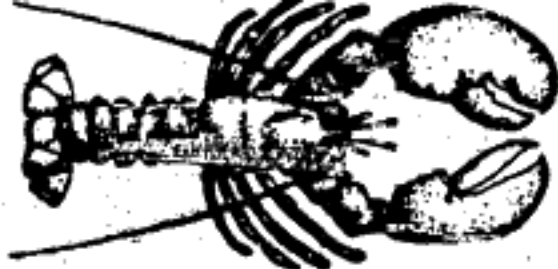


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The Lobster



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- Kincora: More Bodies
- The Police and Computers: Some Recent Developments
- American Friends: the Anti-CND Groups
- Notes on the Activity, Grenada
- Reviews
 - Through The Looking Glass: British Foreign Policy In An Age Of Illusions
 - War and Order (Researching State Structures)
 - The Investigative Researchers Handbook
 - Secret Police
 - The Killing of Karen Silkwood
 - The Puzzle Palace: America's National Security Agency and Its Relationship with Britain's GCHQ
- Clippings Digest: September-December 1983

Editorial

A number of the obvious questions about an enterprise like this can now be answered.

1. Can we do an issue every 2 months or so? Yes: the problem is the reverse. We actually have more material than we really know what to do with at the moment.
2. Will other people begin writing for it? Yes. We're starting to receive material. And more is always welcome. No 4 should see the first of the submitted work.
3. Will it pay for itself? Just about we think. But we certainly could do with more subs and more retail outlets. If there's anyone reading this who lives near a radical bookshop and would take a few in on a trial sale/return basis, please get in touch.

In general we've been very pleased with the response we have received - especially to No2, the issue on the assassination. Seems to us there are more people interested in the question than many people realise. We will be doing more on it, probably in the summer.

Predicting future issues is always a little dodgy. For example we had planned a large piece on flight 007 for this issue but then R.W. Johnson in the Guardian pre-empted what we would have produced. But it is safe to say that among the pieces in preparation by us or other people are: computers in NI: more on the police use of computers in this part of the UK; the assassination of Airey Neave; the theft of North Sea Oil; and a bibliography on Italy since 1970. Plus, of course, the continuing clippings service, reviews etc.

Steve Dorril is still researching SAS in Vietnam and would like to hear from anyone with information, no matter how slight it may appear, on that subject.

Robin Ramsay/Steve Dorril

Cover drawing by George Mallalieu

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Sally Walker for the use of her typewriter; to George Mallalieu for the cover drawing; and to Colin Challen at Voice for speedy printing.

Kincoragate: More Bodies

Steve Dorril

Sir George Terry's report on Kincora has at last been made public. But if Terry had hoped to quash further speculation he failed.(1) In a second debate in the Northern Ireland Assembly on Kincora there was widespread criticism of the report, particularly of Terry "stepping outside his brief" in suggesting that the matter need no more investigation. The Assembly called on James Prior, N.I. Secretary of State, to "announce the setting up of a judicial inquiry." (Irish News 10th November 1983) This he did on January 18th.

Released quietly on a Saturday morning in a clear attempt to minimise publicity, Terry's conclusions - for only the conclusions were published - centred on the allegations of the homosexual vice-ring at the boys home involving British Intelligence. Terry described the allegations as fictional and, even though the journalists who had uncovered the scandal had received information from an RUC 'deep throat', laid most of the blame for their circulation on journalists.(2)

Terry probably aimed the report at the mainland where Kincora has received little attention. By undermining the credibility of the journalists he hoped to keep the lid on Kincora's darker side - the involvement of British Intelligence and the piling up of bodies connected to the boys home. His bottom line was that the battle against terrorism was the first priority, which left little time for the authorities to adequately investigate the allegations - an excuse as feeble as that other establishment cop-out, 'in the interests of National Security'.

George Terry actually had little to do with the investigation which was carried out by two of his former subordinates: Chief Supt. Gordon Harrison and Chief Insp. Dick Henley. An original report on the affair by these two was apparently scrapped, no doubt because the material they uncovered strayed inevitably into the British Intelligence connection. Henley, Special Branch, has since been promoted to Superintendent.

The investigation could never claim to be 'independent'. Terry's links to British Intelligence through his Chairmanship of Polygraph Security Services, which imports the lie-detector, are worth investigation. Harrison was Special Branch liaison officer between the Sussex Police and MI5, and the officer who interrogated Captain Colin Wallace in Brighton after Wallace killed his lover's husband. Small world.(3)

* * *

Still unreleased is the 'Whiteside Inquiry'. In December 1981 R.U.C. Chief Sir John Hermon set up an internal investigation to discover what happened to missing files and why the Kincora buggers weren't prosecuted earlier. In charge was Assistant Chief Constable John Whiteside. Another 'independent' choice, Whiteside was a former head of Special Branch and the R.U.C. man most closely linked with British Intelligence during the seventies. He was a former R.U.C. member of the Security Liaison Committee set up by Sir Maurice Oldfield.

* * *

Gradually the pieces are coming together, though it will turn out to be a very large jigsaw. Britain's Secret Intelligence Service (MI6) set up a Northern Irish section in the Conway Hotel at Dunmurray. Headed by Frank Howard Smith with Philip Woodhead as his desk man in London, MI6 handled their Kincora agents through a number of 'cut-outs' - the normal way of distancing SIS officers from events which might go wrong. The man who orchestrated the various activities of the Kincora Ring has been identified as a Lt. Colonel in the British Army, (4) attached to the E Department (Special Branch) of the R.U.C. whose staff code was F5. The links between F5 and Kincora were known by E3 (the Superintendent in charge of the intelligence section of the R.U.C. at Knock H.Q.) and his deputy in charge of intelligence on Loyalists, a Chief Inspector whose code was E3(B). The Terry Report uncovered, though did not report, links between the homosexual vice-ring and senior MI5 member P.T.E. 'Peter' England, now dead. Kincora resident John Baird visited England at a house on the Old Hollywood Road in Belfast. The house was a Brit-intelligence base used as a pickup point for Provisional IRA leaders during the peace talks in 1976 which led to the setting up of Republican 'Incident Centres' paid for by the British. England was then C(Int)NI - the Chief of British Intelligence in Northern Ireland, a key figure in the Security Service (MI5).

Another senior intelligence man involved in the vice-ring directed, but took no part in the 'truce' talks at British Intelligence HQ in Craigavan, Co. Down. He moved to a crucial position in Britain's defence structure. R.U. C. men have made statements about his homosexual associations. The Provisionals dealt with him indirectly through MI6 officer James Allan.(5) In a bizarre twist the Provos became convinced from contacts abroad that he was a KGB agent.(6)

Who Is/Was Who

Brian McDermott - aged 11, was found in the River Lagan, Sept. 1973, not far from the Kincora home. His body had been mutilated.

Stephen Waring, a teenager who had been sexually abused at Kincora, ran away from another home to which he had been sent and made his way to Liverpool. He was picked up by police and put on the Ulster Monarch Ferry that night so that the R.U.C. could pick him up at the other end. He never arrived. Passengers saw a boy fall into the water. An R.U.C. inquiry into details given by Liverpool police reported that "it was not established, and no evidence was produced or tendered, that directly (emphasis added) connected his death with misconduct at Kincora".

Pastor Billy Mullan, a close friend of Ian Paisley, William McGrath and Joss Cardwell, was found dead with a legally held gun beside him during the probe into Kincora.

Robert Bradford MP, a former member of Tara and close associate of McGrath, was shot dead in the middle of the R.U.C. investigation. R.U.C. men privately claim that he was set-up for the killing in the same way that British Intelligence tried to set up the assassination of Ian Paisley in 1974.

Roy Garland, young Unionist leader, friend of Paisley, protege of

McGrath and founder member of Tara is still alive.

John McKeague at the beginning of the seventies was the most important paramilitary figure in N. I. He had overthrown Terence O'Neil by a series of 'agent provocateur' bombings and street disturbances which backed Paisley's political agitation with devastating effect. He became leader of the Red Hand Commando Loyalist paramilitary group set up with the help of British Intelligence as a pseudo-gang. It was directed from 'Six' local HQ in the Culloden Hotel at Craigavad, beside MI6 administrative HQ in Laneside House on Station Road.

Michael Wright a young UDA man associated with McKeague, was killed in a mystery booby-trap explosion. UDA issued statement saying he was murdered by the Security Forces 'dirty tricks' department.

John Hiddlestone is still alive. He recently returned from South Africa and is now apparently living in fear, having been branded a British agent by the UDA. He is a former activist in a number of right-wing Protestant paramilitary groups, including Ulster Vanguard and the United Ulster Unionist Party. In the mid 1970s he edited the National Front's Northern Ireland journal 'British Ulsterman', printed by John McKeague who he knew well. It has been suggested that Hiddlestone was reporting to British Intelligence on contacts between Loyalist groups, the NF and South African right-wingers besides his 'pseudo-gang' activity. (see *Searchlight* No 99, September 1983) Independent sources in South Africa and London suggest that another man, a former member of McGrath's Ireland's Heritage Orange Lodge, and a UVF supporter, is among the most influential in building links between South Africa and Ulster. (Sunday News 24/7/83).

Edgar Graham, Unionist politician although not directly connected to Kincora, he seems to have suffered the fate of Bradford and McKeague when he became an embarrassment to British Intelligence. Graham was working in secret on the infamous 'romper room' killings in which 22 Catholics were assassinated over a short period in East Belfast in 1972. Evidence emerged that linked the killings to senior British officials who were directed from London by Sir Maurice Oldfield, then Head of MI6. Graham also discovered that vital official papers connected to the case, including the transcript of all court hearings, were missing.

