

Statement from Police Superintendent who was deployed in Police Control Room but who later attended Happings Lane End

Surname MURRAY

Forenames BERNARD DEAN

N 1112

Age 47

Date of birth

Address SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE,
HAMMERTON ROAD, POLICE STATION, SHEFFIELD

Occupation POLICE SUPERINTENDENT

Telephone

IC Height Build

Hair colour

Hair type

Eyes Complexion

Facial hair

Glasses Use Accent

Number of Pages

Dated 080589 B D MURRAY Signed

*Indexed
3698/1494*

I am a Superintendent of the South Yorkshire Police, stationed at Hammerton Road Police Station and sub-divisional commander of the F1 sub-division, which includes Sheffield Wednesday Football ground at Hillsborough. I was posted to this sub-division on 14 March 1988 (140388). Since then I have regularly carried out duties in connection with football matches at Hillsborough, including the 1988 F A Cup semi-final between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest. On all these occasions I have worked from the environment of the ground control room. I have 23 years police experience and have worked regularly at football matches as a constable at Huddersfield Town, as a sergeant at Barnsley and as a Chief Inspector at Barnsley. I have worked occasionally as a sergeant at Hillsborough, Rotherham and Doncaster.

50E On or about 20 March 1989 (200389), I was informed by Chief

N4700
 Superintendent Mole that the 1989 F A Cup semi-final between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest would be played at Hillsborough on either the 15 or 16 April 1989. I was later informed that this match would be played on Saturday 15 April 1989 (150489), with the traditional 3 pm kick-off. At 3 pm that day, I met with Chief Superintendent Mole and Inspector Sewell and as this was a repeat of the same fixture the previous year, which had passed without serious incident we decided to base the order on the previous year's event.

20/3/89
~~N6071~~ N6071
 The order was to be prepared by Chief Inspector Beal and Inspector Sewell. I was asked by Chief Superintendent Mole to aim for a

manpower reduction on 1988, of 10% in the interest of most effective and efficient utilisation of resources as it was to my knowledge that the previous year, some Officers had been under employed. I communicated this to the planning team, with the suggestion that this could be achieved in the main, by reducing the public order serials from one sergeant and 10 constables to one sergeant and eight

constables. As a result of the previous year's experience there were a number of areas where I considered arrangements could be improved. Somewhere to be included in the operational order and others by contingency or instruction. The following were to be included in the order of reinforcement of 'flash-point' at Leppings Lane roundabout at junction with Penistone Road with 4 serials, 4 horses, 4 dogs and 2 vans reinforcement of the track to prevent a pitch invasion as occurred the previous year by introducing a further 4 serials at the end of the game; west stand serial to be particular vigilant in preventing climbing into that stand from the terraces below; any Liverpool supporters on the Kop to be contained in the segregated area on the Kop especially identified and cordoned for this purpose; buses to be parked immediately outside the ground at Leppings Lane end and Penistone Road end to hold 5 serials each

Deploy
 (17)
 sends

Operational orders.

during the match of officers who were previously on stand-by at Claywheels Lane and too far away to be deployed quickly; three prisoner vans to be available to respond to requests for transport for prisoners arrested outside the ground and avoid having to utilise mobile serials for this purpose; all officers to be provided with at least one hot meal; call-signs for Chief Inspectors and above to be by way of their names to avoid confusion. By instruction; one officer to be identified to deal with any VIP's to avoid others being taken away from recognised roles; the CCTV link utilised the previous year from Wadsley Bridge station to be cancelled as this took up considerable radio space when being set up and the monitor took up valuable space in the control room; a communications officer to be available at the ground to deal with any communication problems. By negotiation; buses for transport of Kop and south stand supporters to be positioned nearer to the city to assist Segregation. By arrangement with the club signs to the ground to be provided and erected by the AA. By contingency; any excesses of private vehicles for Liverpool supporters to be directed to the Wisewood/Winn Gardens area; if large numbers of supporters without tickets, mobile serial to attempt to locate and remove to, Nottingham Forest supporters to Hillsborough Park, Liverpool supporters to Cole Road.

At 10 am on 22nd March 1989 (220389) I attended a meeting at Hamerton Road Police Station, chaired by Chief Superintendent Mole and which was attended by all interested parties, who had been

N4700

I recall that at the meeting it was mentioned that Liverpool were unhappy with the allocation of tickets and being given the Leppings Lane end and north stand. There was a strong representation from officials of British Rail to alter these arrangements as well in order that Nottingham Forest fans could use Wadsley Bridge railway station as early indications were that many more

Halifax Rd.

