

From [REDACTED] Esq., QPM, Deputy Assistant Commissioner 'A' (Operations) 9A



NEW SCOTLAND YARD
BROADWAY, LONDON, SW1H 0B

24 April 1979

AC'A'

DEMONSTRATION WITH DISORDER AND DEATH - SOUTHALL -
MONDAY 23 APRIL 1979

In support of the Parliamentary Elections in Southall the National Front candidate, [REDACTED] arranged for a meeting in the Southall Town Hall for Monday 23 April 1979 at 7.30pm.

There was considerable opposition to this meeting, in particular by the Indian Workers Association and the Southall Youth Movement, who considered that a meeting in this area by the National Front was particularly provocative.

In addition to all the publicity given to their cause the Indian Workers Association and others arranged a March on Sunday 22 April 1979. The march started in Southall and past Southall Town Hall, finishing just past Ealing Town Hall. Because of the potential of violence 1,200 police officers were employed. This was a very unruly march, and in particular there were a large number of young Asians who were very difficult and unruly. On two or three occasions the march stopped and the demonstrators sat down in the road. Police were very patient, and throughout the long march of about 5 miles only 19 people were arrested. [REDACTED] was one of the prime movers of the disorder and civil disobedience, and this is the subject of another report.

Information was received that although the National Front Meeting at Southall Town Hall was timed for 7.30pm on Monday 23 April there would be some kind of demonstration at about 1pm. Accordingly, police officers were deployed to the area from 11.30am. As expected, from 1pm onwards there were small groups of demonstrators in the area of the Town Hall. They were very militant, and in fact there were 2 or 3 arrests at this particular time. Between 2.30pm and 3.15pm there was some disorder in South Road and The Broadway and it was necessary to put in cordons to contain demonstrators. At about this time a number of Asians took lengths of wood off a nearby lorry and

smashed the windows of a London Transport bus. More police were deployed to the area and were greeted with a hail of missiles, injuring a number of police officers and at the same time shop windows were broken by the demonstrators. Shield serials were deployed, and the demonstrators were contained.

There was a gradual build up of demonstrators and the area was cordoned to make a sterile area around the Town Hall, with the exception of certain demonstrators who were allowed to remain in the High Street. Cordons were placed in Lady Margaret Road, The Broadway, High Street and South Road, and there was a gradual build up of demonstrators at each of these cordons. Before 5.00pm there was a build up of demonstrators south of South Road on the railway bridge. A group of about 3/400 eventually blocked the whole road and sat down in the street. When the police cordon moved toward this group they retreated and were keeping a distance between themselves and the police cordon. This was a worrying situation as it gave them the opportunity of throwing missiles. At about 5.30pm a bottle was thrown at the police cordon and further stoning. Announcements were made that unless the demonstrators went away they would be arrested. There was considerable peaceful persuasion used but to no avail, and police selectively arrested a number of those who were sitting in the roadway. This has a good effect and eventually this crowd dispersed.

At about the same time considerable pressure built up on the cordon in the High Street, near Southall Police Station, and missiles were being thrown. Because of this disorder mounted officers were used to disperse this particular crowd. While this was happening a group of mainly ruffians, squatting in a house in Park View Road, threw stones and smoke canisters at police. There were a number of police injuries and it was necessary for police to enter the building. There was considerable violence from those in occupation. Truncheons were used and there were injuries to the occupants and police - including 2 police officers who were stabbed. A variety of missiles were used, including paint which was thrown over police. Curry powder was thrown into policemen's faces.

The violence in the Broadway continued throughout, with sporadic throwing of missiles and smashing of shop windows, and it was necessary for police to go into the demonstrators with shields to save further injury. The demonstrators were continually trying to find a way round the back of the police cordon and the Indian youths were particularly extremely violent.

The National Front Meeting took place. The Local Council had put a ceiling of 60 on the number to be admitted. In fact 59 entered the Town Hall and it was alleged that 20 of these were members of the public and non members of the National Front. They included 8 Asians. A number of groups of National Front arrived in the area, but as the Hall was full they were not allowed into the area at all, but contained or dispersed by police on the grounds of Public Order.

It was understood that [redacted] asked the Local Councillor [redacted] General Secretary of India Social Welfare Society, if he was satisfied that this was a bona fide meeting and the Councillor said that he was so satisfied. Police allowed a group of about 50 Asians on the opposite side of the road to the Town Hall, who were constantly chanting anti-National Front slogans, aided by a public address system in a shop.

When the meeting ended at about 10.00pm the National Front members were escorted by police out of the area.

It is reported the Blair PEACH, a member of the Anti-Nazi League was taken to New Ealing Hospital by ambulance at 9.12pm suffering from a head injury, from which he subsequently died. The circumstances of this death are not fully known, but a senior Detective Officer is heading an enquiry to discover the full circumstances and a further report will be prepared in due course.

A man, believed to be a National Front sympathiser, named [redacted] was set upon by Asian youths and suffered serious injuries. He also has a heart condition and he must be considered as very seriously ill.

This was a particularly violent demonstration and the violence was mainly from the Asian youths, who appeared quite often to lose complete control of their emotions. 20 police officers were treated for injuries in hospital - 3 are still detained with serious injuries - and, of course, there were scores who received treatment at the time and will, in all probability, report sick at a later date. There were 340 or more arrests for various offences and there was considerable damage caused to property, mainly shops in the area of the Broadway. It is estimated that the number of demonstrators in the area was in excess of 3,000.

The full details of the injuries, arrests and damage will be forwarded in due course.

From my experience of demonstrations I am convinced that the violent attacks on police and property were pre-planned.

However, it was very noticeable that there were very few white left extremists in the area on Monday, but some who were there were organising the demonstrators. They were in evidence on the March on the previous day. The most violent group certainly came from the Asian youths of the Southall Youth Movement, and this was also obvious on the Sunday March.

POLICE DEPLOYED

1	Deputy Assistant Commissioner
4	Commanders
15	Chief Superintendents
4	Superintendents
23	Chief Inspectors
120	Inspectors
291	Police Sergeants
2373	Police Constables
45	Women Police Constables

RESERVES (included in the above total)

1	Chief Superintendent
28	Inspectors
78	Police Sergeants
570	Police Constables

MOUNTED RESERVE (included in the above total)

1	Superintendent
1	Chief Inspector
4	Inspectors
8	Police Sergeants
80	Police Constables

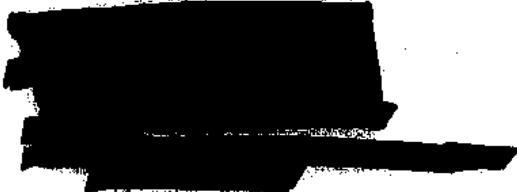
All engaged between 3.30pm and 10pm on Monday 23 April 1979.

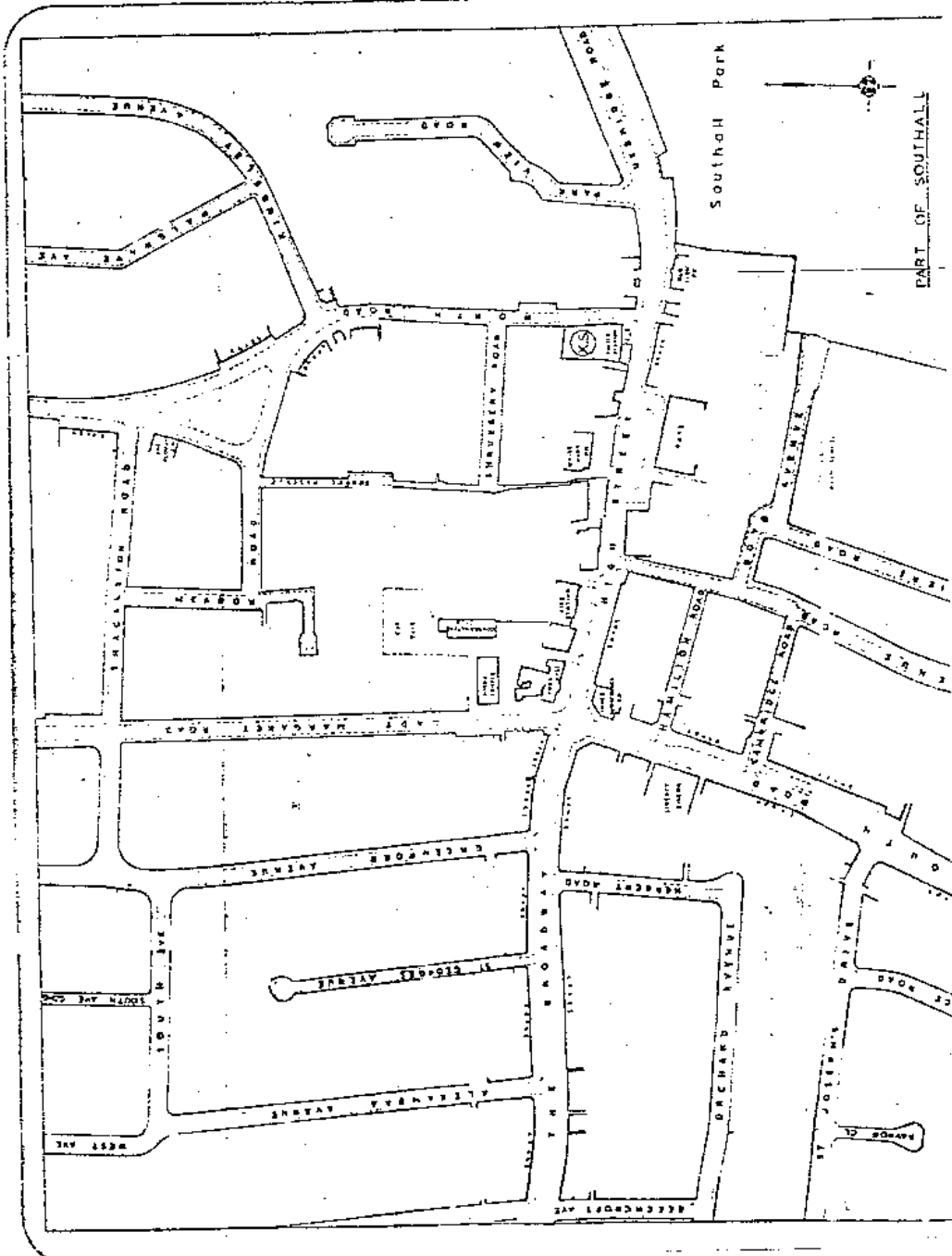
<u>TRUNCHEONS</u>	- drawn
<u>PROTECTIVE SHIELDS</u>	- used
<u>NUMBER OF ARRESTS</u>	- 342
<u>INJURIES TO POLICE</u>	- 120
<u>INJURIES TO PRISONERS</u>	- 83

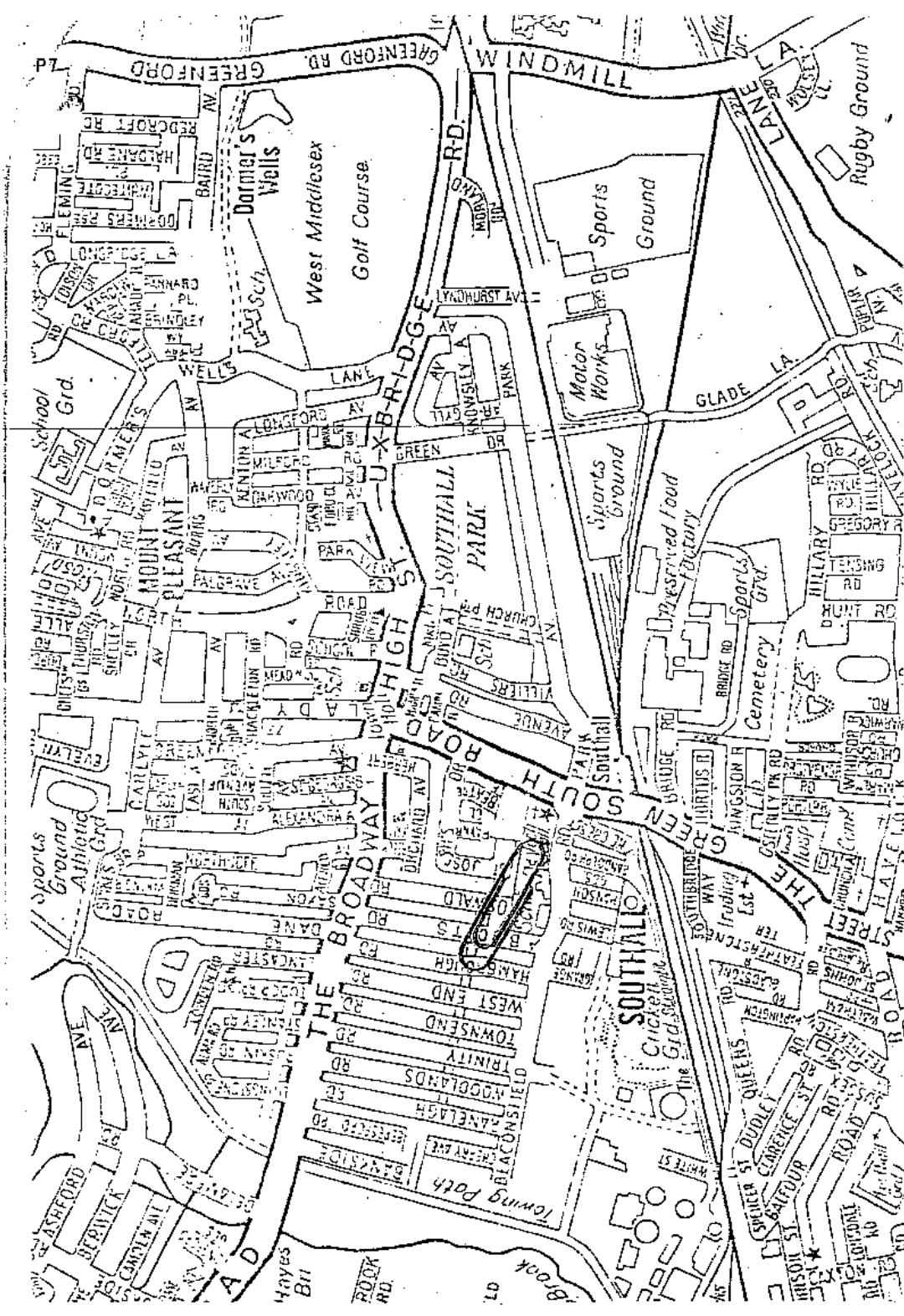
- 5 -

<u>INJURIES TO PUBLIC</u>	- 10 (1 FATAL)
<u>DAMAGE TO POLICE PROPERTY</u>	- 127
<u>LOSS OF POLICE PROPERTY</u>	- 161
<u>POLICE HORSES INJURED</u>	- 2
<u>DAMAGE TO PRIVATE PROPERTY</u>	- 29 (to date)
<u>LOSS OF PRIVATE PROPERTY</u>	- None reported (to date)

Copies of this report have been sent to the Under Secretary of State, Home Office, Director of Information, DAC No. 1 Area, Commanders AB, BB, 'C', 'X' and Airport Districts, Solicitors Branch and G9 (Accident Claims Branch).







METROPOLITAN POLICE

Reference: C.O. OG1/79/2234 C.I.B.(2) Branch/Station C.O. Divn.
Numbers Divnl.

Registry Folio Number :

Statutory Complaint

Register Number:

12th JULY, 1979

COMPLAINT AGAINST POLICE1. COMPLAINANT

1. Investigations commenced on instructions from the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis.
2. Private persons from whom statements have been obtained by police, and I enjoin the name Mrs. Celia STUBBS the common law wife of Clement Blair PEACH. (I.O. 1)

2. BRIEF PARTICULARS OF COMPLAINT

It is alleged that Clement Blair PEACH age 31 years, was assaulted by police with a truncheon, whilst he was with other persons who had been taking part in a political demonstration, at about 8 p.m. on 23rd April, 1979, at Orchard Avenue, Southall, and that he collapsed on the pavement. He then crossed the road and was taken into a nearby house and at about 8.12 pm conveyed by ambulance to New Ealing Hospital where it was found he had suffered a fractured skull on the left side of the head. He was operated on and resuscitated but died at 12.10 am on 24th April, 1979. Post mortem examination established cause of death as a fractured skull. (X.S. Section)

General police brutality is also alleged within the content of the statements made.

4. OFFICERS SUBJECT OF COMPLAINT

Unnamed officers of the Special Patrol Group of the Metropolitan Police who were on duty at the demonstration at Southall on 23rd April, 1979.

5. INVESTIGATING OFFICERS

Commander CASS, Detective Chief Superintendent TELFER and other officers of the Complaints Investigation Bureau.

6. INQUEST DATE

Extensive enquiries and interviews have been carried out and although further investigative action is in hand to round off the enquiry, this report is submitted prior to the adjourned inquest date of 17th July, 1979, so that the complexity of the inquest hearing on a later date may be assessed. The decision of the Director of Public Prosecutions will also have to be awaited but on the evidence to date I would expect that opinion would be that there is insufficient evidence to prefer a charge against any person of homicide with any prospect of conviction. At the inquest it appears appropriate that the Metropolitan Police is legally represented by Solicitors Department. Other persons including the family of the deceased are likely to be legally represented. EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE START OF THE INQUEST HEARING IS LIKELY TO BE 11th OCTOBER, 1979.

NOW
VERIFIED

7. The death of Clement Blair PEACH and other incidents at Southall on 23rd April, 1979, have been raised in Parliament but a request for a Public Enquiry was not agreed to. There is a demand from certain quarters and pressure groups for the Special Patrol Group to be disbanded. (The Deputy Commissioner is carrying out an internal review of the Special Patrol Group within the Metropolitan Police.)

PUBLICITY

8. A Public Enquiry would not have subjected police officers to the prolonged and rigorous questioning they have been subjected to during this investigation. Continuing reports appear in the Press and on television and it is a case which will receive wide publicity and be the subject of comment for a long time. The funeral of the deceased was akin to a potential demonstration with Left-wing political elements most prominent. Associates of the deceased see it as a 'cause celebre' and will endeavour to obtain maximum benefit for their purposes and whatever happened would never be satisfied. The inquest and evidence will be widely reported not only in this country but abroad, especially in New Zealand from where the deceased came several years ago.

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9. Clement Blair PRACE, age 31 years, born 25th March, 1946, was a teacher, and lived with Mrs. Celia SWINBURR [REDACTED]. He was an active member of the 'Anti Nazi League' and had been arrested on previous occasions when protesting on political issues. On 23rd April, 1979, he travelled with companions to Southall to protest against the 'National Front'.

ELECTION MEETING

10. The Parliamentary election was to be on 10th May, 1979, and in the build up to it during the preceding weeks there was the usual political activity. The 'National Front' political party hired the Town Hall, Southall, on Monday 23rd April, 1979, with resultant protestations from

their opponents which culminated in a major demonstration during the afternoon and evening at and near the Broadway, Southall, where the Town Hall is situated. Part of the crowd was violent with missiles being thrown at police officers who were deployed to maintain order. To appreciate the atmosphere the crowd was in excess of 3,000, 345 arrests were made, 97 police officers injured, 39 prisoners injured, 42 cases of damage to property and 25 (1 fatal) members of the public injured. The number of police engaged in the area was 2,750.

[REDACTED] was in charge of police operations with [REDACTED] as his Deputy. Full operational planning and procedures had been invoked.

TERMS OF INVESTIGATION

11. My brief is to investigate the circumstances surrounding the death so I do not propose to enlarge much further on the events of that day except to emphasize that it was an extremely violent, volatile and ugly a situation where there was serious disturbance by what can be classed as a 'rebellious crowd'. The legal definition 'unlawful assembly' is justified and the events should be viewed with that kind of atmosphere prevailing. Without condoning the death I refer to Archibold, 38th Edition, paragraph 2528 "In case of riot or rebellious assembly the officers endeavouring to disperse the riot are justified in killing them at common law if the riot cannot otherwise be suppressed".

Within that dictum in relation to this case there are however some imponderables. It need not therefore be pursued.

EVENING OF 23rd APRIL 1979 AT SOUTHBALL AND LOCATIONS.

12. The members of the National Front entered the Town Hall for their meeting at 7.30 p.m. and about that time part of the crowd in the Broadway, Southall had a cordon of police in front and a cordon behind. The cordon behind was brought forward and this allowed the crowd to disperse westwards along the Broadway in the direction of the cross-junction Northcote Avenue with Beechercroft Avenue. From the map it will be seen that from the Broadway, down Beechercroft Avenue after about 90 yards there comes a 'T' junction with Orchard Avenue. Turning right into Orchard Avenue there is a cul-de-sac but access can be obtained by people on foot around the end of the houses and a narrow alley gives access back into Beechercroft. Turning left into Orchard Avenue the road has pathways through to other streets, to a Social Club and where the road turns it becomes Herbert Road, which leads back onto the Broadway. Important junctions insofar as this report is concerned are the Broadway, a main road shopping thoroughfare, with Beechercroft Avenue immediately off it which has one shop and homes on either side for a part of the distance. On the left side, at the junction with Orchard Avenue is house No. 62, the end of a row of terraced houses the front garden of which is surrounded by a wall, with the usual width of pavement before the actual roadway. On the edge of the pavement outside No. 62 is a traffic sign. Beechercroft Avenue is

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wide enough for a two-way thoroughfare but it is only one-way with 'no entry' signs at the Broadway end. The residents of Orchard Avenue are mainly of Asian origin with a small number of English people.