A soldier in the Royal Irish Rangers (RIR) and ex-SAS man, Albert Baker, confessed to the killings, admitting that he had helped to set up a pseudo-gang to terrorise Catholics. He had also infiltrated the UDA in 1972 to 1973. None of the others in the gang were ever charged with murder, but Baker was jailed after pleading guilty. He was secretly visited in his cell by Lord Windlesham, then Minister of State at Stormont. He was later taken by plane to Ireland. Today he is not to be found in any British prison. His family, quickly relocated in England, admitted he had been working for Military Intelligence.

It is suggested that information was supplied by British Intelligence to Republican gunmen enabling them to kill Graham. At the time of his

death he was investigating the role Military Intelligence played in framing three UDA men who were charged with the 'romper room' killings but later discharged. (Sunday News 18/12/83)

Michael Bettaney the former intelligence officer now on remand at Brixton prison may have connections to Kincora. A high flier, Bettaney found himself in 'F' Department, the section which deals with Irish affairs. He arrived in Northern Ireland at the height of the Kincora vice-ring. Bettaney is homosexual and while at Oxford was involved in Nazi politics, forming a right-wing student alliance at the University. He was charged with passing on British Intelligence assessments of a KGB network operating in Britain, and of disclosing details of the expulsion of three Soviet diplomats from Britain in April 1983. Soon after the court appearance (Bettaney was on loan to the MOD) a government spokesman stated that no one had been expelled from the country. True, but a few days earlier Mr Guennadi Saline (codename 'Silver') First Secretary and Press Attache to the Soviet Embassy in Dublin, was expelled from Eire, as were Victor Lipassov and his wife Evotokia. Mrs Lipassov is believed to be a KGB agent and to have used the lack of passport regulations between Ireland and Britain to travel to areas restricted to diplomats. She made at least three visits to Britain using scheduled flights. (*Times* 12th September 1983). The man handling the case is old Irish hand Det. Supt. John Wescott of Scotland Yard's Special Branch. He has made frequent visits to the Phoenix Park in Northern Ireland where all the intelligence stuff goes on. Bettaney's lawyer is Larry Grant, on the MI5 blacklist of lawyers, a former chairman of NCCL whose previous clients include Philip Agee and Kenneth Lemon.

Notes

1. See *Lobster* 1 for article on Kincoragate. This follow-up piece is based on articles which have appeared in the excellent Irish magazine *The Phoenix* - 44 Baggot St, Dublin 2; subs £12 per 26 issues - specifically issues 7th January, 16th September, 11th November and 9th December 1983.
2. Referring to the Kincora article in *Lobster* 1, it has been pointed out that Robert Fisk's landlady, whose husband was in the RUC, was probably a plant. It would be an easy way to keep an eye on a journalist who received leaked papers and information.
3. More on Wallace. His wife, Eileen, was personal secretary to the Duke of Norfolk, the same Duke accused by Charles Haughey of being a British spy chief. In September 1983 the RUC leaked to the Belfast Newsletter the information that a file on British Army psy ops (black propaganda) was missing when the Terry investigators went to look for it. They were told that it had been sent to the MOD in London and that it could not be seen because of the Official Secrets Act. No doubt it revealed the activities of Wallace.
4. Could this be Lt. Col. Sidney Hawker, a member of the 'Ulsterisation' Committee?
5. Allan became head of the Overseas Information Department (the I.R.D. as was) in 1979. He directed the propaganda campaign against Arthur MacGraig's film on Ireland, 'The Patriot Game'. In January 1981 he was made High Commissioner to Mauritius.
6. Nominations? The descriptions fit Sir Frank Cooper, ex Permanent Under-

- Secretary at the Ministry of Defence. Sir Frank has recently retired and been appointed a Director of Westland, one of the MOD's biggest suppliers. KGB?!
7. The Alliance Party's Mr John Cusnahan said in the Northern Ireland Assembly (*Irish News* 10th Nov 1983) that he believed a number of Assembly members had been actively involved in Tara. He gave a short history of Tara, including alleged gun-running and the organisation's receiving various types of weapons and plastic explosives.

The *Sunday News* (22nd May 1983) gave details of a paper given to trainee spies at the Joint Services Intelligence Centre at Ashford Kent. It reads "Tara is a Loyalist organisation which is shrouded in mystery, but is basically a small 'hate-taig' group of homosexuals. They are all evangelists and one of its aims is the proscription of the Catholic Church. It has aspirations to become a paramilitary organisation". The paper is dated April 1977, but was still being used to train intelligence officers in 1980, although homosexuality was illegal at that time in Northern Ireland.

The Police and Computers: Some Recent Developments

Robin Ramsay

Most, if not all police forces already have, or are in the process of acquiring information handling computers of some kind. The background to the present situation is best described in the pamphlet *The Police Use Of Computers*, parts of which were reproduced in *State Research No 29*, and were used by the National Computer Centre's *Privacy In The Computer Age*. (1)

To date the police use of computers has been fragmented, with individual forces acquiring a variety of systems. In part this is a result of the traditional autonomy of the individual police force; in part the consequence of learning to apply new technology. The police (and the software companies) have spent the last few years learning how to do it. (2)

But now the Home Office (which pays half the costs of a force's computer development) appears to be trying to introduce a degree of standardisation in police computer systems through its involvement in the development of the joint Humberside/Kent computer. Humberside's Chief Constable wrote recently that

"The Home Office looks to the proposed system as future standard for the whole of the Police Service." (3)

How successful this belated standardisation will be is unpredictable. Police forces in this country are keen to retain their operational autonomy, but how long this will survive this government's assault on the general autonomy of local government remains to be seen.(4)

But even if the Kent/Humberside system is not exactly replicated throughout the rest of the currently computer-less forces, it at least indicates what the Home Office would *like* to see, and thus may tell us something about the "national strategy " referred to in

the 1981 Report of the Chief Inspector of Constabulary, and the "National Standards Manual" referred to in the 1982 Annual Report of the Chief Constable of Kent.

Until recently much of the anxiety about the police use of computers was focused on the applications of computers to police intelligence gathering. This anxiety was reflected in the report of the Lindop Committee on Data Protection which drew a sharp distinction between criminal records ("factual and verifiable") and criminal intelligence ("hearsay, speculative suppositional and unverifiable"). Just how suppositional, unverifiable and speculative police intelligence can be is illustrated by these quotations from some intelligence sheets which were leaked from the Skelmersdale Police. These are items (with the names and addresses changed by us) from the Skelmersdale Collators' Office.

The Right Man For The Job

John Smith (10.10.56) (damage) of Almond Avenue, Padlington - known affectionately to his CB mates as 'Tonka Toy' - paid another return visit to our fair Division at 3.30 am on Friday 10.9.82 when he was stop/checked in his nifty yellow Capri RTD 432Y in Alton Road, Skem. Gracefully reclining in the passenger seat was none other than school breaker and suspected druggie Alan Patson (31/3/62) (wounding burglary theft, damage) of First Avenue Orrell, whose unforgettable features are pictured left. Smith, a State benefit subscriber, augments his hard-earned dole by working on the door at Wigan Pier keeping out (other) undesirables. Smith and Patson are well acquainted with the finer points of our Division and are worth every stop/check they can get.

On A Higher Plane

The Age of Enlightenment Company - a mystical meditation - type set-up based in Skem - attracts seekers of truth from some very exotic places and the latest recruit would appear to be Michael Paul Williams (28/3/54) who hails from 43 Ivanhoe Drive - a part of Glasgow more familiarly known as The Gorbals. Williams, who was checked on his Honda 500 motorbike OTX 65T on Stardive Road at 1.20 am on Friday 12/9/82 was apparently bound over (in the Met) for possessing explosives - but not convicted as such. His address in Skem is 23 Albeck Road, the home of a Mary Simmons.

Your Every Wish

The ever-fortunate residents of the Beaconview Old Peoples' Home in Kiln Lane, Skem, are currently benefitting from the attentions of John Andrew Wilson (3.2.64) (burglary, theft) of 223 Fairview L12, who is taking part in Hindley Borstal's Community Scheme. Wilson's spell of duty at the home terminates on 15.10.82

Comment is probably superfluous, but notice how the second contains something which is extraordinarily improbable - being bound over for explosives; how the first contains suspicions and prejudice ('State benefit subscriber'); and how the third manages to make it 'obvious' that any offence in the vicinity of the Home mentioned is going to be the work of the individual named. Notice, too - and this is a feature of most of the 9 items on the Skelmersdale Collator Sheets we have - that none of the stop/checks carried out lead to anything. Nothing, that is except an increase in police intelligence. Finally, it would be interesting to know (a) how the police know when an

individual is unemployed and (b) how they know an individual's CB sign. (Or did they just ask?)

When you add this kind of quality to the fact that if Thames Valley and Lothian and Borders Police are any kind of guide, the police have files on 10% of the population (most of which are files on people without criminal records), and that's 10% *before* information handling was computerised, then paranoia-inducing fantasies about 'police states' don't sound quite so over the top.(5)

Possibly in response to the criticism of the computerisation of police intelligence files, in 1983 the Home Office produced a definition of the "computerised criminal information system" (CIS from now on) in which the distinction between fact and hearsay disappears. A CIS is one which

"records information hitherto kept on paper relating to criminals, crime and criminal activities. The Home Office does not distinguish between criminal information and criminal intelligence for this purpose."

In a sense this definition is true to the police's own practice: the clear distinction between fact and hearsay by the Lindop Committee is not recognized by the police themselves. In Humberside, for example, the criminal *records* are part of the *Intelligence Unit* . In the Humberside Chief Constable's Report for 1977, a sense of the values and priorities of the police is revealed when the report says

"The Criminal Intelligence/Record Unit will also be the central office for all Police National Computer enquiries. Staff have been selected and are now being trained....to provide a 24 hour service supporting PNC enquiries with all-in force indices and records." ('force indices' is police jargon for intelligence files.) (6)

The Humberside/Kent system set out below embodies the blurring of 'records' and 'intelligence'. (7) The crucial categories are Crime Reporting and Criminal Information.