Actions for these persons from Liverpool and British Rail to be undertaken

A5259

Nottingham fans would be travelling by special train, than Liverpool. As a result of this, I later discussed with Chief Superintendent Mole, whether we could re-appraise the allocation of the ground. We discussed and agreed that in view of it meaning all supporters would have to cross and that as it was an exact replica of the previous year's fixture and fairly fresh in travelling supporters minds and they would no doubt park and resort to the same areas as last year, that the probability of public order situations arising in many areas would be too high and it was not possible to re-arrange accommodation in the ground.

*Actions of
statements
from Mr Mole*

N4700

A3226

*due to public order
x over of fans*

On 29 March 1987 with Chief Inspector Beal and Inspector Sewell, I attended a meeting with Chief Superintendent Duckenfield when we discussed the draft operational order and current state of planning and decided to go ahead with the order with some minor amendments.

*SI obtained
from Mr
Duckenfield
A1057*

At 12.30 pm on 5 April 1987 (050487), I visited Sheffield Wednesday football ground with Inspector Sewell and saw the Force catering officer, regarding the siting of a mobile canteen and prison buses.

N 6071

*Actions of
statements
from Insp
Sewell &
Force Catering Officer*

A3750

At 2.30 pm on 10 April 1987 (100487), I attended a meeting at Hammerton Road Police Station, chaired by Chief Superintendent Duckenfield and attended by the Sector Superintendents and officers from 'D' Division, Operations and Traffic and British Transport Police and discussed arrangements for the event.

N1108

*Actions of
persons
attending
meeting to
make statements*

A5259

At 2 pm on 12 April 1987 (120487), I was present when Chief Superintendent Duckenfield gave a press conference in the conference room at Hammerton Road Police Station.

N1108

N6071

At 10.30 am on 13 April 1989 (130489) with Inspector Sewell, I attended Sheffield Wednesday football Club and met with the club Secretary, Mr Graham Mackerell and discussed arrangements for the event. At the conclusion of this meeting with Inspector Sewell, I made a full inspection of the ground.

At 9.15 am on Friday 14 April 1989 (140489), I travelled to Hillsborough and at 10 am officers of the rank of Inspector and above were briefed by Chief Superintendent Duckenfield. I then gave a full briefing from briefing notes, followed by a briefing by Inspector Sewell. The sector Superintendent then took officers under their command to different parts of the ground to brief them on their specific responsibilities. The briefing by Mr Duckenfield, myself and Inspector Sewell, lasted for approximately 45 minutes. On return to Hammerton Road Police Station, I discussed with Chief Superintendent Duckenfield, cutting down my input on briefing, as we could not hold officers' attention for so long. I would merely confine my briefing to the important aspects and let sector Superintendents and Inspectors, cover all other aspects. This was agreed.

On Saturday 15 April 1989 (150489) at 0800 hours, I commenced duty at Hammerton Road Police Station and carried out general office duties. Checked the incident that had been created on Command and Control and found that it had been closed. Incident re-opened with instructions that all matters in relation to the semi-final should be entered on it. The only other information available at this time, was that there was a large amount of rubble in Parkside Road area from excavations and this was to be cleared before 10 am.

Action for
copy of details
inserted on
C & C.
A110

At 0915 hours I went to Hillsborough, arriving at about 0930 hours.

At 0945 hours I was checking that everything OK for briefing and arranging at request of one of the sector Superintendents for copies of the public house check-list to be obtained for distribution to all serial sergeants and inspectors on duty outside the ground.

At 1000 hours the briefing of all officers commenced on time. Chief Superintendent Duckenfield opening brief, followed by myself as per my briefing notes. Followed by Detective Sergeant Charlesworth on Crime Intelligence, followed by Inspector Sewell on administrative matters in relation to issue of radios and meals. This briefing took approximately 20 minutes. After the briefing I spoke to the mobile camera crew and informed them that they had a 'roving commission' before the match. During the match they were to take up a position in front of the north stand, close to the Kop end and maintain a low profile, only filming any incidents that were of note and where video evidence would be beneficial.

