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Home Office Queen anne's gate London swih 9AT 1 March 1982

G J Kelland Esq CBE QPM Assistant Commissioner 'C' New Scotland Yard LONDON SWI

Vear Gilbert

You wrote to Robert Andrew on 22 February, about the Special Demonstration Squad.

We understand the importance of the squad to your operations and, given your assurance about the high level of security maintained, agree that it should continue.

This letter may be taken as authority to continue with the arrangements, and to incur expenditure of £30,000 in 1982/83.

I want

GH PHILLIPS

22 February 1982

Our raf: SE 588/Unreg/694 Pt IV : Your ref: CPE/66 1/8/5

R.J. Andrew, Esq., CE., Deputy Under Secretary of State.

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(G.J. KELLAND)

Assistant Commissioner

(Crime)



Draft

R.J. Andrew Esq., CB
Deputy Under Secretary of State
Home Office
50, Queen Anne's Gate
London SW1H 9AT

Your ref: QPE/66 1/8/5

Our ref: SB 588/UNREG/694 Pt.1V

Dear

I write once again seeking authority to continue the Special Demonstration Squad operation in Special Branch for a further 12 months. The intelligence which this small group provides is as vital to police operations now as it ever has been.

1981 saw no respite in political demenstrations or in planned confrontation and direct action by extremist elements. The prospects for 1982/3 offer no sign of a significant change in the situation and prior information is an essential ingredient in the preservation of peace on our streets.

The establishment of the SDS remains at 12 field officers and, security being of paramount importance, supervision by senior officers is maintained at a high level.

The cost of the operation has been kept within bounds but, to cope with the continuing effects of inflation, I would ask that a budget of £30,000 be approved for the financial year commencing 1st April, 1982.

Yours

and the second

Special Demonstration Squad Special Branch New Scotland Yard SW1H OBG

ANNUAL REPORT 1981

INTRODUCTION

1. The Special Demonstration Squad was formed in 1968 to provide intelligence to the Uniformed Branch of the Metropolitan Police regarding the numbers of persons likely to take part in the Anti-Vietnam War demonstrations, and of the degree of planned or likely violence ensuing therefrom. It has continued since then to direct its efforts to thwart the aims of those organisations whose purpose is to cause public disorder in the Metropolis. The high quality of intelligence, unavailable from other sources, gathered by the squad has helped to make it possible for demonstrations to be policed effectively. In pursuance of its main objectives valuable security intelligence is amassed by the SDS and is passed to other Special Branch squads and to the Security Service. The value of the information to that service is a matter of record. This report will deal with the activities of the Special Demonstration Squad during the year ending 31st December 1981.

COVERAGE

2. Organisations directly penetrated or indirectly monitored by SDS officers are:-

Trotakyist

Socialist Workers Party

Α

Vomens Voice

Right to Work Campaign

Engineers Charter Group

Spartacist League

Revolutionary Communist Party

East London Workers Against Racism

В

В

Marxist-Leninist

Revolutionary Communist Party of Britain (Marxist-Leninist)

People's Democratic Front

Communist Youth Union of Britain

Pro-Irish

Troops Out Movement

London H Block/Armagh Committee

Armagh Womens Group

Smash the Prevention of Terrorism Act Campaign

Anarchist

Freedom Collective

London Workers Group

Xtra

A Distribution

Autonomy Centre

121 Brixton Anarchist Bookshop

Rising Pres Collective

Krondstat Kids (formerly Autonomous Group)

London Squatters Union

International Communist Current

Anti-Fascist

Anti-Nazi League

Campaign Against Racist Laws

Wandsworth Against Racism

Bexley Campaign Against Racism and Fascism

Paddington Campaign Against Racism and Fascism

Campaign for Police Accountability in Camden

Anti-Nuclear

World Disarmament Campaign

Anti-Nuclear Campaign

Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament

London Peace Action

London Region Anti-Nuclear Alliance

Hackney Anti-Nuclear Group

Friends of the Earth

Scottish Campaign to Resist the Atomic Menace

Torness Alliance

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

- 3. The numerical strength of the SDS now stands at fifteen officers of whom six Sergeants and three Constables are operational whilst supervisory and administrative duties are carried out by a Chief Inspector, Inspector and two Sergeants. Two Constables are employed in the office pending transfer to operational duties. As the SDS is part of 'S' Squad, which co-ordinates Special Branch technical and support functions, further supervision is exercised by a Chief Superintendent and a Superintendent.
- 4. During the year under review four operational Sergeants completed their tour of duty and three Constables 'entered the field'. The knowledge and expertise of the experienced officers who have left will be missed but their replacements are confidently expected to maintain standards.
- 5. One Constable who succeeded in the 1980 Competitive Promotion Examination and three other Constables who were similarly successful in the 1981 examination, were promoted to Sergeant. One Sergeant passed the 1981 Sergeants Competitive Promotion Examination. By virtue of the 'exceptional retention' clause approved by the Commissioner, none of the promoted officers has left Special Branch.

