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PREM 19/1528

Confidential filing

The Behaviour of British football fans
Abroad.

HOME AFFAIRS

Soccer Hooliganism and Hooliganism
in other sports.

PC 1: DECEMBER 1981

PC 3: JUNE 1985

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
4.6.85							
7.6.85							
10/6/85							
13/6/85							
14.6.85							
17/6/85							
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21/6/85							
27/6/85							
28/6/85							
ENDS							

PREM 19/1528

PART 3 ends:-

FCO Go DOE. 28/6/85.

PART 4 begins:-

BI Go PM. 3/7/85.

TO BE RETAINED AS TOP ENCLOSURE

Cabinet / Cabinet Committee Documents

Reference	Date
CC(85) 22 nd Meeting, item 1	27/06/1985
L(85) 54	20/06/1985
CC(85) 20 th Meeting, item 5	13/06/1985

The documents listed above, which were enclosed on this file, have been removed and destroyed. Such documents are the responsibility of the Cabinet Office. When released they are available in the appropriate CAB (CABINET OFFICE) CLASSES

Signed J. Gray Date 7/2/2014

PREM Records Team

Published Papers

The following published paper(s) enclosed on this file have been removed and destroyed. Copies may be found elsewhere in The National Archives.

House of Commons HANSARD, 3 June 1985, columns 21 to 33: European Cup Final (Brussels)

Signed J. Gray Date 7/2/2014

PREM Records Team

CC HB



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

From the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

28 June 1985

Dear Phil,

MB3M

BELGIAN BAN ON BRITISH SOCCER CLUBS

Hugh Taylor's letter to you of 24 June gave an account of the Home Secretary's discussion in Rome on 20/21 June with the Italian and Belgian Ministers of the Interior.

As you know, we have reservations on any British initiative on this issue at this stage. We believe it would be unwise to give the impression that we were interpreting Belgian feelings, particularly in a written communication. Even if this were handled initially on a confidential basis it could put us in an awkward position presentationally as the Home Secretary himself explained to Nothomb.

Nothomb originally approached our recently retired Ambassador, Sir E Jackson, with whom we have recently discussed the position, on an informal basis and we believe that a low key and publicly unattributable response to the former's overtures would be the best way of achieving the objective of getting Anglo-Belgian sporting relations back on to an even keel without ignoring what happened at the Keyser stadium.

On substance, we believe that our main aim should be to get Nothomb to acknowledge publicly that the Belgian ban should not apply to sports other than football. No other international sporting federations have imposed a ban. It would also be helpful if amateur football teams could be exempted, where there is very little risk of hooliganism among supporters. The UEFA and FIFA bans on English (not British) professional football teams were imposed after the all-embracing Belgian ban and we hope that they now meet Belgian requirements.

If Nothomb feels the need for further safeguards against unruly British supporters in Belgium it could perhaps be suggested to him that he encourage host sports clubs in Belgium to obtain assurances of good conduct direct from the managing body responsible for any visiting British team. These could be supported where appropriate by local authorities, but forwarding

/them

P Dykins Esq
Department of Environment
2 Marsham Street
London SW1



P Dykins Esq

28 June 1985

them formally through the UK Government would not serve any useful practical purpose. On the contrary, it would be likely to entangle us all in a good deal of unnecessary red tape. The scheme outlined in Hugh Taylor's letter seems unduly cumbersome and bureaucratic.

In our view any initiative must be seen to come from the Belgians. We therefore hope that Mr Macfarlane will not take action on the lines suggested. We would propose instead that our Embassy in Brussels draw informally on the ideas in the above two paragraphs in the course of normal contacts with Nothomb's office and others.

If Mr Macfarlane agrees it would not doubt also be helpful if he were to reflect these views informally in any discussion he may have with his Belgian counterparts.

I am copying this letter to **Mark Addison (No 10)**, Hugh Taylor (Home Office), John Graham (Scottish Office) and Colin Williams (Welsh Office).

Yours sincerely
Alistair Harrison

Alistair Harrison
Private Secretary
to Tim Renton MP

Football Hoolies: Home Affairs
PL3



Prime Minister
for information
MEA 28/6

CTAB

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

Tim Renton Esq MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
LONDON
SW1

28 June 1985

Dear Mr Renton,

COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION ON FOOTBALL SPECTATOR VIOLENCE

You will be delighted to know that Council of Europe Sports Ministers meeting in Strasbourg yesterday agreed on a Convention on football spectator violence. There was almost unanimous support - just one abstention (Switzerland) - for acceptance of the draft, and Ministerial colleagues also agreed my resolution seeking early adoption by the Committee of Ministers, amply demonstrating that Governments in Europe shared a sense of urgency and of concern for collective action in the wake of Brussels.

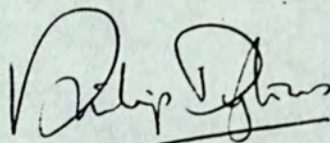
I attach a copy of the text, together with a brief summary of its key points. The text was substantially influenced by the UK. I should like to register my gratitude for the hard work and valuable support in Strasbourg of the Ambassador, Christopher Lush, and of Christopher Whomersley from your Department, and I should be grateful if you would bring this to their attention.

The Ambassador considers that the text could be adopted at the next meeting of Ministers' Deputies on 22 July and then opened for signature in August; the Convention could then come into force at the end of September, in time for the opening of next season's European matches, as Sports Ministers wished. I should be grateful for any help you can give to assist this schedule. We ourselves should obviously become parties to the Convention as early as possible. The Dutch will join us; other possible early signatories are Ireland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Belgium, France and Italy. Once the Convention is adopted and opened for signature, it would be very helpful if we were to co-operate in persuading other Council of Europe Countries to become a party.

I propose to make a short announcement in the House by way of an inspired PQ early next week.