At about 1035 hours, I took up position in ground control. Police Sergeant Goddard, Police Constable Ryan and Police Constable Richard already on duty in control room. Informed them that Police Sergeant Goddard would be responsible for radio reception and transmission, Police Constable Ryan for the public address system and the telephones and Police Constable Richard for the CCTV operation and operation of the VHF pack-set to Force Operations Room, channel 1.

Besides being responsible for overall command of the control room, I would attempt to keep my own personal log of events. (A log had never been kept in previous years, due to the limited space in the control room and there being insufficient room for a log writer. My

Actions to establish over what period of time officers on duty were to be given meals
AS763

Actions for statement from these three persons

Action to obtain copy of kept.
A110

N1108

~~N1172~~ N7908

N6071

NK N6032

NK N6034

N5895 NK487

A3709

A3709

A1331

experience from the previous semi-final was that at de-brief it was difficult to remember all events of significance and this log would serve as a memory-jogger). At this time, civilian member of the communications department was in the control room. I informed him that he was welcome to stay for the time being in case we had any communication problems, but that he would have to leave and base himself in the gymnasium once the Chief Superintendent took up his position in control, due to limited space. At this time serials were taking their meals in the north stand and had been instructed to be briefed and on their points by 11.15 am.

Action for statement from Comms office re reliability of radios and ascertain what faults were
A3709

N7628
A3709

see 13

By 1230 hours reports had been received of supporters drinking at the following pubs; Five Arches, Devonshire, Freemasons and The Royal and at the Horse and Jockey. The mobile units were asked to monitor the situation and also in the Nottingham Forest Sector additional radios had been requested in order that Officers, who would not normally be issued with radios, could be left in the proximity of these pubs and have additional communication.

Action for questioning to be completed
DONE + checked ON BOX

see 13

At 1300 hours, reports had been received of urinator in the Wadeley Lane area, shoplifters on the Halifax Road side of the ground and the usual nuisance calls that are associated with this type of event.

By 1340 hours there had been problems at the Victoria and Royal, public houses and the royal had, in fact, closed.

At about 1350 hours I was joined in the control room by Chief Superintendent Duckenfield. I informed him that there were no real problems apparent, apart from the usual, with this type of event. We then went together onto the Track, with the intention of seeing the

N1108

R

referee. I identified the referee who was on the pitch, talking with other people and we waited about 5 minutes for him to leave the field and then followed him to the referee's room. With the linesmen, he was informed that in general, the field of play was his responsibility, but we reserved the right at any time to come onto the field if circumstances merited this. He was informed of the emergency evacuation procedure and the coded message and also informed of the procedure for stopping the match by way of the south stand lines-man. He was informed that there would be a further brief after the event.

At about 1405 hours I returned to the control room and saw that ACC (Ops) Mr Jackson, was in attendance, Mr Duckenfield appraised him of the current situation.

At about 1415 hours, looking around the stadium, I noticed that the Kop was filling up nicely. It was difficult to assess the south stand, but this also appeared to be filling. My impression was that the north stand was probably not a quarter full and the same with the west stand and the Leppings Lane terraces.

At 1417 hours a message was received from Superintendent Marshall, asking for Leppings Lane to be closed to traffic. From the CCTV pictures there did not seem to be a particular problem, but the serial identified at the roundabout end of Leppings Lane (S30) was contacted and asked to close that end. We were unable to contact the serial at the Datchbar Lane end (S26) and either Superintendent Marshall or Inspector Sykes were told this and requested to deploy an officer to close this end.

SOC
9+10

SOC (22)

N1109

A1058

N2615

A 5768

Action for statement from Supt Marshall reason for this
Action to ID S26 and ascertain position re radio and how long had been in existence

Joe R.

Action for Senior officer for S30 to give reasons why road had not been closed
Action for statement from M1
to establish if contact was made

At about 1422 hours a message was received from Superintendent N1109 Marshall that Leppings Lane had not yet been closed and traffic was still coming through. Further messages were sent asking for the road to be closed. Superintendent N1109 Marshall then asked for Mr N9093 of Sheffield Transport to be informed in order that he could make arrangements for bus routes to be altered to cater for the closure. This was arranged.

