

**Royal Commission
into the Management of Police Informants**

STATEMENT OF LINDSAY FRANK ATTRILL

1. My full name is Lindsay Frank Attrill.
2. I am retired. I held the rank of Detective Inspector when I retired from Victoria Police in July 2007.
3. I make this statement in response to a request from the Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants dated 23 May 2019. This statement is produced to the Royal Commission in response to a Notice to Produce.

Educational background and employment history (Q1)

4. I graduated from the Victorian Police Academy in 1977. Details of my progression through the ranks and some of my roles after leaving Victoria Police are contained in Annexure A to this statement.
5. From March 2002 until December 2005, I was on leave without pay from Victoria Police and worked in advisory roles supporting the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary Internal Affairs Directorate and then the Solomon Islands Prison Service Professional Standards Unit. When I returned to Victoria Police, I was assigned to the Ethical Standards Division (ESD).

Involvement or association with any investigation which dealt with Ms Gobbo (Q2)

6. My involvement or association with an investigation that had dealings with Ms Gobbo occurred while I was a Detective Inspector at the ESD in 2006. My diaries for this period cannot be located.
7. In around April 2006, I was provided with a number of existing investigations files for review by Superintendent Peter O'Neil at ESD. One of those files related to allegations of serious misconduct by Victoria Police members at Brighton Police Station.
8. I have been shown a memorandum that I wrote dated 10 April 2006¹. I believe I prepared this document after reviewing one of the files I had been given. My conclusion was that the allegations warranted further investigation and, given the nature of the allegations

¹ VPL.0005.0147.0175.

involved, the Office of Police Integrity (OPI) should be involved in the investigation and have oversight of it. Once the investigation commenced, the operation was referred to as Operation Khadi.

9. I do not have a clear independent recollection of Operation Khadi, save that I recall that the operation partly concerned allegations against a former Victoria Police officer about inappropriate conduct towards a female member. I also recall that I met with Ms Gobbo once as part of the operation. However, I have been given access to the ESD investigation file for Operation Khadi and the documents from that file referred to in this statement have assisted me in preparing my statement.
10. I ultimately prepared a Final Report dated 23 November 2006 about Operation Khadi², which sets out in detail the allegations and findings of Operation Khadi, as well as summarising the investigations and evidence gathered.

Operation Khadi and Ms Gobbo

11. Ms Gobbo's involvement in the investigation was not significant, but the operation related in part to allegations she first raised that Officer John Brown, a member of Victoria Police, stole cash from an individual that the member had arrested. As the Final Report records, my investigation concluded that the evidence clearly established that there were no grounds whatsoever for that allegation. As part of the investigation, I met with Ms Gobbo on one occasion.
12. I have been shown an Information Report dated 16 June 2006 that I prepared³, which records the allegations relating to the member of Victoria Police.
13. I have also been shown a record from the source management log dated 15 June 2006, which records that a member of the Source Development Unit (SDU) met with me and Detective Superintendent Rod Wilson regarding intelligence from Ms Gobbo⁴. I do not recall this meeting. However, I do recall that Officer Sandy White attended the ESD offices and spoke with me and Supt Wilson either before or after Detective Inspector Philip Swindells and I met with Ms Gobbo. This could have been on 15 June 2006.
14. I believe that at some point I was informed that Ms Gobbo was assisting Victoria Police as a human source and was providing information that related to operations overseen by

² VPL.0005.0147.0001.

³ VPL.0005.0147.0151.

⁴ VPL.0005.0099.0001 at 0037.