I am copying this letter and enclosures to the Prime Minister, the Home Secretary, the Lord Chancellor, the Attorney General, Allan Stewart, John Stradling-Thomas, Nicholas Scott, the Chief Whip and to your Ambassador in Strasbourg.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Philip Jones". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

PP NEIL MACFARLANE

(Approved by the Minister and signed in his absence)

EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON SPECTATOR VIOLENCE AND MISBEHAVIOUR
AT SPORTS EVENTS AND IN PARTICULAR UK FOOTBALL MATCHES

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

The Contracting Parties shall

- co-ordinate the policies and actions of Government Departments and other public agencies against spectator violence and misbehaviour (Article 2)
- secure that adequate public order resources are employed to counter outbreaks of violence and misbehaviour, near and inside grounds and along transit routes used by spectators; and facilitate co-operation and exchange of information between police forces of different localities (Article 3.1)
- seek to ensure that offenders (especially visiting supporters) are identified, prosecuted and that they receive appropriate penalties (Article 5 and 3.1(c))
- introduce procedures to identify problem matches in advance and for effective co-operation between authorities and clubs on precautions and measures to be taken (Article 4)
- encourage the co-ordination of travel arrangements to inhibit potential troublemakers from leaving to attend matches (Article 3.3)
- encourage the use of stewards in supporters clubs for crowd control and information (Article 3.2)
- press football and local authorities, stadium owners and clubs to take the necessary practical measures for problem matches, eg in the design, improvement and selection of stadia, segregation, alcohol control, ticket sales, the exclusion of drunks and troublemakers, etc (Article 3.4)
- encourage football authorities to review their regulations continuously (Article 6.3)
- looking further ahead, take social and educational measures to promote the more positive side of sport, eg fair play and active participation (Article 3.5)
- establish a Standing Committee to police the operation of the Convention and propose improvements. (Article 8)

Scope

The Convention deals specifically with football, but there is provision for the Parties to extend it to other sports.

Ratification

For entry into force, three countries need to sign of ratify the Convention.

EUROPEAN CONVENTION
ON SPECTATOR VIOLENCE AND MISBEHAVIOUR AT SPORTS EVENTS
AND IN PARTICULAR AT FOOTBALL MATCHES

The Member States of the Council of Europe and other States party to the European Cultural Convention, signatory hereto,

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve a greater unity between its members,

Concerned by violence and misbehaviour and its consequences amongst spectators at sports events, and in particular at football matches,

Concerned that this problem is likely to impede the achievement of that unity and put at risk the principles embodied in Resolution(76)41 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe known as the "European Sport for All Charter",

Emphasising the important contribution made to international understanding by sport, and especially, because of their frequency, by football matches between national and club teams from European States,

Considering that both public authorities and the independent sports organisations have separate but complementary responsibilities to combat violence and misbehaviour by spectators bearing in mind that the sports organisations also have responsibilities in matters of safety and that more generally they should ensure the orderly conduct of the events they organise; considering moreover these authorities and organisations should work together at all appropriate levels,

Considering that violence is a current social phenomenon with wide repercussions, whose origins lie mainly outside sport, and that sport is often the scene for outbreaks of violence,

Being resolved to take common and cooperative action to prevent and control the problem of violence and misbehaviour by spectators at sports events,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Aim of the Convention

1. The Parties, with a view to preventing and controlling violence and misbehaviour by spectators at football matches, undertake, within their respective constitutional limits, to take the necessary steps to give effect to the provisions of this Convention.
2. The Parties shall apply the provisions of this Convention to other sports and sports events, as appropriate to their specific requirements, where violence or misbehaviour by spectators is to be feared.

ARTICLE 2

Domestic Coordination

The Parties shall coordinate the policies and actions of their government departments and other public agencies against violence and misbehaviour by spectators, where appropriate through setting up coordinating bodies.

ARTICLE 3

Measures

x 1. The Parties undertake to ensure ^{the} formulation and implementation of measures designed to prevent and control violence and misbehaviour by spectators, including in particular:

(a) to secure that adequate public order resources are employed to counter outbreaks of violence and misbehaviour, both within the immediate vicinity of and inside stadia and along the transit routes used by spectators;

(b) to facilitate close cooperation and exchange of appropriate information between the police forces of the different localities involved or likely to be involved;

to receive L x (c) to apply or, if need be, to adopt, legislation, which provides for those found guilty of offences related to violence or misbehaviour by spectators ~~receiving~~ appropriate penalties, or as the case may be other kinds of appropriate administrative measures

x 2. The Parties undertake to encourage the responsible organisation and conduct of supporters' clubs and the appointment of stewards from within their membership to help manage and inform spectators at matches and to accompany parties of supporters travelling to away fixtures

x 3. The Parties shall encourage the co-ordination, insofar as legally possible, of the organisation of travel arrangements from the place of departure, with the cooperation of clubs, organised supporters, and travel agencies, so as to inhibit potential trouble-makers from leaving to attend matches

9 4. The Parties shall, in accordance with responsibilities defined in domestic law and where necessary by introducing appropriate legislation which contains sanctions for non-compliance or by any other appropriate means, seek to ensure where outbreaks of violence and misbehaviour by spectators are to be feared that sports organisations and clubs, together with, where appropriate, stadium owners and public authorities, take practical measures at and within stadia to prevent or control such violence or misbehaviour, including:

(a) to secure that the design and physical fabric of stadia provide for the safety of spectators, do not readily facilitate violence between spectators, allow effective crowd control, contain appropriate barriers or fencing, and allow proper facilities for security and police forces to operate;

(b.) to segregate effectively groups of rival supporters, by allocating to groups of visiting supporters/when they are admitted, specific terraces;

(c.) to ensure this segregation by strictly controlling the sale of tickets, and to take particular precautions in the period immediately preceding the match;

(d.) to exclude from or forbid access to matches and stadia, insofar as it is legally possible, known or potential trouble-makers, or people who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs;

(e.) to provide an effective public address system and to see that full use is made of this, of the match programme and of other publicity outlets to encourage good behaviour of spectators;

(f.) to prohibit the introduction of alcoholic drinks by spectators into stadia; to restrict, and preferably ban, the sale and any distribution of alcoholic drinks at stadia, and to ensure that all beverages available are in safe containers;

(g.) to provide controls so as to ensure that spectators do not bring in objects that are likely to be used in acts of violence, nor fireworks or similar devices;

(h.) to ensure that liaison officers co-operate with the public authorities concerned before matches, upon arrangements to be taken for crowd control with a view so that the relevant rules are enforced through concerted action.

5. The Parties shall take appropriate social and educational measures, bearing in mind the potential importance of mass media, to prevent violence in and associated with sport in particular by promoting the sporting ideal through educational and other campaigns and by giving support to the notion of fair play, especially among young people, so as to enhance mutual respect both amongst spectators and between sports players and also by encouraging increased active participation in sport.

ARTICLE 4

International cooperation

1. The Parties shall cooperate closely on the matters covered by this Convention and encourage similar cooperation as appropriate between national sports authorities involved.

2. In advance of international club and representative matches or tournaments, the Parties concerned shall invite their competent authorities, especially the sports organisations, to identify those matches at which violence or misbehaviour by spectators is to be feared. Where such matches are identified, the competent authorities of the host country for the match in question shall arrange consultations between those concerned. Such consultations shall take place as soon as possible and should not be later than two weeks before the match is due to take place, and shall encompass arrangements, measures and precautions to be taken before, during, and after the match, including, where necessary, measures additional to those included in this Convention.