At about 1430 hours the north stand appeared to be about half full. The west stand was filling, as were the centre pen and the north west terrace. There were large clear sections in the pens, under the control box and the pen on the north side of the double railings. There was a large crowd outside the Leppings Lane turnstiles, but I was convinced that the turnstiles could cope with these numbers and remarked to Chief Superintendent Duckenfield that there was a good crowd outside, but we still had half an hour to kick off and we would get them in by three o'clock. About this time, Chief Superintendent Duckenfield asked me to remind him of what we had decided about delaying the kick off. I informed him that we had agreed that if there was an identifiable problem, such as a serious accident on the motorway, or bad weather over the Pennines, which prevented people arriving on time, that we would delay - but if it was merely that people had arrived in time, but decided to go elsewhere, rather than the ground and arrived at the last minute, then we would not normally delay it.

By 1435 hours the control room was busy. A number of reports had been received, including a possible public order problem in the Middlewood Road area with youths congregating. A number of arrests or ejections had occurred at the 'spur' on the Kop, which had been

3

74

isolate Liverpool supporters
and course of action taken in town
relations to ticket
A57B
isolated for Liverpool supporters, who found their way onto the Kop. A report had been received of a 'tout' selling Kop tickets at the Leppings Lane end of the ground to Liverpool Supporters. This was circulated by radio and he was arrested. Superintendent Greenwood was asked to consider a contingency for other Liverpool supporters on the Kop, in view of this, as the Kop was becoming full. A unit at Rawson Spring Road was requesting the present position with regard to a Draegar to carry out a breath test. The crowd around the turnstiles in Leppings Lane appeared to be about the same as 5 minutes earlier. **N1110**

17
5
Action to test public address system at Police Control
At about 1440 hours a request was received from the mounted Inspector (M11), for any spare mounted Officers to be sent to the Leppings Lane end to assist. Police Sergeant Goddard asked Police Sergeant Sorsby (Mounted) to deploy all available mounted officers to the Leppings Lane end. There were two reserve serials (S20 and S21). S21 had earlier been despatched to Penistone Road end to assist with turnstile searches. As a precaution and as 'back-up' S20 was deployed from the gymnasium to the Leppings Lane end of the ground, to assist. Messages were being received from the Leppings Lane end to use the tannoy system to ask people outside the turnstiles to stop pushing as people were going to be injured. Police Constable Ryan immediately started to pass these messages over the public address system. I instructed him to keep talking and passing on the message. **N4555**
N6034

At about 1442 hours, someone was trying to pass a message to control, which was unreadable and Police Sergeant Goddard replied that the message was unreadable. A further message was then received that our transmissions were breaking up badly and very difficult to understand. Police Constable Ryan was requested to raise the **N6032**
N603A

communication officer from the gymnasium. Before he could make the call the communications officer appeared in the control room and said that he had realised we were having radio problems and an officer had brought him to the control room. He described the fault as the 'Norman Collier' type fault of messages breaking up. The base stations are situated under the control room desk and he set to work on them. We were operating from a 'tulip' type microphone and I gained the impression that he disconnected this microphone and substituted a telephone hand-set type microphone for it.

N7628

Action already raised for statement from Comm. Office

Radio messages were coming in and the telephone microphone was handed to Police Sergeant Goddard. He passed out a radio message and the reply was grossly distorted and unreadable. Police Sergeant Goddard tried a second time and the result was the same. He put the handset on the desk and looked exasperated. I said to the communications officer, "We must have communications - at least give us talk-through and we will use a personal radio." Radio messages were still being received and Superintendent Marshall was calling. I had my own personal radio and tried to acknowledge Superintendent Marshall on two or three occasions, but he was not receiving.

N1109

Superintendent Marshall was still requesting that lanmy messages be passed about pushing and crushing in Leppings Lane and asked for the assistance of the PA Landrover in the possession of Police Constable Buxton. Police Sergeant Goddard tried to contact Police Constable Buxton and Police Constable Bichard and was asking Operations Room to send a traffic car with PA to assist. The radio suddenly started to function properly, although this was on talk-through by way of a hand held personal radio.

N7850

Action to establish who was sent by Op Room and take statement

By about 1445 hours I could see from the CCTV that the crowd outside

SOE (5)

the Leppings Lane turnstiles was now compacting and there appeared to be a crush. A radio request was received from Superintendent

N1109

Marshall to open the gates at the Leppings Lane end to allow the crowd

(2)

in. I estimated the crowd outside the turnstiles to be about two to two and a half thousand. He was asked to standby. Looking at the CCTV I could see that the mounted officers were being jostled and appeared to be working singly and were totally surrounded by people.

Within a very short space of time, the crowd outside Leppings Lane seemed to have changed from a large crowd of people to a compacted mass.