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13. A visual appreciation of the location can be obtained by perusal of the map and aerial photographs.

14. Returning to the activity of the crowd who had partially dispersed west along the Broadway towards the junction with Beechcroft Avenue. Asian youths comprised the majority of the crowd but with some white people among them who were members of the 'Anti Nazi League' and included the deceased and his friends. There is no actual evidence that the members of the 'Anti Nazi League' were encouraging or inciting the throwing of missiles, but they were there to protest and to stimulate others to do so. Bricks, stones, bottles and curry powder was being thrown about and an incendiary device was hurled at a police coach in the Broadway. Police had previously taken away crates of bottles as a preventive measure. A subsequent search by police found a butcher's cleaver which had been concealed in a garden of Beechcroft Avenue.

3 UNIT SPECIAL PATROL GROUP AT NORTHCOTE AVENUE

15. The Special Patrol Group officers & personnel carriers were being utilised as a mobile reserve and because of the violent activity they went to the junction with Broadway and Beechcroft Avenue. The personnel carriers

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7.

turned left into Northcote Avenue and stopped. When getting out the officers were subjected to a heavy bombardment from missiles and one officer - [REDACTED] - was hit on the face with a brick and felled to the ground. He was rescued by his colleagues who noted his distorted face which was due to his jaw being severely fractured.

3 UNIT SPECIAL PATROL GROUP OFFICERS IN SHIELD FORMATION

16. The Special Patrol Group involved at this stage was No. 3 Unit under the command of [REDACTED] all based at Leytonstone. [REDACTED] lined up his men in the Broadway, with protective shields and truncheons drawn in conditions reminiscent of war, to face the missile throwing crowd in the mouth of Beechcroft Avenue. These officers were operating therefore in some isolation from the main body, exposed and vulnerable.

17. Up to this point events are relatively clear but I must preface any further description of what happened with a proviso that conflicting accounts have been given by private persons and also by police. The diverse opinions as to what occurred can be attributed to several aspects, the most obvious being confusion as it is not uncommon in violent situations for people to think primarily of themselves, to avoid being hurt or with other personal or singular objectives in mind. People can be mistaken as to what occurred and when two witnesses describe the same detail collusion is not improbable. Deliberate

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P.2

lies or collusion is another aspect with the making of false allegations against the police which some people are prone to do particularly those who are anti-authority. Police officers may seek to avoid responsibility, criminal liability, embarrassment or public blame. The police officers continued on duty some hours after that at the demonstration, which could distort their memory and the consequences of the activity at Orchard Avenue was not known until the next day.

18. For more detail of police action in the area in question I invite the reader to look at a sketch plan which gives a general impression of the accounts that have been given, but I must emphasize that all the police and private witnesses do not agree in their description of the events but it is a basis from which to start.

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19. With those observations made I return to the events of that evening.

1 UNIT SPECIAL PATROL GROUP SENT TO ASSIST 3 UNIT

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20. Assistance was sent to [REDACTED] and his men facing the crowd in Beechcroft Avenue, in the form of [REDACTED] No. 1 Unit Special Patrol Group (Barnes) in three personnel carriers. They went eastwards along the Broadway to the junction with Beechcroft where two carriers turned right into the road being waved in by officers on foot.

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The third carrier was turned back in the mistaken belief that it could get into Beechcroft from a side road and thereby entrap the violent demonstrators. 3 Unit officers advanced on the crowd on foot with 1 Unit officers in the two carriers, "one-one" (11) and "one-two" (12). A point of dispute is whether the carriers stopped momentarily at the mouth of the junction, but if so it is doubtful if any officer could have alighted. The impression one gets is it started off as a 'tank and infantry' type of advance and in such circumstances the adrenalin starts to pump; particularly with the high probability of injury.

21.

The officers of 3 Unit Special Patrol Group ran after the demonstrators preceded by the personnel carriers, with the exception of [REDACTED] who claims he was to the forefront because of his ability as a sprinter and he caught a man named [REDACTED] and struggled with him - some yards short of the junction with Orchard Avenue. The first vehicle at that junction was "one-one" (11) driven by [REDACTED] and in charge was [REDACTED]. The vehicle stopped at an angle at the junction turned towards the nearside, thereby causing a bottle-neck. Simultaneously, or thereabouts, [REDACTED] jumped from the carrier and were immediately involved with the demonstrators. The demonstrators at that junction were then endeavouring to avoid capture but the atmosphere of violence remained.

Dispersal of the demonstrators was a

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continuing operation by the police with the theory of 'hot-pursuit' being applicable. Differentiating stone-throwers in the crowd from others would be extremely difficult. I am of the opinion that if a person remains part of a crowd who are throwing missiles, that is collective support and guilt by presence and perhaps it ought to be a distinct offence. One is practically just as bad as the other and police on a dispersing action cannot be expected to differentiate.

WITNESSES OF ASSAULT UPON CLEMENT BLAIR PEACH

22. At or about the time the police jumped from the carriers 14 witnesses say they saw a police officer hit the deceased on the head, 13 of the persons are Asians and [redacted] who was a friend of the deceased. The persons are:-

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23. [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted] (later retracted)
 [redacted] (later retracted)
 [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted] and
 [redacted] (a friend of the deceased)

Unfortunately the majority say they cannot identify the officer and if they did there are discrepancies which detract from their credibility. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were put on an identification parade on 11th July, 1979 but there was no identification by the witnesses [REDACTED]

or [REDACTED]. However further identification parades are to be held but I am not hopeful of any development in that respect.

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24. To some the deceased was prominent because they noted he was the only white man among the Asians at the junction. He would also be wearing his yellow 'Anti Nazi League' badge in his lapel. If he was true to form he may have been in dispute, conflict, obstructing or interfering with the police and [REDACTED] was being overpowered just about that time. After being hurt it is reported PEACH was pushed around the corner and fell to the ground, getting up after the police had gone and making his way unsteadily across the road to No. 71 from where he was later taken to hospital.

25. Confusion and conflicting accounts by private witnesses obviate a clear picture of what occurred. Some say he was hit by a truncheon, some say several times but that is not in accordance with medical evidence. Others say he was hit by an officer wielding a riot shield. Some say the officer came from the carrier and others say he did not but had arrived on foot from Beecheroff Avenue. No officer has admitted striking Clement Blair PEACH either deliberately, accidentally, or given an account which would

indicate that he may have done so without realizing it. Consideration has been given as to whether the injury could have been caused by a fellow demonstrator or by a missile, but in the absence of evidence such speculation cannot be pursued and the remaining allegation is that police caused the injury.

26. As I have pointed out some officers of 3 Unit were on foot but undoubtedly the officers on carrier "one-one" were to the forefront. The officers in that carrier after disembarking, who could have assaulted Clement Blair PEACH were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and I give them in that order of possibility. Here I must point out that earlier that day those officers of the Special Patrol Group had been involved in other incidents and if the soreness of the previous incidents had worn off it no doubt remained in the mind.

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[REDACTED] is a young [REDACTED] with a forceful personality.

PROMINENT DISCREPANCY

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27. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] require mention in that when seen the next day and after the news media had given the death some prominence, their recollection was they got out of the carrier "one-one" at the junction

of Broadway and Beechcroft and not at the junction of Beechcroft and Orchard. One could speculate that if they thought they had been seen alighting from the carrier and they had then gone straight into the assault on PEACH, saying they had got out earlier would have obviated suspicion on them. However, at a later interview [REDACTED] acknowledged that he had got out at the junction where the assault on PEACH took place.

[REDACTED] still maintains he got out at the junction of the Broadway and Beechcroft and he will not move from that account. There is the possibility that both officers confronted PEACH, one or the other struck him and then bundled him around the corner. There would then be complicity in the assault and it raises the question of conspiring or attempting to pervert justice if they decided to tell lies, but there is no such proof. However, both maintain they did not assault PEACH, but

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(questionnaire)

[REDACTED] subsequently said under intense questioning that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] got out of the carrier on the corner and went straight into the crowd. This has a ring of truth and it may be that [REDACTED] saw more but will not enlarge. He is under suspension from duty at the present time. All the officers have been subjected to lengthy interviews but they maintain their innocence of crime and complicity to conceal what occurred.

CRIMINAL LIABILITY

28.

After the incident at the junction which in effect took as long as one passed by, the officers either got back into the personnel carriers or pursued demonstrators either way along Orchard Avenue. The criminal liability of an officer striking PEACH in such circumstances would be more a point for deliberation if there was an officer conceding that it had or could have occurred, but that is not the case. Notwithstanding that an officer has not come forward it does not rule out certain considerations because there are two separate issues; 1) the officer's criminality in assaulting PEACH and 2) his admission of doing so. The action was to disperse the crowd and the use of truncheons may well be thought to be justified. The death of PEACH is tragic but had he not died I doubt if any lesser charge could have been preferred with good prospect of conviction. With regard to an officer admitting responsibility, the death was widely reported in the news the next day with allegations in various quarters that the "S.P.G. had murdered Blair Peach". Placards to that effect were displayed by persons believed to be from the 'Socialist Workers Party' outside Southall Police Station. With such a serious allegation made the reason for an officer failing to come forward may be that he could not measure up to do so, concedes blame, or may feel that he was not obliged to offer himself for legal

and public scrutiny as to his actions. There is the right of silence as a legal privilege but an untruth could be an attempt to pervert justice. There is little doubt that many defending lawyers in such circumstances would advise their clients not to make any such admission and to leave the matter to other proof. Police officers are expected to be forthright and if knowingly responsible failure to do so would be discreditable or shows up most unfavourably. An officer failing to report his colleague would at the very least incur severe censure. The measure of moral fibre needed by both may be a matter for speculation, assuming an officer had come forward or his identity (and any accomplice) become known, the preferring of any charge would have had to be weighed against any explanation tendered. An officer may also have been in trepidation of a charge being preferred straightway and having failed to make a disclosure in the early stages then felt it was too late.

29. The purpose of the officers was to disperse the demonstrators, so the use of truncheons could be made out and in all the circumstances I would not envisage a jury convicting an officer of murder. Accepting that an officer is entitled to use force an issue would be "excessive" force which thereby makes any speculative offence being murder as distinct from manslaughter.

It transpires that the deceased had an abnormally thin skull and on another person such a blow may not have had the same disastrous consequences. The inquest verdict of "misadventure" will therefore justify some consideration alongside "open verdict".

SOLICITORS OF FAMILY AND ? ANTI NAZI LEAGUE

- 291 30. Mr. [REDACTED] Solicitor [REDACTED] representing the family of the deceased, had an independent post mortem, by [REDACTED] and on 6/7th June, 1979, disclosed the opinion that the instrument used to cause the injury was not likely to be a police truncheon, but a leaded cosh or similar object. They released the content of [REDACTED]'S report to the Press and it received wide and extensive publicity.
- 2359 31. A search of the rooms of the Special Patrol Group at Barnes on 5th June, 1979, had revealed a lead cosh and other truncheon type weapons in the locker of [REDACTED]. This officer was the driver of the first Special Patrol Group carrier "one-one" down the street.
- 813 32. On 4th June, 1979, [REDACTED] had made a statement that no one was on the vehicle "one-one" at one stage. [REDACTED] was detained for three days and subjected to lengthy questioning. He maintained he was not responsible, and at that stage said that [REDACTED] and the rest of the crew went into the crowd on the corner and, as I pointed out earlier, particularly mentioned [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] says he did not have the cosh in his possession at Southall. He has given two explanations as to how he obtained it
- 1642 1) that he got it in America when on a visit there ten years ago and 2) he found it at a road block. It is not uncommon for prisoners to attempt to dispose of incriminating items before arrival at

police stations. It is improper and contrary to regulations for an officer to retain such an item and indeed as such an item would then become the Commissioner's property there is the question of theft. I submit however that a charge of theft would not be sustained. As the driver of the vehicle [REDACTED] would have to clear out the carrier and laxity in the correct procedure is apparent.

FURTHER POST-MORTEM RAISED BY POLICE

33. A further official post-mortem was requested and when carried out by [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] it was disclosed that the deceased had an abnormally thin skull at the point of impact. In fact the bone is particularly translucent which accounts to some degree for the shattering effect that resulted. As yet the thinness of the skull is not public knowledge. Of a number of items including truncheons, riot shields and Motorola radios, [REDACTED] favours the latter by weight and size as the more likely object to have caused the injury. He rules out the cosh as it is not consistent with the fracture site. Evidence has not emerged to show any officer as wielding his Motorola personal radio as a weapon. [REDACTED] of 1 Unit had one with him out of the carrier at the junction, but he denies any contact with the deceased. In relation to that examination which was on 21st June, 1979, [REDACTED] concurs but refers to 'considerable inertial force'.

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OTHER INCIDENTS OF ASSAULT ETC. NEAR THE SCENE

34. Other incidents relative to the police action in Beechcroft Avenue and Orchard Avenue require mention in relation to allegations of police brutality and as indicative of the overall state of affairs.

35. ASIAN MAN ASSAULTED

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At the time that officers from 3 Unit Special Patrol Group were advancing down Beechcroft Avenue it is alleged that [REDACTED] age 51, of [REDACTED] was assaulted by an officer with a truncheon and he sustained a scalp wound requiring hospital treatment and the insertion of stitches. The identity of any officer who assaulted him is not known. An Asian child witness says he fell down and was kicked but a number of other witnesses say the assault was by a police officer. An aspect of that incident is that following it a chair was brought from a house and he was sat on it prior to him walking home from where he was later conveyed to hospital.

INJURY TO FRIEND OF THE DECEASED

36.

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[REDACTED], alleges she was assaulted on the head by a police officer with a truncheon and also sustained an injury to her hand believed from a riot shield. [REDACTED] is a member of the 'Anti Nazi League' and was a friend of and accompanying the deceased. She says she saw Clement Blair PEACH struck on the head by an officer with a truncheon. She cannot identify any officer and

██████████ will be subject of further comment later in this report.

PROCEEDINGS PENDING AGAINST MAN FOR UNLAWFUL WOUNDING

Appendix 'A' 37.

██████████ of ██████████, was chased by officers on foot to the right of Orchard Avenue into the cul-de-sac, went behind No. 82 and by an alleyway back into Beechcroft Avenue where he was arrested and later charged with unlawful wounding of ██████████ who sustained a fractured jaw.

CUL-DE-SAC ORCHARD AVENUE

38.

A number of other persons had endeavoured to avoid police by running around the side of No. 82, including

P. 660

██████████ age 18, a clerk, of ██████████, who sustained a laceration to her head allegedly caused by a police officer with a truncheon, necessitating the insertion of one suture. She came forward on 17th May, 1979, after I had had a discussion with ██████████ Solicitor, representing the family and members of the 'Anti Nazi League'. She says the officer had a beard but his identity is not known and she may be mistaken as to his description. ██████████

P.660

was taken into No. 82 by the Asian family living there and afforded comfort and assistance. In her statement ██████████ names several friends but does not have their addresses.

39. We have been dependent upon [REDACTED] (Solicitor) in arranging interviews with these people and after inordinate delay appointments are now made. I do not doubt that [REDACTED] knows what they can say but he has not given them any prominence and communication has been maintained with him. It would appear that their knowledge, if any, is to do with the incident - albeit serious - affecting [REDACTED] but is other than the assault upon Clement Blair FEACH.
40. Police officers pursued demonstrators to the left down Orchard Avenue and several Asian witnesses say that a police officer caught a "youth" in a side alley leading to the Social Club and hit him with his truncheon. This person could be [REDACTED] age 16 of [REDACTED], and we have just been able to contact her and a statement should be obtained next week. [REDACTED] admits to confronting a "youth" but denies the assault as do the other Officers.
41. Further investigations respecting these other incidents are being made and identification parades considered. A further report on these aspects will be submitted.
- T.V. CREW AT HERBERT ROAD
42. After the main incident at the junction of Beechcroft Avenue, the Special Patrol Group officers went on foot or in the two carriers, along Orchard Avenue to the junction with Herbert Road, where District officers were on duty. Here [REDACTED] and a

P. 1218
P. 712
P. 719

television camera crew had what is termed a "heated exchange". There is no doubt that [REDACTED] was not as cool as he should have been and the strain was showing. There is however no photographic evidence of the incidents in or near Orchard Avenue.

43. COMMISSION FOR RACIAL EQUALITY

In the past few days newspapers have disclosed a report on the Southall demonstration prepared by the 'Commission for Racial Equality'. As it appears they have witnesses I have endeavoured to contact [REDACTED] the Chairman, but he is on leave this week and I will not be able to see him until 16th July, 1979.

BUILD UP TO INCIDENT AT HEECHGROFT AVENUE

44. I will now make brief comment against the names of persons from whom statements have been taken, as far as possible in the chronological order of events or the prominence of one incident against other things they saw, but there is some overlap.

.1
.4
cc. No. 16

45. [REDACTED] was the driver of [REDACTED] a photographer, who took photographs of a serious incident earlier in the day. The photographs highlight the tempo of the days events. The copyright of the photographs remain with his employers the [REDACTED] Referring to the police in general [REDACTED] said as a whole they showed a lot

.4

- of restraint. The tone of the statement of
- P.8 46. ██████████ sounds as if he is a 'National Front'
- P.10 supporter. ██████████ describes part of
- the build up to violence.
- P.12 ██████████ was the driver of the coach hired
- by the police on which there was an incendiary attack
- in the Broadway.
- P.16 47. ██████████ is the Community Relations
- Officer at Southall who has appeared on television in
- respect of the incidents and his statement is included
- should he emerge during ensuing proceedings.
- P.18 ██████████ was visiting Southall from
- Nottingham and his description of events and neutrality
- is worthy of note.
- P.21 ██████████ has a shop in the Broadway
- and he saw part of the build up to violence.
- P.24 ██████████ saw an incendiary object thrown at
- the police coach and gives a good outline of the
- general state of affairs.
- P.31 48. ██████████ took some photographs early in the
- evening.
- P.33 ██████████ saw a firecracker thrown at
- the police coach. He did not see any undue violence
- by police. He is the father of ██████████ already
- mentioned.
- P.35 ██████████ saw some violence and praises
- the police.

- P.37
P.40 49. [REDACTED] give a general outline but are of little value.
- P.43 [REDACTED] was part of the crowd early on.
- P.46 [REDACTED] saw youths being chased by police in Orchard Avenue at about 8 p.m.
- P.48 [REDACTED] is of little value.
- P.50 50. [REDACTED] saw a man spit in a policeman's face and on arrest the man was punched in the stomach. She saw a petrol bomb made in Beechcroft Avenue and other youths throwing stones.
- P.52 [REDACTED] saw a police coach attacked and stones thrown.
- P.56 [REDACTED] is of little value.
- P.58 [REDACTED] gives a brief general picture.
- P.60 51. [REDACTED] saw the fusillade of bricks thrown at the Special Patrol Group officers at Northcote Avenue and the two police carriers drive into Beechcroft Avenue.
- P.65 [REDACTED] saw some stone throwing by Asian youths and this is corroborated by her husband
- P.66 [REDACTED] saw Asians with missiles.
- P.67 [REDACTED] saw misbehaviour by Asian youths.
- P.69 [REDACTED] saw milk bottles thrown at police. Her brother saw the same.
- P.73 [REDACTED] saw milk bottles thrown at the police.
- P.74 52. [REDACTED] gives an account up to the incident at Northcote and gives a good appreciation of the situation from a non-violent member of the crowd. Then he ran home.

- P.77 53. [REDACTED] Earlier than the main incident he saw chilli powder thrown at police and other missiles.
- P.80 [REDACTED] no doubt one of the demonstrators and saw "one or two bricks thrown". Describes a white women hit who could be [REDACTED] and says police were indiscriminately hitting people. It appears he evaded police by running through one of the escape alleyways off Orchard Avenue.
- P.82 [REDACTED] saw police carriers at the junction with Beechcroft Avenue but was not nearby.
- P.85 54. [REDACTED] saw the police carriers obviously 3 Unit of the Special Patrol Group arrive at the junction with Northcote Avenue when he was part of the crowd. He ran indoors and watched a police officer chase youths into an alleyway which appears to be the entrance to the Social Club, and hit one of the youths on the head with his truncheon.
- P.88 55. [REDACTED] saw police with shields and truncheons run down Beechcroft Avenue at about 8 pm and about two or three police transit vans drove down after them. Not specific enough and lacks detail.
- P.90 [REDACTED] age 13, [REDACTED]
- P.255 [REDACTED] age 16 both give brief accounts but of little value.
- P.94 56. [REDACTED] an ambulance driver who went to convey [REDACTED] to hospital and saw a police carrier apparently "one-two" of the Special Patrol Group driven by a Woman Police Constable.

