

No.

588

UNREG

694 Pt.11

Minute Sheet No.

1.

S.B. memorandum

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1A

Commander 'Admin.' (thro' C [redacted] nder 'Ops')

2 Having given considerable thought to the difficulties which might beset D.C. [redacted] HN13 [redacted], and indeed any former S.D.S. officer, if employed in uniform, I feel that perhaps further consideration should be given to the case of D.S. [redacted] HN300 who will be due for transfer to the Uniform Branch in September. If one keeps to the letter of the Police Order he does not fall within the 'exceptional retention' clause but his employment beyond the control of Special Branch must raise problems with regard to the security of the S.D.S. operation.

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S.B. 15.3.77

G.P.M. Craft A/Supt. for Chief Superintendent.

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Car Jandaus (thru Chief Supt [redacted] Go)

The Commissioner & ACI formally visited the S.D.S. on 22 March & met all our trustees. [redacted] was present with me. [redacted] arising from this meeting the Commissioner agreed that all officers who transfer this year shall be treated as 'exceptional retention' cases in S.D.S. in terms of the Force In-charge Scheme.

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HN13 and HN300

Thus in addition to [redacted] [redacted] should now be included in this category. [redacted] [redacted] will D Dept. [redacted] ACI

M.P.

S/324/377

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[P.T.O]

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DM

My I saw your impression to the
attached draft memorandum at 3A
before I launch it please!

SB

31.3.77

Amelias
Commander

3A

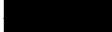


Special Branch

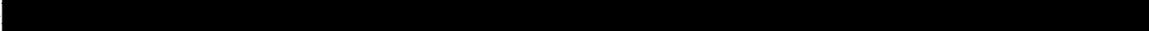
MEMORANDUM

1 April 1977

ACD (thro' DAC(SB) and ACC)

You will recall that in December 1975, shortly after the introduction of the Interchange Scheme, you gave your authority for the deferment of the transfer to uniform duty of one of our officers, PC (now PS) (CID)  **HN300**. This officer had taken up his option under the Scheme, having passed the competitive examination in 1972, and you agreed, because of the sensitive nature of his duties within Special Branch, that his release for duty as a uniformed Sergeant could be delayed until a time convenient to Special Branch, which was envisaged as being in about 18 months to two years. The officer was recently transferred from his previous post to duty at a port for "summer relief" and it was considered that on his return to CO in September this year it might be appropriate to consider his transfer to Uniform Branch.

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 **HN13** is also employed in a similar sensitive area of Special Branch work, passed the recent competitive examination and we are therefore now faced with a similar dilemma to that appertaining to **HN300**.

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It was thought when the original request for deferment of **HN300** was made that, given time, the officer could be assimilated back into the normal police role and thus enter the Interchange Scheme; it was also considered that this was in the officer's own best interests. However, it has been gradually inborn on the senior officers of the Branch that an officer engaged in this particular type of work in the public order field could, even some years hence, if exposed to the public at large, possibly create a situation through no fault of his own which could cause embarrassment to the Commissioner and, possibly, government. It is now our strong belief that this risk is not worth taking as the consequences could militate against the interests of the police service. It had been considered whether such an officer could serve for one year in some uniformed branch out of the public eye but this would necessarily involve explanations to other officers which, in turn, would nullify the security surrounding not only the officer's former role but the whole operation which is a continuing process. In addition, to place restrictions on an officer whereby he could not perform the full duties of his rank could damage his morale and certainly be frustrating to his senior officers.

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The Commissioner, accompanied by the ACC, recently had occasion to meet officers engaged in the type of work to which I have referred, and it was his view that such officers should invariably be treated as exceptional cases under the interchange scheme.

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I have therefore been directed to seek your authority for **the above officers** to be regarded as falling within the "special circumstances" in accordance with para 2(h) of PO.8 of 25th November 1975 and that they be retained in



..... cont'd over

Special Branch



1 April 1977

MEMORANDUM

(DD Form 1 (Rev. 5-22-64))

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You will recall that in December 1975, shortly after the introduction of the Special Branch. I should mention that PC HN13 is currently being considered as a possible candidate for the Special Course. If he were successful, and bearing his own future in mind, he would not see his present duties as an impediment to his attending the College and he would, of course, return to Special Branch duties at least for one year at the conclusion of the course.