"The Crime/Offence report carries a great deal of intelligence. It provides details of all suspects and witnesses and a police officer's subjective interpretations. It can also provide a record of any person detained for questioning, charged and arrested, and of action taken (if any) against individuals. It deals with race....it deals with personality, whether or not a person is judged by the police to be excitable, arrogant, effeminate, a liar, or whether the person requires to be dealt with firmly or responds to sympathy. It records cheque accounts and credit card numbers. Finally it has a large section for the individual officer to make comments about the crime that has been committed." (8)

The scale of the intelligence that is available through the crime report is suggested in a recent article which estimated that if the 686,000 crime reports in London in 1982 had been computerised, they would reveal the names and addresses of up to 3 million people. (9)

Humberside Police – Future Applications

Crime Reporting (Go Live 1985)

For each crime reported to the Police there will be a corresponding computer file within the Crime Reporting Application. This file will consist of a number of pages of information which can be summarised under the following headings of identification details, aggrieved and offence details, method used, property details, offender/wanted person details, and general information. The data needed to create a crime record within the Crime Reporting Application will be provided from the crime report. On creation of this record, the information contained therein will be automatically transferred and validated by the operator against the information held on the crime report. Crimes will be weeded from the system after three years.

Criminal Information (Go Live 1985)

The system will store the details of all criminals in Humberside who have been convicted of a recordable offence. Each record will consist of sets of data covering the following areas: description, names, addresses, vehicles, M.O, convictions, checks, general information and fingerprints. The file will be searchable both directly on keys such as name and indirectly on items such as height, sex, etc. The primary use of the system is to improve operational access to information. The system will be used in the administrative procedures to produce internal forms and lists of convictions for court. The system will have automatic weeding of records and data within records and procedures for reviewing information when it is put on. Backup will be by means of microfiche containing limited information.

Message Switch (Go Live 1985)

The message switch (MSX) will allow the despatch and receipt of messages between terminals (VDU to VDU or VDU to printer). It will replace the existing teleprinter network and expand to all stations within the force area making a speedier and more efficient message passing service. It will be possible to re-transmit PNC generated messages to the force. There will be a telex link but this will be manual.

P.N.C. Interface (Go Live 1985)

The PNC interface will enable the VDUs on the local computer network to access the PNC files as if they were PNC dedicated terminals. It is proposed to limit the updating capability - this function being performed centrally at a PNC bureau using PNC dedicated terminals.

Command and Control

Pursuant to the reorganisation of the force, a research project has been commenced with a view to determining the most effective manner in which to command and control resources. This may lead to a form of computerised command and control system, the implementation of which would not be anticipated until 1987 or after.

Criminal Information

In this function criminal records (details of convictions) and police intelligence are being combined. The old paper criminal record files account for the following

categories in the Criminal Information package of the CIS:

- description, name, MO and fingerprints

while the other categories

- vehicles, checks and general information

are categories of information which would have been called 'intelligence' before the new Home Office definition.

Information on vehicle ownership will presumably come mainly from the PNC's duplicate of the DVLC records in Swansea. 'Checks' refers to stop/checks of individuals (referred to frequently in the Skelmersdale collator sheets) which are processed through the force's Intelligence Unit. What 'general information' might include is anybody's guess. This quotation from a member of Lothian and Borders police gives some sense of the possibilities:

"Every name we have here is in fact the life of the person as we have it. Take this man here. He was convicted in the sixties and all this information has been compiled since then. I can tell you who he was associating with in 1969, who he was living with and where he was living right up to the present day. We've got a record of all his known associates, previous addresses, cars he's used and all the cross references." (Detective Inspector, Crime Intelligence.) (10)

Notice too, that the system will be "searchable...on items such as height and sex etc", a function designed to allow the police to carry out speculative searches of the data base.

It isn't possible from the sketches of the system given above to work out the relationship between the criminal records and the intelligence files. If this account of the system is accurate (and there is no guarantee of that) it would seem that the computer will only carry files on people who have criminal records, and the criminal record will form the basis of the computer entry supplemented by material from the intelligence files. The obvious inference is that the intelligence files on people without a criminal record - and from Kinsey and Baldwin's research that would be at least 50% of the files - will remain as paper files. But without seeing the Operational Requirements of the system it is impossible to know anything for sure. And at present the Humberside Police Committee just don't have the political bottle that their Merseyside counterparts had and are unlikely ever to persuade the Chief Constable to cough up the details of the system. (11)

Even if this apparent separation of 'criminals' for the computer and non-criminals kept on paper is built into the system, is there anything to prevent the transfer of (non-criminal) intelligence to the computer? The PNC, which is supposed to only store factual information, is known to have intelligence stored in it. Indeed, Humberside's Chief Constable casually admits doing so in his report for 1980:

"manually maintained indices are occasionally transferred to the computer." (ie to the PNC)

I find it difficult to believe that Intelligence Unit will carry on for long with its

laborious card indexes when it has a computer terminal at its elbow.

The introduction of computerized information processing has a major impact on policing at ground level. The job specification of an area constable in Lothian and Borders Police (which acquired one of the first Criminal Information Systems) includes this:

"He/she should: (a) secure the services of at least one observer in every street, not a paid professional informant, but someone who knows the inhabitants and is inquisitive enough to find out what is going on and who is willing to pass on such information gained:His/her effectiveness will to some degree be judged by the amount of information he/she feeds to the records of local crime intelligence." (11)

And while the increasing stress on intelligence gathering was taking place in the 1970s before the introduction of computer-based information handling, only with the computer's assistance can this kind of intensive information gathering be usefully handled.

On Humberside, after a flurry of anxiety within the Labour Party, the Humberside Police Committee awoke briefly from its slumbers, and asked the Chief Constable to produce the Operational Requirements of the system. He refused, instead offering them a lecture on the system by one of the officers involved in its development. This they accepted.

The campaign on Humberside has been made possible by the unprecedented actions of the Merseyside Police Committee which used its powers of financial approval of police expenditure to block Merseyside Police's computer plans. The Committee refused to fund either a crime reporting or a criminal intelligence software package, and forced the police to accept a number of safeguards on the use of the system. (12) This amounted to a de facto extension of the powers of the Police Committee under the 1964 Police Act. (13) Unfortunately the safeguards Merseyside insisted on will become illegal under the Data Protection Bill, and the Merseyside Police will be rid of their troublesome Police Committee when that tier of local government is abolished by the government.

Legislation on its way through Parliament will greatly increase police access to other data banks. The Police and Criminal Evidence Bill will allow the police to seize information on other computers. And any information transferred to police computers can become exempted from the (minimal) safeguards and rights of access provided for under the Data Protection Bill. (14)

At the back of all the (rational) paranoia of those interested in civil liberties is the spectre of the national police computer network. This isn't with us yet, but the signs are there.

"All criminal records in Scotland, at present filed on paper, are to be put into a central computer system...the new system will be linked to the 8 Scottish forces' computers and to the Police National Computer in Hendon." (15)

By the early 1990s when all the English and Welsh forces have their Criminal

Information Systems, and they're all linked to the Police National Computer, something very much akin to a national computer system, with the PNC at its hub, will be a reality. (16)

NOTES

1. *The Police Use of Computers* by Chris Pounder and Stuart Anderson. Available from TAGS, 100 Findhorn Place, Edinburgh. Last I heard there were a few copies (at £2) still available.

Privacy In The Computer Age by G. L. Simmons (Manchester 1982)

I have had the advantage of a look at some forthcoming papers by Chris Pounder and a draft of a couple of chapters of the book he is writing on this subject. The misinterpretations, of course, are mine own.

2. A good general account of this is Andrew Lawrence in *Datalink* 5th December 1983. On the problems police computers are causing the software companies, see Lawrence in *Datalink* 4th July 1983.
3. Report by Chief Constable of Humberside in Agenda for Humberside Police Committee 19th December 1983.
4. An example of that police autonomy is in the Lawrence story of 4th July (see note 2 above)
5. Figures from *Police Powers and Politics*, reviewed below, Chapter 3.
6. This quote could even be read as suggesting that PNC enquiries are the core of the intelligence system. And maybe they are: Humberside Police make more than 1000 *per day* to the PNC.
7. This description is reproduced from the Association of Chief Police Officers' *The Police Use of Computers*. The book (if it is a book: we've never seen the whole thing) is not available to the public. We obtained a couple of pages.
8. Chris Pounder *Data Protection, Criminal Information Computers and the UK Police* forthcoming in CILIP, a West German civil liberties journal.
9. *Policing London* April/May 1983 p11
10. *Police Powers* (see note 5) p80
11. *Police Powers* (see note 5) p288
12. This very important event was absurdly underreported at the time. See *Times* 29th April 1983 and *Computer Weekly* 9th December 1983.
13. Discussed at length in State Research No 31. For a general account of police accountability see *Police Powers* (see note 5). For the views of Merseyside's Police Committee Chairperson, Margaret Simey, see her essay in *Policing The Riots* ed. Cowell, Jones and Young. (Junction Books, London 1982)
14. This is discussed in a paper forthcoming in *Computing*. I have ripped off and severely abbreviated a section of that paper here.
15. See *Times* 16th August 1983
16. There is an excellent drawing of what this system will look like in Lawrence (see note 2 above, first reference)

The Policing Revolution: Police Technology, Democracy and Liberty in Britain

Sarah Manwaring-White (Harvester Press, Brighton 1983)

Is very good, is this. In 220 pages the author manages to combine a history of the British Police, a survey of its current technology, and some of the uses to which it has been put recently. The density of the information and the author's brisk style give the reader a fairly hair-raising gallop through the development and present day reality of our computer-based techno-police. It's rather like reading all the scary bits from the whole of State Research at one sitting.