P.97

57. [REDACTED] was standing near some of 'Anti Nazi League' members in the crowd who said directions by police were a trap which gives some indication of the influence they were having on the crowd. Saw rocks thrown at the police van. Was part of the crowd who ran down Beechcroft Avenue chased by the police and he ran into No. 62 Orchard Avenue. Saw two policemen talking to a man on the other side of the wall on the pavement and this was probably the deceased.

.105

[REDACTED] was part of the demonstrating crowd and chased down Beechcroft Avenue.

. 108

[REDACTED] is critical of police but has nothing of evidential value.

58. CO-OPERATION BY ASIAN COMMUNITY IN ORCHARD AVENUE AREA ETC.

I must place on record that the Asian people visited in their homes in the course of this enquiry, stopped in the street and asked if they have any information, or seen at the Mobile Police Station that was sited in the street to facilitate enquiries, have been most co-operative and readily made statements negative or otherwise. If any suggestion of non-co-operation by the residents in Orchard Avenue with the police is made it can be refuted.

FURTHER WITNESSES

. 110

59.

[REDACTED] saw the arrival of the police into Northcote Avenue and gives a preamble of general events.

- P.113 60. [REDACTED] was in the crowd but is of little value.
- P.115 [REDACTED] was injured in an incident earlier and is of little value.
- P.116 [REDACTED] saw Asian youths picking up bricks during the afternoon.
- P.118 [REDACTED] saw that Indian youths had gathered empty milk bottles.
- P.119 [REDACTED] saw Indian youths taking empty milk bottles.
- P.120 61. [REDACTED] was arrested at an earlier incident and hit on the head by police causing a wound.
- P.122 [REDACTED] saw Indian boys throwing bottles and bricks at the police and
- P.129 [REDACTED] saw missiles thrown at police.
[REDACTED] saw burning object thrown at a police coach.
- P.132 [REDACTED] saw police hitting people.
Was part of the crowd.
- P.135 62. [REDACTED] saw two police vans drive into Beecheroff Avenue, earlier the crowd was in an angry mood and saw milk crates full of bottles and stones.
- P.137 [REDACTED] was part of the crowd and sustained injury.

- P. 140 63. [REDACTED] saw a bottle thrown at the police coach and the crowd was throwing bricks and bottles at the police. Saw the two Special Patrol Group carriers drive into Beechcroft Avenue, one of the vehicles cut the corner and went over the pavement.
64. BUILD UP (missile throwing) - Police Statements
- P.142 [REDACTED] on duty with officers in the Broadway. Eliminates other officers from the Special Patrol Group incident at Northcote Avenue etc.
- P.146 [REDACTED] on duty in the Broadway and did not see officers other than Special Patrol Group at the Northcote Avenue junction.
- P.150 [REDACTED] says about the police cordon.
- P.153 [REDACTED] had a brief meeting with [REDACTED] the Community Liaison Officer.
- P.154 [REDACTED] on duty in the Broadway.
- P.159 [REDACTED] was with [REDACTED] in the Broadway.
- P.162 [REDACTED] on duty at the demonstration.
- P.165 [REDACTED] was with previously mentioned senior officers.
- P.169 [REDACTED] on duty at the demonstration.
- P.172 [REDACTED] on duty in the Broadway area.
- P.175 [REDACTED] on duty but of little value.
- P.178 [REDACTED] gives quite a bit of evidence of what was going on and appears to be a good witness of the events in the Broadway, but he was not in Beechcroft/Orchard Avenue.

- P. 184 66. [REDACTED] was observation officer on top of Safeways' roof in the Broadway so had a good vantage point. Saw the start of the operation at the junction of Northcote Avenue.
- P. 188 [REDACTED] on duty but nothing specific about prime incidents,
- P.191 [REDACTED] was on duty in the Broadway and briefly saw the Special Patrol Group carriers.
- P.195 [REDACTED] gives account of previous incidents.
- P.198 [REDACTED] was in the Broadway during missile throwing.
- P.204 [REDACTED] saw bricks bottles and red powder (Chilli) thrown at police. Was struck on the head by a brick.
- P.208 67. [REDACTED] on duty and eliminates his officers from being involved in the incident at Beechcroft/Northcote Avenue. Special Patrol Group officers had sought to establish that Divisional/District officers had also been there but there is no proof of this.
- P.215 68. [REDACTED] was the Police Helicopter Observer and circled over Beechcroft Avenue at the important time. Gives good outline but the moving position of the helicopter prevented a continuing sight of a situation in the streets below. There is a tape recording of the police messages on the main channel and the calls to the police control room feature on it. Whilst there is a record of those transmissions the conversations on the Motorola personal radio sets of the Special Patrol Group are not recorded.

- P. 218 69. [REDACTED] was the officer in charge of the 'Serial' of officers who formed part of the cordon which was withdrawn allowing the crowd to disperse westwards along the Broadway.
- P.222 [REDACTED] refers to operational deployment.
- P.226 [REDACTED] reports violence by the crowd but it is in the Broadway as distinct from Beechcroft Avenue.
- P.231 [REDACTED] reports violent behaviour but again in the Broadway.
- P.235 [REDACTED] also reports violence and was on the coach when it was hit.
- P.238 70. [REDACTED] reports violence and the police cordon moved forward and from a distance saw the approach of the Special Patrol Group carriers along the Broadway and officers alight.
- BEECHCROFT AVENUE
- P.251 71. [REDACTED] lives in Beechcroft Avenue and from an upstairs room saw the police vans go past his address. He saw the Asian man [REDACTED] bleeding and a chair was obtained for him to sit on. I think this witness has events in the wrong order.
- P.254 [REDACTED] saw police pursuing people in Beechcroft Avenue but his time is wrong and his statement too brief.
- P.255 [REDACTED] saw police run after demonstrators down Beechcroft Avenue.

- P. 258 72. [REDACTED] saw coming and going by police but of little value.
- P. 260 [REDACTED] saw Indian youths with sticks in their hands and pick up milk bottles. This was when police were down Orchard Avenue and appears to be about or just after the time of the PEACH incident. Also saw a little Indian man [REDACTED] bleeding, being helped to his home. (Police and the milk crate in Orchard Avenue was some time later).
- P. 264 [REDACTED] saw people running from Beechcroft Avenue into Orchard Avenue and also saw police remove the milk crate.
- P. 267 [REDACTED] says she saw a man obviously the deceased, sitting against the wall by the 'no entry' sign outside No. 62 Orchard Avenue and three policemen were standing near him. This would be after the injury was caused. One of the officers could be [REDACTED] of the Special Patrol Group. She says the man on the ground appeared to be trying to say something to him but they ignored him. This was apparently just a brief glimpse by this witness.
- P. 269 [REDACTED] was a person arrested and he says little else. The interviewing officer was of course seeking information, specifically respecting the PEACH incident and not his arrest. This person is not to be confused with [REDACTED] of the same address who was arrested by [REDACTED] after the chase down Beechcroft Avenue.

MORE SPECIFICALLY - THE PEACH INCIDENT

P. 270 73.

[REDACTED]

Appendix B
Page 8

At 9 am on 23rd April, 1979 when she left for work he was still in bed and she had an idea he would be going to the demonstration at Southall. At 1.45 am on 24th April, 1979, she identified his body at New Ealing Hospital.

P. 271

[REDACTED] provides continuity of the identification of the body from [REDACTED] to Professor [REDACTED] the pathologist.

P. 273
Doc.No. 5

74.

[REDACTED] of the London Ambulance Control Service received the call at 8.14 pm on 23rd April, 1979 for an ambulance to go to 71 Orchard Avenue, Southall and in response sent [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

P. 275

P. 277

[REDACTED] being driver and attendant respectively. Within minutes they arrived at the address and there they found Clement Blair PEACH who said "my head hurts". A woman said that he had been hit on the head with a truncheon by a policeman. The deceased appeared to need medical treatment and was immediately conveyed to New Ealing Hospital. There he was seen and examined by

P. 279

[REDACTED] (Ed) the duty Surgical Registrar, who found him to be suffering from

a severe injury on the left side of the head. There was no bleeding or laceration but there was swelling, approximately 4 inches by 2 to 3 inches. The patient was in an apparently critical condition, transferred to the Intensive Care Unit and surgery was performed. Resuscitative procedures were carried out but the patient died at 12.10 am on 24th April, 1979.

P: 283

[redacted] the Consultant Surgeon was called to the operating theatre and he was involved in the attempts to arrest the haemorrhage around the brain. [redacted]

P: 285

[redacted] M.A., M.B., B.Ch, F.R.C.P(Ed), M.R.C.P., F.R.C. Path. D. Path. D.M.J., carried out the post mortem examination on 24th April, 1979, at 2.30 p.m. Cause of death was due to extradural haemorrhage due to fracture of the skull, the findings being consistent with a blow shattering the left side of the skull and causing extensive uncontrollable extradural haemorrhage.

75.

Oral opinion as to the type of weapon was a hand object such as a lead pipe covered by a sock but a police truncheon could not be ruled out. A police truncheon was likely to have split the skin but the amount of hair could affect the result of a blow. An extensive variety of instruments could have caused the wound and a rubber truncheon was a possibility. This was borne in mind as regards forensic and scientific examination of the truncheon and the uniforms of Special Patrol Group officers, but no such evidence was found.

76. At a subsequent post mortem examination on 21st June, 79 which was requested, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who opined that the skull vault was distinctly thinner than expected and in the area of the fracture less than 1/16". It was also found to be unusually translucent. This would lead to any blow causing a more extensive fracture than on a normal skull. A number of truncheons and other items including a cosh, which had been found in the locker of [REDACTED] Special Patrol Group, at Barnes Police Station on 5th June, 79, together with a standard type Motorola personal radio on issue to Special Patrol Group officers, was shown to [REDACTED] whose opinion is that the personal radio was the most likely instrument as it was more closely related to the size of the injury. The finding of the cosh was obviously disclosed to the Press and received wide publicity. It did not merit special mention as a likely instrument as it is substantially smaller in size than the fracture site. A statement from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was not yet been received. (Report received 13.7.79)

P. 291 77. [REDACTED] had carried out a post mortem examination on 30th April, 1979, as requested by [REDACTED] the Solicitor, acting for relatives and friends of the deceased. The findings of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] were released by those having them to the Press and his opinion that the weapon could have been a cosh was linked with the finding of such a weapon in [REDACTED]

possession. The last opinion as given by [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] has not been released as yet to the public.

P. 294
295
Doc.No. 17
Doc.no. 18

78.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
are police photographers and took the necessary
photographs at the mortuary and at Southall respectively.

P. 296

79.

[REDACTED] was a friend and
associate of the deceased and was at the demonstration
with him. She says she saw a police officer hit him with
a truncheon but she cannot identify the officer.
She also received injuries herself and received
brief treatment at the hospital. She was also at the
address at 71 Orchard Avenue from where Clement Blair
PEACH was taken to hospital and present when [REDACTED]
the Occupier, was requested not to make a statement to
police until a solicitor was there. In the early hours
of the morning, [REDACTED] was at [REDACTED]
the address of another member of the 'Anti Nazi League',
but she could not be seen and it was not until 11 am
24th April, 1979, that she could be interviewed at the
offices of [REDACTED] (Solicitor). In that interview
she failed to disclose that [REDACTED] was
with her at Southall and at the time it had sinister
connotations. [REDACTED] is an intelligent woman and for
the sake of the objectives of their cause, I would not
put it past her adding the assault on PEACH to her

account of the matter, which otherwise appears to be reasonably accurate. When seen at the New Ealing Hospital she did not tell an officer who spoke to her that she had seen the deceased assaulted. She is a person who will have to be called to give evidence and I do not expect her to concede much. Prior to any evidence she gives she will be the recipient of advice from [REDACTED]

P.337

80.

[REDACTED] was the officer who saw [REDACTED] at the hospital and he recalls her saying "Look they were hitting everyone, I got hit, so he must have too, have you seen his injuries."

P.340

81.

[REDACTED] a teacher of [REDACTED] Ealing was a friend of the deceased and a member of the 'Anti Nazi League'. He was at the demonstration but did not see the deceased assaulted. He had ran further down Orchard Avenue on the approach of police on the dispersal operation. He was also involved in the concealment of [REDACTED] as being present at the time of the PEACH incident. It was at his address during the early hours that he and other persons obviated being interviewed by police. He appears to be extremely biased against authority.

P. 372

82. [REDACTED] was seen a few days later. She describes how she was part of the crowd chased by police but she did not see the assault on the deceased. She says the reason she did not come forward is because she is French and it could affect her chances of getting a job. Amongst her friends it was a positive decision not to disclose that she was with them and it only came out when a [REDACTED] was being questioned as to who went to 71 Orchard Avenue later that evening and the people occupying the motor cars in which they travelled.

P. 381

83. [REDACTED] was with the deceased and others of the 'Anti Nazi League'. It was close questioning of her that disclosed the agreement to conceal [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was part of the crowd chased along Beechcroft Avenue but was ahead of Clement Blair PEACH and having ran down Orchard Avenue she did not see what happened to him. On retracing her steps and making enquiries she found him in 71 Orchard Avenue slouched in a corner of the sofa. From there he was taken to hospital with [REDACTED] and she followed. She concludes by saying that she did not see any policemen hitting anyone in Beechcroft Avenue. [REDACTED]

P. 395

P. 337

[REDACTED] spoke to [REDACTED] at New Ealing Hospital and about the same time [REDACTED] was talking to [REDACTED]

- P. 397 84. [REDACTED] is a member of the 'Anti Nazi League' and was at the demonstration. He was part of the crowd chased by police down Beechcroft Avenue and Orchard Avenue but did not see the assault on the deceased.
- P. 402 85. [REDACTED] a member of the 'Anti Nazi League' was with friends at the demonstration and saw Clement Blair PEACH and his colleagues. He went down Beechcroft Avenue but it was possibly later than the PEACH incident.
- P. 406 86. [REDACTED] of 71 Orchard Avenue, Southall, gives her description of what occurred when police chased demonstrators down Beechcroft Avenue. Her statement is most important in that she describes the police carriers and officers on foot coming down the street and describes in detail how Clement Blair PEACH was assaulted. She says the deceased was attacked by police who came out of the van, the policeman hit him with his truncheon and the man collapsed 1½ yards around the corner in Orchard Avenue. She says the police officer attacked him more than once. She cannot identify the officer. Clement Blair PEACH then managed to cross the road into her gateway and collapsed on the ground. He was taken indoors from where the ambulance was called and later took him to hospital. [REDACTED] and others later returned to the address and in accordance with their advice she did not make a statement in writing until an associate solicitor of [REDACTED] was present,

945

and then through the services of an interpreter. By coincidence the husband of [REDACTED] had met [REDACTED] at a protest meeting some years earlier and they appear to be of the same political persuasion. [REDACTED] concludes her statement to the effect that police attacked people for no reason as no one was creating trouble.

P. 410

87. [REDACTED] is the son of [REDACTED] and he also describes the advance of the police vans and that the officers from them started hitting people with their truncheons. He saw the deceased assaulted by an officer with a "very hard hit". Clement Blair PEACH then staggered across the road to his house and an ambulance was sent for. [REDACTED] has been interviewed on television in respect of the incident.

P. 417

88. [REDACTED] also of 71 Orchard Avenue, says the police vans came down Beecheroff Avenue facing Orchard Avenue and then she went to the kitchen to do some washing up. On returning she saw a police officer strike a man on the left side of the head. It may be that this witness is giving a distorted account of what she has heard from conversation in her home. Her

P. 420

sister [REDACTED] was not at home when the incidents happened.

- P. 421 89. [REDACTED] saw police vans arriving in the street and police hitting people but no specific incident.
- P. 423 [REDACTED] 71 Orchard Avenue is the husband of [REDACTED] already mentioned. He did not see the assault on PEACH but saw him on the settee in his house. [REDACTED] who he knew from a meeting connected some time earlier with the death of an Asian boy, told him they would sue the police and statements should be made in the presence of a solicitor.
- P. 426 Doc.No. 6 90. [REDACTED] says that he saw [REDACTED] giving an account of events at Southall on television and recognised him as being provocative during the demonstration. [REDACTED] was with [REDACTED] but did not recognise [REDACTED] in a newspaper photograph.
- P. 432 91. [REDACTED] saw police transit vans speed down Beecheroff Avenue to Orchard Avenue chasing the demonstrators and saw a man (PEACH) hit on the head by a police officer with his baton. The man stumbled to the ground and was later helped into 71 Orchard Avenue. He joined the people there and telephoned for the police. He could not say if the officer who struck the blow came out of the transit vans. Police were hitting people indiscriminately and shouting at them to go away.

- P. 437 92. [REDACTED] age 14, the son of the above, was at the demonstration and ran into the house of a friend.
- P. 440 [REDACTED] was in the crowd of demonstrators and ran when pursued by police down Beechcroft Avenue and escaped through an alley.
- P. 442 [REDACTED] age 15 was part of the crowd and ran into the home of his friend at [REDACTED] from where he saw two police vans stop at the junction of Orchard and Beechcroft Avenues and police officers get out. He saw police assault a man who then fell to the ground.
- P. 445 93. [REDACTED] saw four policemen get out of the police van and two grabbed an Indian youth [REDACTED] and the other two officers grabbed a white man and hit him. One of the officers caught him and the other hit him on the head with his truncheon. He was also hit by a truncheon several times. He fell to the ground and was left there. He was helped home and then taken to hospital for treatment to a cut on the head which was caused by the police.

- P. 449 94. [REDACTED] was the person arrested in Beechcroft Avenue and says three or four policemen beat him with batons. This appears to be the arrest by [REDACTED]. At the time of his arrest he saw a man - PEACH - fall to the ground about two feet from the corner.
- P. 454 95. [REDACTED] saw police vans drive down Beechcroft Avenue and stop near the junction with Orchard Avenue where officers got out and the crowd split up. He saw police officers hitting a man with their truncheons. The man had dark skin and appears to be [REDACTED] above. A short time later he saw a man (PEACH) sitting on the pavement outside No. 62 holding his head. In the second statement he corrects the first statement he made.
- P. 452 96. [REDACTED] saw about ten policemen running down Beechcroft Avenue towards Orchard Avenue chasing people. He says people were arrested and that two policemen caught a man (PEACH) and one of them hit him on the head. The policeman only hit him once and it didn't seem to be a heavy, hard blow. It all happened very quickly. The officer who carried out the assault then walked back up Beechcroft Avenue. He adds that he didn't have a very clear view.

- P. 470 97. [REDACTED] saw a man sitting in Orchard Avenue holding his head but did not see what had occurred just previously.
- P. 472 98. [REDACTED] has given his account on television. He saw two police vans on the corner of Beechcroft and Orchard Avenue. The policemen rushed out with truncheons and shields and hit people one being the deceased. He says, "I think it was about three policemen who hit this man." The officers did not have shields. After he had been hit the man leaned against the wall of No. 62 holding his head with both hands. The man then walked off unsteadily into the garden of No. 71 Orchard Avenue and was later taken away by ambulance.
- P. 479 [REDACTED] age 11 made a statement that he saw three or four policemen jump on a man at the junction of Beechcroft and Orchard Avenue and were hitting the man with their truncheons, but in a later statement he retracted the part about the assault saying he had assumed that was what had occurred.
- P. 483 [REDACTED] age 11 also made a statement but it is worthless and was retracted in part.

P. 487

99.

[REDACTED] describes the two police vans coming down Beechcroft and pulling up at the corner of Orchard Avenue. This witness was in his house and lives practically opposite [REDACTED]. He says the first officer out of the front van hit a man at the corner with his truncheon on the head, the man then fell to the ground. The police officer then ran off up Beechcroft Avenue. He describes the officer as about 5' 8", 30 - 35 years and goldish or blonde hair. The age is wrong but the fair hair may indicate that it is [REDACTED]. He is sure the officer had a shield in his left hand when he came out of the van.

P. 493

100.

[REDACTED] said about ten policemen were at the top of Beechcroft Avenue and they had shields to fend off the bricks and bottles that were being thrown at them. The officers had started to advance down Beechcroft Avenue towards the crowd of 20 - 30 youths, mainly Indians, when two police vans drove into the street, one after the other. They were being driven furiously with lights flashing and sirens sounding. The vans went through the foot police and overtook some of the demonstrators and one van stopped behind the other in the middle of the junction with Orchard Avenue. The policemen jumped out of the vans and started hitting people with their truncheons. They were mostly carrying truncheons but not shields and the policemen with riot shields ran down the road to join their colleagues. When police ran towards him he then ran indoors.

P. 497

101.