WELFARE

6. In view of the most unusual circumstances under which the operational officers work, supervisory officers consider that welfare is of the utmost importance. Accordingly all 'field' officers are required to attend bi-weekly meetings at one or other of the headquarter flats. Furthermore, officers are regularly met individually so that any problem of a personal or professional nature can be discussed privately. The close supervision exercised is essential in the officers' own interests and those of the Metropolitan Police.



SECURITY

of paramount importance for the personal protection of the 'field' officers and to prevent embarrassment to the Commissioner by its existence becoming public knowledge. To this end every possible precaution is taken to ensure the security of the headquarter flats, and the officer's individual 'cover' flats. Careful attention is paid in ensuring that every operational officer's cover is as secure as possible before he enters the 'field'. The political sensitivity of the SDS operation is fully recognised by all officers concerned. The attempted penetration of an organisation is never undertaken unless such action can be fully justified on the basis of the Commissioner's responsibility for the preservation of public order in the Metropolis.

ACCOMMODATION

8. Neither of the two headquarter flats was changed during 1981 as it is considered that both continued to be 'safe' venues for the regular Squad meetings. In three instances during 1981 'cover' flats for officers' individual use were changed.

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TRANSPORT

9. Operational officers continue to be provided with secondhand cars which give them the mobility to perform their undercover
duties in an efficient and secure manner. Chief Inspector

4 'B' Department, Mr
T5 Transport Group and Mr

[5] *C' Department are owed a debt of gratitude by the Sound for their unstinting assistance and co-operation in the maintenance of the fleet. A full report on SDS transport has been submitted separately on TR 14/73/10 Part II.

FINANCE

10. 1980/1981 Budget £19,400

Figures for the first nine months of this financial year are contained in the 1980 Annual Report. From the figures shown below it would appear that the 1980-1981 budget of £19,600 was exceeded by £1,625.91; however, a surplus of £1,078.66 had been carried forward from 1979-1980 thus the true deficit at the end of the 1980-1981 financial year was £567.45.



	the period 1.1.81 to 31.3.81	Total Expenditure for the period 1.4.80 to 31.3.81
		7 2 2 E
Rent	€2,565.73	£10,211.21
Gas and Electricity	ц21.43	916.48
Telephone	128.97	951.61
Rates	79.33	783.04
Operational Expenses	2,501.60	8,163.57
	£5,697.06	£21. 025.91

11. 1981/1982 Budget £22,310

Details of expenditure incurred during the first nine months of the current financial year are as follows:-

Rent	€8,429.89
Gas and Electricity	929.46
Telephone	621.22
Rates	2,017.06
Operational Expenses	5.1.55.59
	£17,453.22

- 12. As will be seen from the figures shown, despite the strictest control of expenditure it became necessary in October 1981, due to increases in rent and rates, which in some instances were raised by 200%, to apply for an increase of £2,690 in the budget approved by Home Office in November 1981. This sum increased the 1981-1982 budget to £25,000.
- 13. It is anticipated that expenditure during the remaining three months will not exceed the outstanding balance. However, in view of the likelihood of further increases in rent, rates and all other liabilities during the coming financial year, authorisation is now sought for the 1982-1983 budget to be increased to £30,000.
- 14. On 2.4.81 the SDS accounts for 1980-1981 were audited by Mr Deputy Director of Finance, and found correct.