ARTICLE 5

Identification and treatment of offenders

1. The Parties, respecting existing legal procedures and the principle of the independence of the judiciary, shall seek to ensure that spectators committing acts of violence or misbehaviour are identified and prosecuted in accordance with the due process of the law.
2. Where appropriate, particularly in the case of visiting spectators, and in accordance with the applicable international agreements, the Parties shall consider:
 - (a) transferring proceedings against persons apprehended in connection with violence or misbehaviour committed at sports events to their country of residence;
 - (b) seeking the extradition of persons suspected of violence or misbehaviour committed at sports events;
 - (c) transferring persons convicted of offences of violence or misbehaviour committed at sports events to serve their sentences in the relevant country.

ARTICLE 6

Additional measures

1. The Parties undertake to cooperate closely with their appropriate national sports organisations and clubs and where appropriate, stadium owners, on arrangements regarding the planning and execution of alterations to the physical fabric of stadia or other measures including access to and exit from stadia, necessary to improve safety and to curb violence.
2. The Parties undertake to promote, where necessary, and in appropriate cases, a system laying down requirements for the selection of stadia which takes into account the safety of spectators and pays due regard to preventing violence amongst spectators, especially for those stadia used for matches likely to attract large or unruly crowds.
3. The Parties undertake to encourage their national sports organisations to review their regulations continuously in order to control factors which may lead to outbreaks of violence by players or spectators.

ARTICLE 7

Provision of information

Each Party shall forward to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe all relevant information in one of the official languages of the Council of Europe, concerning legislative and other measures taken by it for the purpose of complying with the terms of this Convention, whether with regard to football or to other sports.

ARTICLE 8

Standing Committee

1. For the purposes of this Convention, a Standing Committee is hereby established.
2. Any Party may be represented on the Standing Committee by one or more delegates. Each Party shall have one vote.
3. Any member State of the Council of Europe or other State Party to the European Cultural Convention which is not a Party to the Convention may be represented on the Committee as an observer.
4. The Standing Committee may, by unanimous decision, invite any non-member State of the Council of Europe which is not a Party to the Convention and any sports organisation concerned to be represented by an observer at one or more of its meetings.
5. The Standing Committee shall be convened by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. Its first meeting shall be held within one year of the date of the entry into force of the Convention. It shall subsequently meet at least every year. In addition it shall meet whenever a majority of the Parties so request.
6. A majority of the Parties shall constitute a quorum for holding a meeting of the Standing Committee.
7. Subject to the provisions of this Convention, the Standing Committee shall draw up and adopt by consensus its own Rules of Procedure.

ARTICLE 9

1. The Standing Committee shall be responsible for monitoring the application of this Convention. It may in particular:
 - (a) X keep under review the provisions of this Convention and examine any modifications necessary;
 - (b) X hold consultations with relevant sports organisations;
 - (c) X make recommendations to the Parties concerning measures to be taken for the purposes of this Convention;
 - (d) X recommend the appropriate measures to keep the public informed about the activities undertaken within the framework of this Convention;
 - (e) X make recommendations to the Committee of Ministers concerning non-member States of the Council of Europe to be invited to accede to this Convention;
 - (f) X make any proposal for improving the effectiveness of this Convention.

2. In order to discharge its functions, the Standing Committee may, on its own initiative, arrange for meetings of groups of experts.

ARTICLE 10

After each meeting, the Standing Committee shall forward to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe a report on its work and on the functioning of the Convention.

ARTICLE 11

Amendments

1. Amendments to this Convention may be proposed by a Party, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe or the Standing Committee.

2. Any proposal for amendment shall be communicated by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to the member States of the Council of Europe, to other States Parties to the European Cultural Convention, and to every non-member State which has acceded to or has been invited to accede to this Convention in accordance with the provisions of Article 14.

3. Any amendment proposed by a Party or the Committee of Ministers shall be communicated to the Standing Committee at least two months before the meeting at which it is to be considered and the Standing Committee shall submit to the Committee of Ministers its opinion on that proposed amendment/where appropriate after consultation with the relevant sports organisations.

4. The Committee of Ministers shall consider the proposed amendment and any opinion submitted by the Standing Committee and may adopt the amendment.

5. The text of any amendment adopted by the Committee of Ministers in accordance with paragraph 4 of this Article shall be forwarded to the Parties for acceptance.

6. Any amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 4 of this Article shall come into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of one month after all Parties have informed the Secretary General of their acceptance thereof.

FINAL CLAUSES

ARTICLE 12

1. This Convention shall be open for signature by member States of the Council of Europe and other States Parties to the European Cultural Convention, which may express their consent to be bound by:

(a) signature without reservation as to ratification, acceptance or approval, or

(b) signature subject to ratification, acceptance or approval, followed by ratification, acceptance or approval.

2. Instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

ARTICLE 13

1. The Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of 1 month after the date on which three member States of the Council of Europe have expressed their consent to be bound by the Convention in accordance with the provisions of Article 12.

2. In respect of any signatory State which subsequently expresses its consent to be bound by it, the Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of 1 month after the date of signature or of the deposit of the instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

ARTICLE 14

1. After the entry into force of this Convention, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, after consulting the Parties, may invite to accede to the Convention any non-member State of the Council of Europe by a decision taken by the majority provided for in Article 20 (d) of the Statute of the Council of Europe and by the unanimous vote of the representatives of the Contracting States entitled to sit on the Committee of Ministers.

2. In respect of any acceding State, the Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of 1 month after the date of the deposit of the instrument of accession with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

ARTICLE 15

1. Any State may, at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, specify the territory or territories to which this Convention shall apply.

2. Any Party may, at any later date, by declaration addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, extend the application of this Convention to any other territory specified in the declaration. In respect of such territory the Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of 1 month after the date of receipt of such declaration by the Secretary General.

3. Any declaration made under the two preceding paragraphs may, in respect of any territory mentioned in such declaration, be withdrawn by a notification addressed to the Secretary General. Such withdrawal shall become effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary General.

ARTICLE 16

1. Any Party may, at any time, denounce this Convention by means of a notification addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.
2. Such denunciation shall become effective on the first day of the month following the expiration of a period of six months after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary General.

ARTICLE 17

The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall notify the member States of the Council of Europe, the State Parties to the European Cultural Convention and any State which has acceded to this Convention

- (a) any signature in accordance with Article 12;
- (b) the deposit of any instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in accordance with Article 12 or 13;
- (c) any date of entry into force of this Convention in accordance with Articles 13 and 14;
- (d) any information forwarded under the provisions of Article 7;
- (e) any report established in pursuance of the provisions of Article 10;
- (f) any proposal for amendment or any amendment adopted in accordance with Article 11 and the date on which the amendment comes into force;
- (g) any declaration made under the provisions of Article 15;
- (h) any notification made under the provisions of Article 16 and the date on which the denunciation takes effect.