[REDACTED] age 15, of [REDACTED] describes the throwing of missiles but he just "shoved a few 'coppers' out of the way". With two others he ran home and locked out of the window. He saw a policeman talking to a man, obviously the deceased, and telling him to move. It is believed this Police Officer is [REDACTED]

P. 503

102.

[REDACTED] saw the chase down Beechcroft Avenue with the demonstrators continuing to throw missiles in retaliation when the police van arrived on the corner the second two policemen out of the van one of them held a man by his shirt front and the other hit him twice on the head with his truncheon. The man was knocked down by the blow. The police put a shield into the van and [REDACTED] makes that point in his statement) the two officers then went up Beechcroft Avenue.

P. 508

103.

[REDACTED] was another person who went into [REDACTED] Richard Avenue. He saw the two police vans come down Beechcroft Avenue followed by foot police with batons and some had shields. Two policemen were outside No. 62 and his recollection is one officer was bent over as if looking at someone on the ground.

P..511

104.

[REDACTED] was part of the crowd although he points out not one of the demonstrators. He was in the lead running from the police and ran to his address at [REDACTED]. The police got hold of a man at the corner of Beechcroft and Orchard and they hit him with a "little stick". The officer was holding a shield. The man was hit two or three times. Two of the officers went back onto the police van and a third officer hit the man with his shield on the head.

P. 515

105.

[REDACTED] says she saw police hit a man right on top of his head with a glass shield. (The shape and weight of such shields makes this improbable). She describes the man assaulted and it fits the description of PEACH. She also describes an officer chasing a white "boy" up an alley passed No. 46 Orchard Avenue to a social club and assaulting him and it was definitely the same officer who assaulted the man on the corner. It appears that the officer who chased the "boy" (and it is now believed to be a young woman) is [REDACTED]. In a subsequent statement she retracts having seen the 'boy' assaulted. Several of the witnesses were adamant in the first instance as to what they had seen and later revealed it to be as what they had heard - but nevertheless believed to be true. Getting this point across to some of them in the witness box may not be easy.

P. 528 106.

[REDACTED] saw a man (PEACH) sitting on the ground outside No. 62 Orchard Avenue.

P. 529

[REDACTED] saw the demonstrators endeavouring to escape from the police who were chasing them and saw police hit out at some people with their truncheons.

P. 532 107.

[REDACTED] saw two police vans at the junction of Beechcroft Avenue and Orchard Avenue and 5 or 6 officers with shields get out and chase people to the cul-de-sac at 62, Orchard Avenue.

P. 535

[REDACTED] saw two police vans stop at the junction and police get out with shields and truncheons. One person was arrested and put on a van. She saw no one hit by police but saw a white man with a beard and a yellow badge on his collar (Anti Nazi League badge) on the ground opposite the "no entry" sign and this was obviously PEACH.

- P. 537 108. [REDACTED] Age 14 saw two police vans at the junction and a lot of policemen get out. She saw a "boy" chased up the driveway that leads to the social club and came out a few minutes later holding his wrist. He also saw a man on the corner of the two avenues sitting on the ground as if helpless.
- P. 541 [REDACTED] saw police chasing people and saw two officers near a man at the junction and it was as if they were telling him to get up.
- P. 543 109. [REDACTED] gives an account of what he saw but appears to be more confused than other witnesses.
- P. 546 [REDACTED] saw the police transit vans drive down Beechcroft Avenue passed him at a fast speed and the officers get out at the junction. The officers were then hitting people. He ran away but was chased and struck by an officer with a truncheon who said, "get lost you bastard."
- P. 550 [REDACTED] saw the previous witness assaulted by a police officer.

- P. 552 110. [REDACTED] heard the noise and the chase and police with riot shields and truncheons. Two people were arrested and he saw two policemen appearing to tell a person to get out of the way.
- P. 554 111. [REDACTED] refers to incidents in the Broadway. Also saw police and people at the cul-de-sac of Orchard Avenue near his home. A man he now knows as Blair PEACH was sitting on the ground near to the 'No Entry' signs.
- P. 559 [REDACTED] saw youths picking up milk bottles. People, mostly Asians, were being chased by police at the junction but did not see anybody hit by police officers.
- P. 561 112. [REDACTED] saw two police vans stop at the junction and officers get out. When the vans arrived he saw a man falling down and police held him and took him on the other side of the road. This witness is confused.
- [REDACTED] saw police van turn into Beechoroft Avenue, cutting the corner and stuck under the front wing was a red and white traffic cone and it remained until the vehicle reached the bottom of Beechoroft. I

refer to this traffic cone because it is mentioned elsewhere and helps to establish it was [REDACTED] vehicle.

P. 568 113. [REDACTED] was in the crowd with officers chasing them. He also describes Mr PEACH as arguing with police officers in Beechcroft Avenue about 10 yards from the Broadway.

P. 573 [REDACTED] visited 71 Orchard Avenue after the deceased had been taken from there by ambulance.

P. 577 [REDACTED] puts SPG carriers at the junction of Broadway and Beechcroft but none of the officers under his control went down to Orchard Avenue.

P. 581 114. [REDACTED] took photographs
Doc. No. 19/20 of 2 damaged S.P.G. carriers and produces 2 albums of photographs SPG/1 & 2.

P. 592 [REDACTED] refers to subsequent discussions at the Feltham Training Course at Feltham and the point is that SPG officers were the only officers at the junction

with Orchard Avenue which they contest.

P. 585
584

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
also briefly cover the point.

PEACE AND PREVIOUS INCIDENTS

P. 586

115. [REDACTED] gave
character evidence for the deceased at a
Court Hearing to do with a case involving
protestations against a publican for racial
discrimination. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

P. 588

[REDACTED] refer to a police officer
threatening to 'get' Blair PEACE after the
Court Hearing.

P. 591

116. [REDACTED] was a police officer
in 1974 and was involved in the arrest at the
public house in question for threatening
behaviour. He says he did not speak to Blair
PEACE when he left the Court.

P. 594

117. [REDACTED] was involved in
the arrest of Clement Blair PEACE for
obstruction in 1978 outside a school where
the National Front were holding a meeting.

- P. 445 118. [REDACTED] assaulted in
Beechcroft Avenue.
- P. 596 119. [REDACTED] saw the
advance in Beechcroft Avenue and at the request
of a woman [REDACTED] got a chair for the
injured Asian man.
- P. 598 [REDACTED] corroborates
his brother above.
- P. 600 120. [REDACTED] saw the
injured Asian sitting on a chair outside No 7
Beechcroft Avenue.
- P. 602 [REDACTED] also saw the
injured man.
- P. 604 [REDACTED] saw the police hit
the Asian man with a baton in Beechcroft Avenue.
Police seemed to be hitting anyone who got in
the way.
- P. 608 121. [REDACTED] schoolgirl,
makes a brief statement but it is of little use.

- P. 610 122. [REDACTED] a schoolgirl, saw police jab an Asian in the stomach with his truncheon. She also saw an old man fall over and was kicked by accident by a policeman running behind him. The old man later sat on the wall and was bleeding.
- P. 614 [REDACTED] age 15 saw an Asian with a cut head as did her brother [REDACTED] and also
- P. 617 [REDACTED]
- P. 620 [REDACTED]
- P. 623 123. [REDACTED] saw a man bleeding from the head in Beechcroft Avenue and [REDACTED]
- P. 624 [REDACTED] also saw him and the charge by the police at the Asian young men.
- P. 629 [REDACTED] says that after the police chased a crowd of Indians he saw an old Indian staggering in Beechcroft Avenue.
- P. 631 124. [REDACTED] saw the line of police go down Beechcroft Avenue but could not pick out individual incidents. She saw the Asian man bleeding.

P. 634 125. [REDACTED] says she saw
an old man fall over near No.5 Beechcroft Avenue.

P. 636 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
P. 638 were the ambulance crew who took [REDACTED]
to hospital from his home in Orchard Avenue.

CUL-DE-SAC NEAR 82 ORCHARD AVENUE

126. Reference to the plan of the area
together with the number they live at
in Orchard Avenue will give some indication
of the value of the evidence of these
witnesses.

P. 641 127. [REDACTED] age 16, saw a
girl [REDACTED] hit on the head with a
truncheon by police. However, in a subsequent
statement he admitted that he did not see the
actual assault but it was only what he
thought had happened or as I am inclined to
think it was what he had been told; what
people saw as distinct from what they heard
has had to be emphasised to people interviewed
throughout this investigation.

- P. 647 128. [REDACTED] saw police being stoned and the arrest of an Asian man. This appears to be [REDACTED] who had run around 82 Orchard Avenue and was arrested back in Beecheroff Avenue. He was hit in the stomach by the police who arrested him.
- P. 649 [REDACTED] also appears to have witnessed the arrest of [REDACTED] and assault upon him.
- P. 651 129. [REDACTED] was visiting 82 Orchard Avenue and saw police pursue demonstrators around the side of that house. He saw police hit the girl [REDACTED]
- P. 654 130. [REDACTED] saw police pursuing people in the direction of the cul-de-sac.
- P. 656 [REDACTED] also saw police chasing people run towards the dead-end of Orchard Avenue. A man was arrested by the police but the identity of this man is not known. There is the possibility that he

was released if there was no other officer who wished to prefer a charge.

. 658

131.

[REDACTED] saw police get out of vans at the junction and rush off individually chasing people who were running away. Some people ran towards the dead-end of Orchard Avenue.

. 660

132.

[REDACTED] is the woman who was hit in the cul-de-sac and had gone to the demonstration to protest against the National Front. She describes indiscriminate hitting by the police. She ran to B2 Orchard Avenue the end house of the cul-de-sac and there a policeman hit her with his truncheon and she screamed as he did so. Her head was bleeding and she was taken into that house, where her head was cleaned and she was given a cup of tea. She later received medical treatment. She describes the officer as having a full beard but nevertheless, establishing the identity of the officer is proving difficult. Her identity came to notice as a result of me having a discussion with [REDACTED]

- P. 668 133. ██████████ saw a man arrested by police near 82 Orchard Avenue.
- P. 670 ██████████ was chased by police and having gone indoors, saw police with a white man who they had arrested near the dead-end of Orchard Avenue.
- P. 674 134. ██████████ saw police pursue 3 men at the cul-de-sac and one of the men arrested.
- P. 676 ██████████ took ██████████ into her home at ██████████ and she was bleeding from a head wound.
- P. 680 ██████████ saw police chase a man with a long sheath knife at the cul-de-sac.
- P. 684 135. ██████████ saw police running after a man beside the last house (No.82) in Orchard Avenue.
- P. 686 ██████████ saw Asians run past her house towards the dead-end pursued by police officers.

ASSAULT - ENTRANCE TO SOCIAL CLUB

136. Between 44 - 46 Orchard Avenue there is an entrance to a Social Club and witnesses have said a "boy" / "youth" was assaulted thereat, immediately after the PEACH incident. After much enquiry and pressure upon [REDACTED] to give addresses we have traced other persons including a [REDACTED] and it now appears that the person allegedly assaulted was [REDACTED] age 16 of [REDACTED]. She has yet to be seen but arrangements are in hand. My information is that [REDACTED] and her friends may not make impressive witnesses.
- P. 687 137. [REDACTED] saw a policeman with a truncheon hitting a 'boy' who was against the fence in that alleyway. Whether he can be identified is not known but I believe the officer is [REDACTED] then of the Special Patrol Group.
- P. 690 [REDACTED] saw a young 'boy' in the alleyway pleading with the police officers not to hit him. The boy had a graze to his wrist.
- [REDACTED] age 15 saw a police officer with a 'boy' against the fence, but when he went outside with his father the policeman had gone.

- P. 699 138. [REDACTED] saw a white boy come out of an alleyway holding his head.
- P. 701 [REDACTED] saw a policeman chase a boy up the alley at the side of No. 34 Orchard Avenue.
- P. 703 [REDACTED] says he saw a young Asian boy 14 - 15 years being hit by a policeman with a truncheon who had got out of a police transit van.
- P. 705 [REDACTED] age 16, says he saw a policeman catch an Indian boy by the alley that leads past the Social Club.
- P. 706 [REDACTED] says he saw police hit a boy in the road opposite to where he lives at [REDACTED]
- P. 708 139. [REDACTED] saw police run past his house at [REDACTED] but did not see them strike anyone.
- P. ~~709~~
2604. [REDACTED] saw a "white boy" "aged 28 to 29" and after leaving the alley in Orchard Avenue he was picking up pieces of glass on the street as if he had broken the lense of his glasses.

FILM CREW

140. Following the incident at the junction of Beechcroft Avenue and Orchard Avenue involving PEACE the officers of the Special Patrol Group went down Orchard Avenue to Herbert Road.
- P. 710 141. [REDACTED] of No. 2 Unit Special Patrol Group (Whetstone) was in a carrier and attended Herbert Road junction with Orchard Avenue and there saw [REDACTED] from No. 1 Unit. [REDACTED] went up to the T.V. crew and asked them to move along Herbert Road. His carrier then followed a carrier of No. 1 Unit Special Patrol Group (one-two) out along Orchard Avenue into the Broadway. In effect he adds little.
- P. 712 142. [REDACTED] of I.T.N. News speaks of his confrontation with [REDACTED] and what he considers to be unreasonable behaviour. My belief is that [REDACTED] told the camera crew to go away using old English expletives but no one has actually backed it up by using the actual words. I am convinced the camera crew of I.T.N. are protective of police there at the time. [REDACTED] the sound recordist, supports they do not wish to complain and are no doubt applying judgements aligned to the prevailing conditions.

- P. 722 143. [REDACTED] was on duty at Herbert Road and says [REDACTED] was involved in an incident when voices were raised. The suggestions about this aspect have fallen a bit flat but reading between the lines [REDACTED] was out of order in what he actually said to the T.V. crew and may well not have maintained control of his temper.
- P. 728 144. [REDACTED] was in the vicinity at the time.
- P. 730 [REDACTED] an ambulance man refers in his statement to a constable being conveyed to New Ealing Hospital.
- P. 733 [REDACTED] refers to the conversation he had with an unknown customer and it does not take the matter any further.

CLEARING OF DEBRIS

- P. 736 145. [REDACTED] can give evidence of clearing debris from the Broadway and adjoining streets.

P. 737
Doc. No. 21

146.

██████████ tells of the finding of bricks etc., in Beechcroft Avenue and Orchard Avenue; also ██████████ and

P. 738

P. 739

██████████ refer to finding a butcher's cleaver concealed in a garden in Beechcroft Avenue, with other items nearby.

P. 740

147.

██████████ recovered a crate of milk bottles and bricks from a service station indicated to him by ██████████ Special Patrol Group.

P. 741

THE SPECIAL PATROL GROUP

148.

Having a formation of police officers, mobile and with the ability and organisation to combine a multitude of tasks at short notice is absolutely essential for present day policing and that is in effect the role of the Special Patrol Group, as a reserve or pool to draw on. Their duties are mainly saturation policing for districts throughout London, usually posted to an area a month at a time to combat crime. With the prevalence of demonstrations their involvement is essential when additional officers are needed at short notice and they are already organised as distinct from calling small numbers from different Districts.

149. Pressure groups seek to criticise the Special Patrol Group en bloc obviously because they get involved in confrontation situations and positive policing and the designation is a title too easily latched on to. As I have pointed out earlier the Deputy Commissioner is reviewing the Special Patrol Group at the present time but my opinion is that it is necessary to have such a unit of police available and the need will continue. It is some years since the original setting up of the Special Patrol Group so some modifications can be expected. Officers volunteer for the Special Patrol Group and then there is a selection procedure.

SPECIAL PATROL GROUP AT BEECHCROFT AVENUE, SOUTHWALL.

150. Many police officers including Special Patrol Group officers, were interviewed in the early stages of the enquiry and since. It is now apparent that the police at the junction of Beechcroft Avenue and Orchard Avenue at the time of the PEACH incident were solely Special Patrol Group officers. It has been suggested that officers other than Special Patrol Group were there, and there was therefore, the possibility that some 'stray' officers had been involved. Mention has been made of District officers in the Broadway near the junction with Beechcroft and also Traffic Patrol Officers. At the time of the assault on PEACH one witness says the trousers of one officer were close

at the knee which could indicate a motor cyclist. However from enquiries it is now obvious that the officers concerned were Special Patrol Group and there is no credible evidence that any other officers were actually at the scene in question but a number of officers from District were not much more than a hundred yards away.

151. It will be appreciated it was a matter of great importance as to whether other officers could have been involved. In such a case as this, if one accepts a police officer caused the injury, it could be a matter of only one or two officers knowing about it and that would include the officer who struck the blow. The fullest co-operation would be needed from the other officers who were in the area at the time to establish the prime factor of who struck the blow or was in a position to do so, particularly as there is wide speculation as to the type of weapon used.

POLICE TRUNCHEON

152. Whilst other instruments have been given consideration, particularly a cosh, the police truncheon cannot be ruled out and if it was a police officer that is the most obvious and probable item. I favour the truncheon as the likelihood of an officer displaying an unauthorised weapon in a crowd of people is extremely

remote, particularly with the risk of it being seen by many members of the public and police. Officers would also be aware of photographers and TV. crews on such occasions.

153.

I gave consideration to a rubber truncheon and at the very early stages of the enquiry I had a meeting with ████████ of the Forensic Science Laboratory and asked for examination of officers' clothing, particularly truncheon pockets, for traces of rubber. No such evidence has emerged and the result of forensic examinations is so far negative. Whilst we have three pathologists not preferring to accept the instrument was a police truncheon, it must be borne in mind that exceptions do arise and an added factor in this respect could be that the resistance to the blow was affected by the thinness of the skull. It is general knowledge of course that truncheons usually (but not always) cause a wound if used on the head. Pathologists have experience of wooden objects causing injury but (fortunately) I doubt if they could claim any or much experience of police truncheon wounds. A police truncheon must retain some prominence as the likely instrument with which PEACE was struck.

ANALYSIS OF ACCOUNTS FROM OFFICERS' STATEMENTS

154. The officers of 3 Unit Special Patrol Group in facing the missile throwing crowd and following the serious injury upon [REDACTED] lined up in what is termed shield formation to protect themselves and prepare to take positive policing action. It needs to be stressed that being subjected to the risk of injury in such circumstances is disturbing and in fact in training in the use of shields officers are nervous, let alone facing it for real.

Appendix 'B'
Page 2

155. I refer the reader again to the Sketch Plan drawn up with qualification that it was a moving situation. Facing the mouth of Beechcroft Avenue and lined up in the Broadway from left to right in three shield formations were:-

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The 1 Unit carriers [REDACTED] arrived and drove into Beechcroft simultaneously as the officers of 3 Unit went forward, but I will confine myself to the officers on foot at present.

P. 940 156. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] only went
1140 a short way down Beechcroft and then went back to the
Broadway. [REDACTED] says he went down to the
P. 781 junction with Orchard Avenue and just turned right for a
few yards then returned to the Broadway. [REDACTED]
P. 892 and [REDACTED] went along Orchard Avenue towards
P. 1163 the cul-de-sac end pursuing demonstrators. Also
P. 813, 1036, [REDACTED]
759 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] It will therefore be
P. 989, 841 appreciated that one of these officers could have
struck [REDACTED] at the side of No. 82, and that in
P. 660 the pursuit down Beechcroft Avenue it is probable that
P. 445 officers of 3 Unit caused the head injury to [REDACTED]
P. 914 [REDACTED] also ran around No. 82 Orchard
pursuing [REDACTED] and having come back to Beechcroft through
an alleyway, caught up with him near the Broadway.
Private witnesses mention an Asian youth being assaulted
by police on arrest and this is obviously him.

741

157. [REDACTED] ran down the left side of Beechcroft Avenue and arrested [REDACTED] and with the assistance of [REDACTED] put him on the 1 Unit carrier. As I have pointed out earlier [REDACTED] says he was in the front going down Beechcroft Avenue but it appears that the 1 Unit carrier "one-one" was neck-and-neck with him. [REDACTED] in particular refers in his statements to the positions of [REDACTED] and his officers.

158. I would indicate that for the inquest, [REDACTED] would acquit himself well and be a prime witness. If [REDACTED] had assaulted PEACH I get the impression he would have been forthright and said so. He ordered his men to draw truncheons and in doing so more or less gave tacit consent to the use of them. I doubt however if anyone would have the temerity to challenge the drawing of truncheons in the violent conditions that were prevailing at the mouth of Beechcroft Avenue.

159. [REDACTED] and his officer arrived in Beechcroft Avenue in 2 carriers, "one-one" and "one-two".

160. In the first carrier, which came to a full stop at the junction of Beechcroft and Orchard slightly elevated on causing a bottle neck, were:-

P. 1218

[REDACTED]

P. 1572

[REDACTED] (driver)

P. 1459

[REDACTED]

P. 1396

[REDACTED]

P. 1304

[REDACTED]

P. 1513

[REDACTED] (officer not sure himself, which carrier he was on).

[REDACTED] says he got out of the carrier at the mouth of Beechcroft (junction with the Broadway) but this is disputed.