N1109

Superintendent Marshall passed another radio message, asking for the gates at Leppings Lane end to be opened saying that if we didn't open them, people would be crushed. At this time, I could see

SOE (4)

that people were climbing over the turnstiles and there seemed to be very little movement through the A to G turnstiles. Inspector Bennet

N4275

came over the air, asking for assistance to Leppings Lane. Police Constable Ryan informed me that Inspector Sewell had 8 or 10 serials

from 'D' Division at the gymnasium. I immediately asked him to despatch 5 sergeants and 50 men to the Leppings Lane end and keep the rest on standby. I was attempting at this stage, to raise Mr

N4545

Locke on the steward's radio to inform him that there were problems at the Leppings Lane end turnstiles, but received no reply.

SOE (3)

At about 1447 hours a further request was received from Superintendent Marshall, to open the gates and this was followed by

SOE (2)

Police Constable Richard, telling me that the 'gate's gone' or 'gate's burst.' I looked at the CCTV and saw that 'C' gate was open and all who were immediately outside this gate - about one hundred - gained

N5895

access. A mounted officer recovered the situation and the gate was closed. This was followed by a further message from Superintendent

Marshall, asking for the gates to be opened, followed almost

SOE (2)

Action / statement from Insp Bennett if not done A3743

Action to establish details of serials in gym and where they were deployed prior to returning to gym. * A5795

Action for statement from Mr Locke * A1576
Action to establish who opened gate on this occasion

immediately by a further message saying, "Open the gates, open the gates." I turned to Chief Superintendent Duckenfield who was standing on the raised area and said, "Mr Duckenfield, are we going to open those gates?" He replied, "Open the gates." Police Sergeant Goddard then sent out a message to serials at Leppings Lane end to open the gates. At about 1449 hours on the CCTV I saw 'C' gate opened. I was unable to see 'A' or 'B' gates. I saw a mounted officer controlling the flow through 'C' gate, but he was either pushed aside or withdrew and a heavy flow then went into the area behind the west stand.

*e/supt
Duckenfield
says that
Supt Murray
passed message
over radio
Auton / 02
Supt Kayley
& were unable
to confirm.**

*5
3
5
2*

At about 1450 hours, an urgent request was then received from a unit behind 'A' gate, which is the exit gate for the north stand (S20 Police Sergeant Higgins?) for that gate to be opened, followed immediately by a request from the same officer, "The gate is going to go if we don't open it and people will be killed." Chief Superintendent Duckenfield immediately authorised the gate to be opened and Police Sergeant Goddard sent out the radio message to that effect.

*Auton / 02
statement from
PS Higgins
A4246*

N6966

N1108

At about 1452 hours the west stand appeared full. The centre two pens of the terrace appeared to be almost full, but there was still some room at the front of the two wing pens and in the northern corner of the north west standing area.

*SOE
9+10*

At about 1458 hours I became aware of something happening behind the west stand goal. I was unable to see what it was but the Police constable was opening either gates 3 or 4 or both and a handful of people were coming out onto the track and walking calmly and slowly towards gate 1. They then appeared to stand rather aimlessly on the track and the police woman standing at gate 1, who was only a few

*Action / 02
statement
from this
Police Officer
re the course
of action.**

N8981

A5798

Action & ID
w/PC and ghtan
statements
Action/ID
statements from
CI McRobbie

yards away, was totally unaware of their presence. There was room
at the front of this pen and it seemed obvious to open this gate and
allow these people in. Chief Inspector McRobbie was present in the
control room in civilian clothing and went down onto the track to
assist her and draw her attention to what was happening.

~~N506~~ N8687

A 64

SOE (5)

At about 1459 hours I became aware of people climbing from the west
terrace into the west stand. (This had been a feature of the
previous semi-final when large numbers had climbed from the terrace
into the stand, but mainly at half-time).

By about 1500 hours more people were now being helped from the gates
at 3 and 4, onto the track. No radio traffic was being received and
I was still unaware of the problem, but considered that they may be
some pushing and crushing near to the wall and that people in that
location were being taken out for re-location in the two wing pens.

1108

At about 1501 hours, the Chief Superintendent asked for Superintendent
Greenwood to go to Leppings Lane end and find out what was happening.
More people were now being helped onto the track through the gates
and some were climbing over the perimeter fencing onto the track.