The officer was recently transferred from his previous post to duty at a port for "summer relief" and it was considered that on his return to GB in September this year it might be appropriate to consider his transfer to Uniform Branch.



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Commander

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It was thought that the original request for deletion of the name of the officer could be accelerated back into the normal police role and that under the interchange scheme it was also considered that this was in the officer's own best interests. However, it has been gradually taken on the senior officers of the Branch that an officer engaged in this particular type of work in the public order field could, even some years hence, be exposed to the public or lawyer, possibly create a situation through no fault of his own which could cause embarrassment to the Commissioner and possibly, government. It is now our strong belief that this is not worth taking as the consequences could militate against the interests of the police service. It has been considered whether such an officer could serve for the year in some uniformed branch out of the public eye but this would necessarily involve establishment in other officers which, in turn, could militate the country's reputation not only the officer's former role but the whole system which is a continuing process. In addition to place restrictions on an officer whereby he could not perform the full duties of his rank would damage the morale and certainly be frustrating to his senior officers.

The Commissioner, accompanied by the SAC, recently had occasion to meet officers engaged in the type of work to which I have referred, and it was his view that such officers should invariably be treated as exceptional cases under the interchange scheme.

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I have therefore been directed to seek your authority for "special circumstances" in accordance with para 5(i) of SOA of 28th November 1975 and that they be retained in force under the interchange scheme.



Very truly yours

1A

Special Branch

15 March 1977

MEMORANDUM

Commander 'Admin' (thro' Commander 'Ops')

1. 16: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] HN13 was a successful competitor in the PC to PS examination in 1977 (vide PO 5 of 1.3.77).¹⁷ If the normal procedure under PO 8 (a) (iii) were to be applied HN13 would, in due course, attend pre-promotion courses and thence transfer to the Uniform Branch for 12 months.

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2. As you know, undercover officers are employed on the Special Demonstration Squad and, for reasons of security, it would be standard practice upon their leaving the Squad to afford them a considerable period of rehabilitation, probably through a three year port posting, during which time memories amongst the ultra-left would, hopefully, fade. Following this, care would be taken over their duties to preclude any avoidable contact with those who might have known them in their alter ego. Whilst an individual officer's facial appearance and dress change upon his return to normal duties, nothing can be done about his voice or personal mannerisms.

3. The advent of interchange between the various branches of the Force raises the problem of what might occur should a one-time member of the Squad be recognised in police uniform by one of his erstwhile 'colleagues' from the left. The security of the individual is of prime importance, not only for his sake but also for the protection of the SDS operation as a whole. Should an officer be transferred into uniform, consideration could be given to placing upon his Divisional Commander a requirement not to use him in circumstances whereby he would be likely to come up against elements of the ultra-left, e.g. control of demonstrations, duty at charge centres, searches of premises occupied by squatters, etc. However, this would complicate the Commander's use of manpower and would not, in any case, cover the multitude of situations in which a Sergeant might deal with revolutionaries in a police station. Furthermore, any requirement for cover would necessitate the briefing of a number of subordinate supervising officers which would be contrary to the existing rule that knowledge of the SDS operation be confined to a mere handful of officers beyond the bounds of Special Branch. In any case, the effect of such restrictions on the officer concerned could only damage his morale, in the sense that he would be in the unenviable position of being unable to take a full part in the duties which would normally fall to one of his rank.

4. It is my view that the interests of both the service and the officers would best be served by dealing with these cases under the 'exceptional retention' clause provided by PO 8(h) of 25.11.75. The special talents and expertise of such men in the field of public order, could thus be retained for the use of Special Branch (and through SB, 'A' Department) whilst at the same time maintaining around the SDS operation the degree of security which Commissioners have pledged repeatedly to the Secretary of State.

5. [19] [REDACTED] DC [HN13] [20] who joined the Squad in April 1975, is now well established and is about to enter what should be the most valuable period of his service in the unit.

[21] [REDACTED]

G T M Craft
A/Superintendent