161. The clearest analysis is that [REDACTED] the driver, was with the vehicle and if he got out it was for a very short time. All the other officers admit they were out of the carrier and as assaulting PEACH would have been a momentary matter in time they all appear to have had opportunity to do so. However, [REDACTED] says he got out of the van and ran down the cul-de-sac end of Orchard Avenue and [REDACTED] corroborates that he was there. He thereby puts himself in close proximity when [REDACTED] was assaulted.

P. 2098

162. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] say they first of all went a short distance back up Beechcroft Avenue then into and down Orchard Avenue. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] appear to have got out of the side door of the carrier and from the position of the vehicle they would then be right at the junction where the deceased was assaulted.

163. The second carrier of No. 1 Unit "one-two" followed "one-one" into Beechcroft and stopped initially part way down when [REDACTED] took over as driver from [REDACTED], who appears to have been anxious to join the fray. Thereabouts the other officers got out of the vehicle which at some stage was stopped near the junction and some witnesses say to the right in Orchard Avenue facing partially towards the cul-de-sac.

P. 1794

P. 1885

P. 2098

P. 1739

P. 2037
1885

164. [REDACTED] puts himself as pursuing demonstrators to the cul-de-sac end at No. 82 Orchard Avenue. [REDACTED] says he went into Orchard Avenue to the right but was more or less in the centre of the road and then went the other way down Orchard Avenue. It will be recalled [REDACTED] had a Motorola personal radio with him, and overall the junction is quite confined. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] put themselves at the junction but with regard to officers of carrier "one-two" their arrival at the junction was after the officers of carrier "one-one".

SPECIFIC COMMENT ABOUT OFFICERS

165. I do not intend to go into great detail upon the content of every officer's statement, suffice it to say they have been interviewed to the extreme. I have not been oblivious to the possibility of collusion and in fact after interviews it would be unnatural for officers working together not to discuss it. In fact, it was hoped such discussions would result in an officer coming forward but that has not been the case. Confusion at the time is also a major factor with regard to conflicting accounts of what occurred especially as the officers were further engaged in the demonstration that evening and I have no evidence to suggest that the officers were aware of the seriousness of PEACH's injury.
166. The strongest suspicion is against officers of No. 1 Unit "one-ones" [REDACTED] and their accounts are in some measure contradictory.

[REDACTED]

167. He appears to be a man of sound judgement and demonstrated his qualities of leadership at the junction of Northcote Avenue. All the arrests about that time were effected by his officers under him. By what I have seen of him he is a good sound officer who faced the situation with courage and responsibility. I do not doubt that the provocation, pressures and fear of injury was extremely excessive and the advance forward that he ordered is fully justified.

168. He puts [REDACTED] at the junction of Beechcroft and Orchard at the time YEACH was injured whilst he was effecting the arrest of [REDACTED]

169. [REDACTED] ran down Beechcroft Avenue and was at the cul-de-sac near No. 82. Mention is made of an officer of his description in that vicinity by private witnesses but no allegation of assault is made.

170. [REDACTED] stayed with the carrier of 3 Unit at the junction of Northcote Avenue, where [REDACTED] was awaiting transport by ambulance to hospital.

- P. 781 171. [REDACTED] says he took part in the advance down Beechcroft Avenue and went a short distance along the right of Orchard Avenue but some doubt exists as to whether he moved from the Broadway.
- P. 791 172. [REDACTED] was the driver of 3 Unit Special Patrol Group and remained at the junction with Northcote Avenue.
- P. 813 173. [REDACTED] says he took part in the chase down Beechcroft Avenue and he went to the Orchard Avenue cul-de-sac. He says he saw a white man (PEACH) sitting against the wall of the corner house (No. 62).
- P. 841 174. [REDACTED] says he chased demonstrators and went as far as the side of No. 82 Orchard Avenue and says he saw a girl there crying and [REDACTED] spoke to her.
- P. 869 175. [REDACTED] says he remained at the junction of Northcote because he had two arrests there.
- P. 892 176. [REDACTED] ran down Beechcroft and turned right into Orchard Avenue. By the time he got to No. 82 [REDACTED] was coming out of the side entrance and [REDACTED] was nearby.

- P. 914 177. [REDACTED] had a long chase down Beechcroft to the cul-de-sac of Orchard Avenue and by an alleyway back into Beechcroft where [REDACTED] was arrested for causing the injury to [REDACTED] by throwing a brick. Officers of No. 2 Unit Special Patrol Group were by this time at the mouth of Beechcroft Avenue (but never went down) and were involved in the stopping of [REDACTED]
- P. 938 178. [REDACTED] remained at the junction with Northcote Avenue because of an arrest he had made, just prior to the advance down Beechcroft Avenue by his colleagues.
- P. 940 179. [REDACTED] and Police Constable [REDACTED] only went part of the way down Beechcroft Avenue then gave up the chase and returned to the Broadway.
- P. 986 180. [REDACTED] was not involved as he was engaged at Wembley Police Station with an arrest he had made elsewhere.
- P. 989 181. [REDACTED] was involved in the chase and arrived at the cul-de-sac and side of No. 82. He concedes to striking two Asians with his truncheon.
- P. 660 He is a favourite as regards the injury to [REDACTED] but he does not have a beard.

- P. 1015 182. [REDACTED] was the driver of a 3 Unit carrier and remained with it at the junction of Northcote Avenue.
- P. 1036 183. [REDACTED] took part in the charge and got as far as the cul-de-sac at No 82 Orchard Avenue but gave up pursuit and walked back up Beechcroft Avenue. He recalls an Asian falling over in the centre of Beechcroft when they were running down that street and a police officer with a shield falling over him. He also says he saw a man (? PEACE), sitting on the road at the junction with Beechcroft and Orchard Avenue and then to stagger across to the west pavement.
- P. 1060 184. [REDACTED] remained at the junction of Northcote Avenue on the instructions of [REDACTED] no doubt to protect the vehicles. He also assisted the injured [REDACTED] into the ambulance.
- P. 1079 185. [REDACTED] took part in the chase down Beechcroft Avenue and assisted [REDACTED] in the arrest and detention of [REDACTED] who was then put into one of the carriers of 1 Unit at that junction.
- P. 1140 186. [REDACTED] only went part of the way down Beechcroft Avenue in the chase and gave up after he fell over.

- P. 1163 187. [REDACTED] ran down and to the cul-de-sac where he saw other officers with an Asian detained. He also says he saw a white man being carried by four Asians into a house but it is not known if this was the deceased.
- P. 1193 188. [REDACTED] remained at the junction of Northcote and it was him who turned back the third carrier having waved the other two into Beechcroft Avenue.
- P. 1192 [REDACTED] was on his way to Wembley at the time of the incident.
- P. 1194 [REDACTED] was otherwise engaged with an arrested person at the Broadway.
- P. 2412 189. [REDACTED] Special Patrol Group 2 Unit accounts for his officers being other than in Beechcroft Avenue junction with Orchard Avenue.
- P. 1213 190. [REDACTED] is in charge of the Special Patrol Group and his office is at Barnes, where 1 Unit are based as distinct from the other units who have offices at various police stations throughout the Metropolitan Police District. He was on duty that day and was near [REDACTED] officers of No. 1 Unit at Herbert Road, Southall, when they answered the radio call for assistance.

No. 1 UNIT SPECIAL PATROL GROUP (BARNES)

1218

- [REDACTED]
191. This Officer has been subjected to lengthy questioning because if a police officer caused the injury to Clement Blair PEACH the circumstances of [REDACTED] getting out of the vehicle at the 'scene' indicate that it could well have been him.
192. From a prepared statement he made on 24th April, 1979, the impression he gives is that [REDACTED] got out of their carrier at the mouth of Beechcroft and ran down after [REDACTED]. In a subsequent interview he puts, "I would like to correct one point in that (previous) statement which is that I did not get out at Beechcroft Avenue with its junction with the Broadway but at Beechcroft Avenue at its junction with Orchard Avenue "..... "I cannot explain these discrepancies."
193. One explanation is that his first account was a concoction or otherwise he was substantially confused.
194. At the time he made the statement where he corrected himself he also put forward that 'G' District officers were in the immediate vicinity of the assault upon PEACH. With no small amount of investigation this is discounted.

195. After a lengthy interview with [REDACTED] he claimed illness owing to lack of food and a doctor had to be called to him. At a subsequent interview in the presence of [REDACTED] (Solicitor) it was put to him that he attempted to mislead the investigators and at that stage his Solicitor advised him to refuse to answer further questions. There is very little further that can be put to him at this stage so there has been no subsequent interview, but should anything arise he will be seen.
196. Touching upon interviews with officers I gave instructions that no one was to be cautioned under the Judges Rules without reference to me. [REDACTED] is one officer who has been cautioned as it raises aspects of theft).
197. Returning to [REDACTED], he has not given a credible account of his movements and it is disturbing. There was no doubt that he was suffering from stress which together with his driving personality attaches to him grave suspicion, if not as the officer responsible but for concealing it. I suspect that prior to interviews he voiced his opinion and was more anxious [REDACTED] to meet officers who had been to make statements. He will be put up for identification but at present is on leave and he has also been on sick leave. He has since been transferred from the Special Patrol Group. He is a [REDACTED] and I have reason to believe he was well thought of with potential for high rank.

- P. 1279 198. [REDACTED] was elsewhere with an arrest.
- P. 1283 [REDACTED] was also elsewhere with an arrest.
- P. 1304 199. [REDACTED] says he got out of the carrier "one-one" at the junction of the Broadway and despite questioning and logical reasoning, he still persists in his first account. His explanation is consistent with that put up by [REDACTED] in the first instance, but [REDACTED] remains adamant and perhaps it can best be described as stubbornness. He also says he assisted in the arrest of [REDACTED] but this is disputed by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] will also be put up for identification.
- P. 1393 200. [REDACTED] was injured earlier and taken to hospital
- P. 1396 201. [REDACTED] says he alighted from the carrier "one-one" three-quarter way down Beechcroft Avenue and chased a youth back towards the Broadway then went along the pavement to Orchard Avenue and down that street. He makes no mention of seeing PEACH on the corner. He puts himself as running in the opposite direction to the general chase and I regard it as dubious. At present he is on leave but it is intended to put him up for identification

- 1459 202. [REDACTED] arrived in carrier "one-one" and says he chased demonstrators towards the cul-de-sac of Orchard Avenue, and this is supported by [REDACTED]. Between alighting from the carrier and running to the cul-de-sac he could have gone a matter of yards to where PEACH was standing. He is now off the Special Patrol Group and has grown a beard which has raised difficulty respecting an identification parade.
- 1513 203. [REDACTED] he purports to have alighted from carrier "one-one" and gone back up Beechcroft Avenue and stayed there 3 to 5 minutes, and then went to Orchard Avenue. This explanation is viewed with some suspicion. He says he saw a man (PEACH) sitting on the pavement and shouted to him to go away. His recollection is extremely vague as to what he was doing.
204. Further along Orchard Avenue there was an alleged assault upon a "youth" now believed to be a [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] is thought to be the officer involved in that.
- 1561 205. [REDACTED] was elsewhere with an arrest.

1572

206. [REDACTED] was the driver of carrier "one-one" and even remaining in the driver's seat he had an exceptionally good view of the incident on the corner of Orchard Avenue but his initial accounts fell short of his later recollections when he came under certain pressure. One police officer - [REDACTED] - also said in a later statement that at one stage on that corner the carrier "one-one" was completely unoccupied.

207. A search was made of the Special Patrol Group officers at Barnes on 5th June, 1979, and in the locker of [REDACTED] in addition to truncheons, a rhino whip and other items, was found a "cosh" or "black jack". On top of the locker was a stolen driving licence.

208. [REDACTED] was interviewed at length in the presence of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and detained for three days at Rochester Row Police Station.

209. In a question and answer session he was asked who the officers were who were pushing the demonstrators around the corner and he replied [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and wasn't sure whether [REDACTED] was there."

210. In his first questionnaire on 24th April, 1979, he said that he "drove the carrier "one-one" to Beechoroft Avenue. Some if not all of the officers got out and he drove down Beechoroft behind those officers. This has a disturbing ring of consistency with the first account given by [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] is suspended from duty.

1715

211. [REDACTED] was engaged in an arrest elsewhere. On 24th April, 1979 when parading for duty he says that [REDACTED] "told us that his own recollection was difficult to be precise about and that all he would advise anyone to do was to answer any questions as accurately and as truthfully as possible."

212. Special Patrol Group officers had been sent for by this time to go to Southall Police Station and this was really the time for someone to come forward if that was to happen. Conversely, it was then that an officer who felt culpable would take evasive action.

P. 1739

213. From the account of [REDACTED] he was in the middle of the junction doing nothing and seeing nothing at the relevant time. There are discrepancies in his statement. He is a personal friend of [REDACTED] and I am sure that any interview at C.I.B.(2) would be discussed in depth.

- 1794 214. [REDACTED] took over as driver of carrier "one-two" on arrival in Beechcroft from [REDACTED]. She can be eliminated from assaulting PEACH. She is confused.
- 1895 215. [REDACTED] deferred to [REDACTED] as the driver of carrier "one-two" in Beechcroft Avenue, and says he ran in front of carrier "one-one" and along Orchard Avenue. He appeared anxious to get involved but from his statement gives no credible reasons for him to rush about.
- 1981 216. [REDACTED] was engaged elsewhere with an arrest.
- 2003 217. [REDACTED] account does not vary materially to other officers on that carrier. He does not give detail and in fact his account is vague. He says he did not see PEACH but it is possible he is one of the officers with shields seen near to the deceased when he was sitting on the ground.

- P. 2037 218. [REDACTED] says much the same as the above but surprisingly does not see the injured man on the ground. Again it could be him, [REDACTED] and possibly [REDACTED] who were near to PEACH when he was on the ground as described by private witnesses, but they do not say so.
- P. 2098 219. [REDACTED] corroborates the initial account that [REDACTED] got out of the vehicle at the mouth of Beechcroft which [REDACTED] has since retracted but this officer does not do so. Perhaps he feels entrenched on that aspect. [REDACTED] then went to the cul-de-sac at 82 Orchard Avenue, where he detained a white man and subsequently released him because no other officer could identify him as a stone-thrower. He did not get the person's name who he detained.
- P. 2199 220. [REDACTED] was engaged elsewhere but he gives explanations from a practical aspect of [REDACTED] having the unauthorised instruments as found in his locker.
- P. 2224 221. [REDACTED] was the driver of the third Special Patrol Group 1 Unit carrier and turned back by [REDACTED] in the Broadway.

- . 2245 222. ██████████ had an arrest elsewhere.
- . 2249 ██████████ also had an arrest and was elsewhere.
- . 2267 ██████████ similarly.
- . 2269 ██████████ was injured and in hospital.
- . 2274 ██████████
- . 2295, 2312 ██████████ ██████████ and ██████████
2318
- were on the carrier that was turned back in the
Broadway.
- . 2335 223. ██████████ was interviewed in relation to
a wooden handle found in his clothing locker at Barnes
on 5th June, 1979 when the whole of the Special Patrol
Group officers' lockers were searched.
- . 2337 224. ██████████, is the loser of the driving
licence which was found on top of ██████████ locker.
She says it was stolen with her handbag and contents
by a West Indian in Regent Street W.1. Most probably
a prisoner has discarded the licence in the carrier after
arrest and then it was subsequently found but regulations
were not complied with.
225. There are statements attached from interpreters.

- P. 2353 226. [REDACTED] took the fingerprints of the deceased but this is of no relevance.
- P. 2354 227. [REDACTED]
2356, 2357 [REDACTED]
2359, 2368 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], all of the Complaints Investigation Bureau, give accounts of searches and interviews.
- P. 2370 228. [REDACTED] is a Senior Photographer and produces an album of photographs of Parkview, Southall. [REDACTED] also produces an album of photographs.
- P. 2371 229. [REDACTED] of the Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory gives a negative report on his examinations.
- P. 2372 230. [REDACTED] spoke to all the Special Patrol Group officers on the lines shown in his statement on dates commencing 30th April, 1979, giving officers an opportunity to come forward but no one did so.
- P. 2373 231. Statements are attached by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of interviews, but they do not incorporate all interviews and for the sake
- 2382, 2385

of reducing paper I have not attached statements from the large number of officers who took the statements. They can however be supplied.

232. Statements attached total 2,390 pages in bundles 1 - 11.

Bundle No. 12 contains non-relevant statements 2391 - 2736.

Bundle No. 13 are documents and
Bundle No. 14 plans and sketch maps.

233. As I have indicated earlier in this report investigations are continuing and will be subject of a further report.

234. This report has been prepared with some haste because of the public interest in the matter. Consideration of the issues, evidence and enlargement on certain aspects may be considered essential at conferences.

235. Copy report, statements etc., taken by hand to the Director of Public Prosecutions (Mr. Flavell) on 16th July, 1979.

236. I ask that one copy of this report, statements
etc., be forwarded to :-

1) Director of Public Prosecutions

2) The Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

I intend making a copy of the report, statements
etc., available to Dr. BURTON, H.M. Coroner, West
London as and when he requires them.

Burton

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SOUTHALL ENQUIRY
BLAIR C PEACE
OG1/79/2234

2

P96-
SUBJECT
Death of Clement
Blair PEACE at
Southall
23.4.79

Reference to Papers
001/79/2234

METROPOLITAN POLICE

10ff

Complaints Investigation Bureau (2)
New Scotland Yard

September 9

CONFIDENTIAL 14th day of 1979

SECOND REPORT - DEATH OF BLAIR PEACE

Director C.I.B.

237. Further to my first report dated 12 July, 1979, concerning enquiries into the death of Clement Blair PEACE. No additional evidence of great significance has emerged in relation to the death.

IDENTIFICATION PARADES

238. A number of identification parades have since been held in connection with the death, but no positive identification of any officer has been made.

239. Identification parades were also held in connection with other incidents that had occurred in the vicinity at about the same time. At identification parades held on the 1st August, 1979, at Wembley Police Station, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were put up as

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likely suspects for the alleged assault on
 [redacted] in the cul-de-sac in the vicinity of
 82 Orchard Avenue. Mistaken identifications were
 made by witnesses [redacted]
 and [redacted]. It has been
 established beyond any doubt that the officers
 picked out were not on duty at the demonstration
 on the 23rd April, 1979. [redacted]
 [redacted] and [redacted]
 the officers who were mistakenly identified, have
 each made statements which are attached. In view
 of these identifications further parades in
 respect of the incident were not held for
 [redacted] and [redacted]

240. A schedule of all the identification parades is attached.

OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF IDENTIFICATION PARADES

241. [redacted]
 dealt with the identification parades held at
 Wembley Police Station. His statements refer
 to the conduct of parades held for each of the
 officers concerned. It will be seen from the
various letters received from solicitors
 representing [redacted] that there was some
 delay before his eventual consent to stand on an

identification parade. This and other aspects concerning [REDACTED] will be dealt with in later paragraphs as he requires special mention.

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242. [REDACTED] dealt with identification parades held at Hayes Police Station on 29th August, 1979.

[REDACTED]

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243. In a statement taken from [REDACTED] on 9th July, 1979, she was unable to add to her previous descriptions of officers, but in a statement taken from her after identification parades held on the 25th July, 1979, a reference is made to some officers at the scene of the PEACH incident having moustaches. She agreed that she had not mentioned this in her previous statement.

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244. [REDACTED] also suggested that the officer in charge at the PEACH incident had a moustache and that she knew he was in charge because he was wearing a 'flat helmet' and there was 'something different' on his shoulders.

245. The fact that such important matters were not mentioned by her when she was previously interviewed casts doubt as to her credibility. Although both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were in the area at the time of the PEACH incident, each wearing badges of rank [REDACTED] on their shoulders, there is no evidence to suggest that either were wearing a 'flat helmet'. It is, of course, generally known that [REDACTED] normally wear flat caps and badges of rank. This could be construed as detracting from her credibility. Statements were taken from her through an interpreter, [REDACTED] who had previously been utilised to interview her.

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and 2749

246. Further statements were taken from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] which refer to their unwillingness to attend as witnesses at identification parades. [REDACTED] made a further statement to the effect that she was unable to identify any officer.

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INCIDENTS IN ORCHARD AVENUE CUL-DE-SACStat. Page No. 2791Stat. Page No. 585CStat. Page No. 660

247. [REDACTED] attended the demonstration with [REDACTED] her sister, and others but at the time of the Beechcroft Avenue incident he was separated from them except for [REDACTED]. They ran together down an alleyway off the West side of Beechcroft Avenue, when the S.P.G. carriers arrived in the street.

248. They were in a yard from which another alleyway led to Orchard Avenue behind Number 82, the end house of the cul-de-sac. [REDACTED] left [REDACTED] and went to look down the alleyway. Three or four Asians then appeared round the corner of the house from the direction of Orchard Avenue.

