

**Irrelevant**





## Closing Report – Operation Hesper

PROTECTIVE MARKING	<b>Restricted</b>	FOIA EXEMPTION	<b>Partial</b>
SUITABLE FOR PUBLICATION SCHEME	<b>No</b>	DATE CREATED	<b>02/12/2016</b>
IPCC REFERENCE	<input type="text" value="DPA"/>	CRIS REFERENCE	<input type="text" value="DPA"/>
TITLE AND VERSION	<b>Closing Report for Op Hesper (Op Winter Key Professional Standards Team Investigation)</b>		
MODE OF INVESTIGATION	<b>Managed</b>		
INVESTIGATION TYPE	<b>Conduct</b> <input type="text" value="DPA"/>		
APPOINTED INVESTIGATOR <small>REG 24 POLICE (COMPLAINTS AND MISCONDUCT) REGULATIONS 2012</small>	<b>Detective Inspector Dan Setter</b>		
CASE OFFICER	<b>Civilian Investigator Craig Wallace</b>		
IPCC OFFICE AND LEAD INVESTIGATOR	<b>Holborn – Shirley George</b>		
<b>HANDLING INSTRUCTIONS</b> This document must be handled in accordance with the protective security marking shown at the bottom of the document and should not be disseminated to outside agencies/partners without the consent of the authorising officer & or Director DPS. This FOIA table must not be detached from this Document			

### Introduction

- 1) During the 1970's within the grounds of St James Park, an officer from the Royal Parks Police, John Hooper, together with two Dog handlers from the Metropolitan Police conducted a sweep of an area in the park and found a hard backed leather briefcase. The officers seized the brief case and took it to a police building to examine the contents and establish ownership.
- 2) Documents were apparently found in the briefcase in name of Sir Peter Hayman. Also found were envelopes containing black and white photographs of boys ages 8-11 years, dressed only in their 'Y fronts'.
- 3) The officers transferred the briefcase and contents to Cannon Row Police Station for recording purposes and handed the property to a station officer.
- 4) The initial allegation that this matter may have been covered up was made by a serving police officer, DC Andrew Gibbs Warrant Number  Gibbs provided a





full MG11<sup>1</sup>, in which he recalled being told about the brief case and the recovery of potential paedophile material connected to Peter Hayman, by parks officer, Hooper. Gibbs passed this information to DS Sue Thomas, DPS in May 2015.

### **Special Requirements (for Public Complaints)**

- 5) Special requirements do not apply to this investigation, as it is not a Public Complaint.

### **Severity Assessment**

- 6) A conduct matter has not been identified at any point during this investigation. A severity assessment is therefore not required.

### **Details of the investigation**

- 7) On the 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015 John Charles Hooper<sup>2</sup>, a retired Parks Police Officer was interviewed at his home address by Dc's Emma FEATHERSTONE and DC Michael STONEHOUSE. During the 1970's Hooper worked for the Royal Parks Police. His statement confirmed that whilst conducting a sweep of St James Park with two dog handlers from the Met, Pc's Derrick BARTLETT and Michael OLIVER, he found a leather effect briefcase with yellow metal clasps.
- 8) In an effort to identify the loser the officers took the property back to a police building within the park where the case was opened. Inside they found correspondence in the name of Sir Peter HAYMAN, together with three photographs of boys in their underpants. Hooper considered the ages of the boys were between 8 and 11 years. All three officers decided to take the property back to Canon Row Police Station for recording purposes.
- 9) Unaware of who Sir Peter Hayman was, the officers completed a check on the name and realised that he was the Queens High Commissioner to Canada. Arriving at Canon Row, Hooper spoke to a sergeant about the items that had been found. The supervisor took the briefcase from the officers and apparently said, 'Keep your gobs shut and don't say anything'.
- 10) Property found in such circumstances would have been recorded in either Book 99 (property found in the street), or Book 66 (property relating to crime, or found in other circumstances). Hooper did not have access to these records and was not in a

<sup>1</sup> Appendix 1B MG11 - Andrew GIBBS

<sup>2</sup> Appendix 1C MG11 - John Charles HOOPER





- 23) This investigation was referred to the IPCC because there was an indication that officers or staff may have committed a criminal offence/behaved in a manner which would justify bringing disciplinary proceedings.

### Terms of Reference

- 24) The IPCC subsequently took the decision to manage the investigation and applied Terms of Reference<sup>7</sup>.

### Conclusion

- 25) John Hooper has provided two statements to the investigating officers, neither of which highlights any criminality nor any evidence of corruption. In the first statement Hooper states that he saw three photos. None of the boys in the photos were naked, all were wearing white Y-front pants and none were engaged in sexual activity nor appeared, on Hooper's assessment to "be scared or under duress".
- 26) It is acknowledged that Hooper's recollection does not mean the children were not victims of abuse, but without more, his assessment must be considered as subjective, but potentially significant.
- 27) The briefcase and its contents have not been located, however Hooper's statement is partly supported by a statement obtained in Operation Magnolia<sup>8</sup>. This relates to property connected to Hayman that was found on a London Bus. A former Police officer, Brian Collins, who worked on the Obscene Publications team in the late 1970's, refers to a brief case found in a park that contained pornography linked to diplomat Sir Peter Hayman.
- 28) Brian Collins made a statement in which he indicates that documents were passed to his team and it is possible that these are the same documents Hooper is referring to. This was a matter linked to the Paedophile Information Exchange (PIE). During his investigation Collins realised that Peter Henderson was in actual fact Sir Peter Hayman. Hayman received a caution in relation to this matter. This is corroborated by a letter<sup>9</sup> sent to The Director of Public Prosecutions by the Assistant Commissioner stating '*Henderson, (Sir Peter Hayman), who, having been cautioned disclaimed all property*'.
- 29) Due to the passage of time and the lack of any other physical evidence it cannot be said conclusively that the events relate to the same incident. That said they are so

<sup>7</sup> Appendix 1H IPCC TOR

<sup>8</sup> Brian Collins 1I MG11 Statement obtained from Operation Magnolia

<sup>9</sup> Appendix 1J Letter to DoPP from the Assistant Commissioner dated the 17<sup>th</sup> July 1981