N1110

SOE
(5)

By about 1503 hours more and more people were now spilling onto the
track and were standing on the grass behind the touchline. Some were
coming over the fence. People were still climbing from the terrace,
into the stand. Superintendent Greenwood arrived at the back of the

N1110

goal. I could not hear any radio messages, but saw Superintendent
Greenwood, standing head and shoulders above the people at the back
of the goal, gesticulating, by waving his arms. The messages that he
was gesticulating, clearly conferred to me that he wanted the game to

be stopped and more and more people were now spilling onto the grass and over the touch-line onto the field of play. I heard Police Sergeant Goddard say, "Stop the game, stop the game." I looked towards the tunnel and saw no movement. I hastily grabbed my hat and coat and Chief Superintendent Duckenfield said, "Yes stop it." I went down from the control room onto the track and approached the linesman. He was running down towards Leppings Lane end, and as he approached me I took hold of his arm and said, "Stop the game." He ran straight past and obviously had not heard me and was intent on his duties. As I turned to follow him, I saw ^{N1110} Superintendent Greenwood running onto the pitch and stopping the game. I then returned immediately to the control room.

505 (5)

On returning to the control room, at about 1505 hours I could see that more and more people were spilling onto the pitch and were now scattering over the field, towards the edge of the penalty area. I was unaware of any radio messages being received and of what the problem was, but some people were sitting on the field.

A3709

N6034

At about 1506 hours, Police Constable Ryan was passing messages over the public address system and people on the field of play were just milling around. Some were lying down and it was becoming apparent that there were some injuries. ^{N1108} Superintendent Duckenfield asked me to go down onto the field and try and clear people from the goal area towards the wings. As I left the control room, I was aware of Police Constable Richard requesting an ambulance to stand by.

N5895

50A (16)

On arrival on the field, at about 1507 hours, I saw that people appeared shocked and dazed - some were lying on the ground and were obviously injured.

Action to confirm with Connors office was now working

Action to P. Ryan to clarify use of tannoy system as far state no instructions were given

A3709

As I approached the goal I could not see the gates onto the track as these were surrounded by Police Officers, but I could see that people were apparently jammed hard against the wire fence and their faces were starting to discolour. I was aware that we had a serious problem and that many people may be injured. I was not in possession of a radio and realised that one or two ambulances would be insufficient. I approached two police constables, neither of whom had radios and then saw a sergeant and took his radio from him. I could now see that some Officers were giving mouth to mouth resuscitation to people lying on the grass and that officers and spectators were trying to get people over the fence but with little success. There was no apparent movement at the rear of the two centre pens and these people in this area seemed to be merely standing and looking out onto the field.

Action to establish who's radio that was taken by [redacted] in mind that there had been trouble with transmitters

SOC 16

AS802

SOC 16

At about 1508 hours I called control and was acknowledged. I asked for a 'fleet of ambulances' as many people appeared to be injured. I requested continuous tannoy messages to the Leppings Lane end to ask people to move back. I may also have requested cutting equipment for the fences. With other Officers, I attempted to clear other people from the field, who appeared to be just standing around and getting in the way of injured people. Some of these people were in an agitated state.

SOC 5

At 1510 hours there was still no apparent movement at the back of the centre pens and people were still spilling onto the pitch. I made a further radio request for tannoy messages for people at Leppings Lane terraces to move back. There was still no movement and I could see that many police officers were engaged in the rescue operation along the fence.

Mr Murray was in a position to hear these messages & confirm this

SOE 6

At about 1514 hours, I made my way to the rear of Leppings Lane terraces and into the central tunnel. The tunnel was almost clear, with about 50 persons in it. I saw an inspector and with him and other Officers moved people out of the tunnel and on to the concourse at the rear of the stand.

Action of
ID office
officers
See officers
Recollection

At about 1522 hours I made my way back to the pitch. Spectators were encroaching up to the the half way line, some in angry and threatening mood, saying it was a 'shitty ground' and gesticulating with their arms towards Forest Supporters. A man attempted to climb on top of the goal posts at the Leppings Lane end, but before he could stand on top of the post he was pulled down by police officers. This

invoked adverse reaction from the crowd. This man was very drunk but I instructed officers not to arrest him and he was allowed to go. I saw that serials were deployed along the track at the north stand and to lesser degree along the Kop, but not along the south stand. I

took one serial from the north stand (Police Sergeant N 9943 Dyson) and asked them to re-deploy on the south stand side, near to the half way line to prevent supporters encroaching over the half way line and causing problems which would hinder the rescue operation. A full scale rescue operation was being carried out. Advertising hoardings were being used to carry injured people away and Police Officers were still giving mouth to mouth resuscitation to some injured people. People were being carried towards the gymnasium exit and some towards the players' tunnel by Liverpool supporters and Police Officers.