249. Running behind the Asians, [REDACTED] says he saw a friend, [REDACTED] and asked him if he was being chased. Before receiving any answer [REDACTED] ran past pursued by a police officer holding a truncheon.

250. Two or three other police officers then appeared from the same direction, walking briskly. [REDACTED] jumped over a fence into the garden of a house in Oswald Road and escaped over a locked garden gate into the street.

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251. He had looked back whilst escaping and saw the head and shoulders of three or four policemen. He thought [REDACTED] would be safe from them since she was alone, but heard her scream and believed she had been arrested.

252. [REDACTED] describes the first officer to arrive in the garden of Number 82, Orchard Avenue, as youngish, aged 23 to 25 years. This description could fit [REDACTED] but since [REDACTED] had previously made a mistaken identification on a parade held with [REDACTED] as a possible suspect, [REDACTED] was not asked to stand.

253. [REDACTED] is a member of the Anti-Nazi League, but states he did not know PEACH or his friends at the time of the demonstration. His statement was taken in the presence of a solicitor.

254. [REDACTED] refers to the medical examination and treatment of [REDACTED] on the 24th April, 1979. There was no fracture of the skull as had been originally suspected. A single suture to a 1 cm. laceration to the scalp was necessary.

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255. [REDACTED] is a member of the Anti-Nazi League and attended the demonstration with his friends. Although not mentioned in his statement he is known to [REDACTED] and friends. He gives a general account of movements prior to the S.P.B. carriers driving into Beechcroft Avenue, at which time he and his friends had been close to the bottom of the street near the junction with Orchard Avenue.

256. As the carriers approached, [REDACTED] turned right into Orchard Avenue, and ran with others towards the end of the cul-de-sac while others ran along Orchard Avenue in the opposite direction.

257. He suggests that most of those running were white people. Some climbed over a fence at the end of the street. He turned to see if such action was necessary and noticed a carrier stationary at the junction of Beechcroft Avenue and Orchard Avenue. About six officers with truncheons drawn were running towards him knocking people out of their way as they ran. He ran round the back of the end house into a yard area at which point he was grabbed round the neck and thrown to the ground by a police officer.

258. [REDACTED] continues by describing how another officer struck him a blow with a truncheon hitting his pelvis and how he was detained by police officers and further assaulted.

259. [REDACTED] says that he was then taken up Beechcroft Avenue and put into a carrier parked at Broadway junction with Northcote Avenue, in which he noticed an officer who appeared to be unconscious and there was some conversation between officers concerning the reason for his arrest, after which he was grabbed by the collar and pushed out of the van.

260. The carrier he suggests then started up and left him standing in the road. This part of his account does not tie up with the known facts as there is no doubt that the injured officer [REDACTED] was taken away by ambulance before the carrier left the scene. I am of the opinion that [REDACTED] was taken back to the carrier, despite discrepancies in his account of the matter.

261. [REDACTED] describes the injuries sustained during his detention by police but in fact he says he did not consider it necessary to go to

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his doctor or to hospital. He refers to meeting an Asian (not traced), who invited him into his house where he was cleaned up and later driven to Acton, where at about 10.15 p.m., he met up with [REDACTED] one of his friends, with whom he had been at the demonstration.

262. [REDACTED] attended identification parades held at Hayes Police Station on 29th August, 1979, where [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were put up for identification. He was unable to pick out anyone who had assaulted him. [REDACTED] (3 unit), who it is thought was possibly the third officer mentioned by [REDACTED] was not put on the parade because there were insufficient officers of similar description that day or likely to be. Since [REDACTED] did not identify either [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] it is thought there is no prospect of an identification of [REDACTED] who according to [REDACTED] was following behind the other two officers at the time of his detention.

263. In connection with the assault of [REDACTED] and the detention of and assault on [REDACTED] interviews were conducted with various officers known to have been in the vicinity of the cul-de-sac at the relevant time. These interviews were by way of questions and answers which for ease

Page No. 2805-
2922

of reference have been collated as statements to conform with the procedure of the first report.

at. Page No. 2805

at. Page No. 2831

264. It will be seen from previous statements and interviews of officers that [REDACTED] (1 Unit) and [REDACTED] (3 Unit), each claims to have been first at the end house. The interviews most recently conducted suggest that [REDACTED] of 1 Unit and one other (probably [REDACTED] of 1 Unit), were the first officers behind the house in pursuit of demonstrators. [REDACTED] had admitted when previously seen that he had detained a man with long fair hair [REDACTED] (as long black hair), at the rear of No. 82 Orchard Avenue. He stated he released the man in Orchard Avenue there being no evidence to detain him further. Evidence of the interviews of 3 Unit officers refer to the detention of a white man by 2 'strange' officers at the rear of 82. This was undoubtedly the arrest made by [REDACTED] (and another officer) who were unknown to the 3 Unit officers.

265. [REDACTED] emphatically denied any assault on the man he detained and refuted the suggestion of the more lengthy detention described by [REDACTED] of 1 Unit, who also chased demonstrators into this alley, similarly denied any involvement in the detention of a white man at the rear of No. 82. As previously mentioned identification parades held for these officers with [REDACTED] as the witness were unsuccessful.

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266. [REDACTED] of 3 Unit denied assaulting [REDACTED] in any way although the evidence available suggests that he was the third officer referred to by [REDACTED]. He admits being the officer who said, "Good Evening", to [REDACTED] resident of Orchard Avenue, which would place him at the location described by [REDACTED] and in a position to have 'prodded' him in the back with a truncheon. [REDACTED] denied having his truncheon at the scene.

at. Page No. 532

at. Page No. 2851

267. [REDACTED] of 3 Unit declined to answer questions. He claimed he does so on the advice of a solicitor, [REDACTED]. It is believed that this firm of solicitors have been retained by the Police Federation to act for S.P.G. officers in connection with the Peach enquiries.

268. [REDACTED] is the principal suspect for the assault on [REDACTED] in the alleyway at the side of No. 82, Orchard Avenue. In her statement she described being hit over the head with a truncheon by the third officer to arrive at the scene. [REDACTED] had stated, when interviewed earlier, that he was the first officer to arrive at the rear of No. 82. Consideration of evidence of other officers

to arrive at the scene tends to suggest that although he was the first 3 Unit officer to arrive, [REDACTED] of 1 Unit and another officer (probably [REDACTED], were already there. On this supposition the Asian man described by [REDACTED] in his statement as being in the alleyway and brushed aside by him with his truncheon, may well have been [REDACTED] mistaken by him for an Asian demonstrator. There appears to be no other explanation why [REDACTED] should be hit over the head at that time.

t. Page 2911

269. [REDACTED] was the only other officer to decline to answer further questions at interview on this aspect. He had been requested earlier to attend an identification parade and considered that having been cautioned on that occasion he should not answer questions put to him in relation to those matters without first obtaining legal advice. There are a number of questions unanswered in respect of the movements of [REDACTED]. Other officers of his Unit refer to his being at the rear of No. 82 speaking to a distressed girl (obviously [REDACTED]), and where the two 'strange' officers had detained a man. His previous statements do not refer to his being in the garden nor show his actions there. His attitude of non-co-operation suggests he may well have witnessed incidents he does not wish to relate as he may put himself in jeopardy.

270. None of the other S.P.G. officers interviewed in connection with these incidents in the cul-de-sac add materially to the evidence other than to clarify movements of themselves and colleagues at that time. There is no corroboration of [REDACTED]'s account of being detained in a carrier in Broadway. There are other officers of the Unit who could be interviewed in this connection but it is not anticipated that any of them would have knowledge of [REDACTED] presence on the carrier.

at. Page No. 2923

271. [REDACTED] the injured officer, from whom no statement had previously been taken has now been seen and a statement obtained. His account does not add to the evidence.

OTHER ASSAULTS IN ORCHARD AVENUE

272. Additional statements have been taken regarding other assaults in Orchard Avenue, including from [REDACTED] victim of an assault in an alleyway off Orchard Avenue. She describes returning down Beechcroft Avenue and turning left into Orchard Avenue with three friends [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (from whom statements had previously been obtained), and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] jumped into the garden of No. 46 Orchard Avenue, and saw about six officers get out of a carrier parked diagonally across the corner

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at. Page No. 585C
585A

at. Page No. 2941

of Orchard Avenue and Beachcroft Avenue. Three or four were holding truncheons. [REDACTED] left the garden and ran down Orchard Avenue towards Herbert Road and caught up with her friends as they turned into an alleyway. [REDACTED] fell down and [REDACTED] stopped. She saw a police officer stepping over [REDACTED] and turned to run, but was hit on the head and fell to the ground. She describes the officer as having blond, straight, thick but tidy hair, wearing a mackintosh. She then saw the same policeman hitting a man about the legs with his truncheon.

273. [REDACTED] and her friends went to No. 34 where she was given first aid. The next day she went to Royal Northern Hospital. Although she stated she would be able to recognise the officer again she made no identification at parades held on 25th July, 1979, where [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were possible suspects. [REDACTED] would appear to be the most likely suspect for this assault on his admitted movements that day. He has not been further interviewed since he has already given a comprehensive account of his movements.

cat. Page No. 2941

274. [REDACTED] was with [REDACTED] during the demonstration but did not actually see her assaulted. She was present in No. 34 Orchard Avenue when she was given assistance.

bat. Page No. 2946

275. [REDACTED] was the Casualty Officer at the Royal Northern Hospital. Because of swelling to [REDACTED] face it was not possible to definitely disclose any bone injury. [REDACTED] did not return for further x-rays.

at. Page No. 2948

276. [REDACTED] is a friend of [REDACTED] and refers to taking two photographs of her facial injuries two days after the incident. He has retained the two developed slides.

t. Page No. 2950

277. [REDACTED] a member of the Anti-Nazi League, went to the demonstration with [REDACTED] and friends. He gives a general account of activity in the Broadway/Beechcroft Avenue area and saw missiles thrown at police vans by demonstrators. When Police Officers advanced across the junction he ran down Beechcroft Avenue and turned left into Orchard Avenue. He saw a police van arrive at the junction and noticed an officer whom he could not describe get out of the seat

next to the driver and shout 'Come on you bastards' whilst waving his truncheon. This Officer was obviously [REDACTED] As other officers then got out of the van a second van arrived at the junction. [REDACTED] later saw a police officer hitting a white youth on the shoulder with his truncheon.

BUILD UP

tat. Page No. 2953

278. [REDACTED] did not see any missiles being thrown although policemen with shields and mounted officers charged the crowd. In Beechcroft Avenue he saw activity which may have been arrests being made in the Broadway. He saw two vans turn into Beechcroft Avenue at which time he turned, ran left into Orchard Avenue. He did not see PEACH or indeed any police officer hit any person in that area.

t. Page No. 2957

279. [REDACTED] saw the crowd throwing bricks etc., at police on various occasions at different locations. He was arrested at Broadway/Northcote Avenue junction and placed in an S.P.G. carrier at that location.

Stat. Page No. 2961

280. [REDACTED] saw bricks and rocks being thrown at police vans and officers from the vans get out with their truncheons and start hitting and chasing people and arresting a few.

Stat. Page No. 2963

281. [REDACTED] states that she met PEACH and others in the Broadway, but left them to go home when the crowd sat down in the road and were moved on by mounted branch officers. She mentions officers making 'racist remarks' and then she left the demonstration. The following day she was interviewed on L.B.C. radio.

Stat. Page No. 2966

282. [REDACTED] was in the Broadway when the petrol bomb was thrown at the coach and saw three S.P.G. carriers in the Broadway and one of them turn into Northcote Ave. He saw police pushing the crowds away, some officers with truncheons, but did not see anyone hit with a truncheon. After an hour when it had quietened down he and his brother left.

Stat. Page No. 2969

283. [REDACTED] was in the Broadway and saw stones being thrown at police by the crowd. He states that officers got out of the S.P.G. vans and blatantly manhandled the crowd without attempting to arrest anyone, their intention being to disperse the crowds, and that the physical contact included the use of truncheons. He is unable to identify or describe any particular officers. About an hour later he and his brother left the scene.

Stat. Page No. 2972

284. [REDACTED] states that a colleague, [REDACTED] heard from her son [REDACTED] that police had not been responsible for the death of PEACH, but that a brick thrown by some one had caused his death.

Stat. Page No. 2974

285. [REDACTED] states that in conversation a [REDACTED] had stated that he had seen a white man hit on the head by a brick or stone and fall to the ground. [REDACTED] had not said it definitely was PEACH although it seemed obvious he thought that it was. No mention was made in this conversation of [REDACTED] going to the police with this information.

Stat. Page No. 2976

286. [REDACTED] states that he saw missiles being thrown at the police and one hit a P.C. on the side of the head. He did not see any demonstrators hit by any of the missiles. He states he did not see anyone hit by a brick or police truncheon in the Orchard Avenue, Beechcroft Avenue area.

Doc. No. 27 P. 93 - 94
Doc. No. 28 P. 95 - 96
Doc. No. 29 P. 97 -
Doc. No. 30 P. 98
Doc. No. 31 P. 99

287. I have attached various documents relating to instructions for the use of and training in the use of police truncheons, for information.

[REDACTED]

Stat. Page No. 2980

288. [REDACTED]
G.I.B.(2) refers to a conversation between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] on 9th August, 1979, in the presence of [REDACTED] his Solicitor, concerning [REDACTED] reason for not wishing to stand on an identification parade. A letter dated 7th August, 1979 from the Solicitor was produced during the interview and refers to [REDACTED] reason for not wishing to stand.

Stat. Page No. 2985

Doc. Page No. 90

Stat. Page No. 2983

Stat. Page No. 2988

289. A further statement from [REDACTED] refers to a conversation later between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and the Solicitor also referring to the refusal. It was a matter for consideration whether or not to have a confrontation but I decided against it that day because at the time [REDACTED] had a beard and a black eye and may well have turned himself to the wall or taken other evasive action. That evening [REDACTED] was scheduled to address a political meeting on the 'death of Blair Peach'. No doubt [REDACTED] and his Solicitor believed I would arrange for the witnesses to see the officer for identification purposes without him knowing on some other occasion so he later recanted and took part on a parade about two weeks later without the beard. I did not disclose it but I contemplated having the witnesses at some Magistrates Court where [REDACTED] was to be scheduled to be giving evidence, but as it turned out this was unnecessary.

290. Some further questioning of [REDACTED] was intended, but he has declined to attend and in the circumstances I have not pressed it very hard because evasive replies are expected. If some other evidence emerged it would be a different matter

and positive action would be taken. I declined to supply copies of his previous statements on the grounds that I felt it would reduce the credibility of the interview and he would answer as previously as distinct from current recollection of events.

291. On 4th September, 1979, [REDACTED] without [REDACTED] called upon me at New Scotland Yard to discuss the proposed further interview and gave me the impression he wanted his client to agree but could not convince him of the desirability, to give the impression of full outward co-operation. There is no doubt that [REDACTED] is very worried and I understand there are peaks and troughs in his demeanour at the present time. He has been transferred from the S.P.G., but not suspended from duty, and is resentful of the fact that his hopes to go on a University Course have not materialised. [REDACTED] also put it that [REDACTED] objected to being interviewed by [REDACTED] or by myself - [REDACTED] - perhaps he feels either of us would be too probing. I put it to [REDACTED] that I felt I could not really delegate such an interview at this juncture and in view of the impasse. He accepted that reasoning. The further interview

has not therefore taken place but will be subject of a further report if it does. Expectancy of the interview has further delayed this report which is now pressing. In passing [REDACTED] expressed the view that it was unlikely the officers responsible would come forward at this stage. He represents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. If there has been any 'closing of ranks' in the S.P.G., I cannot envisage that [REDACTED] was not so involved.

Stat. Page No. 2989

SCIENTIFIC TESTS [REDACTED], Senior Scientific Officer: refers to the examination of exhibits submitted to the Police Forensic Science Laboratory. Nothing of evidential value was found.

FURTHER STATEMENTS - NON RELEVANT

Stat. Page No. 2993

[REDACTED] knows Elair PEACH, but states he did not see him at Southall demonstration. He decided to go home because police cordons prevented his movement towards the Town Hall. [REDACTED] saw a police

Stat. Page No. 2994

officer hit back at a demonstrator in retaliation in South Road. [REDACTED] Interpreter, took the statement from [REDACTED]

Stat. Page No. 2995

INQUEST

292. The date of the Inquest still stands as 11th October, 1979, at Hammersmith, but owing to lack of facilities and the public attendance expected (with demonstrators) other accommodation, such as the Town Hall, is being considered. In the event of the Director of Public Prosecutions instituting any criminal proceedings, a further adjournment would be a matter for earnest consideration.

CONCLUSIONS

293. Despite extensive enquiries made into the death of Blair PEACH and the surrounding circumstances, it has not been possible to establish exactly what caused the injury or who struck the fatal blow.

294. It is not possible to state with certainty whether the death resulted from an unlawful act. As pointed out in the FIRST report there are a number of witnesses who say that they saw PEACH struck by a police officer and there is no evidence to show that he received the injury to the side of his head in any other way. No police officer says that he saw PEACH or admits to striking anyone at the time and place the fatal injury was sustained. There is the possibility that the injury may have been caused accidentally or unwittingly but officers' accounts do not encourage that line of thinking. In the absence of other evidence it is therefore a matter of consideration as to whether the death was unlawful, there being little evidence from any source that criminal acts were being committed by the demonstrators at the time of the death, but immediate pursuit of the rebellious crowd from the top of the road needs to be given full consideration.

295. Whilst the evidence of some of the civilian witnesses may be tainted or contain discrepancies they cannot be totally discounted as it is in some cases supported by credible witnesses.

296. The actions of the officers involved especially those [REDACTED] in carrier U. 11 and U.12 appear to be in excess of what was necessary, but due regard must be given to the events of the day. It is difficult to see how one can justify striking demonstrators who are running away or who have been pursued for some distance. These are aspects which will be relentlessly put by lawyers for the family of the deceased or the Anti-Nazi League.

297. There is some evidence to suggest that the fatal blow was struck by a member of the first carrier at the scene, U.11., and indeed, an indication that it was the first officer out of that vehicle. This of course, was [REDACTED]. However, there is no evidence of a conclusive nature. [REDACTED] was in the ideal position to see what happened and I feel [REDACTED] is aware of what actually OCCURRED.

298. Whilst it can reasonably be concluded that a police officer struck the fatal blow, and that that officer came from carrier U.11, I am sure that it will be agreed that the present situation is far from satisfactory and disturbing. The attitude and untruthfulness of some of the officers involved is a contributory factor.

299. It is understandable that because of the events of the day officers were confused, or made mistakes, but one would expect a better recall of events by trained police officers. However, there are cases where the evidence shows that certain officers have clearly not told the truth.

300. It is now clear that U.11 was at the scene and almost certainly the officer who struck the blow had come from that carrier. It will be appreciated that the explanation given by the crew of the carrier would be of paramount importance to the investigation.

301. It can be clearly seen from the various statements and records of interviews with these officers that their explanations were seriously lacking and in the case of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] there

was deliberate attempt to conceal the presence of the carrier at the scene at the vital time. The action of these officers clearly obstructed the police officers carrying out their duty of investigating this serious matter.

302. The specific false statement to which I refer was as follows:-

[REDACTED]

303. This Officer was the driver of the carrier U.11 and when questioned on the day following the death of PEACH he said that having driven the carrier into Beechcroft Avenue, some if not all, of the officers got out. He later confirmed this in the same interview by saying that he thought he was alone when he drove the carrier down Beechcroft Avenue and that when he did so his officers were in front of him.

304. In his written statement of the 17th May, 1979, [REDACTED] said that he did not stop the carrier until he reached the junction of Orchard Avenue. He remembered that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were on the carrier at that time with two other officers whose names he could not remember.

305. When interviewed, under caution, on the 6th June, 1979, he said that he drove the carrier straight down Beechcroft and stopped just into the junction of Orchard Avenue where [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] got out of the carrier and pushed the demonstrators round the corner.

306. During the interview the officer marked on a plan (Exhibit LS/1) 'A' - where he stopped the carrier and 'B' where he said a group of demonstrators were standing and confirmed that [REDACTED] went towards these demonstrators with the other officers. From this Plan it will be appreciated that [REDACTED] and the officers named were at the immediate location where witnesses say PEACH was struck down. This aspect was also later confirmed by [REDACTED] on a similar plan.

307. In that interview [REDACTED] was very much more forthright in his explanation of events leading up to his carrier's arrival at Beechcroft Avenue junction with Orchard Avenue. This prompted

the officer interviewing him to say to him
'I must put this to you, why on earth didn't
you say this earlier' and he replied, 'You reminded
me of ██████████ because he sits in the back.
He's a quiet sort of person, you sort of don't
remember he's there and you reminded me of
██████████' He had a remarkable recall.