In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed this Convention.

Done at this day of 19 , in English and French, both texts being equally authentic, in a single copy which shall be deposited in the archives of the Council of Europe. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall transmit certified copies to each member State of the Council of Europe, to each State Party to the European Cultural Convention, and to any State invited to accede to this this Convention.

10 78
BF | DOE will be providing a report
next 1/7

PRIME MINISTER

FOOTBALL

In case it is not covered in the weekend press you may wish to know that the Football League Management Committee today agreed to look again at the whole subject of membership cards and to set up a working party to do so.

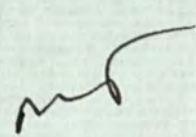
As you will remember, we were concerned that this committee would dismiss the idea of membership cards out of hand, and put itself in a position of confrontation with the Government. So the upshot of the meeting is about the best we could hope for, I think. I understand the Minister for Sport, following Robin's intervention, did a good deal of lobbying which no doubt helped.

I have just seen tonight's PA tapes, which tell a rather different story. We shall need to sort out where matters really stand next week. The above is based on a DOE report.

MEA

MARK ADDISON

28 June 1985





Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

27 June 1985

Dear Charles,

Brussels Football Disaster

The Prime Minister may find it useful in advance of the Milan Summit to have the enclosed note on the present position on disbursing money to the victims of the Brussels disaster.

Yours ever,
Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street



BRUSSELS FOOTBALL DISASTER

LINE TO TAKE

1. The British Government have made a contribution of £250,000 for the families of all the victims of the disaster.
2. We are in contact with the Italian as well as Belgian and French authorities on detailed arrangements for distributing ex gratia payments of £5,000 to each of the families of those who died.

BACKGROUND

1. 38 persons died in the Brussels football disaster on 29 May (31 Italian, 4 Belgian, 2 French and 1 Briton). In the absence of any Italian or other disaster fund we are arranging for disbursements of £5,000 from HMG's contribution of £250,000 to be made direct to the families of the victims through our Embassies in Rome, Brussels and Paris. The appropriate MFAs have been consulted.
2. Payments have been made to next of kin of the two French victims. Families of the Belgian victims (as well as the wife of the UK victim resident in Brussels) have been notified and asked about their preferred method of payment. The next of kin or appropriate legal representative of the Italian victims are still being identified by the Embassy in Rome in conjunction with the Italian MFA and Ministry of Interior, but we have urged the need for early progress.
3. The total disbursement to families of the 38 dead will amount to £190,000. We have put proposals to the Italian, Belgian and French authorities on disbursing the balance of £60,000. Priority is to be given to the neediest families.

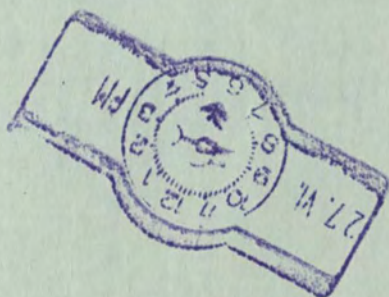


-2-

4. The total raised through private donations seems likely to be fairly small. The Merseyside appeal has raised only a few thousand pounds. The Mirror and the Sun have also opened appeals.

5. No publicity has so far been given to the disbursement of HMG's contribution. Even though payments have not yet been made to the families of the Italian victims there would be no harm in drawing attention to the £5,000 figure in response to press or other questions. The proposed line to take has been agreed with the Embassy in Rome.

Consular Department
F C O
27 June 1985





161312
ZZ

FLASH

H/Cons J

STRAFO 002/27

H/WED

ZZ FCO

ADVANCE COPY

X8 H/Learn Anderson

ZZ MILAN (FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER)

Mr JENKINS
Mr HARRINGTON

GRS 165

CONFIDENTIAL

PS/N 10 J.S.

FM UKDEL STRASBOURG 271530Z JUNE 85

TO FLASH FCO

PS/r MacFarlane, DUE
(3)

TELEGRAM NUMBER 146 OF 27 JUNE .

AND TO FLASH MILAN (FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER)

SPECTATOR VIOLENCE

1. EUROPEAN SPORTS MINISTERS MEETING IN STRASBOURG ON 27 JUNE AGREED ON A EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON VIOLENCE AT SPORTING EVENTS, IN PARTICULAR FOOTBALL MATCHES. THEY ASKED THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS TO ADOPT AND OPEN FOR SIGNATURE THE CONVENTION AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY IN ORDER THAT IT MIGHT COME INTO FORCE IN TIME FOR THE NEXT FOOTBALL SEASON. THEY ALSO REQUESTED ALL GOVERNMENTS ENTITLED TO DO SO TO BECOME PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. THE GERMANS HAVE ASKED US FOR SUFFICIENT TIME BEFORE FORMAL ADOPTION TO ALLOW THEM TO CONSULT THE LAENDER. THIS IS A CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENT. THEY ARE CONTENT THAT THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS ADOPT THE CONVENTION ON 22 JULY AND OPEN IT FOR SIGNATURE SHORTLY THEREAFTER. IF TWO OTHER COUNTRIES BESIDES OURSELVES SIGN QUICKLY THE CONVENTION WILL COME INTO FORCE BEFORE THE FIRST ROUND OF EUROPEAN MATCHES.

3. AGREED TEXT CLOSELY FOLLOWS THE UK DRAFT.

FCO PLEASE ADVANCE TO NO. 10 DOWNING STREET FOR PS/PRIME MINISTER

LUSH

NNNN

SENT/RECD 271615Z STO/WJD

Charles.

You should be aware that Neil Macfarlane has been in Strasbourg today, discussing with other Council of Europe Sports Ministers a draft Convention or measures to prevent football violence. The telex states there is a good chance the Convention will be in operation before the start of the next season.

The Convention will try to bring up the existing CofE Recommendation on violence at sporting events. It seems doubtful if it will have much practical impact. But the UK, and the Dutch, have at least taken the lead in promoting concerted international action in this area. I'm afraid I don't have a text.

Mal Adair

910

Foreign and Commonwealth Office



London SW1A 2AH

27 June, 1985

Dear Charles,

CD
28/6

/ I enclose a message from Mr Martens which the Belgian Ambassador would like the Prime Minister to see before Milan. It is a reply to the Prime Minister's own recent message.

Yours ever,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street



10 DOWNING STREET

1. Charles Powell ^{No: the only} argument is that
2. Kelli Butler ^{the Mexicans} will be reluctant
to go to the ^{trouble.} ^{OP}

The idea of requiring visas
to be obtained in advance
seems to have been dropped.
But is there any reason
why this should not be
proved dayside the
countryside at ports of entry?