There's a little too much attention paid to the minutiae of some of it. There's this, for example, in a page devoted to police revolvers:

"A revolver is a handgun in which a series of barrels, or a cylinder with a series of chambers bored centrally through it, revolve around a central axis. Each barrel or chamber can be activated by the firing mechanism in turn."

Yes, well I think we knew that already, didn't we? And there's a quite pointless skim across the surface of police forensics. But this is quibbling. Her intention was a comprehensive survey - hence a discussion of police revolvers -and that, as far as I am able to tell, is what this is.

Incredibly, Harvester Press haven't seen fit to provide us with an index.

Police Powers and Politics

Robert Baldwin and Richard Kinsey (Quartet 1982)

Police Powers and Politics by Robert Baldwin and Richard Kinsey (Quartet 1982) has a different focus. Where Manwaring-White surveys current police practice primarily through the development of police technology (surveillance, information handling, weaponry etc.), Baldwin and Kinsey produce a critical look at British policing via sociological observation of a particular (but unnamed) police force. I think this book is going to have a considerable impact on critical thinking about the police, though not, perhaps, in the way the authors may have hoped.

They use their study as a back-drop for a wide-ranging survey whose scope can be seen from the chapter headings of what follows the research section. The bits in brackets are mine, by the way. The Local Politics of Accountability (Police Committees, their impotence, complaints against the police, their handling); The Police and The Law (their account of an incredible muddle); Reforming The Law or Legalizing Abuse (political machinations leading up to the formation of the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure which produced the Criminal Evidence Bill); The Poverty of the Royal Commission; Community Policing and Scarman On The Riots (critiques of both).

These chapters seem to me (no expert) to be extremely useful and clear guides through the legislative and political manoeuvrings of recent years. But I suspect that what will be fastened on is their chapter on local intelligence gathering. For by showing us how

local police intelligence gathering actually works in one force they have blown the gaff on one of the Police's major secrets. This chapter is too complex to be summarised here, but at its core is the information that the force they studied held intelligence files on at least 10% of the population, and at least 50% of those files were on people without a criminal record. Perhaps it is over-stating things to call such intelligence gathering a 'secret'; similar figures have emerged in the past. But it is certainly something the police are none too keen that the public should be aware of, and this is the longest and most explicit account that I am aware of.

Their analysis of so-called 'community policing' should thrust upon anyone who has gained the impression that ex Chief Constable (now SDP Parliamentary candidate) John Alderson's regime in Devon and Cornwall was a 'good thing'. The scale of police involvement in 'community schemes' and quasi-social work activities of one sort or another is only just beginning to emerge. In the December issue of the County Councils' Gazette, for example, there is a brief (but enthusiastic) account of Staffordshire Police's Activity and Community Enterprise for Youth scheme, in which 30,000 school children were brought under the police's umbrella for the summer holidays of 1982. Similar police-initiated 'community activities' are starting up all over the country, apparently without any serious consideration of the implications of such an extension of the police's role.

Kinsey and Baldwin note (p257) that

"Community policing is all very well when administered by a charismatic liberal but it could easily turn into a fearsome machine for surveillance if placed in the wrong hands."

But they've got it wrong. Current policing, including 'community policing', as their research shows, is a 'machine for surveillance'. So-called 'community policing' just extends the range of those under that surveillance. Humberside's Chief Constable rather gives the game away when he describes the 'Neighbourhood Constable' (aka Community Policeman) as

"extremely effective barometers within the community, sensing changes of attitude and signs of disquiet and frustration. Also, because they are so well known they gather a great deal of information". (Report for 1982)

It may be that 'charismatic liberals' (Alderson) will be able to run 'community policing' (ie surveillance/social control policing) without it becoming too conspicuous. But that is hardly the point, is it?

The opening sentence of Manwaring-White's book is this:

"The development of the police force in Britain has always been, and still is, inextricably linked with the story of civil disturbance, protest and demonstration in this country."

And the uncomfortable truth today is that when the sullen, passive, video-watching poor in this country get uppity next time, they're going to be faced by a police force which is now (post Toxteth/Brixton) tooled-up, totally out of democratic control, ready (and probably raring) to go. Even on Humberside, politically and socially as docile an area as you could hope to find in this country, the police are now stocked up

with the full range of hardware - CS gas, plastic bullets, pump-action shotguns, and God alone knows (because the Police Committee certainly don't) what else.

These two books should be read together. Kinsey and Baldwin flunk the inference of their own research. Ms Manwaring-White looks it full in the face.

Robin Ramsay

American Friends: the Anti-CND Groups

Steve Dorril

In a memo leaked to the *Washington Post* (9th May 1982) on opposition to President Reagan's defence policy, Eugene V. Rostow, Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, stated

"there is participation on an increasing scale in the US of three groups whose potential impact should be cause for concern. They are the churches, the 'loyalist opposition' and, perhaps most important, the unpoliticised public".

He followed this by organising the propaganda campaign against the American Peace Movement's 'Ground Zero Week'. (1)

Rostow was equally concerned about the growing unilateralist movement and so helped initiate a similar propaganda exercise in Britain, aimed at neutralising the efforts of CND. It would take three forms: mobilising public opinion, working within the Churches, and a 'dirty tricks' operation against the peace groups.

William J. Casey, head of the CIA, met with US Information Agency (USIA) (2) to organise the propaganda campaign in Europe. A direct mailing campaign was organised with Richard Viguerie and the U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, Peter Dailey. At the same time, Ernest Lefever, Director of the 'Ethics and Public Policy Programme' at Georgetown University, received \$200,000 to organise the Church groups. (*World in Action* 24/10/83). Casey has claimed that the CIA weren't involved - and maybe he is right, for in the main the whole exercise was privately operated. What united the various participants is membership of or links to the 'Committee On The Present Danger' (CPD). The CPD is a Second Cold War pressure group populated by Reagan's political backers. It has a stranglehold on his defence and foreign policy and, as many commentators have noted, *it* is the present danger.

* * *

In an attempt to mobilise public opinion, a number of surveys were undertaken in Europe. In 1981 Kane Parsons Associates Inc of New York organised an opinion poll in London on American foreign policy. It was fronted by Prof. Donald J. Puchala, Director of the Institute on Western Europe, at Columbia University, but was funded to the tune of \$100,000 by the U.S. International Communications Agency.(USICA). The ICA was set up in 1978 as an independent agency of the executive branch of the American Government. It took over from the USIA which had been criticized for its

joint involvement with the CIA in a number of publishing and propaganda activities. ICA's acting Associate Director, W. Scott Thompson, is also a member of the CPD and the son-in-law of Chief Salt 2 negotiator and CPD member, Paul Nitze.

The Rand Corporation, a Californian military research body with links to the government and the CIA, sponsored a week's study on 'the Successor Generation' and its implications for Nato. 'The Successor Generation' is another name for anti-Americanism in Europe. Peter Dailey, US Ambassador to Ireland, noting the trend of antipathy to American policies, reported to the White House on ways of strengthening support for Cruise and Pershing, recommending that Reagan appoint an 'Arms Reduction Ombudsman' - not to help with arms reduction, but to do public relations work for Reagan's policies. (*Peace News* 29/9/83)

* * *

Richard Viguerie, who was responsible for the European direct mailing campaign, is regarded as the Godfather of the New Right. He is the former fund-raiser for George Wallace and was the editor of the rabid *Conservative Digest*. His direct mail organisation dispatched anywhere between 7 and 9 million letters and raised three million dollars in an almost successful attempt to block Senate ratification of the Panama Canal Treaty. The umbrella grouping used then would be employed later against the Salt agreement under the auspices of the Coalition For Peace Through Strength (CPS-US).

Viguerie's Fall Church Centre in Virginia, has computerised access to millions of names and expertise in mobilising a vast network. The complex was a key institutional link in getting the Right behind the 'Soviet Threat' campaign with the same fervour shown for the so-called pro-family, anti Equal Rights Amendment, anti-gay, anti-abortion movements that arose in reaction to the 1960s.

In March 1982 the British Coalition For Peace Through Security (CPS), based on its American counterpart (CPS-US), staged an Anglo-American conference which brought the new (to Britain) propaganda techniques of Viguerie to Britain. The speakers were Paul Weyrich, a leader of the New Right and Director of the Committee For Survival Of A Free Congress (CSFC). CSFC used direct mailing - in one campaign 600,000 letters were sent out urging voters to lobby their Senators against President Carter's Chief Arms Negotiator, Paul Warnke. Weyrich had previously been with the Heritage Foundation, an influential New Right think tank and publishing house established with money from Beer Baron Joe Coors.

Weyrich was also on the steering committee of the Emergency Coalition Against Unilateral Disarmament (ECUD). ECUD is an adhoc organisation, a growing alliance between old Cold War warriors like the late Henry (Scoop) Jackson, Paul Nitze (Coalition for a Democratic Majority) (CDM); ideologues like Rostow and Podhoretz (the latter editor of the 'neo-conservative' *Commentary*); hardline dissenters in the intelligence community such as Daniel Graham (ex head DIA) who is ECUD Chairman; and the grass roots New Right symbolised by Weyrich.

The CSFC and CDM worked out of the same offices in Washington, joining together to form the previously mentioned Coalition For Peace Through Strength. (CPS-US)

Also speaking at the March 1982 British meeting were Morton Blackwell and Dick

Minard. Blackwell was chief advisor to Senator Gordon Humphrey and Exec. Director of ECUD. He led the day-to-day assault on Warnke and represented, perhaps, 'the heart and soul of the ultra-conservative arm of the burgeoning cold war coalition'. He is contributing editor of *Conservative Digest*, and *The Right Report*, of which he is also assistant publisher. Minard is advisor to right-wing Congressman Larry Craig.