308. At a further interview the following
day the officer conducting the interview told
██████████ that he accepted much of what he now had
to say as being the truth of the matter, but he did
not consider that what he said about what happened
AMPER the officer left the carrier was anywhere near
the truth of the matter. It was put to him that from
that point he was prevaricating in order to frustrate
the identification of the officer who killed
Blair PEACH and he replied, "In my position now I
wouldn't be protecting anyone and that's the truth."

[REDACTED]

309. In his self prepared statement of the 24th April, 1979, [REDACTED] said that having arrived at Beechcroft Avenue he saw [REDACTED] and his men chasing missile throwing demonstrators down the road, some of his officers and himself got out of the carrier at that point and ran after the 3 Unit officers to the junction of Orchard Avenue where he saw [REDACTED] struggling with a violent prisoner. Attention is also drawn to the Form A.8/10 submitted by [REDACTED] when going off duty.

310. In a statement of 17th May, 1979, he said officers on the carrier with him were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and that the carrier went straight down Beechcroft and pulled up sharply at the junction of Orchard Avenue. There he saw [REDACTED] struggling on the ground with a prisoner. [REDACTED] and a 3 Unit officer put the prisoner on board the carrier and his officers were now off the carrier. He then had the impression they were in Orchard Avenue ahead of him.

311. He concluded by correcting what he had said in his self-prepared statement about having got out of the carrier at the Broadway end of Beechcroft Avenue and of first seeing [REDACTED] at that location but could not explain these discrepancies.

312. On 8th June, 1979, [REDACTED] was interviewed by [REDACTED] in the presence of his Solicitor. During this interview the Interviewing Officer pressed him on why he had claimed earlier to have left the carrier at the Broadway end of Beechcroft Avenue and he said "It was an honest mistake". The officer asked him when he first realised he had made that mistake and he could not remember.

313. [REDACTED] then put to him that he had deliberately stated that he had got out of the van at the wrong position to mislead the investigators and he replied. "It was a genuinely made statement with no such intention". He then, after consulting with his Solicitor, declined to answer any further questions.

[REDACTED]

314. This Officer was questioned by [REDACTED] on 24th April, 1979, he said that "we got out of the carrier in Beechcroft Avenue and they ran off and we ran after them." He said he ran down the left hand pavement of Beechcroft and when he got to the junction of Orchard Avenue there was a Police Constable with an Asian prisoner and he and the officer with the prisoner got out of his carrier at that location and went to the end of Orchard Avenue. He said that when he got out of the carrier in Beechcroft Avenue he saw [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] there.

315. In his statement of 27th April, 1979, he said that the carrier stopped in the side road (Beechcroft Avenue) just by the main junction (Broadway) and everyone except the driver got out. He said he chased a bunch of demonstrators down the road and stopped to help a P.C. to put a Pakistani prisoner on the carrier driven by [REDACTED]. The carrier was then parked in Beechcroft Avenue at the junction with Orchard Avenue. He said that he

and the officer and the prisoner got on the carrier and that he did not think that anyone else got on.

316. In his statement of 17th May, 1979, he said that the carrier stopped in the Main Road (Broadway) at the junction with Beechcroft and that they all got out and walked up Beechcroft. Later he corrected this by saying that when he said "we" he meant himself and assumed the others got out but he didn't recall seeing them.

317. On 8th June, 1979, [REDACTED] was questioned by [REDACTED]. He was pressed specifically on where he had left the carrier and insisted that he had disembarked at the Broadway end of Beechcroft. It was put to him that there were two officers who were present when the prisoner had been put into the carrier and that it could be proved he was lying if he insisted that he was one of them and he replied "I helped put a prisoner on that carrier and you can say what you like".

318. It may be considered that other officers, albeit to a lesser degree, have also obstructed the investigating officers by making false statements. It is not proposed to reiterate their statements which have been submitted but which may best be dealt with by

way of conference.

319. Earlier I touched on the general behaviour of the officers. In addition to the fatal injury to PEACH, there were various persons who received injuries at about the same time. They have been included in this report in order to give a more comprehensive account of the incident and could not properly be dealt with in isolation. Especially the same arguments apply regarding justification as in relation to Blair PEACH.

RECOMMENDATIONS

320. At this stage there is insufficient evidence to support proceedings against any person mentioned in this report regarding the death of Blair PEACH and I recommend accordingly.

321. There are nevertheless, the other matters which have been discovered during the investigation, some touching on the death of PEACH and others unconnected.

322. The most serious aspect of this case has, without doubt, been the obstruction of the investigating officers in the execution of their duty. Under 'conclusion'

I have listed specific instances. It is my view, that to give false information to the police with the intention of obstructing them in their duty to decide upon the institution of criminal proceedings is an offence which can be dealt with both under the Common Law and also under Section 51(3) of the Police Act, 1964. I would further suggest that such action may also amount to an offence of 'perverting the course of justice'.

323. Whilst it is obviously a consideration that one or more of the officers mentioned may have told lies in their own defence which would perhaps be acceptable behaviour in certain circumstances, it is suggested that in this case there are special considerations, in particular, the suspicions thrown on all members of the police force present at Southall on that day and of course, the serious nature of the investigation itself.

324. I feel that previous interpretation of the law fully supports the view expressed above. I presume to draw attention to the following cases.
HINCHCLIFFE V SHELDON (1955 1 W.L.R. 1207;
REGE V CONNOLLY (1966) 2 Q.B. 414 per LORD PARKER C.J.
at P. 420; R.V. PANAYOTOV (1973) 1 W.L.R. 1032;

Harvey SHARP 3726 CR APP R 122 & R.V. FIELD & WENTHER
(1965) 1 Q.B. 402 48 CR APP R 335.

325. Furthermore, it will be seen that the false statements made by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are all of the same content. A strong inference that can be drawn from this is that they have conspired together to obstruct police.

326. The conduct of these officers made it more difficult to carry out the investigation and arrive at a proper conclusion. Consequently, I strongly recommend that proceedings be taken against [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] for obstructing police in the execution of their duty, conspiring to do so, and attempting or conspiracy to pervert the course of justice.

327. I will now deal with other matters occurring on the day of 23rd April, 1979. Regarding the alleged assault on [REDACTED] at the rear of 82, Orchard Avenue. Whilst the outcome of investigations is unsatisfactory there is no evidence to support proceedings against any person mentioned in this report and I recommend accordingly.


328. Regarding the alleged assault on ██████████ in an alleyway off Orchard Avenue, as previously stated it would appear that ██████████ was the person responsible. When interviewed he admitted actions similar to those alleged by ██████████ but to a lesser degree. However, ██████████ was unable to identify ██████████ or indeed any person. In the circumstances, I feel that there is insufficient evidence to take proceedings against ██████████ or any other person mentioned in this report and recommend accordingly.

329. With regard to the alleged unlawful arrest and assault on ██████████ I submit there is insufficient evidence for criminal proceedings.

330. Regarding the alleged assaults on ██████████ and other persons there appears to be insufficient evidence to take proceedings against any person mentioned in this report.

331. It will be recalled that a search of the Special Patrol Group officers' personal lockers at Barnes Police Station revealed various items. The possession of these weapons and tools by the various officers and in particular [REDACTED] is viewed with grave concern. There is the inference that he could have had the cash (offensive weapon) in a public place. [REDACTED] was in possession of keys which raises the question of him going equipped to steal. However, I feel there is insufficient evidence to justify criminal proceedings in respect of those matters.

332. I ask that this report be forwarded to the Director of Public Prosecutions for his consideration and decision.


John CASS
Commander

P133

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Director of Public Prosecutions
4-12 Queen Annes Gate London SW1H 9AZ

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PERSONAL

Sir David McNee QPM
Commissioner
Metropolitan Police Office
New Scotland Yard
London SW1H 0BG

Your reference OG1/79/2234 (CIB.1.)

Our reference D/H.P.6009.79

Date 9 October 1979

Dear Commissioner,

RE: BLAIR PEACH

As you are aware, I have decided that there is at present insufficient evidence to justify criminal proceedings against any police officers in respect of the death of Blair Peach and other incidents on the same occasion.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the way in which Commander Cass, Detective Chief Superintendent Telfe and other officers of the Complaints Investigation Bureau carried out their investigations into this matter, and of the very full and frank way in which they have cooperated with my Department. In my view the reports which they submitted were extremely thorough and well prepared, and certainly it is no fault of theirs that we cannot at this stage take any criminal proceedings following the enquiries.

I would be grateful if you would pass on my appreciation to the officers I mentioned above.

Yours sincerely

Sir Thomas Hetherington

P134

2/A.



Director of Public Prosecutions
4-12 Queen Anne's Gate London SW1H 9AZ

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IN CONFIDENCE

The Commissioner
Metropolitan Police Office
New Scotland Yard
London
SW1H 0BG

Your reference
~~0~~61/79/2234 (CIB.1.)
Our reference D/H.P.6009.
75
Date 9 October 1979

C.O. REG.	
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Dear Sir

RE: BLAIR PEACH

I have now considered your two reports dated 12 July 1979 and 14 September 1979 concerning the death of Blair Peach and allied matters. In my opinion the evidence is not sufficient to justify any criminal proceedings against any of the police officers named in the reports.

Yours sincerely
T.C. Hollings

Sir Thomas Hetherington

COPY OF STATEMENT MADE BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

REGARDING THE ELAIR PEACH ENQUIRY.

Issued to Press 3rd October, 1979.

"The Director of Public Prosecutions, Sir Thomas Heatherington, has now given careful consideration to the report by the Metropolitan Police on their investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr. Elair PEACH following disturbances at Southall on 23.4.79, and into allegations that a number of persons were assaulted by police officers on that occasion. The Director has decided that the available evidence is insufficient to justify any criminal proceedings in respect of those matters. The enquiries by the Metropolitan Police have been very thorough and if at a later stage further material evidence emerges the Director will reconsider his decision."

Carbone
Notes of Interview with [REDACTED] Director of Public
Prosecutions at New Scotland Yard on Tuesday 25th September
1979, 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.

Present : Detective Chief Superintendent [REDACTED]
Detective Chief Inspectors [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Re: PEACE ENQUIRY

Evidence to support allegation against [REDACTED]

Questionnaire dated 24.4.79, Statement Page No 1577

'I turned into Beechcroft Avenue and there were people along Beechcroft in groups as far as I can remember. Officers got out, some if not all'.

Page No 1578

When asked if he went further down Beechcroft he said

A. 'Yes'.

Page No 1584

Q. When you drove down Beechcroft Avenue were you on your own?

A. 'Yes I think so I think it was empty'.

Q. Do you recall where any of your officers were?

A. 'No. Except that they were in front of me and I was keeping pace with them. I was aware that there was another carrier somewhere behind'.

Statement 17.5.79

Page No 1591/2

[redacted] and [redacted] and at least two other officers who I cannot remember were aboard the carrier'.....

'I drove down the centre of the road and didn't stop until I reached the bottom at the junction of Orchard Avenue'..... [redacted]

[redacted] and the other officers got out'..... 'All of the crew got out'..... 'I drove off slowly down Orchard Avenue at a walking pace and in line when I caught up with them'.

Questionnaire interview of 6.6.79

Statement Page No 1647

Q. You mentioned earlier that on leaving the carrier some of the officers from that carrier were pushing the demonstrators round that corner into Orchard Avenue is that correct.

A. 'Yes'.

Q. 'Who were those officers, [redacted]

A. [redacted] wasn't sure whether [redacted] was there'.

Q. I must put this to you. Why on earth didn't you say this earlier?

A. 'You reminded me of [redacted] because he sits in the back, he's a quiet person you sort of don't remember he's there'.

The following phoned to [REDACTED] 4.50 pm, 25.6.79

Statement Page No 1650

Q. What did you see those officers do?

A. 'As they were going towards the crowd I believe I was moving off towards Orchard towards the corner. The crowd was moving back as I moved forward and I moved past those'.

Questionnaire interview of 7.6.79

Statement Page No 1708

Q. Whilst parked at that junction your carrier was within ten feet or so of where you say the demonstrators were standing and you told us that [REDACTED] and other officers got out of the carrier and stood facing them. If that is correct why did you drive off and leave them?

A. 'I moved off to support the police who had gone past the main body of demonstrators leaving the carrier behind me with them and that's why I waited at the other end of Orchard Avenue for them to catch up'.

Evidence to support allegation against [REDACTED]Self prepared statement of 24.4.79Statement Page No 1219/20

'When we arrived at the location, Beechcroft Avenue I saw [REDACTED] and saw his Unit chasing missile throwing demonstrators down the road'.

'Some of my officers including myself got out at this point and ran after the three unit officers. The carrier drove down the road. At the junction with Orchard Avenue, I met up with the carrier and saw [REDACTED] struggling with a violent prisoner and I recall another 3 unit officer present also. Demonstrators were still hurling missiles and I could see officers of my Unit and of 3 Unit dispersing them. They were doing this by shouting at them and running towards them it was very effective causing what was a very ugly crowd to become a number of disorganised small groups of no further problem. Some of the officers had their truncheons drawn, at no time did I see any officer make actual contact with the demonstrators although some of the demonstrators fell over as they ran off'.

Statement of 17.5.79Statement Page No 1231/2

Details movement of officers down Beechcroft Avenue, saw 3 Unit officers and 'C' District officers. Drove straight to bottom.

'We pulled up sharply at the junction with Orchard Avenue at a slight angle to the left and nosing into Orchard Avenue by a yard or so. I opened the nearside passenger door and jumped out on to the roadway. The door behind me opened and officers got out I do not know who they were. Inspector

[REDACTED] was on the ground beside the carrier with a prisoner who was struggling violently'.

Statement Page No 1238

Admits he made a mistake in his previous statement.

'I did not get out at Beechcroft Avenue at the junction with the Broadway but at Beecheroft Avenue at its junction of Orchard Avenue. In that statement I've also said that I saw [REDACTED] at the first location and I now do not believe that to be correct. I cannot explain these discrepancies...'

Interview of 8.6.79

Statement Page No 1268 - 1277

Questioned regarding the above discrepancy claims to be a mistake could give good reason for mistake or for not notifying soon as possible. Finally refused to answer questions when accused of falsifying evidence.

Evidence to support allegations against [REDACTED]

Questionnaire of 24.4.79

Statement Page No 1309

'We got out of the carrier in Beechcroft Avenue and they ran off and we ran after them'.

Statement Page No 1310

Q. Did you then go further down Beechcroft Avenue to Orchard Avenue'

A. 'I ran up there. I can't remember who was with me'.

Statement Page No 1311

Q. Describe what happened in that situation?

A. 'I got to the junction with Orchard Avenue and there was PC there with an Asian prisoner. The PC and the prisoner got on our carrier which had followed us. I got on the carrier as well and we went to the end of Orchard Avenue'.

Statement Page No 1316

Q. When you went down Beechcroft Avenue which side were you on?

A. 'On the left hand side'.

Statement of 27.4.79

Statement Page No 1381/2

'As far as I can remember we stopped in the side road just by the main junction and all got out of the carrier except the driver'..... 'I ran after them'..... 'I helped the officer put the prisoner in the carrier that [REDACTED] was driving....'

Statement of 17.5.79Statement Page No 1386

'We stopped on the main road at the junction with another road, we all got out and walked up the side road, I now know it is named Beechcroft Avenue'.... Describes helping PC put prisoner on carrier.

Questionnaire of 8.6.79Statement Page No 1317 - 1378

Questioned regarding lies and still insisted that his story was correct.

██████████ and ██████████ refute his involvement with the prisoner ██████████ other evidence to the contrary is as in general paragraph relating to all below.

Evidence to prove contrary

The evidence to refute the lies told by these three men lies in the subsequent self admissions of ██████████ and ██████████ the statements of ██████████ and ██████████ both of whom were members of the crew of U11 and state that the vehicle did not stop at the junction of Broadway and Beechcroft Avenue or that anyone got off.

Further the evidence of the various officers of 3 Unit none of whom state that anybody got off the U11 van at the location.

Some intimate that the vehicle stopped momentarily but none saw anyone get off. In addition, there are civilian witnesses who saw the van drive straight past Broadway junction with Beechcroft and stop, at the junction of Orchard Avenue. Whilst some, such as [REDACTED] intimate that it may have stopped at the top none say officers got off at that location.

General

That it would be impossible for all three to have come by the same story innocently. All must have conspired to pervert the course of justice in this manner.

These specific points are easily recognisable lies. It is felt that Counsel on reading papers may well agree that there is other evidence arising which will support the conspiracy to pervert.

Addition re [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] on Form A8/10 did not mention the fact that truncheons had been drawn and used at Beechcroft Avenue.

There was also a discussion regarding the positions
of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Statement dated 11.5.79

Page No 2116

'My carrier stopped just inside Beechcroft. The
other carriers stopped just in front of us, a matter
of a few feet.'

'The governor, [REDACTED] was in the street
by one of the carriers. I can't remember which. I
didn't see anyone else from his carrier in the street.
[REDACTED] was just standing there'.

Page No 2117

'We started to move slowly down Beechcroft towards
Orchard.....'

[REDACTED] would have been to the east
side of us'.

Questionnaire of 24.4.79.

Page No 2104

A. '..... a PC shouted, I don't know who,
that a bloke in a yellow jumper had
got one of our blokes

Questionnaire of 25.6.79

Page No 2163

- Q. Are you now saying that you did not hear anyone shout 'catch the man in the yellow jumper' or words to that effect?
- A. 'Yes that was wrong'.

Questionnaire of 26.6.79

Page 2133

- Q. Have you any recollection of a plastic traffic bollard being caught under either of the vehicles?
- A. 'I remember a traffic cone under a carrier but I don't know at what time, it was U11 because [REDACTED] was driving'.

(And subsequent Questions and answers)

It was discussed that [REDACTED] could not have seen the cone since the carrier U11 had in fact, not stopped in Beechcroft as he had described and it was known from many witnesses that the cone was definitely under U11 at that location at the time of PEACH incident. What he was therefore saying was clearly false and that there was clear evidence of his agreement with [REDACTED] about the incident.

Page No 2184

A. (Pause) 'Yes I do remember him coming up to me and asking if I remembered seeing a cone under the carrier. I told him I remembered but not when or where'.

(And subsequent questions and answers)

The evidence of [REDACTED] was also recommended to [REDACTED] for consideration against [REDACTED]

(That he had probably deliberately given a false description of the man he detained).

[REDACTED]
Page No 1740

'There was a carrier in front of mine and there were officers from that carrier running down Beechcroft Avenue towards Orchard Avenue'.

[REDACTED]
'Uniform 11 turned into Beechcroft Avenue, stopped about 50 feet down the road. I stopped just behind him, slightly off set to the right.'

1st van stopped top of road.
2nd - led down B. Ave.
Arrested [redacted] at same time
W11 drove up Broadway end
of B. Ave.

Saw carrier enter B. Ave.
Saw carriers arrive,
blasted over pavement.

Saw 3 carriers all turned
right into B. Ave.

Saw carrier come under bus
slowed into B. Ave. [redacted] jumped
out of way. 2 tons on as it
went down B. Ave.

Carrier past along Broadway
saw me indicated it to go
into B. Ave. Bellini
underneath. At corner
3 Unit line had to break to
let through. 2 tons put
on. 2nd carrier behind and
it passed ledge as he was
moving down B. Ave. It
stopped behind 1st carrier.
A few yards north of 3/4
C. Ave. 1st carrier stopped.
Not sure where 2nd stopped.

1 or 2 carriers swung into
B. Ave. he waved it on. Saw
one stopped 1/2 way down on
left side.

Running down B. Ave when he
heard the noise of tyres
skidding. Carriers overtook
his 3 down B. Ave.

Carrier approached at fast
speed, turned into B. Ave.
Demonstrators scattered.
Carriers went down B. Ave.
nearly to bottom, stopped
crowd allighted.

We ran into the junction of
Broadway and B. Ave. A carrier
came into B. Ave. The crowd
started to run.

Carrier came into B. Ave.
one under nose. He
stepped out of way but
swore of it, stopping into
B. Ave. 2 tons on. Not
sure of other carriers.
3 Unit but in B. Ave.
at this time. Carrier
went down it speed some
distance before he
started to run. Carrier
drove down B. Ave. and
stopped at the bottom
at angle to the corner
on left.

One carrier with nose
under into B. Ave. He ran
out of way. Does not recall
another carrier. Carrier did
not stop near Broadway but
carried on down to 3/4
C. Ave. Some 3 Unit
officers slightly ahead of
carrier but arrived at
junction at about same
time as carrier.

2 carriers. They stopped
at 3/4 B. Ave. one of them
skidding with 4 tons under.
Officers left carrier and
went down B. Ave. presumably
after 3 Unit officers. 2
carriers blocked his view.

A 1 Unit carrier very fast
swerved into corner of 3
Unit narrowly missing
[redacted] One
under front. Followed via
down B. Ave. 2 tons on.
dispersed crowd. Stopped
at bottom on the East corner
3/4 C. Ave. before 3 Unit
got to bottom.

In B. Ave. level with No 1
saw carrier or carriers
overtake. Blue lights
and headlights on.

Saw 2 carriers turn into
B. Ave. one had nose under.