MLA 27/6

I think visas are necessary because
the football authorities will be unable to
provide a list of undesirable in advance.
It would be more effective (and more of a
deterrent) to make application necessary and
then consider them on their merits. PBRB 27-6-

CC/MB

FS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR RENTON

PS/PUS

MR DEREK THOMAS

MR JENKINS

MR BARRINGTON

MR MACINNES

HD/WED

HD/CONS D

HD/CRD

HD/NEWS D

HD/FINANCE D.

RESIDENT CLERK

PS/NO.10 DOWNING STREET

PS/MR MACFARLANE, DOE

PS/MR SHAW, HOME OFFICE

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

FM-MEXC10-CITY 261800Z 1986
 TO IMMEDIATE FCO DESKPY 270000Z
 TELEGRAM NUMBER 705 OF 26 JUNE

YOUR TELEGRAM NO 766

WORLD CUP 1986

1. THE MEXICANS HAVE NOT SO FAR SAID ANYTHING TO US ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF BRITISH FOOTBALL HOOLIGANISM DURING THE 1986 WORLD CUP. BUT SINCE THE RECORD OF BRITISH SOCCER VIOLENCE SPEAKS FOR ITSELF AND THE EVENTS IN BRUSSELS ATTRACTED THEIR SHARE OF UNFAVOURABLE PUBLICITY AND UNOFFICIAL COMMENT HERE (OUR TELEGRAM NO 640) WE MUST ASSUME THAT IT IS LIKELY TO BECOME A MAJOR PREOCCUPATION. AT THE SAME TIME, THE MEXICANS WILL HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY MUG'S FIRM REACTION TO THE BRUSSELS DISASTER AND THEY WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY LOOK TO US TO PLAY THE FULLEST POSSIBLE PART IN PREVENTING OUTBREAKS OF BRITISH FOOTBALL VIOLENCE DURING THE WORLD CUP. AS I HAVE REPORTED IN MY LETTER OF 14 JUNE TO WEDS, CONSULAR DEPARTMENT, THE FACT THAT THE RECENT FRIENDLY MATCHES HERE INVOLVING ENGLAND PASSED OFF WITHOUT SERIOUS INCIDENT CANNOT BE TAKEN AS AN AUGURY FOR NEXT TIME SINCE THERE WAS NOTHING AT STAKE AND THE NUMBER OF ENGLAND SUPPORTERS PRESENT WAS MINIMAL. AN ADDED FACTOR ON THE MEXICAN SIDE IS THE POSSIBILITY THAT SINCE THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT'S AUSTERITY PROGRAMME WILL BE WELL INTO ITS FOURTH YEAR BY NEXT SUMMER, OPPOSITION ELEMENTS MAY BE TEMPTED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN THE WORLD CUP IN ORDER TO PROVOKE VIOLENCE IN AN ATTEMPT TO DISCREDIT THE ADMINISTRATION. WE DO NOT RATE THIS A HIGH POSSIBILITY.

2. IT IS AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND THAT WE HAVE CONSIDERED THE SUGGESTIONS IN YOUR TUR. THE PROBLEM WITH A TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF THE VISA ABOLITION AGREEMENT, AS YOU POINT OUT IN YOUR PARAGRAPH 3, IS THAT IT SHIFTS THE BURDEN OF RESPONSIBILITY ONTO THE MEXICANS. A MORE SUBSTANTIAL OBJECTIVE, GIVEN THE RELATIVE INEFFICIENCY OF MEXICAN ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESSES, IS THAT IT IS UNLIKELY TO PROVE EFFECTIVE. EVEN IF THE MEXICAN AUTHORITIES WERE TO BE PROVIDED WITH LISTS OF KNOWN UNDESIRABLES, WE MUST EXPECT THAT A HIGH PROPORTION WOULD BE LIKELY TO SLIP THROUGH. NOT ALL MEXICAN CONSULATES CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE AS ALERT TO THE PROBLEM AS THEIR CONSULAR OFFICES IN THE UK.

? see below

WE MUST EXPECT THAT A HIGH PROPORTION WOULD BE LIKELY TO SLIP THROUGH. NOT ALL MEXICAN CONSULATES CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE AS ALERT TO THE PROBLEM AS THEIR CONSULAR OFFICES IN THE UK.

3. LIKE YOU WE TEND TO THINK THAT THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF REDUCING THE CHANCES OF VIOLENCE IS BY ATTEMPTING TO PREVENT THE ENTRY OF LISTED TROUBLEMAKERS AT POINTS OF ENTRY TO MEXICO. FOR PRACTICAL PURPOSES, THESE ARE LIKELY TO BE THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT MEXICO CITY, THE AIRPORTS AT MONTERREY AND GUADALAJARA (WHICH ARE VENUES FOR MATCHES AND WHICH CAN BE REACHED BY DIRECT FLIGHTS FROM THE US) AND THE NORTHERN BORDER WITH THE US. WE DO HOWEVER HAVE SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT LEAVING IT TO THE BRITISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION TO PASS NAMES TO THEIR MEXICAN COUNTERPARTS OR TO THE MEXICAN EMBASSY IN LONDON. THIS PROCEDURE WOULD SEEM TO LEAVE TOO MUCH TO CHANCE AND TO THE VAGARIES OF THE MEXICAN ADMINISTRATION.

4. IT SEEMS TO US THAT A MORE EFFECTIVE PROCEDURE OUGHT TO BE TO PASS NAMES OR STOPLISTS, CONFIDENTIALLY, TO THE APPROPRIATE MEXICAN AUTHORITIES VIA THIS EMBASSY. AS WE UNDERSTAND IT, THIS PROCEDURE WOULD REPRESENT A GRAVE DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL PRACTICE FOR A DIPLOMATIC MISSION AND CARRY CERTAIN RISKS. BUT BRITISH FOOTBALL VIOLENCE IS AN ACKNOWLEDGED MENACE AND ANY FAILURE ON OUR PART TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO REDUCE THE RISKS OF IT RECURRING DURING THE WORLD CUP COULD BE EXPECTED TO HAVE EXTREMELY DAMAGING REPERCUSSIONS, EXTENDING FAR BEYOND OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO. THE ADVANTAGES OF PROCEEDING CONFIDENTIALLY WOULD SEEM TO BE CONSIDERABLE. FOR ONE REASON THE MEXICANS WILL BE ANXIOUS TO AVOID SPOILING THE ATMOSPHERE FOR THE WORLD CUP THROUGH ANY CRITICAL ADVANCE PUBLICITY THAT MAY RESULT FROM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS PASSING NAMES TO THE EMBASSY AND FROM AIRLINES BEING IN THE PICTURE. YOU WILL WISH TO REMEMBER THAT NO BRITISH CARRIER PROVIDES A THROUGH SERVICE TO MEXICO AND IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT IT IS MOST UNLIKELY ONE WILL RESUME DOING SO IN TIME FOR THE WORLD CUP. THAT MAY BE AN ADDITIONAL COMPLICATING FACTOR IN TERMS OF INVOLVING AIRLINES.

