



OPERATION CONIFER

Investigation into allegations of
non-recent child abuse made
against Sir Edward Heath

SENIOR INVESTIGATING OFFICER CLOSURE REPORT

Supplement – 8 January 2018

Investigation carried out by
Wiltshire Police on behalf
of the police service

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report is a supplement to the Senior Investigating Officer Closure Report, dated November 2017 that was written by Det Supt Kirby.
- 1.2 This supplement should only be read in addition to the SIO closure report and not in isolation. The supplement adds narrative to a specific section that is already detailed within the SIO closure report.
- 1.3 The supplement is covered by the same confidentiality expectations as detailed in Chapter 1 of the SIO closure report and should not be read or disseminated more widely, without the explicit permission of the SIO or a member of the Wiltshire Police Senior Command Team.
- 1.4 It is also important to note that this supplement has not led to any change in the documented decision making that is recorded within the main SIO closure report.

Det Supt Steve Kirby
8 January 2018

2. Mr Malcolm Sinclair

- 2.1 Section 17.38.13 of the SIO closure report recorded that investigators from Operation Conifer were planning to take a statement of evidence from Mr Malcolm Sinclair on the 12 December 2017.
- 2.2 Mr Sinclair was seen on that date and provided a statement of evidence¹. Mr Sinclair described his contact with both Mr Paul Cahalan and Chief Constable Mike Veale. He also confirmed that he did not know Mr Cahalan prior to an unsolicited phone call from Mr Cahalan and that he still has no idea how Mr Cahalan came to have his contact details.
- 2.3 Mr Sinclair's evidence focused on his time as a police sergeant in what was known as the, Clubs' Office, between approximately 1977 and 1979.
- 2.4 The Clubs' Office was located in West End Central police station (London) and Mr Sinclair supervised a small team of approximately five officers. The role of the Clubs' Office was to supervise the night-time economy and the licensed premises in the Soho area of London. It pre-dated what later became known as the, 'vice squad'.
- 2.5 Mr Sinclair recalls supervising a Paul Holmes, along with other officers whose names he cannot recall. Mr Sinclair also explained that an Inspector Jones was his first line supervisor and that a Chief Superintendent Neil Diver had overall responsibility for the team's work.
- 2.6 Mr Sinclair explained that when he joined the team, they primarily investigated the management of brothels and those who were living off immoral earnings. Whilst working in the office, he became aware of a problem with young runaway boys who congregated outside Liberty's shop in Piccadilly Circus. The inference of the information was that they would wait in a specific location, known as the 'meat rack', for men to pick them up for the purposes of having sexual activity with them. Mr Sinclair does not recall that the team were specifically tasked to

¹ S197

look at this problem but they were always encouraged to be proactive with their investigations.

- 2.7 The team observed what took place along the 'meat rack' and Mr Sinclair states that it was clear that young boys, described as teenagers, were frequently picked up either by men in cars or were seen to walk away with men. On several occasions, Mr Sinclair saw a chauffeur driven Cadillac car stop on the 'meat rack' and pick up one of the boys. Mr Sinclair observed Mr Cyril Smith (MP) in that car. On one occasion, the Cadillac was followed from the meat rack to a residential block of flats in Cricklewood Broadway. Mr Smith was seen to enter a block of flats with the boy that had been picked up from the 'meat rack'.
- 2.8 In subsequent surveillance, four people were observed to frequent the same flat. They were identified as Cyril Smith (MP), Jeremy Thorpe (MP), Leon Britten (MP) and Sir Edward Heath. In relation to Sir Edward Heath, Mr Sinclair confirmed that he had been seen at the flat on more than one occasion but that it was not possible to say what Sir Edward Heath had physically been doing within the flat.
- 2.9 Mr Sinclair also recalled that they were able to evidence a link between Amsterdam and the meat rack, which was proved when young boy appeared to be trafficked between the two cities. Mr Sinclair cannot recall his name but remembered attending Bow Street Magistrates Court on two occasions to help prevent the boy from being sent to prison.
- 2.10 The team felt that there was potential to evidence the abuse of young boys at the flat in Cricklewood and an initial report was prepared for Chief Supt Diver's attention that requested authority to investigate it further.
- 2.11 Mr Sinclair recalled that Chief Supt Diver later tasked the team to proactively work on a brothel in Hanover Square. The team were described as "flabbergasted" that they were being diverted from the meat rack investigation and Mr Sinclair recalls that they were told that it was, "Not in the public interest to chase after high ranking MPs."

2.12 Mr Sinclair confirmed that since the telephone conversation with Mr Calahan, he had returned to the Cricklewood area but had been unable to identify the relevant flat. The area had changed too much.

2.13 Mr Sinclair also confirmed that he shared some of his information with Simon Danczuk (MP) in approximately 2013 or 2014. Mr Danczuk made an unsolicited call to him and that led to them meeting for coffee. It quickly became clear to Mr Sinclair that Mr Danczuk was not interested in Cyril Smith but was interested in promising a Channel 4 Dispatches programme. Mr Sinclair declined the opportunity to appear on the programme.