* * *

The Coalition For Peace Through Security (CPS) was formed in the autumn of 1981, its main activists being Dr. Julian Lewis, its 'Research Director', a Conservative who spent a brief time in the Labour Party defending Reg. Prentice in his dispute with the Newham Northeast Constituency; Edward Leigh M.P. (3), now M.P. for Gainsborough, who was principal correspondence secretary for Mrs Thatcher when she was leader of the opposition; and Francis Holihan, an American roller-skate businessman (4). The CPS has close relations with the Institute for the Study of Conflict (ISC), which has a known intelligence pedigree, links with the Institute of Economic Affairs and the Centre for Policy Studies,(5) set up by Thatcher and Sir Keith Joseph when in opposition.

The CPS's most important link is to the Campaign For Defence and Multilateral Disarmament (CDMD) which is run and funded by Tory Central Office, and helps distribute CPS literature. Harvey Thomas, Tory Central Office official on the CDMD committee said "We keep in touch with the Coalition. There is a friendly relationship between us" (*Guardian* 30th April 1983).

In reality both committees are fronts with little or no membership. They are both conveniently 'private', which allows the Conservative Government to keep at arms length the 'dirty tricks' of the CPS and the smear tactics of MP Winston Churchill in CDMD.

CDMD is actually a tightly organised group of the Conservative Party hierarchy. It includes Winston Churchill, who chaired the co-ordinating (anti-CND groups) Committee For Peace With Freedom (CPF); John Selwyn Gummer, Party Chairman, and the man responsible for the anti-unilateralist campaign in the Churches, Peter Blaker, Minister of State for Defence; Ray Whitney, MOD spokesman and formerly of the Cold War propaganda unit IRD (and also of the Institute for European and Strategic Studies (IESS) and the Council for Arms Control; Michael Heseltine (6) Secretary of State for Defence and Head of the Defence Secretariat 19, and, finally, Cecil Parkinson, ex Party Chairman and member of CPS.

Shortly after the March 1982 meeting the CPS obtained the list of Conservative Party agents from Cecil Parkinson and access to the new ICL computer at Central Office, which provided the mail-out facilities that they required. Churchill was appointed by the Prime Minister as co-ordinator of the Government's campaign against CND (*Guardian* 14th Feb, 1983), the loose grouping CPF meeting at his London flat. The CPS joined the CPF and attended the monthly meetings. Its members specifically discussed anti-CND tactics with Churchill and Blaker. It was Blaker who arranged the informal meetings - sometimes with the Prime Minister, sometimes with civil servants, sometimes with Tory politicians - to prepare and co-ordinate policy against the anti-nuclear movement. It was decided at one of these meetings that Gummer should lobby the General Synod of the C.of E. Gummer is a member of the joint Parliamentary Ecclesiastical Committee. He was due to attend the 'Ethics and Nuclear War Meeting'

(discussed below) but was unable to make it.

* * *

In May 1983 the Apostolic Pro-Nuncio, Mgr. Bruno Heim, accused CND of being "useful idiots" and of "consciously sharing the Soviet aggressiveness and ideology".

It was later admitted that Heim had been in correspondence with Edward Leigh, and that Francis Holihan had sent him and other Vatican envoys around the world material on Mgr Bruce Kent. (*Guardian* 3rd May 1983). The action backfired though, as Cardinal Hume disliked the 'smear' tactics and was particularly annoyed because Heim had been instrumental in obtaining Hume's appointment. Holihan left CPS and formed Catholics Against The Freeze.

It was also admitted that Holihan had organised aerial propaganda, had entered CND offices under false pretences, and that CPS workers had joined CND in order to gain access to the Campaign's 1982 Annual Conference. When Bruce Kent went on a speaking tour of America, Holihan followed him around. Offensive material on Kent was sent to newspapers and radio stations, and demonstrations were organised against him with support from the College Republican Committee.

In October 1983 CPS organised and paid for a Gallup poll on unilateral disarmament. In November it paid Aerofilm, part of the Hunter Group, £900 for a photoanalysis of the massive CND march, claiming that the figures given in the media were greatly exaggerated. For Christmas it sent out 50,000 greetings cards and accused the well respected IVS (International Voluntary Service) of subsidising 'peace camps'.

CPS has its offices in Arrow House, owned by Land Securities Ltd and rented by Jeffrey Archer millionaire novelist and ex- Tory MP. He sublets to CPS and other right-wing propaganda organisations, including The Committee for The Free World (CFW) and the Committee To Stop Chemical Atrocities, whose leaflets are produced by the Heritage Foundation (see above). (*Peace News* 7th January 1983).

* * *

The well known group 'Foreign Affairs Research Institute' (FARI - see *Lobster* 1 item 7) also shares the same offices as CPS. FARI campaigns not only against CND but also for a new nuclear fighting military strategy for Nato and Britain. In 1981 FARI published an absurd booklet by their chairman Sir Frederick Bennett MP claiming Russian money was being used by CND. 'Freedom Communications News Agency', in the same office as FARI, distributes commentaries written by FARI staff. (*Sanity* August '83)

* * *

The Committee for the Free World announced itself to the public in a full page advertisement in the *New York Times* (6th April 1981). It was to lead the "struggle for freedom against Soviet efforts to take over democratic societies". It supported American action in Central America and supported Jeanne Kirkpatrick's thesis that the end result of a revolution in El Salvador would not bring progressive change but totalitarianism.

The executive director was Midge Decter, a friend of Kirkpatrick's and wife of Norman Podhoretz, who was also a member. It included CPD heavies like Rostow Zumwalt, General Rowney, Scott Thompson and Decter's nephew, Joshua Maranchik, who ran the 'dirty tricks' against Paul Warnke. Seed money came from the John M. Olin Foundation, the Smith Richardson Foundation, long time banker of the National Strategic Information Council (NSIC), and the Heritage Foundation, and the Scaife Family charitable trusts. Both foundations have been identified as having extensive ties to the CIA. Richard Scaife, for example, owned the CIA newsfront, Forum World Features, for which Robert Moss was a regular contributor.

Many of the CFW founders were involved in the Congress for Cultural Freedom, a propaganda cabal operating from 1950 until 1966 when it was exposed as a CIA front. Decter has said that the impetus for forming the group was a meeting held in Jerusalem 4 years ago (*New York Times* 19th February 1981). According to the *Wall Street Journal* (26th July 1979) participants at that conference included former CIA Director Bush, former CIA Deputy Director Ray Cline, Robert Moss and Brian Crozier - the latter two being paid propagandists for the CIA, French and British Intelligence. The Jerusalem Foundation that sponsored the '79 conference is an Israeli Intelligence front, established in the memory of one of the fallen commandos at Entebbe. (*Parapolitics* No 1 1981)

* * *

Ernest Lefever used the \$200,000 given by USIA to help " highly placed and influential leaders in Western Europe to gain a solid understanding of US defence and arms control policies, with special reference to their religious and moral implications." One conference was organised in Britain in May (*New Statesman* 20th May 1983) with church leaders in attendance. It was sponsored by the British Atlantic Committee (BAC) and the IEDSS.

Lefever was refused a position in Reagan's administration because his views on human rights were to the right of Kirkpatrick's distinction between 'friendly authoritarianism' and 'hostile totalitarianism'. Lefever's Centre for Ethics and Public Policy received \$250,000 in 1983 and is linked to the Heritage Foundation. He is co-author (with Roy Godson) of the apologist 'The CIA and The American Ethic'. Godson is a member of the Consortium for The Study of Intelligence (CSI) which includes 8 serving or former CIA officers. He is also a staff member of the National Strategic Information Centre (NSIC), Director of Georgetown University's International Labour Programme and a prominent member of CDM.

Sven Kraemer, Programme Director of the NSIC was at the May meeting. He is also a member of the CSI and a close family friend of General Rowney.

NSIC is a lobbying organisation dedicated to the preservation of 'containment militarism'; its stated goal to 'train young American Labour leaders in the critical issues that divide the Free World from the Communist states'. It received \$6,000,000 from Richard Scaife, an ultra-right millionaire who "has made the formation of public opinion both his business and his vocation". He also gave \$250,000 to the CPD, \$3,800,000 to the Heritage Foundation and \$5,300,000 to the Centre for Strategic and International Studies(CSIS).

IEDSS which also backed the May meeting, also has links to the hardliners. Headed

by Gerald Frost, former head of the Conservative Think Tank, Centre for Policy Studies (CPS), its chairman is J. Edwin Fielner, who played a major part in the election of President Reagan and is President of the Heritage Foundation. He also sits on the study group on US Grand Strategy on which the CIA is represented via CSIS. IEDSS is based in the offices of the Institute for the Study of Conflict (ISC) whose board of management member Vice-Admiral Louis Le Bailley also attended.