Carrier, blue light
blazon turned into B. Ave.
not sure if
another behind. It
drove past foot officer
down B. Ave. following
demonstrators. When he
reached the bottom he
does not recall seeing it.

Carrier from west lights
and horn on, nose under
front. Did not see 2nd
carrier. Stopped B. Ave.
But on reflection not sure
it did stop.

Saw carrier go into B. Ave.

Foot officers into B. Ave.
before carrier but not far
down before carrier came.
One under, blue light on.
Cannot remember seeing the
carrier in B. Ave. after
it drove down there.

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PHW

SOUTHALL ENQUIRY
BLAIR G PEACH
REPORT
OC1/79/2234

3

P148.LB.(2)/1

SUBJECT Death of
Clement Blair PEACH
at Southall 23.4.79

Reference to Papers

OG1/79/2234

METROPOLITAN POLICE

Complaints Investigation Bureau (2)
New Scotland Yard

..11th day of ..December.....1979.

CONFIDENTIAL

THIRD REPORT - Death of Blair PEACH

Commander C.I.B(2)

333. Further to reports dated 12th July 1979 and 14th September 1979 regarding the above. No further evidence of material value has been obtained, however, in view of recent developments the following is submitted.

INQUEST

334. On Thursday, 11th October 1979 at Fulham Town Hall, the adjourned inquest into the death of Blair PEACH was resumed before the Coroner, Dr. John BURTON.

335. The Commissioner was represented by Mr. WATLING and Mr. MARSHALL of Counsel who were instructed by Mr. WILNOT of the Metropolitan Police Solicitor's Department.

336. The PEACH family were represented by Mr. SEDLEY of Counsel and Mr. HARVEY of Counsel represented the Anti-Nazi League. Both were instructed by Messrs. SEIFERT, SEDLEY and Co., Solicitors of 14, Took's Court, E.C.4. and Mr. GRANT of that company was in attendance.

337. At the commencement of proceedings Mr. SEDLEY supported by Mr. HARVEY made application to the Coroner that the inquest should be heard in the presence of a jury. This application was refused. The inquest then proceeded for the rest of the day.

338. The next day, Friday, 12th October 1979, the inquest re-commenced with a further application by Mr. SEDLEY that he be supplied with copies of the witness statements supplied to the Coroner by Police. This application was also refused but the Coroner agreed that witnesses should be allowed to read their statements prior to giving evidence. The proceedings then continued.

339. During the morning, Mr. SEDLEY informed the Coroner that an application had been made to the Divisional Court to require him to sit with a jury and leave had been granted for the application to be heard on or before 12th November, 1979. The Coroner then adjourned the inquest.

340. On Thursday, 15th November 1979 at the Queens Bench Division of the High Court application was made on behalf of the relatives of Blair PEACH; (1) That the inquest be heard in the presence of a jury; and (2) That the Coroner hand to the legal advisers of the family of Blair PEACH, copies of statements made to Police. Both applications were refused.
(Copy 'Times' Law Report attached)

341. The Coroner then notified his intention to resume the inquest on Monday 10th December 1979 and arrangements were made accordingly. However, in the interim period, Solicitors for the PEACH family Messrs. SEIFERT, SEDLEY and Co., lodged notice of appeal against the decision of the High Court in respect of the application relating to the jury only.

342. Whilst it was requested that the hearing be expedited the Appeal Court had not heard the matter by Friday, 7th December 1979, and the Coroner once again had to adjourn the inquest.

343. The current situation remains as above, no date has as yet been fixed to hear the Appeal, and it is now anticipated that the inquest will be resumed in the New Year.

RECENT PRESS ITEM

344. On Tuesday, 27th November, 1979, Police were informed by a representative of the 'Guardian' newspaper that an article concerning Blair PEACH would be included in that newspaper the following day.

345. The basis of the information given, was that two ex-police officers who were in LINDOS on the Island of RHODES, GREECE, had been telling people that they were the officers who had been responsible for the death of Blair PEACH and had fled to the Island to 'lie low' at the suggestion of a senior police officer.

346. Subsequent enquiries had revealed that the two police officers, one named [REDACTED] the other known as [REDACTED] had both been stationed at [REDACTED] Police Station, [REDACTED] had resigned and were now in LINDOS.

347. The same day, at the West London Coroners' Court, a letter was delivered to the Coroner, Dr. John BURTON, from Messrs. BIRNBERG and Co., Solicitors, of 103, Borough High Street, S.E.1. It contained information, supplied by their client, the Southall Defence Committee, 54, High Street, Southall, Middlesex, similar to that mentioned in the last three paragraphs.

348. Included with the letter were tape recordings of an unknown informant who telephoned the Southall Defence Committee, a transcript of same, and statements of persons concerned.

349. Enquiries positively identified the two ex-police officers as [REDACTED] who served as [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Police Station until he voluntarily resigned on [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who served as [REDACTED] [REDACTED] also at [REDACTED] Police Station until he likewise resigned, voluntarily, on [REDACTED].

C. 36
ge No. 105

37 - 42
e Nos. 106-130

STAT. 3009-3010
Page Nos. 3011-3013
DOC. 44 - 47
Page No. 147 - 150

350. It was established without doubt, at an early stage, that neither officer had been on duty at Southall on Monday, 23rd April 1979, at the time when the incident occurred from which Blair PEACH died. This fact was formally substantiated by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] by reference to the records at Willesden Police Station.

STAT. 3002 - 3008
Page Nos. 2996 - 2999

351. On Wednesday, 28th November 1979, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were separately interviewed at New Scotland Yard. Both stated that they had resigned from the Force with a view to running a bar in LINDOS where they had previously stayed on holiday. Both denied that they had at any time, in jest or otherwise, mentioned that they were responsible for the death of Blair PEACE, or anything similar.

352. Both were independently given the opportunity of listening to part of the tape recording handed to the Coroner and referred to at paragraph 348 above but neither identified the voice of the informant.

STAT.
Page Nos. 3014-3016

353. The same day, Wednesday, 28th November 1979, a girl friend of [REDACTED] who was in LINDOS with him, [REDACTED] also called at New Scotland Yard and was subsequently interviewed. She, basically, corroborated both men.

STAT. 3002 - 3008
Page Nos. 2996- 2999

354. [redacted] and [redacted] were asked to give details of other persons who were in LINDOS whilst they were there and as a result the following serving police officers were interviewed:-

Police Constables'

STAT.
Page Nos. 3017-3018

[redacted]

Page Nos. 3019-3020

[redacted]

Page Nos. 3021-3022

[redacted]

Page Nos. 3023-3024

[redacted]

All corroborated the information given by [redacted] and [redacted] and did not assist the enquiry further

STAT.
Page No. 3025-3027

355. Two further serving police officers were also interviewed: Police Constables'

[redacted] and [redacted]

STAT.
Page No. 3028-3031

[redacted]

These officers also corroborated [redacted] and [redacted] however, when the tape recording was played to them both independently identified the voice of the informant as a man called [redacted] who had been in LINDOS while they were there.

STAT. 3007-3008
Page Nos. 3000-3001

356. Subsequently, [redacted] and [redacted] were re-interviewed and the tape recording played to them again. Neither identified the voice as that of the man [redacted] but purely stated that it could be.

357. Whilst enquiries into this aspect of the case have not been completed, I am satisfied that the two ex-police officers [redacted] and [redacted] could not, in any way have been connected with the death of Blair PEACH.

358 Enquiries continue to trace the man [REDACTED] with a view to a possible offence of 'wasting police time', and a further report will be submitted when enquiries have been completed.

CONTINUING ENQUIRIES.

359. When the last report was submitted there were minor matters of enquiry still outstanding. Most of these have been completed, statements obtained, and are now dealt with below.

STAT.
Page Nos. 3032-3034

360. [REDACTED] was with his brother [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] mentioned at paragraphs 255 and 261. He was present in Beachcroft Avenue just prior to the incident which resulted in the death of Blair PEACH but left the scene and cannot give any useful information.

STAT.
Page Nos. 3035-3037

361. [REDACTED] witnessed events at the junction of Orchard Avenue and Herbert Road. He gives no direct evidence in relation to the death of Blair PEACH.

STAT.
Page Nos. 3038-3039

362. [REDACTED] (aged 10 years) who lives at [REDACTED] saw a man, believed to be PEACH, sitting on the pavement with his back against the wall of the house opposite. He was surrounded by three Police Officers two of whom had shields and all of whom were carrying brown sticks. He saw one of the police officers hit the man on the head with his stick, then saw the man get up and stagger across the road to No.71. Orchard Avenue.

STAT.
Page Nos. 3040

363. This is in some way corroborated by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] mother of the boy, who saw nothing herself but states that the boy told her that he had seen a man hit by police.

364. It seems likely that this is the incident, subsequent to the alleged assault, where three officers spoke to PEACH and told him to move but did not strike him at that stage.

365. [REDACTED] Senior Scientific Officer at the Metropolitan Police Forensic Science Laboratory, examined the various truncheons, official issue and otherwise, seized during the course of enquiries, for traces of blood and hair, with negative results.

STAT.
Page No. 3043-3044

366. [REDACTED] as the charging officer on an occasion in 1974 when PEACH was arrested. He relates to the matter referred to at paragraph 115 and corroborates the matter referred to at paragraph 116 i.e., that no threats were made to PEACH at that time.

STAT.
Page No. 3045-3046

367. [REDACTED] also corroborates the matter referred to in the last paragraph.

368. At paragraphs 146/7 mention was made of various items found by police which were suspected of being used against

the police by demonstrators. The various householders on whose premises the items were found have now been seen. All these persons confirm that the items found did not belong to those premises and tend to confirm previous suspicion. Those persons are:-

STAT.
Pages Nos 3047, 3048
3049, 3050

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

369. I ask that this report be forwarded for the information of the Director of Public Prosecutions and Home Office.

[REDACTED]

Detective Chief Inspector.

P158

MHW

8

SOUTHALL ENQUIRY
BLAIR C PEACH
OG1/79/2234
REPORT

4

C (2)/1
P155

SUBJECT

Blair PEACH

Reference to Papers

OG1/79/2234

Document
Page Nos.
151-152.

METROPOLITAN POLICE

Complaints Investigation Bureau ()
New Scotland Yard

13th day of March 1980

IN CONFIDENCE

DEATH OF CLEMENT BLAIR PEACH

(Fourth Report)

370. With further reference to the above quoted subject and in particular to the report dated 11th December, 1979.

371. INQUEST

On the 11th December, 1979, Lord DENNING, Master of the Rolls, sitting with Lord Justice BRIDGE and Sir David GALE reversed the earlier High Court decision and ruled that the inquest into the death of Blair PEACH should resume with a jury. The application was not opposed by Counsel for the Metropolitan Police - see Press reports, attached.

372. Doctor John BURTON, H.M. Coroner, has now indicated that the adjourned inquest will re-open, with a jury as directed at 10am on Monday 28th April, 1980, at Battersea Coroners' Court Sheppcott Lane, London, S.W.11. The various witnesses have been warned.

373. EXTRANEOUS MATTERS

Paragraphs 344-358 of the report of 11th December, 1979 set out details of enquiries made following an anonymous teleph

P160

Paragraphs 349
and 350 of
previous report
refers.

See Paragraph
355 of previous
report.

Document
Page Nos.
153-155.

call to the SOUTHALL DEFENCE COMMITTEE wherein it was alleged that the officers involved in the death of Blair PEACH were in Lindos, openly boasting of their actions.

374. Investigations identified two ex-Metropolitan Police officers, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as being the officers referred to in the anonymous telephone call, but investigation showed conclusively that they were not on duty at Southall on the day in question and could not have been involved.

375. The anonymous telephone caller was identified by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] as being a man named [REDACTED] that they had met in Lindos whilst they were there on holiday.

376. Following the information supplied by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] a radio message was sent to Athens, who supplied details of a man named [REDACTED] who appeared to be identical with the subject of our enquiry - copy radio messages attached.

377. INTERVIEW WITH [REDACTED]
(No convictions traced)

Following initial reluctance to be interviewed, the above named was eventually seen at 2.10pm on 13th February, 1980 at the offices of Messrs. [REDACTED] Solicitors, [REDACTED], in the presence of [REDACTED] his Solicitor.

P161

Document
Page No.
156-158.

Statement
Page No.
3051-3053.

378. At the time of the meeting I was handed a statement that [REDACTED] had obtained from his client relating to the anonymous telephone call which [REDACTED] admitted making to the Southall Defence Committee - copy attached.

379. [REDACTED] portrayed himself as a highly volatile sort of person, deeply suspicious in his attitude towards Police and a thoroughly unpleasant individual. At an earlier stage he had declined to be interviewed and only agreed when he was told the refusal would result in him being subpoenaed to attend the inquest.

380. During the interview I put a number of questions to him and a copy of a statement prepared by [REDACTED] who was present and recorded the interview, is attached.

381. It will be seen from [REDACTED] statement that he claimed that the two Police officers [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] had talked of Blair PEACE and Southall and that [REDACTED] had openly boasted 'we did him'.

382. During the course of my interview with [REDACTED] I tried to ascertain from him if he could say who else was present when this was said and apart from saying 'there was general conversation about it', he would not be specific.

383. I also told [REDACTED] that the two men had both said that

they had occasion to speak to him about a derogatory remark he had made and he immediately turned on his Solicitor and shouted 'This meeting was your idea, you answer it.'

384. CONCLUSIONS

My personal opinion of this particular enquiry is that none of the parties have been wholly truthful and it may be the case that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] took the opportunity to 'wind up' the unpleasant and bumptious [REDACTED] who retaliated by embellishing the facts in his anonymous telephone call.

385. I have also considered the inability of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to identify [REDACTED] voice on the tape, which was so readily identified by two other officers who knew him less well than I did, and I am drawn to conclude that neither wanted him identified.

386. The real anomaly of this particular aspect is that it has contributed nothing to the main issue as to who struck the blow that killed Blair PEACE. It is not proposed to dwell on any further except perhaps to say that I regret that it is not possible to prosecute [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] for any offence of wasting Police time, or whatever, on the known facts and territorial jurisdiction.

387. ALLEGATION OF POLICE BRIBERY ON BBC NEWS

Following the demonstration at Southall on the 23rd April, 1979, [REDACTED] a Solicitor employed by [REDACTED]

CO., spoke on the BBC News and made a public statement of alleged Police brutality during the demonstration.

388. In particular [redacted] mentioned one man who alleged had to have his testicles removed following injuries inflicted upon him by Police.

389. On Monday 8th October, 1979, [redacted] attended New Scotland Yard where she was interviewed by [redacted] and [redacted]. Also present was [redacted] who was investigating complaints arising out of the Southall demonstration which were not directly associated with the incidents that took place in Beecheroff or Orchard Avenue.

390. The whole purpose of this interview was to give [redacted] the opportunity of reporting, or substantiating any claim she wished and in particular to extract details from her as to the identity of the man who, as she had alleged on the radio, to have his testicles removed.

391. In view of the known attitude of [redacted] it was thought prudent to record the interview with her and this was done by [redacted] without her knowledge. A transcript of this recording is attached for information, it has not been produced as an exhibit as it has no evidential value but it does serve to illustrate the difficulties involved in

dealing with people of [REDACTED] convictions.

392. During the course of the interview, [REDACTED] claim to have seen the Asian who she alleged had his testicles removed because of Police brutality. She also agreed to having spoken of this on the radio but refused to identify him and claimed 'privilege'.

393. The transcript of the interview speaks for itself and was concerned with endeavours to obtain from her, details of people who she, or they, alleged were mistreated by Police at Southall. However, efforts in that direction were abortive in that she claimed 'privilege' or 'sub judice' and there can be little purpose in discussing this aspect any further.

394. The Southall Defence Committee issued a Bulletin (copy attached) and the account at Page 2 on that document matches a complaint made by [REDACTED] who is represented by [REDACTED] but she has not, as far as is known, produced him for interview.

395. [REDACTED] is known to have been in Flaring Ward at the Hillingdon Hospital and it will be seen from the Bulletin that the writer mentions a person in the next bed to him having to have his testicles removed, having been beaten 'gravely' by the S.P.G.

Document
Page Nos.
305-308.

P165

Statement
Page Nos.
3054 - 3056.

- 1 -

396. Investigation revealed that the person in the bed next to [REDACTED] at the Hillingdon Hospital was [REDACTED] who has been interviewed and a statement has been obtained.

397. It will be seen from this statement, which is to be regarded as totally confidential, that [REDACTED] had one of his testicles removed because it had become twisted and diseased. He is adamant that he never told the man in the next bed [REDACTED] that he was beaten up by Police.

398. In view of the connection between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and the article in the Bulletin which links [REDACTED] to his complaint and the hospital, it may reasonably perhaps be concluded that [REDACTED] is the person referred to by them on the radio and in the Bulletin.

399. During the interview with [REDACTED] she claimed not have the victim's authority to produce or name him. She was pressed for details to preclude the unlikely possibility of there being two such victims and said that she had met the man in the Southall Rights Office.

400. [REDACTED] was then brought into the office where [REDACTED] was being interviewed, but was not introduced. [REDACTED] said that she could not remember whether or not he was the man and [REDACTED] separately told the officers he had never seen her before.

401. [REDACTED] was embarrassed but persisted with her a
The matter was left that she would go to the Southall Rights
Office on Saturday 13th October, 1979, to endeavour to get th
person to give her authority to disclose his name, but nothin
has been forthcoming from her in that respect to date.

402. It is not proposed to discuss this matter any further
as it may be considered from the enquiries made that it is
abundantly clear where the real truth lays. One can only spe
as to the reasons behind this particular allegation and further
comment is not required.

403. I ask that this report, together with copy statement
and documents referred to therein, be forwarded for the infor
of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Home Office and
Metropolitan Police Solicitors' Department. It is also asked
that authority be granted to hand copies of same to Doctor Sw
H.M. Coroner.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Detective Chief Inspector
C.I.B.(2)

79167

OG 1/79/2



METROPOLITAN POLICE

Complaint against police

REPORT

(KICHA)

For DPP
PCB

P168

(1.B.(2)/1

SUBJECT Death

of Clement

Blair PEACH

Reference to Papers

OGL/79/2234

IN CONFIDENCE

METROPOLITAN POLICE

**Complaints Investigation Bureau (2)
New Scotland Yard**

30th day of May 1980

DEATH OF CLEMENT BLAIR PEACH
(Fifth Report)

A.C.C. (Thro' DAC 'G' (Ops))

404. With further reference to these papers concerning the death of Clement Blair PEACH and letter from the Director of Public Prosecutions dated 9th October 1979. (Ref. D/H. P.6009.79) wherein the decision was that 'the evidence was not sufficient to justify criminal proceedings against any Police Officer.'

INQUEST

405. The inquest into the death of Clement Blair PEACH commenced at Hammersmith Coroners Court before Dr. J.D.K. BURTON H.M. Coroner, Western London on Monday 28th April 1980 and was concluded on 27th May, 1980.

LAWYERS REPRESENTING

406. Brian WATLING Q.C. appeared on behalf of the Commissioner of Police.
Hugh CARLISLE of Counsel on behalf of officers of the Special Patrol Group.
Stephen SEDLEY of Counsel on behalf of the Peach family.
Lawrence HARVEY of Counsel on behalf of the Anti Nazi League.

407. WITNESSES

83 witnesses were called and gave evidence. Their names

408. 'DEATH BY MISADVENTURE'

On Tuesday 27th May 1980 the Jury returned their finding as 'Death by Misadventure' and added two riders which were accepted by the Coroner.

1) That there should be more liaison between S.P.G. police and the ordinary police and where possible the S.P.G. should be more controlled by their officers.

2) When a demonstration is likely the S.P.G. and police should be in possession of maps of the area.

409. The Jury wished to add a further rider but this was not accepted by the Coroner as such by reason of Rule 34 of the Coroners Act. He did however enter it on the record as a recommendation, the Jury having confirmed to him that they did not think that unauthorised weapons were used.

It was:-

No unauthorised implements or weapons should be available in Police Stations and regular inspections should be carried out.

410. Internal inquiries into the Special Patrol Group by the Deputy Commissioner and concluded in March 1980 are now widely known and a 'Working Party' into the issue of weapons which was set up as a result of a report submitted by me on 14th June 1979 have effectively pre-empted the remarks by the Jury.

NO EVIDENCE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION
OF PROCEEDINGS

411. During the inquest no other evidence emerged which had not already been considered by the Director of Public Prosecutions and there appears no reason for the decision given in his letter of 9th October 1979 to be changed. Certain newspapers keep referring to 'affray' by police but this is not - and never was - a pertinent issue. I can only re-iterate that from the criminal aspect with regard to Police Officers there appears nothing further to pursue or consider.

412. PUBLICITY

A much publicised case with the anti-police elements capitalising to the full for their own ends.

413. I ask that this report be forwarded to the Director of Public Prosecutions.


John CASS
Commander G.O.C.I.