

CC Mr [REDACTED]  
Mr Andrew

Mr Angel

## TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SPECIAL BRANCHES

Below is the record of Sir Robert Armstrong's meeting with [REDACTED] **SyS Officer** of the Security Service on 7 December following my minute at doc.18 on QPE/78 1/8/4.

No further action is required on paragraph 2 (mention of Special Branches in Annual Reports).

The suggestion in paragraph 7 that [REDACTED] **SyS Officer** might attend the next meeting of the General Committee of Central Conference has been partially overtaken by the fact that this was raised at the last meeting of CC(GC) when the ACPO representatives expressed themselves as being not unhappy with present arrangements. Mr Andrew and HMCI and I will be considering whether to pursue this.

As to paragraphs 3-6, the conclusion was that we should look at the various documents which condition the work which Special Branches do for the Security Service. The note talks about the 1974 terms of reference. In fact the terms of reference date from 1970 (they are below doc.10 on the file), and the 1974 reference was to a Security Service circular to Chief Constables of 29 May 1974 about industrial disputes. This and a further circular letter of 16 December 1975 about schools were enclosed with [REDACTED] **SyS Officer**'s letter to Mr Andrew dated 8 December, which is also below.

I should be grateful if F4 would now examine these three documents, and consider in what respects they need modifying, either by simply updating or by consolidation. It would be helpful if this exercise was complete by 31 January 1979, <sup>so</sup> that it can be taken into account in the exercise foreshadowed in paragraph 8 of the note of the meeting on 7 December 1978.



(DAVID HEATON)

15 December 1978