SOE
17
Action from
Ps Dyson
and other officers
45760

SOE 16

At about 1525 hours, I was contacted by a senior fire service officer and asked if I could maintain a clear gangway in the south stand for the removal of casualties. This was arranged with two or three

police officers and the help of members of the public in that area, who offered assistance.

N1113

At about 1530 hours I spoke to Superintendent Chapman on the pitch, who said he would look after the Kop end and the officers deployed there and then spoke to Inspector Wallace, who said he would look after the north stand and officers deployed in that area.

At about 1535 hours, I returned to ground control and appraised Chief Superintendent of the situation as best I could. I told him that there were many injuries and possibly some fatalities. At this time there was an ambulance on the perimeter track and there were still hundreds of people on the Leppings Lane half of the field. I saw that some Police Officers were beginning to deploy towards the halfway line. A number of ambulances had taken up position in the road from the south stand towards Leppings Lane. Police control contained the Chief Superintendent and ACC (Operations). The Chief Superintendent left control followed by ACC to visit Directors and appraise them of the situation. The control room was arranging for off-duty police constables to attend at Hammerton Road Police Station and Casualty Bureau staff at the ground to attend Ecclesfield. Assistance was offered to me by officers of Humberside mounted department, who had been at the Barnsley football match and I accepted this asked them to attend the ground.

At about 1545 hours I spoke with a senior fire officer, who requested that all ambulances from the south stand Leppings Lane side, be transferred to the Penistone Road end - this was arranged. About this time, a cordon was being arranged across the pitch at the halfway line.

Actual
statements
from these
officers

N6191

A short time later, ground control was visited by Mr Brian Clough and Mr Kenny Dalglish. ^{N6130} Chief Superintendent Duckenfield spoke to them and advised them that the game would be abandoned and they may tell the players but he did not wish to tell the supporters at this stage, as if they left the ground, they would seriously hamper the rescue operation by blocking the lines of communication between the ground and the hospitals. Both agreed to this course of action and Mr Dalglish spoke to the Liverpool fans by the public address system and asked them to keep calm and this was well received.

N 3367

Chief Superintendent Nesbit requested that dog handlers be deployed and this was arranged and they were asked to go to the Penistone Road end of the ground for deployment.

About 1610 hours a message was received from ACC (Operations) Mr Jackson that people in the stadium could be told that the event was to be abandoned. Messages were passed to Operations Room and Hammerton Road for routes to be monitored, and arrangements had been made for the early dispersal of the coaches, public transport and special trains. All officers were instructed by radio to exercise sympathy and understanding with people leaving the stadium.

I passed a full public address message informing the whole stadium that the event had been abandoned and requested that they retained their tickets and informed them that there had been a serious incident with many casualties and requested that people remain in their places for a short while, until we were sure that all the injured had been carried to hospital. This message was repeated twice.

Action/12
statements
from Mr Nesbit
A2278

Action to
establish
what time
this was
done

This was well-received and it was not until about ten minutes later that people started to leave the stadium. The stadium slowly emptied. About 1630 hours the Chief Constable contacted ground control and was appraised of the situation by ACC (Operations) Mr Jackson.

N9001

Action / statement from Mr Jackson re: duties

Ground Control was visited at different times to my knowledge by Mr N3144 Mackrell, the Club Secretary, the Deputy Chief Constable of SHARPLES N4435 Merseyside, Senior Fire Officers, the Production Manager of the BBC team, who offered to put out the Casualty Enquiry Bureau number.

A580x

SOE 14

As the crowd dispersed, reports of fighting were received at several locations, including Wadsley Lane, Parkside Road and Bassett's public house on Cowper Avenue and Penistone Road and mobile aeriels were dispatched to deal with each problem.

Action / statement required @ Bassett's P.H

A5775

Liaison was maintained with the Coroner and the Coroner's Officer. Initially, authority was given to call out the firm of Kenyons to deal with the deceased, but this was later amended to indicate that no bodies should be moved until they had been photographed and identified at the ground and then this was to be carried out by the ambulance service. All messages were relayed to the gymnasium.