5. IN GENERAL, WHAT IS REQUIRED IN OUR VIEW IS THE CLOSEST INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION IF THE RISK OF VIOLENCE IS TO BE AVOIDED OR AT LEAST APPRECIABLY REDUCED. GIVEN THE POLITICAL DIMENSIONS OF THE ISSUE IT OUGHT NOT TO BE LEFT TO THE RESPECTIVE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS, OR TO NORMAL MEXICAN BUREAUCRATIC PROCESSES. WE ARE THEREFORE GLAD THAT YOU PROPOSE TO CALL IN THE MEXICAN AMBASSADOR SHORTLY FOR CONSULTATIONS. IT MAY BE ALSO THAT AT A LATER STAGE, PERHAPS AFTER THE AMBASSADOR'S RETURN FROM LEAVE IN AUGUST, THAT WE SHOULD DISCUSS WITH THE MEXICAN MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR.

6. THE HEAD OF CHANCERY PLANS TO WRITE SHORTLY ABOUT THE QUESTION OF REINFORCING THE CONSULAR STAFF OF THIS EMBASSY FOR THE PERIOD OF THE WORLD CUP. HERE TOO, AN IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION WILL BE TO MAKE ARRANGMENTS FOR EFFECTIVE COOPERATION WITH THE MEXICAN AUTHORITIES, PARTICULARLY IF THE COURSE OF ACTION IN PARAGRAPH 4 ABOVE IS ADOPTED, AS WELL AS THE MORE NORMAL CONSULAR AND OTHER TASKS EG. LIASON WITH THE BRITISH TEAMS PARTICIPATING.

MILTON

NNNN

CONFIDENTIAL

File



SKW

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

27 June 1985

WORLD CUP 1986

Robin Butler and I have seen Mexico City telegram no. 725 about measures to prevent British football hooligans attending the World Cup matches in Mexico next year. We are rather sceptical about the direction this is making. We think it unlikely that the football authorities will be able to produce a list of undesirables in advance; and that checks operated at points of entry in Mexico would for this and other reasons be ineffective. We continue to believe that a visa regime which required applications to be made in the United Kingdom, enabling us to help the Mexicans vet such applications, would be more effective and more of a deterrent.

I should be grateful if these views could be taken into account when considering the telegram's recommendations.

I am copying this letter to Phil Dykins (Minister for Sport's office), Hugh Taylor (Home Office) and Richard Allan (Department of Transport).

(C. D. POWELL)

CS

Len Appleyard, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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file

JD

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

26 June, 1985.

Dear Phil,

CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS WITH FOOTBALL AUTHORITIES

The Prime Minister was grateful for your Minister's progress report on the meetings of his two working groups.

On football ground safety, the Prime Minister has noted the position so far reached. She assumes that steps are being taken to bring home to local authorities the nature of the decisions which will be required of them before next season's matches.

The Prime Minister found disturbing your Minister's report that the football authorities might try to make the issue of membership cards a sticking point. It is already clear that a number of clubs will introduce their own schemes of membership cards, and there is some support for such schemes from the Professional Footballers Association. If the football authorities were to take a negative position on this issue it would be bound to bring them into conflict with the Government, and that could not be in the best interests of football or of ground safety. The Prime Minister hopes that your Minister will do his utmost to ensure that the Football League Management Committee recognise the need to give a positive lead, and certainly to avoid taking up an entrenched position in opposition to membership cards.

I am copying this letter to Hugh Taylor (Home Office), John Ballard (Department of the Environment), Steve Pike (Mr. Shaw's Office, Home Office), Richard Bennett (Mr. Mitchell's Office, Department of Transport), Mr. Ritchie (Mr. Stewart's Office, Scottish Office), Mr. O'Sullivan (Mr. Stradling Thomas's Office, Welsh Office), and Mr. Whysall (Mr. Scott's Office, Northern Ireland Office).

Your ever,

Robin Butler

(F.E.R. Butler)

Phil Dykins, Esq.,
Department of the Environment.

CONFIDENTIAL

slw



AMBASSADE DE BELGIQUE

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 122A/85

Subject
uops
amule

London, 26th June 1985.

Dear Prime Minister,

I received today your message concerning the football tragedy in Brussels on May 29.

I am very touched by the expression of deep sympathy of the British Government and people and by your personal engagement to press ahead with measures to eradicate the violence at football matches and to help the families of the victims.

The Belgian Government has already taken a certain number of measures while awaiting for the results of the judicial enquiry that is going on and for which our legal and police authorities are grateful to receive full cooperation from their British counterparts.

./.

The Rt. Hon. Margaret THATCHER, FRS, MP
Prime Minister,
Downing Street 10,
London

In a few days we will have the opportunity to meet in Milan for an important European Council and I understand that our delegations have a common viewpoint on vital questions about the European Unity. I do hope that we can bring our efforts together in the spirit of our meeting at Chequers and the one held by our Foreign Ministers in order to promote a positive outcome in Milan.

Yours sincerely,

(s.) Wilfried Martens.



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cc: HO spot
HUT WO
SO CO
D. Trons

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

25 June, 1985.

I enclose a copy of a letter addressed to the Prime Minister from Mr. F.A. Millichip of the Football Association.

I should be grateful if you would let me have the draft of a reply the Prime Minister might send to Mr. Millichip, in consultation with Colin Budd (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), to whom I am copying this letter and enclosure.

(Mark Addison)

Miss Sue Vandervord,
Department of the Environment.

h

PRIME MINISTER

SOCCER - MEMBERSHIP CARDS

It seems clear from all I hear that the football industry is not doctrinally opposed to membership/identity cards. After all, some clubs are to introduce them.

The problem is a combination of a sheer lack of imagination and enterprise and a fear that any card system is bound to cost them money either in terms of outlay or revenue denied.

I fear that the only effect of talking to clubs in terms of new technology will be to put them off even more. They see new technology as expensive and beyond their capacity - 70 year old gatemens etc - to operate.

If we are to break down resistance, and get something moving quickly, we need to come up with a cheap system which copes with the problem of the casual spectator, gives the authorities a sanction over troublemakers and offers the clubs a new source of revenue.

The system which I propose below is not absolutely watertight; none can ever be. But it does meet the criteria set out above.

