000013590). I have no recollection of the names in that document or the groups. I do not know whether this document is based on the intelligence I might have provided.

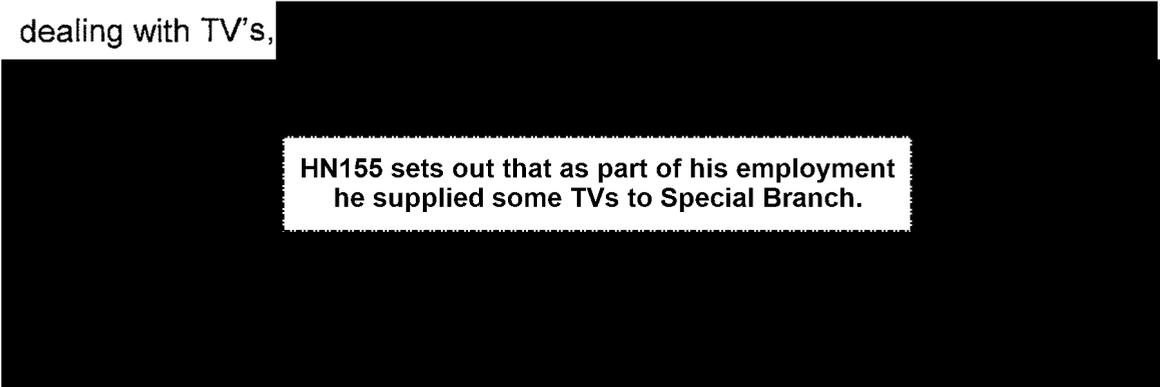


Cover employment

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165. With respect to my third cover employment for a company dealing with TV's,

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HN155 sets out that as part of his employment he supplied some TVs to Special Branch.

I did supply some televisions to members of the SWP, I

cannot recall how many, it would have been no more than a handful.

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The televisions were

provided directly from the business through me and to the individual.

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166. I am aware that there is information in my risk assessment (Tab E,) that suggests

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As I have previously explained in my first statement, there were other misinterpretations by the risk assessors of my comments and the risk assessment process was undertaken at some speed. I think the risk assessors may have misinterpreted what I said.

Amalgamated Statement

167. Although I previously signed both witness statements with a declaration of truth on the dates stated above, I have been asked to amalgamate those two witness statements into one statement and re-sign the amalgamated witness statement. I do so below.

I believe the content of this statement to be true.



Signed: _____

Date: _____