Relevant Enquiries

2.14 On 28 November 2017, an investigator from Operation Conifer spoke² to Mr Paul Cahalan who confirmed that he is a free-lance journalist. He stated that he had been looking at information in relation to allegations of abuse at Westminster for several years and that his information pre-dated the start of Op Conifer. Mr Calahan stated that in approximately 2014, a colleague of his knew an aide to Mr Simon Danczuk (MP). It was established that Mr Danczuk's office understood that during the late 1970s, the MPS were aware of vulnerable run-away boys being picked up from the "meat rack" in Piccadilly and taken to a flat in the Cricklewood area of London. Some of this information related to the activities of Mr Cyril Smith (MP) and others connected to Westminster. Mr Malcolm Sinclair had been named as one of the police officers involved in the operation and Mr Cahalan further understood that Mr Sinclair had spoken to Mr Danczuk.

2.15 Mr Cahalan confirmed that he had contacted Mr Sinclair who had spoken about another former police officer, Mr Paul Holmes, during the conversation. Mr Cahalan had traced Mr Holmes and shared his details with Operation Conifer.

2.16 On 30 November 2017, an investigator from Operation Conifer spoke to Mr Paul Holmes³ (who lives in Italy). Mr Holmes confirmed that he was a retired MPS officer and that during the late 1970s, he had worked with Mr Sinclair in the Clubs' Office.

² R13AZ

³ R13AX

- 2.17 Mr Holmes recalled that it was well known, at the time, that vulnerable young runaway boys would congregate in what was known as the ‘meat rack area of Piccadilly in London. Adult men would pick up those boys for sexual services.
- 2.18 Mr Holmes stated that in the late 1970s, he had received information from a registered informant that Mr Roddam Quinton Twiss was involved with arranging sexual activities between the boys from the meat rack and the men prepared to abuse them.
- 2.19 The information also suggested that Mr Twiss lived in a flat above a shop in The Broadway, Cricklewood. Mr Holmes was not able to name any victims, or identify any possible offenders, other than Mr Twiss, to the Operation Conifer investigator.
- 2.20 Mr Holmes explained that he had been informed, at the time, that Mr Twiss had convictions for fraud offences but that when he had researched him he had been unable to location any information about a Mr Roddam Twiss. Mr Holmes was also aware that Mr Twiss’s father was an Admiral Frank Twiss who held the position of ‘Black Rod’ at the Palace of Westminster.
- 2.21 Mr Holmes explained that in researching Mr Twiss, he had checked the collator’s office (local intelligence office) covering the Westminster district. He had found a collator’s card for Mr Roddam Twiss which had banned him from entering any area of Westminster but gave no detail about the specific information that was held against him. Mr Holmes considered this to be highly unusual.
- 2.22 Mr Holmes recalled that, in the company of Mr Malcolm Sinclair, they had followed Mr Roddam Twiss over a period of several weeks using the flat in Cricklewood as the starting point. They did not observe Mr Twiss openly committing offences but his activity included speaking to the boys on the meat rack and then visiting various premises. Mr Holmes gave an example of Mr Twiss “cruising” into Dolphin Square and visiting a property known to be associated with a low level member of the Royal family.
- 2.23 Mr Holmes also confirmed that he could not give any other evidence against Mr Twiss but that it was his opinion that Mr Twiss acted as a go-between.

- 2.24 Mr Holmes recalled that the Club’s Office team were called off their activities by a senior officer. They were not given any specific reason other than there needed to be a “reallocation of resources”. Mr Holmes could not recall the name of the supervisor who issued these instructions but thought it may have been either Chief Supt Brian Sparks or Chief Supt Eddie Jones. At the time, his instinct was that the team was too close to finding out what was actually going on and that they had deliberately been moved to another project in order to prevent them identifying the individuals involved.
- 2.25 Mr Holmes also stated that in approximately 2016, he had met with Simon Danczuk (MP) and an aide and/or advisor to Mr Danczuk who he thought was called Baker. Mr Danczuk had initially contacted him by telephone regarding his knowledge of inappropriate activities around Westminster. Subsequently the three of them had met at Portcullis House for a face to face meeting. Mr Holmes confirmed that the meeting took place after Mr Danczuk’s book on Mr Cyril Smith had been published.
- 2.26 Mr Holmes confirmed that a few weeks prior to the phone call with Operation Conifer, he had received an unsolicited call from a journalist by the name of Mr Paul Cahalan, regarding the same information and he assumed that his details had been shared with the Mr Cahalan by Mr Danczuk’s office.
- 2.27 Further to the call from Mr Cahalan, Mr Holmes researched Mr Roddam Twiss on Google and discovered that had been convicted for sexual offences against boys in 1967. Mr Holmes considered it highly unusual that there was no reference to that conviction when he had researched him in the 1970’s.
- 2.28 Mr Roddam Quinton Twiss, born [DPA]1939 (aged 78 years) does have a Police National Computer record⁴. This shows that Mr Twiss has used aliases of Mr Robert Twiss and Mr Arthur Black. The record shows his first conviction was in 1967, for seven sexual assaults against boys. Mr Twiss was also subsequently convicted for fraud and theft. The PNC record also provides information of possible addresses for Mr Twiss.

⁴ D1561

Further enquiries that remain ongoing

- 2.29 Enquiries continue⁵ to identify and locate (retired) Chief Supt Neil Diver, although it is assessed that he is likely to be deceased.
- 2.30 Enquiries⁶ also continue with the MPS to see whether there is any record of the report that was forwarded to Chief Supt Diver regarding the observed activities at the meat rack.
- 2.31 Enquiries⁷ continue to locate Mr Roddam Twiss.
- 2.32 Enquiries⁸ to confirm whether there are any records, for the relevant time, of court cases heard at Bow Street Magistrates Court where Mr Sinclair was a witness.

⁵ A1611

⁶ A1616

⁷ A1615

⁸ A1614