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REVIEW

- 15. The SDS provided valuable information about the numbers taking part, as well as the potential for public disorder, on almost all the major, and many of the minor, demonstrations which took place during the past year. Some of the major events are listed below.
- 16. Without doubt the most significant event in the public order field was the rioting which occurred in Brixton during the 10th 13th April 1981 when mobs of youths ran amok committing wanton and indiscrimate damage to property, theft, robbery and assault. Though in the wake of the riots political extremists made efforts to exploit the situation with a view to the fomentation of further disorder, intelligence gleaned by the SDS confirmed that the disturbances were not instigated by known members of subversive organisations. On the contrary, well placed sources reported that although a number of anarchists did take part in the riots they were not responsible for their initiation.
- The biggest rally to take place in this country for many years was that staged by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) when on 24th October 1981 a total of 110,000 persons participated in CND's national demonstration in Central London. This was one of a series of similar events which took place in other European capitals aimed at influencing public opinion against the proposed siting of American 'Cruise' and 'Trident' missiles in Western Europe. The overwhelming number of genuine pacifists and environmentalists who took part ensured that the demonstration was peaceful and good humoured. A march and mass meeting took place in Scotland on the 6th - 7th June 1981 when CND supporters marched from the Polaris base at Faslane to Kelvin Grove Park, Glasgow, where 15,000 took part in a mass rally. Numerous minor demonstrations and pickets staged by CND throughout the UK during the past year were all peaceful events. However, at the CND National Conference attended by 500 delegates, which took place in London on 13th - 15th November 1981, there was some talk of 'Non-Violent direct action', and as 1983 approaches, the year when the Cruise missiles are scheduled to be introduced into this country, subversive elements within the organisation may attempt to instigate unlawful actions to prevent the implementation of Government policy.
- 18. The Socialist Workers Party, under the guise of the Right to Work Campaign, continued throughout the year to organise pickets, occupations and marches as protests against unemployment and cuts in public expenditure. Their most note-worthy adventure was a march on 8 16th October 1981 from Liverpool to the Conservative Party Conference in Blackpool where some 5,000 persons took part in an 'anti-Tory' demonstration. Lancashire police have placed on record their appreciation of the assistance rendered by the SDS in connection with this event.
- 19. The anticipated confrontations in the streets between the Revolutionary Left and extreme Right wing organisations did not materialise. This was due to the action of the Commissioner who exercised his right, by the power conferred on him under the Public Order Act 1936, to ban processions, when there was a strong possibility of public disorder being occasioned by a provocative march.

20. Apart from the participation of some of them in the Brixton riots, the anarchists did little of note during the year, mainly concerning themselves with producing publications. A group visited Northern Ireland and have established links with anarchists and Republicans in that troubled province.

THE YEAR AHEAD

- 21. With the present high level of unemployment producing a situation considered by the Trotskyist groups to be ripe for exploitation, one can confidently predict more demonstrations in the streets against the Government's economic policies, and intensive recruiting campaigns by revolutionary organisations amongst the unemployed.
- 22. Though the anarchists kept a low profile during 1981, they are still a sinister and potentially dangerous faction having links with their counterparts on the Continent, and in Northern Ireland. Obviously their activities should continue to be closely monitered.
- 23. 1982 will be a crucial year for the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, whose main activities at present are aimed at preventing the siting in Western Europe of American missiles and as 1983 approaches there will be an increase in tension, and with an inevitable escalation in the number of anti-nuclear demonstrations, police resources in the public order field may well be stretched.
- 24. It is anticipated that in general terms public order problems arising out of political demonstrations in 1982 will be similar to those of 1981. However, it is confidently expected that with the expertise acquired over the past thirteen years the Special Demonstration Squad will more than adequately fulfil its commitment to its primary objective that of the supply of intelligence unavailable from other sources, pertaining to public disorder.

Signature
T. Butler

Chief Inspector

Special Branch
Special Demonstration Squad

10th February 1982

MEMORANDUM

Chief Superintendent 'S' Squad

Special Demonstration Squad Transport

- 1. The Squad has continued for the past twelve months with an authorised complement of 14 vehicles; twelve for the use of field officers and two for supervisory purposes; for the most part it was fully utilised during the year. Six vehicles were disposed of and four were taken into use during the period.
- A record of all vehicles used during 1981 is submitted with this report, giving a breakdown of the total operational costs for the period 1st January 1981 to 31st December 1981. As will be seen from these figures there has been a substantial decrease in garage repair costs, due mainly to the fact that vehicles obtained through Mr (Transport Branch) have 7 been of a more recent manufacture and are therefore more mechanically reliable. Despite further increases in fuel and maintenance expenses the average cost per mile for the fleet was decreased in 1981.
- 3. Administration of the SDS fleet remains in the hands of SDS supervisory officers, assisted by Mr G.9, Chief Inspector B.10, and Mr T.6.