First, we should persuade the authorities to introduce a national system based upon the individual 92 League clubs.

Second, the FA/FL would then tell all people who intended or even hoped to visit a football match during the coming season to write to their club, or nearest club, applying for a membership card, enclosing a fee of, say, £1 (I am assured the card would cost no more than 50p), plus a passport photograph giving full name, age and address. They would emphasise there would be no way of getting into a match without such a membership card.

The photo, name, age and address, club code and the applicant's club membership number would then be incorporated into the hologram. The club would then have a detailed record of each person.

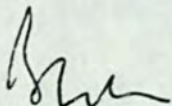
These membership cards, which would be recognised nationally, would be the sole means of admission, subject to random checking and, of course, liable to withdrawal by the club. It would be assumed that the police would hand it over to the club for cancellation if a person were arrested or ejected from the ground. In this way there would be the makings of control and sanction against unruly elements.

It is assumed that misrepresentation - ie use of someone else's card - would also be grounds for cancellation - cancellation which would, of course, prevent admission to any ground.

All this might, of course, be viewed in a negative light by many clubs. But there is a positive side. The smaller clubs might well attract more rather than less "gate" money by a membership card system. Speaking for myself, I would be inclined to support home industries and so apply to Halifax Town (which does well to get 1500 to home gates). And the incorporation of the club number in the hologram could be used as a basis for lotteries, winning numbers etc - you pay your membership fee and you qualify for club lotteries.

I have examples of holograms which help to demonstrate the viability of the sort of scheme I have outlined.

What I think is important is not to aim for the moon first time round; or to assume that nothing is worth doing unless it is absolutely rogue proof. We need to get clubs to first base; once there we can build better systems as the seasons go by.



BERNARD INGHAM
25 June 1985



file [signature]

SL3AHM

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

25 June 1985

BELGIAN BAN ON BRITISH SOCCER CLUBS

The Prime Minister has seen your letter to Phil Dykins, reporting on the Home Secretary's discussion with his Belgian opposite number on the possibility of relaxing the existing comprehensive Belgian ban on visiting United Kingdom football teams. The Prime Minister believes it must be for the Belgians to make any offer on relaxation in return for our co-operation on other matters connected with the follow-up to Brussels. She does not think we should put ourselves in the position of pleading for a change.

The Prime Minister also thinks the proposals set out in your letter run the risk of being a bureaucratic way of approaching the problem and of locking the Government into vetting individual clubs' applications. Furthermore, there seems little point in doing this at a stage when the football ~~discussion~~^{season} does not get under way until mid-August.

I am copying this letter to Phil Dykins (Department of the Environment), Colin Budd (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and John Graham (Scottish Office).

MARK ADDISON

Hugh Taylor, Esq.,
Home Office

67

MR ADDISON

25 June 1985

LEAGUE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Geoff Alexander from DoE called concerning the League Management Committee. He has not been in touch with the League but will do so if you require any further information (Tel no 212-6974). He passed on the following:

President

J J Dunn~~d~~tt - Chairman, Nottingham County

Vice Presidents

R Wragg - President, Sheffield United
J S Wiseman - Director, Birmingham City

Committee Members

R Daniel - Director, Torquay United
A Everiss - Director, West Bromwich Albion
I M Jones - Chairman, Doncaster Rovers
G H C Needler - Director, Hull City
G A Smith - Vice Chairman, Watford
J W Smith - Chairman, Liverpool & Chairman, Sports Council
Sir Arthur South - Chairman, Norwich City

Vice Members

Sir Mac Busby - President, Manchester United
E M Gliksten - no details
L T Shipman - has connections with Leicester City
Rt Hon Lord Westwood - Former Vice President, FA
F A Would - no details

Life Vice President

L C Cearns - Chairman, West Ham

DEBBIE SCOLA

DBOAAO



The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB

01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

24 JUN 1985

Dear Prime Minister

CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS WITH FOOTBALL AUTHORITIES

You may like to have a progress report following meetings on my 2 Working Groups this week and other informal discussions.

On football ground safety, the Working Group discussed on Wednesday the report prepared by the Football Grounds Improvements Trust's (FGIT's) surveyors giving provisional estimates of the likely scale and cost of safety improvements to be made, both at designated and non-designated grounds. The range of costs suggested was £9m-£14m, for both England and Scotland. About £9m of this would be for the 37 clubs in Divisions 3 and 4 of the Football League to be newly designated. The Working Group quickly agreed that the figures could only be regarded as provisional, whilst we await the assessments made by the Chief Fire Officers and also the recommendations of the Popplewell Inquiry. The Group also received a report from the Home Office on the proposed timetable for designation; it was also made clear that, given the short time available for structural improvements before the start of the next season, an important responsibility will rest with the local authorities to decide what urgent changes or restrictions are needed to provide for public safety in the early season matches. Restrictions on attendances was one obvious option mentioned.

Whilst we await the further assessments and information we need, the football authorities and the Trusts agreed to examine and report on the financial resources they have available to fund the safety improvements needed. We will consider these various reports at our next meeting, in 15-20 days time.

On Tuesday evening, I had the first meeting of the Working Group taking forward your April 1st discussions on measures to combat hooliganism. We considered progress and action on all the measures the football authorities agreed to consider at your 2 meetings, using your letters as an agenda. I was reassured on most counts - there is indeed a very broad measure of agreement - but the possible sticking point remains membership cards, on which officials have since had a very lengthy exchange of views. The Football League have agreed to produce a paper which looks carefully at a practical scheme and its costs and benefits. This will be discussed

in confidence by the Football League's Management Committee before being tabled for discussion at the next meeting of that Working Group in the week beginning 1 July. We will continue to press our view, but it looks as if the authorities and clubs lack the will to take decisive action of this kind - and the majority of club chairmen appear to be against membership cards. You may like to know that one difference between us which has emerged is that the Football League in particular do not share our view that there is an issue of public confidence in the game! They appear to believe that all will be well when the new season opens and the current media attention has moved on to other issues.

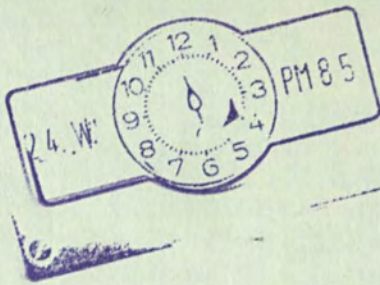
I will give you a full report after the next meeting of the Working Group, with my advice on our policy and the next steps.

I am copying this to Patrick Jenkin, Leon Brittan, Giles Shaw, David Mitchell, Allan Stewart, John Stradling-Thomas and Nicholas Scott.

