

COVER SHEET



Witness: First Witness Statement of
William Furner

Exhibits Referred to: WF/1-16

Date Statement Made: 1 October 2019

UNDERCOVER POLICING INQUIRY

Witness: William Arthur Furner / HN3095

Occupation: Retired

Address: c/o Metropolitan Police Service, Directorate of Legal
Services, Empress State Building, SW6 1TR

1. I have been asked to provide a witness statement for the purpose of assisting the Undercover Policing Inquiry.
2. I have been shown eight photographs which were provided to the Undercover Policing Inquiry. I have been asked to identify whether I am in any of the photographs and whether I can confirm the identities of anyone else in the photographs.
3. I recognise the photographs that I have been shown. I have in my possession 15 photographs, some of which are the same as the photographs I have been shown and some of which are different. I will deal first with the photographs that have been shown to me.

- [REDACTED]
4. MPS-0735438 is a photograph of (left to right) Dave Fisher and Ray Wilson. I think it is ¹ [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED] who is visible in the background.
5. MPS-0735439 is a photograph of:
- a. In the top row (left to right): me (top of head visible), ² [REDACTED] HN68 [REDACTED], ³ [REDACTED] HN329 [REDACTED], possibly Dave Fisher.
 - b. In the middle row (left to right): ⁴ [REDACTED] HN330 [REDACTED], possibly Mike Tyrrell, person whose name I cannot recall, Ray Wilson, ⁵ [REDACTED] HN334 [REDACTED], Riby Wilson and Roy Creamer.
 - c. In the bottom row (left to right): ⁶ [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED] Helen Crampton, Conrad Dixon, Joan Hillier, Phil Saunders and ⁷ [REDACTED] HN331 [REDACTED]
6. I recognise very few people in MPS-0735441. I have no recollection of being present when this photograph was taken. I suspect it was taken long after I left the MPS. In the top row, the only person I recognise is Roy Creamer who is on the far left hand side. In the bottom row, I can identify Phil Saunders (second from left) and Helen Crampton (third from left). It is possibly ⁸ [REDACTED] HN334 [REDACTED] in the bottom row, second from the right.
7. MPS-0735442 is a photograph of (left to right) Helen Crampton, Joan Hillier and ⁹ [REDACTED] HN334 [REDACTED].
8. MPS-0735443 is a photograph of Conrad Dixon.
9. MPS-0735445 is a photograph of (left to right) ¹⁰ [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED], Conrad Dixon and ¹¹ [REDACTED] HN329 [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

10. MPS-0735446 is a photograph of (left to right) Helen Crampton,¹² [REDACTED] HN331,
Joan Hillier and¹³ [REDACTED] HN68.

11. MPS-0735447 is a photograph of (left to right) Phil Saunders and me.

12. As I have stated above, I have 15 photographs which were taken on the same occasion as MPS-0735438, MPS-0735439, MPS-0735442, MPS-0735443, MPS-0735444, MPS-0735445, MPS-0735446 and MPS-0735447. I exhibit these photographs as follows:

- ¹⁴
- a. WF/1 – this is a photograph of [REDACTED] HN329
 - b. WF/2 – this photograph is the same as MPS-0735445.
 - c. WF/3 – this photograph is the same as MPS-0735442.
 - d. WF/4 – this photograph is the same as MPS-0735447.
 - e. WF/5 – this photograph is the same as MPS-0735443.
 - f. WF/6 – this photograph is the same as MPS-0735439.
 - g. WF/7 – this photograph is very similar to MPS-0735439. It contains all of the same people, but it looks like it was taken a few seconds before or after MPS-0735439.

- ¹⁵
- h. WF/8 – this is a photograph of (left to right)¹⁶ [REDACTED] HN330
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] HN334. In the background is (left to right) Ray Wilson,

[REDACTED]

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Helen Crampton and [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED]. It is very difficult to make out whose forehead is visible to the left of Ray Wilson.

- i. WF/9 – this is a photograph of Riby Wilson. In the background, on the left hand side, is Roy Creamer. In the background, on the right hand side is (from left to right) 18 [REDACTED] HN331 [REDACTED] and Helen Crampton.

- j. WF/10 – this is a photograph of 19 [REDACTED] HN334 [REDACTED].

- k. WF/11 – this is a photograph of Joan Hillier.

- l. WF/12 – this is the same photograph as MPS-0735438.

- m. WF/13 – this is a photograph of (left to right) Riby Wilson, Phil Saunders, Conrad Dixon, me and 20 [REDACTED] HN332 [REDACTED]

- n. WF/14 – this is a photograph of (left to right) Mike Tyrell, Roy Creamer, and a person whose name I cannot recall.

- o. WF/15 – this is a photograph of (left to right) Riby Wilson and Roy Creamer. Helen Crampton is visible in the background.

13. MPS-0735438, MPS-0735439, MPS-0735442, MPS-0735443, MPS-0735444, MPS-0735445, MPS-0735446 and MPS-0735447 and WF/1-15 were taken on the same occasion. All of the photographs were all taken in the SDS office at Scotland Yard. I do not remember why they were taken.

14. There is a faint date stamp visible on the rear WF/1-15. It is perhaps most clear on WF/7, WF/11 or WF/12: they state 'Nov 1968'. The photographs may have been taken in the build up to Christmas because we tended to have a Christmas function at the SDS safe house in 21 [REDACTED] the West End [REDACTED] which was attended by everyone

[REDACTED]

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Details of how location was secured

[REDACTED]. It was unusual to have everyone on the SDS in Scotland Yard at the same time, which is why I suspect the photographs were taken around Christmas. Indeed, they may have been taken immediately before we went to the safe house for our Christmas function. I do note, however, that there are some people missing from these photographs, for example ²³ [REDACTED] HN326 and Mike Ferguson, who would have attended the Christmas party.

15. I do not remember who took the photographs. It is possible that the photographs were taken by the Special Branch photographer because we worked with him closely. For example, he was the person that we would ask to go to demonstrations and take photographs of the demonstration or certain individuals that were present.
16. I do not remember the circumstances in which I was given copies of WF/1-15. To this day I have kept these photographs in the envelope in which they were originally given to me. I exhibit that envelope as WF/16. There is nothing on the envelope which assists in the provenance of the photographs.

I believe the content of this statement to be true.

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Signed.

W. A. Furner

Dated 1.10.19.....