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Your reference

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DDM/4/1

Date

6 August 1984

Dear Mr Harrington

GUIDELINES FOR SPECIAL BRANCHES AND GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF
EQUIPMENT IN POLICE SURVEILLANCE OPERATIONS: MEETING, 16 JULY 1984

Having now recovered from the effects of the recent exercise in Grampian I have had an opportunity to digest the note of the meeting of 16 July 1984.

On the surveillance guidelines I have no comment at present, and I think that the next draft should serve to meet the reservations expressed by the police.

On the Special Branch guidelines I have only the following minor points :-

1. As I indicated at the meeting the first paragraphs are to my mind more statements of fact than guidelines.
2. I note that the definitions of "espionage" and "subversion" are to be more clearly drawn. I hope this will take onboard my point that, as it stands, the definition of espionage does not cover information (or material) overtly obtained.
3. My somewhat sketchy notes indicated that an amendment was necessary to paragraph 8 to take account of the fact that SB officers do not provide protection for all people who are judged to be at risk.

I note what is said at paragraph 6 about the simultaneous publication of our guidelines and we will put drafting in hand as soon as a revised, and agreed, format is available.

Yours sincerely

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