

INCIDENT J305 140103 A105566

OFFICER'S REPORT RECORD PRINT

DOCUMENT R11T

OFFICERS REPORT NUMBER R11T

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Instructions of the Senior Investigating Officer - DCI K [REDACTED] :-

This Officer Report is of a Sensitive Nature and is not to be typed.

Item Description:- Report DCI K [REDACTED] re
meeting with PONI 6//3/01

The original Officer Report is held in secure storage by the SIO.

W McDowell DSgt

02927)

OFFICER'S REPORT – D/CHIEF INSPECTOR K [redacted]

Subject: Directional Meeting with the Police Ombudsman
Date/Time: Tuesday 6.3.01 @ 12.30pm
Location: Offices of the Police Ombudsman, New Cathedral Buildings, Belfast
Present: Representing the Police Ombudsman
Mr. Dave Wood (Director of Investigations)
Mr. Chris Mehaffey (Senior Investigator)

Representing the Police Investigation Team
D/Chief Superintendent Stewart
D/Chief Inspector K [redacted]

Notes:

Further to the meeting with Mr. Kitson of the DPP on 28.2.01, there was further discussion to agree the investigative and prosecution strategies, which would be pursued from this point as we approach the arrest phase of the investigation. In presenting the best evidence possible which will support a prosecution against Robert Atkinson and the others, the discussions focused on two issues as central to progressing the investigation at this time which may help to achieve this purpose:

- (1) the planning arrangements, which were currently in place to achieve a successful implementation of the covert strategy
- (2) the evidential merits of this case as it stands against each of the suspects and the evidential issues concerning Andrea McKee giving evidence against the others.

It was agreed:

- As previously agreed, all suspects will be arrested at the same time. For logistical reasons, it is anticipated that arrests will be made in 4-5 weeks.
- Intrusive surveillance techniques will, where it is operationally possible to achieve a secure and concealed installation of the apparatus, be implemented against the 4 target addresses (ie Robert Atkinson, Michael McKee, Alistair Hanvey and Kenneth Hanvey) at the time of their arrests. It is hoped that this strategy will provide further evidence of the conspiracies, which can then be placed before a court.
- Andrea McKee will be interviewed at the time of the arrests of the other suspects. It was agreed that a course of action would be taken to determine Andrea McKee's ability and willingness to give evidence against the others and thereafter to finalise a relevant witness statement. The following issues were taken into consideration in deciding that Andrea McKee, if she is willing to do so, should be encouraged to give evidence in order that Robert Atkinson and the other suspects can be brought to justice:
 - (a) the evidence gathered to date in this investigation had provided corroborative and supportive evidence that supported the facts as alleged by Andrea McKee who was herself an accomplice to the conspiracy
 - (b) the circumstances in which Andrea McKee became involved in the conspiracy and her co-operation in providing investigators with information about the conspiracy
 - (c) Andrea McKee's evidence implicated the other suspects
 - (d) In being in a position to present the strongest case possible against these suspects, it is felt that if the intrusive surveillance strategy was not successful in providing an evidential product, Andrea McKee's evidence may be necessary to secure a reasonable prospect of conviction. It is felt that her evidence would assist in the prosecution of the other suspects

(e) A prosecution strategy to present Andrea McKee as a witness of truth was a legitimate course of action to pursue in these circumstances.

- In considering that the statements made by Andrea McKee on 20.6.00 and 25.10.00 represent evidence in the hands of the Police, the content of these statements will be put to the suspects during interview.

K [Redacted]

K [Redacted]

D/Chief Inspector

6.3.01