* * *

Groups mentioned in this article

- BAC - British Atlantic Committee
- CDM - Coalition for a Democratic Majority
- CDMD - Campaign for Defence and Multilateral Disarmament.
- CFW - Committee for a Free World
- CPS - Centre for Policy Studies
- CPS-US - Coalition for Peace Through Strength
- CPS-UK - Coalition for Peace Through Security
- CPD - Committee on the Present Danger
- CPF - Committee for Peace and Freedom
- CSI - Coalition for the Study of Intelligence
- CSIS - Centre for Strategic and International Studies
- CSFC - Committee for Survival of a Free Congress
- ECUD - Emergency Coalition against Unilateral Disarmament
- ISC - Institute for the Study of Conflict
- IEDSS - Institute for European and Defence Strategic Studies.
- NSIC - National Strategic Information Council
- USIA - United States Information Agency
- USICA - United States International Communications Agency

Notes

1. The American material in this article is based on the excellent *Peddlers of Crisis: the CPD and the Politics of Containment* by Jerry W. Sanders (Pluto Press 1983), and the goodish *With Enough Shovels: Reagan, Bush and Nuclear War* by Robert Scheer (Secker and Warburg, 1983)
2. Mr Charles Wick, the accident-prone Director of the USIA was recently discovered to have tape-recorded his telephone calls with government officials, his staff and friends. Wick, a longtime show-business friend of Reagan, was appointed only a year ago and has obviously learned little of the lessons of the Nixon era. The tapes have been handed over to a Congressional committee.
3. In June 1980 Leigh wrote an article for the *Liverpool Newsletter*, a paper which adopts an anti-semitic tone and carries advertisements for extreme right-wing literature (*Guardian* 3rd June 1983). Leigh was also mentioned in the recent Young Conservative report on extreme right-wing infiltration of the Conservative Party.
4. CPS backed the *Protect and Survive Monthly*, a pro-civil defense magazine edited by Bruce Sibley. Peter Fry MP was a director of PSM's publishing company when it collapsed amid much acrimony at the end of 1982.
5. It's strange that nothing was made of a report in the *Sunday Times* (21st August 1983) that the Centre receives - "unofficially and in breach of Whitehall rules - copies of confidential government documents". The Centre has a Defence

Study Group with a secret and high-powered membership, and a group studying the direction and control of British foreign policy.

Does anyone have anything on Natalia Brooke, Centre Secretary, whose grandfather was Count Beckendorff, the last White Russian Ambassador to London; and on Martin Bendelow, still in prison on drugs charges?

6. Heseltine chaired the Defence Secretariat 19. It included Home Office and Foreign Office Ministers, senior officials and Mr Bernard Ingham, Thatcher's press secretary. A strange grouping -what are the other 18? - designed to combat CND. Much publicity was given to its supposed disbandment, a sign that the CND threat had diminished.
7. The Administrator of the Ethics and Nuclear Arms Conference was Ken Aldred, General Secretary of the British Atlantic Committee's 'Peace Through Nato' campaign. Many of the Labour right-wing are members and are linked to the similar American right at Georgetown. This has been covered in *CIA Infiltration of The Labour Movement by Militant* (1982), and also in *State Research* No 16 1980.

The Activity, Grenada

The Activity

See note (1)

James 'Bo' Gritz, linked to the US Army Intelligence Support Activity (ISA), was detained with Lance Corp. Edward Trimmer whilst trying to enter Thailand. (*Guardian* 23rd September 1983). They were apparently on another mission looking for American POWs. In December, for the first time since 1975, American troops were in Laos investigating jungle sites in the south of the country for missing servicemen. (*Guardian* 21 December 1983).

Out of 2500 Americans missing in action during the Vietnam War, only two are officially listed as missing, a classification that assumes they are alive. One, Robert Garwood, returned to the US in 1979 to a court marshall for collaboration with the enemy. He has been the subject of numerous 'POW sightings'. In one interview he claimed that he had taken Russian roulette games a la film *The Deer Hunter*. (*International Herald Tribune* 24 March 1983).

A new fiction book, *MIA Mission* (J.C. Pollock, New English Library 1983) tells the story of these bizarre searches, based on the operations of Sarg. Major Daniel Lee Pitzer, with a foreword by Major General John K. Singlaub (Rtd). Singlaub (an old buddy of mercenary and arms dealer Mitch Werbell) is active in the American Security Council, and on the board of Western Goals, brainchild of right-wingers Larry McDonald (a leading John Bircher who died in KAL 007), and John Rees, editor of *The Information Digest*.

Singlaub was dismissed by President Carter because he publicly opposed the withdrawal of some ground forces from South Korea. This may be explained by his membership of the World Anti-Communist League (WACL) which is heavily backed by the Korean Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church. In 1980 Singlaub went to

Central America with Reagan adviser and former director of the Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA) Gen. Daniel Graham (rtd) backing Guatemalan officials and the terror killings. In 1981 Singlaub was elected chairman of the new US national WACL branch. Also a member of the WACL is Laotian heroin trafficker General Vang Pao, now living in the US. The 'Activity' mission into Laos in November 1981 was led by General Vang Pao and James 'Bo' Gritz. They were allegedly supported by Representative Robert K. Dornan, also a member of WACL. (See *Anarchy* 37)

(1) See *Lobster* 1, item 12.

Grenada

Also involved with the MIA project was Tom Smith who, according to a report in *Private Eye* (21 Oct 1983) was part of an attempted clandestine operation in Grenada which was called off shortly before the US invasion. Joining Smith were Robert Lusk, a Texas businessman and one-time drug trafficker, and George Petrie, ex-Special Forces, whose speciality in Vietnam was to lead assassination teams behind Vietcong lines. Petrie has 'associates in the CIA'.

A short time before the Grenada invasion Mr Wyche, Democratic Chairman of the House Intelligence Sub-Committee on Central America, disclosed that covert intelligence operations were likely against two countries in the next few weeks. "They tend to start with 10 men and \$1000 dollars and to end up with thousands of men supported by millions of dollars." (*Guardian* October 1983)

James Watkins, the Chief of Naval Operations, bemoaned what he described as 'the emasculation of the human aspects of our intelligence services' due to the lack of agents in the field. The US, he claimed, had been largely unprepared for events in Iran, Nicaragua, Lebanon and *Grenada*. (Times 16th December 1983)

It is reported that DCIA William Casey assigned the ISA a number of covert missions (Newsweek 10th October 1983) - including Grenada?

The ground had been prepared in the media throughout 1983 in support of the inevitable invasion. (See *Reagan's Big Lie* in *Covert Action Bulletin* 19 and *Destabilisation in Grenada*, Chris Searle, Writers and Readers, 1983) In the *Times* (7th July 1983) Brian Crozier, known intelligence lackey, wrote 'in Grenada new air and naval installations can only be for a Soviet base. Since a coup in 1979, the island has been a Cuban colony'. Nothing like the big lie. Supporting the Reagan policy of roll-back, reversing the supposed Soviet advance, Crozier went on, 'four countries stand out as qualifying for low-risk or no-risk intervention: Angola, the Seychelles, *Grenada* and Surinam.'

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Among the first ashore during the invasion were members of the US Army's Psychological Operations Battalion. Capt. Charlie Borchini, of the unique 150 man Battalion from Fort Bragg (also home of the ISA), came to the island well prepared for winning the important propaganda battle. (*Observer* 18th December 1983) The Battalion contains experts on Central and South America, Asia and Africa, and counts on the help of academics throughout the US.

Printed matter was prepared in collaboration with the State Department, and was flown in with assault troops. Major Douglas Frey tried to claim that it was prepared only two days before the invasion. Tapes were produced and beamed to Grenada on the morning of the invasion. They came from the US forces' transmitter on Antigua which is used by the Voice of America. Two propaganda exercises would seem to be the formation of a 'Committee of Thankful Grenadians' and the production of a petition calling for closer links with the US and the US presence to stay on the island for at least five years' (*Guardian* 5th January 1984)

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Power resides with the experienced Ambassador Charles Gillespie who was in Indonesia when the Army took over in 1975, and Indonesia became America's most reliable Asian ally. One of his leading advisers is Mike Donovan, regional representative of the 'American Institute for Free Labour Development', a branch of US trades union organisation which "works closely with the US government in seeking information on Bishop's supporters in the trades unions and co-operatives. US forces have continued interrogation of suspects." (*Observer* 11th December 1983)

The American Institute for Free Labour Development (AIFLD) was founded in 1961 for training local workers in trade unionism. It channels funds to anti-communist unions in an attempt to cut the ground away from the militants. It is a non-profit, private organisation, and finance is obtained from foundations, business and the Labour organisation AFL-CIO. Many of its agents in the field work for the CIA and no appointment is made abroad without the approval of the AFL-CIO, which favours CIA operatives. (On this see *CIA Diary*, Philip Agee, Penguin 1975).

The AIFLD has been at work in El Salvador where its support for slightly democratic principles was too much for the Salvadorean leadership.

AIFLD received \$1.500,000 in aid from the Israeli union organisation the Histadrut. (New Internationalist November 1982). Histadrut partly owns the arms manufacturers Soltam Ltd which is linked to large pay-offs to Richard Perle, Assistant Secretary of Defence. (*New Statesman* 22 April 1983).

In Belize the US ambassador Mr Malcolm Barnesby was accused of meddling in the country's affairs, and it was suggested that the US had a hand in the split which neutralized the country's biggest trade union, the left-led United General Workers Union. (*Guardian* 5th October 1983). Familiar AIFLD tactics.

One hundred businessmen were invited to the White House to be told of the investment opportunities on the island. (*Guardian* 8th December 1983). Jay Morris, Deputy Director of the US Agency for International Development (AID) "assured his audience that an American study group sent in shortly after the invasion had found a lot of interesting business prospects. It's a two-way street". A better reason for invasion than the Cuban runway scam.

AID is run by the State Dept. and uses funds politically, sometimes in conjunction with CIA offices in the country concerned. It has financed internal security operations, including Iran's Savak.

Steve Dorril

Reviews

This will probably turn out to be an important book, maybe even a little landmark in the (scanty) literature on British foreign policy since the war. So far it has been largely ignored by the literary/political establishment, receiving only 4 reviews that we're aware of - *Financial Times*, 5th March 1983; *International Affairs*, Summer 1983; *Guardian* 17th September 1983 and *London Review of Books*, 4th August 1983 - and the last of these, by David Leigh is so dismissive as to barely count as a review at all. To Mr Leigh's curious reaction I return below.