1.1.81 to 31.3.81

	MILEAGE	FUEL	REPAIRS	TOTAL COST
TRIPPINGE COMMITTEE	3,119	111.74	NIL	111.74
10-15 AMADA (10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-1	2,542	194.30	108.12	302.42
	2,921	156.53	51.56	208.09
	4,609	402.79	208.00	610.79
Annual State of the State of th	2,406	106.60	103.38	209.98
	1,814	182.80	1,116.13	1,298.93
	5,990	510.23	733.31	1,243.54
The displayments	1,1400	124.51	32.43	156.94
				_
	1,032	135.86	963.15	1,099.01
	6,639	375.70	1, 158.44	1,534.14
w-aphalaccae ^{em} *	4,685	247.43	610.27	857.70
ercorregio dadores	3,682	221.16	80.73	301.89
The surface plants of	. 4,065	209.33	60.96	270.29
			apana ayan ayan ayan ayan ayan ayan ayan	
	- 2-tologo contractivo de contractiv	andronillandon andronillandon andronillandon andronillandon andronillandon andronillandon andronillandon androni	aganan ayan da ayan da an angan ingga kanan ayan ayan garan da an	

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			342	26.00	257.01	283.01
,	* Estimated - odometer defective	TOTALS	1,6,852	€3,167.74	£5,559.45	£8,727.19

SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION SQUAD TRANSPORT

1. Details of the 14 vehicles currently operated by SDS are as follows:-

	Contract the Million from Citization with	provide and an an area.			
	Access to the second			Date nurchased	
	Fleet No.	<u>Nake</u>	Index	or acquired	Cost
12				13. 1.1983	£1,600
				15.11.1980	€1,340
				20. 4.1982	£1,495
	T. Comments			14.10.1982	£1,900
				2. 2.1982	Net. Pol.
				11.10.1982	£1,755 (p/ex)
				18. 3.1982	£1,500
				23. 1.1981	£1,533
				7. 8.1982	£1,485
				3. 6.1980	Met. Pol.
	N. C.			25. 2.1982	Met. Pol.
				25. 6.1982	£1,550
				5. 6.1981	£1,250
	~			17. 3.1981	Met. Pol.
					and the state of t

2. Vehicles disposed of in 1982:-

13

16A

3. All action with regard to purchase and disposal of SDS vehicles is taken after consultation with Mr (T.5 - Fleet Maintenance) and Mr (G.9).

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The special course of																		FLEET NO.	adiras en escreto de la cidade de composito de la composito de la composito de la composito de la composito de
The least throughout the company of the least throughout the company of the least throughout throughout throughout throughout the least throughout thr																		INDEX NO.	Angle in eine eine eine eine eine eine eine
10 TALS																		MAKE	right of the state
130,962	11,959	S of C	3 018	12, 122	5,896	11,113	17, 594	7,865	ant de Constant de Landa de L	251	18,921	16,007	an-i rayan ar walifur after after after after area and an included	9,806	147	7, 293	8,970	MILEAGE	andres off the strength and a strength and
£10,385.40	1, 188.51	00.012	3000	725.48	641.53	853.81	1,275.07	911.23	Andreas and the state of the st	15.39	1,335.04	1,534.88	arer det eft	622.75	31.00	655.17	385.16	FUEL	
£5,439.38	388.70	390.40	27.17	516.11	352.65	453.51	650.70	508.17		NIL	451.64	501.88		737.92	TIN	137.08	3ևև. 57	REPAIRS	-
£15,824.78	1,577.21	000.03	506 9 2	1, 241, 59	994.18	1,307.32	1,925.77	1,419.40		15.39	1,786.68	2,036.76		1,360.67	31.00	792.25	729.73	TOTAL	

BREAKDOWN OF RUNNING COSTS FOR SDS VEHICLES

to 31.12.81

£18,309.06	16,907.83	£11,401.23 £5,907.	100 mg	18
1697.93	349.94 (includes £80 road tax)	1347.99		
1187.79	555.28 (includes £80 road tax)	632.51	11,298	
1250.92	593.07 (includes £89 road sex)	657.85	8,790	
646.48	186. ₁ /3	260.00	್ಕಾ ೨೦೦	
1266.31	248.73	1017.58	2,537	
1447.01	40%.6% (includes £80 road tax)	1038.37	71,000	
827.30	525.80	301.50	States States	
2042.36	1004.81 (includes 380 road tax)		\$0 .27 0.	