

PO Box 500 London SW1P 1XH

Commander J Wilson MBE Metropolitan Police Special Branch

Our Ref.

Your Ref.

Date 20 August 1979

Dear John,

1. I have pleasure in enclosing a note of the Minutes of the Informal Conference we held on 17 July 1979 at Grosvenor Street.

2. I confirm our arrangement that the next meeting will be on Wednesday 16 January 1980 on your premises.

Enc: 1(1)

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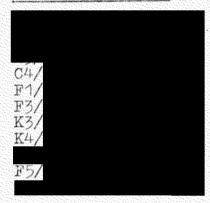
MINUTES OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE WITH METROPOLITAN POLICE SPECIAL BRANCH, HELD 17 JULY 1979

1. An informal Conference between representatives of the Metropolitan Police Special Branch (MPSB) and the Security Service took place in _______, 70 Grosvenor Street between 4 pm and 5.30 pm on Tuesday 17 July 1979. The following were present under the co-Chairmanship of Commander John Wilson, MPSB and ______sys1 _____, Security Service:

Metropolitan Police

Chief Superintendent David Bicknell
Chief Superintendent Alan Dickinson
Chief Superintendent Derek Kneale
Chief Superintendent Peter Radford
Chief Superintendent Cameron Sinclair
Superintendent

Security Service



- 2. Sys1 welcomed all those attending and on behalf of his colleagues particularly our friends from the MPSB. He reminded delegates that the Informal Conference was to be held twice-yearly had been born out of a meeting between the last Commissioner, Sir Robert Mark and the last Director General, Sir Michael Hanley, in 1976 and it was suggested that we have an informal agenda and "discreet Minutes". The importance of free speaking was to be stressed.
- 3. Sys2 was the first speaker and he described the origins and the shape of the present day liaison with European Services and identified the participant countries describing the type of Service, ie whether it was part of a professional police service or a civilian or military organisation.
- 4. He was followed by SysC4 officer who spoke about the change of emphasis in his Section work from counter-terrorism and contingency planning to current involvement in surveying and recommending protection for Economic Key Points against sabotage. In this matter there had been close co-operation with

the Police service particularly Crime Prevention Departments. A number of Courses had already been organised and others are still in the pipeline.

- 5. He was followed by Sys F1 officer who reviewed recent events affecting the Communist Party of Great Britain with particular reference to Communist sympathisers and the recording of attendance at the Communist University of London.
- 6. The fourth presentation was a combined effort of outlining parts their Sections played in agent operations against specified targets
- 7. There were questions and discussions at the end of each speaker's contribution.
- 8. Commander John Wilson then outlined the recent activities of Special Branch referring to the assassination of Airey Neave, the resultant pressures on Special Branch in the run up to and during the election and mentioned a number of other matters bringing in Cameron Sinclair to discuss a recent detention of a man and woman at Heathrow which,

 12 then continued, led to the recovery of some sawn-off shotguns in East London.

 David Bicknell who was leaving for Lusaka that evening described his reconnaissance visit to Lusaka and outlined the plans which had been drawn up to protect Her Majesty The Queen and her Ministers at the forthcoming Commonwealth Conference in Zambia.
- 9. The Conference being concluded, Sys1 thanked the delegates for attending and said that he and Commander Wilson would fix a date for the next Conference.
- 10. Delegates then adjourned to the where they were joined by Commander Saunders, MPSB, and Security Service. Each person contributed £1 and drinks were taken together.

SyS 1

20 August 1979