

Aug 28 2

INTERVIEW WITH SUPT P 136

Outlined sequence of events as outlined in Supt Short's report in respect of how the correspondence of 6.8.98. and 26.8.98. from NIO to Command (C.S.) was dealt with. Confirmed that the anonymous threatening letter (MH9/10) directed at Mrs. Nelson had not been sent with the 26 August letter (from Ms Foster).

Showed Supt P 136 a copy of MH9/10. When you were interviewed by Supt. Short on 14 December you stated that the first time that you saw a copy of that threat was around about 27 May 1999 following a query from the Press Office which caused you to check the Rosemary Nelson correspondence file held in C.S.

Yes that's the note. It was together with the receipt - rose - sitting in the inside cover

(As per MH9/10)

And that was the first time that you saw this threatening note?

Yes. The first time.

Do you recall a visit to C.S. on 30 March 1999 by Detective Constables Neville and Hassan from the Rosemary Nelson murder investigation?

No not really.

Very early into the enquiry we became aware that Mrs. Nelson had received a written threat. We were trying to trace the threatening letter or letters. You were visited on 30 March 1999. You checked the relevant file. There was a copy of the threatening leaflet "A Man Without a Future" but no copy of the threatening note. Do you recall that visit? Did they speak to anyone else in C.S?

(Referred to journal) Recall someone calling within days of the murder but don't know who that was shortly after the murder I made sure her papers/file were bundled together but I did not inspect the file.

(No Journal entry)

So you checked/did not check the file at that time? (300399)

No I did not check the file when I bundled it together. But I don't recall this visit by the detectives. Not saying didn't see but cannot remember it. Certainly cannot recall any discussion about a specific threat.

So it seems highly likely that a copy of the threatening note has been placed on the relevant C.S. file sometime between 30 March when the detectives called on you and 27 May when you again check the file but this time find a copy of the note. Any explanation?

(Those detectives also called at NIO and saw Lesley Foster. Could it have been because of their interest that you/someone in C.S. obtained a copy of the threatening note)

No, I would have checked the file @ some stage post murder but had I seen a copy of that threat note I would have immediately retrieved it & brought it to P 157, or CE attention

When the detectives visited you on 30 March 1999 and explain what they are looking for, did you not realise the significance of this threatening note to the threat assessment you had instigated in August 1998?

I can't remember any specific conversation re a threatening note. If there had been a detailed discussion or a specific reference to a threatening note I'm sure I would have picked up on that & said 'hold on what are we talking about here' there was a but

activity @ that time
 - telephone calls. SK
 called as he spoke to
 me. I think there were
 some visits to C.P.
 x different individuals.
 I'm sure if there had
 been detailed conversation
 about a threat note
 I would have made
 a journal entry &
 I have not.

Why did you not mention this to Supt. Short in December?

(NOT ASKED)

You said to Supt. Short that you were shocked when you found a copy of the threatening note in the file on 27 May:

YES

Yet only two months before detectives from the Rosemary Nelson murder had visited you and discussed this matter with you. Why should you be shocked?

That was actually the first time I'd seen it. I was perplexed as to where it had come from. I still am.

Had you seen the anonymous threatening note when you returned from leave in early September 1998 would your actions have differed?

EG would you have considered RUC Force Order 21/98 re threat warnings to have been relevant?

Would you have instigated a criminal investigation re this threat?

With it being addressed to Lew - it
 name direct. I would have sent that
 to South region for their assessment,
 including a criminal investigation
 to try to reverse original.
 I imagine I would also
 have passed it to E region
 for immediate threat
 assessment.

? RUC Force Order 21/98 applies?

A Yes. I would have
 regarded the order
 as being pertinent to
 this situation.