The two centre pens of the Leppings Lane terraces were searched by a team of Criminal Investigation Department Officers under the control of Detective Sergeant Lindley. The terraces were later searched on a second occasion by officers of 'D' Division support group whom I had deployed to contain this area. After the second search the area was 'taped off.'

N7998

Action / statement from these officers as a property found

A4673

About 6.30 pm units were deployed to assist in the area of the Northern General Hospital after reports had been received that large numbers of Liverpool supporters were gathering and problems were feared. At about 8 pm officers on reserve duty at Hammerton Road were detailed to contain the gymnasium after reports that members of the press were causing problems and trying to gain access to this area.

About 9 pm I took up duties in the temporary mortuary, counselling officers and liaising with welfare and clerical workers.

About 10.40 pm I visited Niagara Sports club, where I had been informed a large number of officers had been taken suffering from shock, associated with the incident and assisted in a counselling role.

About 11.30 pm I returned to Hammerton Road Police Station to check that arrangements had been made for visits by VIP's who were scheduled to visit later that day and continued to counsel officers on duty at that station.

At 0100 hours I retired from duty.

B D MURRAY

B D MURRAY SIGNED

STATEMENT TAKEN
PLACE:

TIME: DATE:

WITNESS TO SIGNATURE:

OFFICERS SIGNATURE:

END OF REPORT

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FILE

NOTEPAD TEMPLATE

This template is intended to assist the Receiver/Statement Reader to identify those documents which are to be flagged by use of the NOTEPAD +IN.

<u>CODING</u>	<u>INTERPRETATION</u>	
INOUTY	INSIDE/OUTSIDE THE GROUND & MATERIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
INOUTX	" " " " & NON-MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
IN Y	INSIDE THE GROUND & MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
IN X	" " " " & NON-MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
OUTY	OUTSIDE THE GROUND & MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
OUTX	" " " " & NON-MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
DECY	DECEASED & MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
DECX	" & NON-MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
INJY	INJURED PERSON & MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
INJX	" " & NON-MATERIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
POLYSY	POLICE, SOUTH YORKS & MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
POLXSY	" " & NON-MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
POLYMS	POLICE, MERSEYSIDE & MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
POLXMS	" " & NON-MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
POLYNC	POLICE, NOTTS & MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
POLXNC	" " & NON-MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
POLYOT	POLICE, OTHER FORCE & MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
POLXOT	" " & NON-MATERIAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
POLPRAISE	POLICE ACTION PRAISE, APPRECIATION	<input type="checkbox"/>
POLADVERSE	POLICE ACTION CRITICISED, ADVERSE COMMENT	<input type="checkbox"/>

THE RECEIVER/STATEMENT READER SHOULD TICK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(ES) TO DIRECT THE INDEXER TO ATTACH THE MARKED CODING TO THE DOCUMENT BEING INDEXED VIA +IN.

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CATEGORY TEMPLATE. (Version III)

Please tick those category boxes which are applicable for indexing.

STANDS

Spion Kop
 North Stand
 South Stand - Seated
 Standing

WEST STAND

Pen 1&2
 Pen 5-7
 PEN 3
 PEN 4

POLICE OFFICER ON DUTY.

South Yorkshire
 Merseyside
 Nottinghamshire

POLICE OFFICER OFF DUTY

Merseyside
 Nottinghamshire
 South Yorkshire
 Others

MEDIA

Press
 TV
 Radio

GROUND STAFF.

Steward
 Turnstile Operator
 Catering
 Other

LOCAL RESIDENTS

House to House
 Shopping
 Other

PUBLIC

Letter
 Telephone
 Visit to Police Station

ANY CATEGORY NOT SPECIFIED

MEDICAL

Doctor
 Police Surgeon
 Surgeon
 Pathologist
 Nurse
 St Johns Amb

SUPPORTERS

Liverpool
 Notts Forest
 Other

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Fire Brigade
 Ambulance

RECOGNITION

Bravery Acts
 Awards
 Appreciation
 Adverse Comments
 Complaint

PUBLIC BODIES

Local Authority
 Health & Safety
 FA
 Football Trust

CONSULTANTS & FIRMS

Safety
 Construction
 Other

Broken Barrier Pen 3
 Surges in Crowd
 Attended semi final
 in 1988.

COACHES - Alcohol
 - Disorder
 - Police
 Check

LETTER REQUIRED Y/N