- Assistant Commissioner Simon Overland. I cannot recall when this was or who informed me of it.
15. On 21 July 2006, Supt Wilson and I met with members of the OPI regarding Operation Khadi. During that meeting, it was discussed that ESD intended to meet with Ms Gobbo as an avenue of inquiry in that operation. I submitted an Information Report on 25 July 2006, part of which summarised the discussion at this meeting⁵.
 16. The Information Report refers to the OPI being provided with a prepared list of questions that ESD would put to Ms Gobbo at the proposed meeting. I have been shown a briefing note document from the Operation Khadi ESD file containing a list of questions that appear to be directed to Ms Gobbo⁶. I believe that I wrote this document, based on how it is written, and I believe that this was the list of questions provided to the OPI. I do not recall anything about this meeting beyond what is recorded in the Information Report.
 17. That Information Report also records that DI Swindells was to introduce me to Ms Gobbo, as he had a previous professional relationship with her. I have been shown an email from DI Swindells to me, which records that he had met with Ms Gobbo and arranged for me to meet with her⁷. While the email is not dated, I believe it would have been from around this time.
 18. On 24 July 2006, I met with Ms Gobbo with DI Swindells at a café in the Melbourne CBD. I generally do not recall what occurred at this meeting, but the meeting is described in the Information Report I submitted⁸. I do recall that Ms Gobbo became increasingly nervous during the meeting and seemed upset by the end of the meeting.
 19. I do not recall if I recorded the meeting with Ms Gobbo. I have been shown a document that appears to be a summary of a conversation with Ms Gobbo⁹. I had not seen this document before being shown it by my lawyers for the purposes of preparing this statement and I am confident that I did not write it. I accept, however, that this appears to be a summary of the meeting with Ms Gobbo, given that it discusses matters relevant to Operation Khadi and the "time codes" seem to match up with the length of the meeting recorded in my Information Report (that is, one hour and 39 minutes).

⁵ VPL.0005.0147.0119.

⁶ VPL.0005.0147.0071; VPL.0005.0147.0075.

⁷ VPL.0005.0147.0070.

⁸ VPL.0005.0147.0119.

⁹ Exhibit 253B (VPL.2000.0002.0011).

20. I have also been shown a document from the Operation Khadi file containing a number of questions, with handwritten annotations made on the document¹⁰. This is not my handwriting and I do not know who made these annotations. Many questions in this document are from my briefing note, but they have been changed or others have been added and some deleted. I do not know anything further about this document.
21. As my Information Report describes, DI Swindells and I discussed the meeting with Supt Wilson. I believe this happened when we returned to the office after the meeting. I recall that I formed the view that we should not have any further contact with Ms Gobbo. I had previous experience with human sources and knew that the more people who know about a source, the greater likelihood that their cooperation would be discovered. Based on what is stated in my Information Report, I believe it would have also been discussed that Ms Gobbo might provide confidential information given by her clients and this would have been another reason not to have further contact with her.
22. There were other avenues of inquiry open to me in the Operation Khadi investigation, so I recommended against pursuing further contact with Ms Gobbo. I recall that Supt Wilson agreed with that decision. I recall the decision not to pursue Ms Gobbo further was made quickly and in my opinion was the right decision.
23. I did not have any further contact with Ms Gobbo as part of Operation Khadi or otherwise.
24. As the File Management Log records, I discussed my meeting with Ms Gobbo and provided a document to the OPI on 30 August 2006 and 4 September 2006. I do not recall anything further about this.
25. I delivered my Final Report to Supt Wilson on 23 November 2006. Shortly after, I left overseas to take up a position retraining Iraqi National Police. I was contacted by email about the Operation after going overseas, but it did not concern Ms Gobbo. I otherwise had no further involvement in the investigation.

How I learned, or were given reason to believe, Ms Gobbo was providing information (Q3)

26. I refer to my response to Question 2.

Awareness of others (Q4)

27. At some point just prior to or following my meeting with Supt Wilson and Officer Sandy White to discuss a meeting between myself, DI Swindells and Ms Gobbo, I became aware

¹⁰ VPL.0005.0147.0179.

Ms Gobbo was providing assistance to AC Overland. I believe Supt Wilson also became aware of this at about the same time.

Authorisation of the use of Ms Gobbo as a human source (Q5)

28. I am not aware of those involved in Ms Gobbo's use as a human source, other than Officer Sandy White.

Personal contact with Ms Gobbo (Q6)

29. I met with Ms Gobbo once on 24 July 2006, as recounted in my response to Question 2. I do not believe that I had any other personal contact with Ms Gobbo on any occasion.