Verrier has written a kind of expose' of certain incidents in British foreign policy: Suez, Nigeria/Biafra, the Albanian operation of 1949, Kuwait in 1961. There is also an account of a period at the beginning of the 1970s of the war in Northern Ireland, what amounts to a revisionist history in miniature of WW2 intelligence operations on the British side, and a sardonic post-script on the Falklands:

"Mrs Thatcher postured absurdly in the immediate aftermath ...an illusion about an independent almost an imperial role comparable to that which regards nuclear weapons as deterrents to every variety of threat." (p338)

The post-war illusion that Britain remained a 'Great Power' despite having had to asset strip the Empire to pay for the war is one of his major themes. But, in his view, the illusion was sustained by the politicians, and not by the Civil Service - what he calls 'the permanent government' - and certainly not by the secret Civil Service, SIS (MI6). For Verrier's second thesis, the one I guess he really cares about, is that SIS got it right. There it is, out front, in the final paragraph of his introduction.

"Both SIS and the Security Service..have officers with as keen a sense of realities as the most sceptical student of Britain's recent history...One such officer, in Lagos during the Nigerian Civil War, argued for two years that the real requirement was to learn something of the state of Nigerian politics, not the activities of the KGB. There was indirect opposition to Bevin in 1949, and to Eden in 1956....In Northern Ireland, from 1971 onwards, SIS officers came to believe that the Provisional Irish Republican Army was a political organisation which could be outwitted, not merely a terrorist organisation which must be destroyed. SIS also provided adequate and timely intelligence of Argentinian intentions concerning the Falkland Islands".

As a thesis it has its antecedents. Peter Dale Scott (and others) have demonstrated that the Pentagon Papers were systematically skewed to show the CIA in a favourable light vis a vis the Vietnam War - always right, and ignored by the politicians, the military and the foreign policy establishment who mired America in a war they (CIA) had opposed from early on. This view conveniently glosses over the Agency's role in running covert ops (if that even begins to describe something as large as the war in Laos) in S.E. Asia. Similarly, Verrier just ignores most of the covert activities described in Bloch and Fitzgerald's *British Intelligence and Covert Action* reviewed in this issue.

The Pentagon Papers may have been a CIA operation: Fletcher Prouty has long maintained this, and he was sitting at the focal point between the Agency and the

Pentagon. And Verrier has certainly had an awful lot of help from SIS personnel. The book is littered with accounts of what (unnamed) SIS people did, thought and said, such statements sometimes put in (unattributed) quotation marks. At one point, for example, he quotes at length from a speech given by Dick White, then head of SIS. One wonders how he got this, and who if anyone gave permission for its use. The possibility has to be considered that the book is an SIS job. I don't think it's likely, but it is a possibility.

Despite an almost total lack of documentation, Verrier's display of 'insider' knowledge produces a curious certainty of tone. There is no rational reason for believing (or disbelieving) most of his assertions but I found it difficult to sustain any sceptical view for long. Academics, whether they believe him or not, will never take the book seriously because there is so little documentation. Yet as a source of new hypotheses on the postwar years it must be without precedent in this country. Verrier has quietly eased the lids on a great many cans of worms. Almost every page contains sections begging to be quoted. This, for example on p42:

"Thus SOE, whether riff-raff or not, had become Churchill's instrument for the execution of a Balkan strategy which appeared to meet all the imperial requirements and the views about Russia which he (and an increasingly quiescent Eden) shared with the Chiefs of Staff. More to the point, by mid 1943 SOE in Cairo forced its way on to the ULTRA distribution by reading what was clearly intended for others. Rough stuff became the order of the day, above all in relations between SIS and SOE".

Or this, on p255:

"Macmillan's attempt...to fight the good fight in Yemen, was tacitly opposed by SIS because, all other factors apart, it degenerated into a matter of bribes to the wrong people -£30 million to be exact, laundered through the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts."

Two examples: the list could have been 20, and if I had more knowledge, probably 200.

David Leigh in his review in the *London Review of Books*, dismisses Verrier as "enfeebled by his incapacity to name names and his willingness to act as an apologist for his MI6 friends".

This is harsh. Yes, in America, where Leigh has spent some time recently, names are named. Over the period covered by Verrier a great deal of detail of parallel American activities is available - names, who took which decisions, sitting on which committees. For the most part this isn't true here, and books with titles like *Who Makes British Foreign Policy?* (James Barber), can't ever actually answer the question. There is no information: the 'weeders' see to that. But this is no reason to get sniffy about what (little) there is on offer. Where the history of the British State goes, the occasional crust is always better than no bread.

Just how far we are from the American situation is beautifully if unwittingly demonstrated by James Cable's review in *International Affairs*. Cable, actually Sir James Cable, ex Ambassador Cable, focuses on Verrier's 'startling assertion' that Lord

Normanbrook, Secretary to the Cabinet, "used SIS liaison with CIA as a means of telling the President what was really at stake," just before Suez.

Cable is apparently shocked by this claim. Assuming his reaction to be genuine, its naivety is one good measure of another facet of the 'looking glass world': the comforting belief that things are more civilised in this country. That this particular assertion of Verrier's should have to wait 28 years before getting aired says all there is to say about our ruling elites' grip on our history. That Cable should be shocked - or should feel it worth while feigning shock - and that a journal with the public gravitas of *International Affairs* should find his gaucheries worth printing says a good deal about the enervated condition of academic writing on British foreign policy.

Robin Ramsay

War and Order (Researching State Structures)

edited by Celina Bledowska (Junction Books 1983)

Compiled from material presented at the Researching State Structures Conference in November 1981, it is designed to assist 'the continuing process of discovery' and 'to clarify methods used' by the respective writers. The book is divided into four areas: military, contingency planning, communications and police. Each area has a series of short articles (one or two pages) outlining present research and providing guidelines for future projects.

Some of the material is extremely useful, but overall the book is a disappointment. It is expensive; articles have appeared before; and there is no bibliography. Photocopy the bits you need.

The Investigative Researchers Handbook

compiled and edited by Stuart Christie. (Refract 1983)

Christie has produced a manual for investigating state functionaries and right-wingers rather than state structures, and as such is a companion to the above. Although it is to be recommended for the wealth of information sources provided (potentially extremely useful) it is let down by poor design, with too many blank spaces and a series of charts on investigated individuals which are not illuminating, just confusing.

Eagerly awaited is the new Refract book on the international fascist Stefano Delie Chiaie (*Portrait of a Black Terrorist* -£3.50 Box A, 84b Whitehall High Street, London E1 7QX). *Anarchy* magazine has undergone a collective sea-change and there appears to be a move away from the endless recycling of anarchy's glorious past. The last two issues have been excellent, with hard original research on the Masons, the SAS, the World Anti-Communist League, etc. Available from the address above @ 50p plus postage.

Author Jonathan Bloch has been refused permanent residence in Britain. A South African refugee, he has lived here since 1976. Home Secretary Leon Brittan stated that Mr Bloch has "acted in a way which might be construed as inimical to the interests of the host country". (*Guardian* 30th December 1983). The cause of Brittan's displeasure

is *BRITISH INTELLIGENCE AND COVERT ACTION* by Bloch and Patrick Fitzgerald (Junction Books 1983). An intelligence tour of the Empire, pieced together from published sources, the tale presented is of an intelligence agency, MI6, as grubby and nasty as the CIA. As per usual the book and the decision on Bloch have been received in the media and amongst the left with virtual silence. Inevitably the book ends with Ireland, the subject of Roger Faligot's *BRITAIN'S MILITARY STRATEGY IN IRELAND (The Kitson experiment)* (Zed Press 1983). The book is full of episodes which deserve fuller inquiry, from the Airey Neave assassination (in next *Lobster*) to the Birmingham bombings. It is a devastating expose of an intelligence system out of control and outside the state system. Talk of democratic accountability from the Labour Party is a sick joke when one reads what took place when they were in power.

Both of the above have good appendices (including a long list of intelligence operatives); are choc full of information leads. Not great books - or definitive ones - just, at present, the only ones.

Secret Police

by Thomas Plate and Andrea Darvi. (Abacus Books 1983).

OK, but paperbacks are becoming expensive and this one we have heard before: familiar stuff on DINA, SAVAK, spread thinly, and the material on the KGB is decidedly dicey, reads like the *Reader's Digest*. What are worthwhile are the nearly 90 pages of notes and booklists, useful for research.

The Killing of Karen Silkwood

by Richard Rashke (Sphere 1983)

Destined to be a Hollywood film and one fears the worst. Silkwood for me remains a pretty unsympathetic character, but of course her mysterious death was a tragedy and deserves investigation. The book is a good read with Rashke doing little more than relating other peoples' material, which is a shame because once it gets into NSA and CIA involvement with local police forces it becomes fascinating, and provides the real reason for the cover-up. (It discloses that MI6 use Andros Island in the Caribbean along with the CIA for training.) No index.

The Puzzle Palace: America's National Security Agency and Its Relationship with Britain's GCHQ

by James Bamford (Sidgewick and Jackson 1983)

Now the standard work on the NSA (No Such Agency). Excellent research, though its presentation is very boring at times. Sometimes Bamford is too taken with the technology (which one has to admit is pretty amazing) at the expense of the domestic side: i.e. the break-ins, the bugging, operatives on the ground. A good piece on Prime and GCHQ (shows America has suffered far more than Britain from 'moles'). Good notes, index.

"I don't want to see this country ever go across the bridge. I know the capacity is there to make tyranny total in America, and we must see to it

that the agency and all agencies that possess the technology operate within the law and under proper supervision, so that we never cross that abyss. That is the abyss from which there is no return". Senator Frank Church on NSA's Sigint technology.

Steve Dorril

Faligot's book was withdrawn after threats of legal action but copies may still be knocking around, and it should be in the library system.

Clippings

The Lie Detector Story

In the wake of the Prime case, US intelligence has made polygraph (lie detector) introduction into GCHQ at Cheltenham a condition of future GCHQ-NSA cooperation.

1. "At a meeting in July with Civil Service union leaders, Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, made it clear that Senior Whitehall officials were reluctant to introduce lie detectors but had little choice because of pressure from Washington." (*Guardian* 19th September 1983)
2. Society of Civil and Public Servants distributed a pamphlet at GCHQ claiming that US experience suggests that polygraph tests wrongly clear 1 in 4 guilty suspects. (*Guardian* 19th October 1983)
3. On polygraph's failings: Douglas Carroll (*Guardian* 26th May 1983) and *New Scientist* (15th December 1983)
4. Summary of the story so far: Richard Norton-Taylor (*Guardian* 16th November) and Hennessy (*Times* 16 November 1983)
5. UK Government buys six polygraphs for use at GCHQ. (*Guardian* 16th November 1983)
6. "Whitehall heading for a serious dispute at GCHQ... its refusal to consult with civil servants there about introducing the polygraph." (*Guardian* 7th December)
7. Worth quoting from James Bamford's *The Puzzle Palace* (London 1982) on all this. He said, p xxxiii of all these moves:
"It was all nonsense. As weak as security was at GCHQ, it was a fortress compared to the NSA. The NSA was simply better at hiding how much and how badly it had been penetrated."

Secrecy

8. Evidence on public records policy taken by House of Commons Select C'ttee on Education, Science and the Arts published in July (1983). Christopher Price MP, one of the committee's members, on how the system works and its faults.

(*Observer* 24th July)

Reports on the (as yet unpublished) report itself in *Guardian* (4th July 1983), and in *Times* (7th July 1983). *Times* leader also that day advocating a Select Committee on Official Information.

9. Report on evidence presented to the committee: concern expressed at current policy by various research bodies. (*Guardian* 12th July 1983)
10. 1984 Campaign for Freedom of Information set up. (*Guardian* 1st August 1983, *Times* 28/8/83).
11. Leaders of First Division Association (Civil Service body representing senior grades) concerned over recent spate of leaks, is consulting members on official information policy. (*Guardian* 21 September 1983).
12. Cabinet Sec. Armstrong writes all 40 Permanent Secretaries re leaks. This letter leaked. (*Guardian* 31 August 1983)
13. First Division Association draw up proposals to reduce official secrecy. Discussion paper to all FDA's 8000 members includes proposal that everything be considered available to public unless specifically stated otherwise. (*Guardian* 24 September and *Sunday Times* 18 December 1983)
14. Whitehall using pressure for Data Protection as argument for withdrawing official records from public view beyond normal 30 yrs. Remarks by Lord Donaldson, Ch'mn Advisory Council on Public Records in 24 th Annual Report of Public Records Office. (*Guardian* 1 July 1983.)
15. Thatcher personally stops publication of two books: official histories of war-time MI5 and war-time counter intelligence operations. (*Guardian* 25 November and 8 December 1983)
16. Anthony Lester QC lecture states UK increasingly isolated from Europe and Commonwealth by refusal to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into law. Notes individual petitions from UK ruled admissible by European Commission of Human Rights twice those of any other European country. (*Guardian* 12 November 1983)
17. Campaign launched to end excessive secrecy in local Gov. by group of MPs. (*Guardian* 2 December 1983) Campaign literature: *Access To Local Government Information* by Ron Bailey £1.25p from Local Government and Health Rights Project, 157 Waterloo Rd SE1. Is excellent, clear guide to legal position re what can be seen and how to go about getting it.

Policing

18. Gtr. Manchester Police logging colour and race of phone complaints. Method not given. (*Daily Telegraph* 2 September 1983)
19. Four year experiment recording police interrogation in Scotland shows taping leads police to do interrogations before arrival at stations. (*Sunday Times* 18 December 1983)

20. Police researching computer assisted finger-print matching. (*Guardian* 24 October 1983)
21. Campaign Against Plastic Bullets states 20,000 pb's in UK police forces. 15 UK forces authorised to use them. Figures from Home Office. (*Guardian* 24 October and 19 December 1983 - latter in letters page) List of authorities with PB's in *Rights* (NCCL) Summer 1983
22. Assoc. Metropolitan Authorities sent questionnaire to all 43 Police Authorities re police use of computers. Not one replied. (*Tribune* 7 October 1983)
23. South Wales Police accused of trying to frame Dafydd Elis Thomas MP as leader of Welsh Nat bombing campaign. Unclear if this Special Branch or regular police. (*Observer* 20/11/83)
24. Manchester police filming customers entering gay pub. (*Rights* (NCCL) Summer 1983)

Special Branch

25. West Midlands SB revealed carrying out check on Madelaine Haig after letter to local paper. (*Guardian* 20 and 22 September 1983)
26. Claim that SB carried out 'full check' on peace group re 26.
27. West Midlands Chief Cons. said police analysed and assessed information to see if it "gives us any indication that people might be prepared to get involved in public demonstrations that may involve the commission of offences." (*Guardian* 17 Nov 1983) This suggests the following as the operational criterion of that particular SB:
"people who *might* be prepared to get involved in public demonstrations that *may* involve commission of offences."
28. West Mid. Chief Constable stated West Midlands SB had 73 police personnel. *State Research* No 19 (p 165) reported same SB had 65 members in 1979.
29. Two page report *City Limits* (2 September 1983) on list of ex SB members and subsequent employment. Organisation hiring such include: MOD, Standard Telephone and Cable, Plessey, British Gas, and Saladin Security.
30. Convicted murderer Ronald Waldron claims he was a contract killer for Mid East groups while employed by Merseyside SB and MI5. (*Guardian* and *Times* 9 November 1983). Call for public enquiry: police to interview (*Times* 15 November 1983)
31. Tony Bunyan in review of *The Branch* by Rupert Allason (aka Nigel West) notes that Allason reveals (for first time?) that SB have access to National Insurance Records. (*Tribune* 23 September 1983)

The Strong State

32. Home Office figures show more than 5600 people detained under Prevention of Terrorism Act since 1974. Only 86 found guilty of offences related to the act. (*Guardian* 5 August 1983)
33. New Prevention of Terrorism Act given 2nd reading House of Commons. Enables police to arrest and detain for 48 hours without warrant and for 5 days with word from Home Sec. Bill extended now to "any person suspected of being in the commission, preparation or instigation " of "the use of violence for political ends" anywhere in the world. Bill to run 5 years. Words 'temporary provision' found in previous versions now omitted. Bill gives police power to act against members of liberation movements abroad living in this country. (*Guardian* 24 October - NCCL spokesperson spells it out: *Guardian* 25 October Parliamentary reports)
34. "Terrorism" alert Heathrow. "Security" exercise involving police, troops, SAS, armoured cars. British Airports Authority said "regular exercise". (*Black Flag* December 1983)
35. Report that Gov. preparing to introduce internment for anti-nuclear protesters. Various prison camps said to be examined - first designated at Rollerton, Salisbury Plain. No reference to source of info. (*Black Flag* 18 November 1983)
36. Civil servants warned jobs at risk if active members of CND. DEP issuing new guidelines stating that at EO level and above CS need permission to take part in local political activities. (*Guardian* 23 November 1983)

Army-civilian power relations

37. Peter Hennessy (*Times* 30 August 1983) of 1980 lecture by Chief of Defence Staff. Lecture stated it would be "totally inappropriate" to use armed force "in a main public order role unless disorder was occurring on such a scale that police could not cope and our whole Parliamentary system was threatened, or a minority, by violent means and armed force, was attempting to challenge the very authority of government with a view to overthrowing it." Hennessy comments that as police (post Brixton) are now better equipped for riots

"At the highest tables in the police, it is now believed that the armed forces would be needed only if there was an 'armed insurrection' in Brixton or a comparable area".

Longer, better and much less sanguine account of the same speech in *State Research* No 29 pp 94/5

* * *

From this issue onwards, *The Lobster* will include a digest of clippings from newspapers and articles we have spotted. We will produce an index of the contents of *The Lobster* every six issues. If anyone reading this regularly reads something we are missing, we would be pleased to receive notes on what we've missed. This first batch ends at December 31st.

* * *

Sources

COVERT ACTION, the journal set up by Philip Agee and friends in the late 1970s to monitor and, if possible, counter the activities of the CIA and all the other covert arms of the post-war American Empire, is still ploughing along. It used to be distributed in this country but we haven't seen it anywhere recently. The current issue is mostly devoted to events in Grenada (and is very good indeed) . We think UK subscriptions are \$25 pa, but to make sure, why not drop a line to them.

Covert Action,
PO Box 50272,
Washington DC, 20004,
USA

Jonathan Marshall's *Parapolitics*, a newsletter devoted to things akin to the interests of *The Lobster*, has folded. Marshall is, apparently, too busy. Which is a pity. However, back copies of Parapolitics (which is superb) can be had from Aries Research PO Box 1107, Aptos, California, 95003, USA. Worth writing and asking (a) how many copies there are and (b) how much.

THE LOBSTER is a journal/newsletter about intelligence activities, para-politics, state structures and so forth. (The range of our interests should be obvious from this issue)

We welcome articles, notes, clippings, corrections of our mistakes and areas of ignorance, and letters. (Letters intended for publication should be so marked). Although we will exercise editorial control over material sent to us, nothing will be changed without consultation with the author.

There is no copyright on material in *The Lobster* but we would appreciate it if people using it would (a) cite the source and (b) let us have copies.

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- All enquiries/correspondence/subs to Robin Ramsay, 17c Pearson Avenue. Hull. HU5 2SX, U.K.
- Make cheques/postal orders out to *Steve Dorril*

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Steve Dorril/Robin Ramsay

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