Information & assistance received (Q7 & Q8)

30. Apart from my meeting with her, I was not aware of any information or assistance that Ms Gobbo provided.

Concerns raised as to the use of a legal practitioner as a human source (Q9)

31. I refer to my response to Question 2.

Concerns raised as to the use of Ms Gobbo as a human source (Q10)

32. I refer to my response to Question 2.

Awareness about disclosure in relation to Ms Gobbo (Q11)

33. I have no knowledge of these matters.

Other human sources with obligations of confidentiality or privilege (Q12)

34. I have no knowledge of these matters.

Training (Q13)

35. My recollection of the relevant training or retraining I have received on these specific topics is as follows:

- (a) Obligation of disclosure - during the Academy and during other promotion training;
- (b) The right of accused person to silence and to a legal practitioner - during the Academy and during other promotion training;
- (c) Legal professional privilege - during the Academy and during other promotion training;

- (d) Public interest immunity – I recall some training courses provided by lawyers speaking at training courses about public interest immunity, but I cannot recall having experience with public interest immunity in my duties;
- (e) Professional and ethical decision making – professional and ethical decision making is part of all my Victoria Police training, and I have also presented on this at police stations where issues had been identified in my role as an Ethics and Professional Standards Officer while attached to ESD.

Other information (Q14)

36. I have nothing further to add.

Dated: 14 August 2019



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Lindsay Frank Attrill

Annexure A

1. A summary of the major roles I have undertaken and my progression through the ranks before retiring from Victoria Police in July 2007 is as follows:
 - (a) 1977 – Constable, Russell Street Police Station and Fitzroy Police Station;
 - (b) 1980 – Constable, St Kilda Police Station;
 - (c) 1982 – Senior Constable, St Kilda Police Station;
 - (d) 1982 – Detective Senior Constable, Russell Street CIB;
 - (e) 1985 – Detective Senior Constable, Drug Squad, Crime Department;
 - (f) 1988 – Detective Senior Constable, Oakleigh CIB;
 - (g) 1989 – Sergeant, St Kilda Police Station;
 - (h) 1991 – Sergeant, Training District (Sergeants' Courses);
 - (i) 1992 – Detective Sergeant, Child Exploitation Unit, Crime Department;
 - (j) 1993 – Detective Sergeant, Drug Squad, Crime Department;
 - (k) 1995 – Detective Senior Sergeant, Internal Investigations Department;
 - (l) 1999 – Senior Sergeant, Training Department (Crime Courses Unit);
 - (m) 2001 – Detective Inspector, Ethics and Professional Standards Officer;
 - (n) 2002 to 2005 – Discipline Advisor, Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary Internal Affairs Directorate (while on leave without pay from Victoria Police);
 - (o) 2005 – Professional Standards Adviser, Solomon Islands Prison Service Professional Standards Unit (while on leave without pay from Victoria Police);
 - (p) December 2005 to November 2006 – Detective Inspector, Ethical Standards Department;
 - (q) 2006 to 2007 – Police Training Adviser, Numaniyah Iraq National Police Training Academy, Iraq.

2. Since retiring from Victoria Police in July 2007, I have held a number of roles in different organisations including:
 - (a) 2007 to 2008 – Security Project Manager, Global Strategies Group (Iraq);
 - (b) 2008 – Police Investigations Adviser, Coffey International Development (Iraq);
 - (c) 2010 to 2011 – Investigator, New Zealand Earthquake Commission (Christchurch);
 - (d) 2011 – Security Risk Management Consultant with Defence, DDW Consulting;
 - (e) 2012 to 2013 – State Operations Manager, SECUREcorp Australia;

- (f) 2013 – Security Operations Manager, NWP Immigration Detention Centre, Christmas Island, Serco;
- (g) 2014 and 2015 – ACG Security Consultant, Papua New Guinea and Asian region;
- (h) 2015 – Security Liaison Officer and Security Manager, England Cricket Team;
- (i) 2016 - ICC Host City Security Coordinator U19 ODI Cricket World Cup, Bangladesh, Eastern Star International;
- (j) 2016 to 2017 – Security Advisor, Victorian State Government Parliamentary Services;
- (k) 2018 to 2019 – Security and Risk Manager, Supreme Court of Victoria.

3. I have undertaken Victoria Police qualifications and training including:

- (a) Victoria Police Academy (1976 to 1977);
- (b) Detective Training School (1983);
- (c) Undercover Training Course (1985);
- (d) Sergeants' Course (1989); and
- (e) Inspectors' Course (2000).

4. I also hold the following qualifications:

- (a) Training and Assessment Certificate IV, Australian Institute of Public Safety (2006);
- (b) Diploma of Security and Risk Management, Train to Succeed (2008);
- (c) Security Operations Certificate II and III, Secure Training (2009); and
- (d) Investigative Services Certificate III, Australian Security Academy (2014).
- (e) ICAO Aviation Professional Security Management Course, John Molson School of Business, Concordia University, Canada (2017).