John

Neil Macfarlane

NEIL MACFARLANE



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10 DOWNING STREET

Rohi Bhatu.

No opinions here. But the letter caption that the Regre's approval, at bottom, is strongly consistent with ours.

You will not to have this to hand when you see Neil McF.

MBAT 24/6

PRIME MINISTER

BELGIAN BAN ON BRITISH SOCCER CLUBS

You will see from the attached letter that the Home Secretary has been discussing with his opposite number in Belgium the possibility of relaxing the existing comprehensive Belgian ban on visiting UK football teams.

The Home Secretary is suggesting that Neil Macfarlane pursue the idea by writing to the Belgian Minister of the Interior and suggesting that amateur clubs, etc, should be able to put in special applications to the Belgian Government via the UK Government with a view to obtaining permission to play in Belgium.

However confidential that approach might be, it seems bound to get out. We therefore run the risk of losing much of the goodwill you generated through early and prompt action in condemning the violence at Brussels, and accepting the punishment which was meted out. So far, the Government's (and even more so the football authorities') measures have yet to take effect, so special pleading of this kind seems premature. It also runs the risk of being a very bureaucratic way of approaching the problem, locking the Government, effectively, into vetting individual clubs' applications to play in Belgium. Finally, there seems little point in doing it at this stage when the football season does not get under way until mid-August.

Content for me to pass on your view to the Home Office, Minister for Sport's Office and Foreign Office, that any approach of the kind suggested in the letter would be premature, bureaucratic, unnecessary at this stage, and possibly thoroughly counter-productive?

MAA

MARK ADDISON

24 June 1985

VC2AIE

Yes - it is for Belgium
to make the offer in return for our cooperation on other things connected with the follow up to Brussels. It is not for us to plead.

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HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SW1H 9AT

24 June 1985

Dear Phil,

BELGIAN BAN ON BRITISH SOCCER CLUBS

During the margins of the meeting of Ministers of the Interior in Rome on 20/21 June, the Home Secretary has the opportunity to discuss the events in Brussels and their follow-up with Mr Scarfaro and Mr Nothomb, respectively the Italian and Belgian Ministers of the Interior.

The Home Secretary reiterated the Government's deep regret over what had occurred. Both Ministers expressed satisfaction with HM Government's response, Mr Nothomb indicating in particular his gratitude for the co-operation of the Merseyside police in the investigation of the riot and the offer to assist through the Director of Public Prosecutions in preparing cases for extradition and the repatriation of any offenders eventually sentenced to imprisonment in Belgium following the investigation to serve their sentences in Britain.

Mr Nothomb said that he was also anxious to make progress towards relaxing the current ban on all British soccer teams in Belgium. In discussion between the two Ministers a possible way forward emerged which the Home Secretary said he would commend to Mr Macfarlane for consideration when he returned to London. This would involve a scheme on the following lines:

Any club not affected by the UEFA ban (and amateur clubs in particular) wishing to play in Belgium should obtain from their local authority a letter setting out the circumstances of the proposed visit, the names and number of players and supporters involved, with an indication from the local authority that to their knowledge there was no record of any violence or misconduct associated with the club or team. Such letters should then be forwarded formally to the Belgium Government through the United Kingdom Government (presumably through your Department).

On handling Mr Nothomb said that for internal political reasons it was difficult for him to be seen to be making an approach to us about all this. The Home Secretary explained that there were also obvious presentational difficulties for our Government in making a first approach towards relaxing the current ban. It was agreed between the Ministers that the best way of overcoming these difficulties might be for Mr Macfarlane to write to Mr Nothomb saying that he understood that there might now be some feeling in

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

- 2 -

Belgium that this was the right time to begin to consider some relaxation of the ban and suggesting the scheme outlined above as a possible way forward. The Home Secretary assured Mr Nothomb that all this could be done on a confidential basis at this stage.

During the discussion the Home Secretary was at pains to emphasise that this was not an area in which he exercised personal responsibility. He would, however, be grateful if Mr Macfarlane could give urgent consideration to this approach and to following it up on the lines indicated if, like him, he thinks it provides a possible opening.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mark Addison (No 10), Colin Budd (FCO) and John Graham (Scottish Office).

Yours sincerely,
Hugh Taylor

H H TAYLOR

P Dykins, Esq.

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010

Telephone
01 - 212 3434

DEPARTMENT OF THE
ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET
SW1P 3EB



NBPM

*With the Compliments of
the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State*



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

24 June 1985

F G Mann Esq CBE
President
MCC
Lords Cricket Ground
St Johns Wood Road
LONDON NW8 8QN

Ivan George

CROWD CONTROL AT CRICKET MATCHES

As you may know, I met Charles Palmer, Tony Steven and Donald Carr of the TCCB on Friday to discuss what action should be taken to deal with the worrying developments in crowd behaviour at some cricket matches.

We agreed that problems could be developing which required firm and early action. In particular, the TCCB agreed to consider urgently restrictions on sales of alcohol on some occasions, careful planning for big matches, players' behaviour and stricter and standardised ground rules. Donald Carr will be taking these matters forward in the next few weeks, in consultation with County Secretaries and, where appropriate, with my officials.

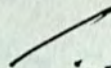
We also agreed that I should write to you to express concern about the matches under MCC's jurisdiction. I know you will share my view that everything possible must be done to prevent cricket becoming afflicted with the sort of problems with which we are all too familiar in football. Events such as the Lords' Test could become targets for that tiny fringe element which disfigures sport by its rowdy and unpleasant behaviour. I would strongly recommend that alcohol sales be restricted, if not stopped altogether; we all know that excessive drinking has already led to problems at cricket and we must be anxious to avoid the type of rowdy scenes which are distressing in themselves but which, with TV publicity, could both change the game's image and enhance its attractions for the trouble-makers. Your experiment last year in closing the Tavern bar for the one-day final was, I thought, a step in the right direction and appeared to be a success. I hope you will be repeating it this year.

More generally, I should be grateful if you would consider urgently the preventative measures to be taken, in consultation with the TCCB. If you would like a discussion, I will be glad to make myself or my staff available.

Yours

Neil

NEIL MACFARLANE





10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

24 June, 1985.

The Prime Minister has asked me to thank you for your letter to her of 19 June.

Your letter is receiving attention, and I will write to you again as soon as possible.

(Mark Addison)

F.A. Millichip, Esq.

CC/HS



QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

24 June 1985

R. Nich.

MSPM

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

Thank you for your letter of 20 June.

I do understand your concern about the mens rea point, but I see no way round the difficulty which I set out in my letter of 17 June. I think the best we can do is to ensure the position is made clear during proceedings on the Bill.

The definition of "operator" has been amended to "the person operating the railway", and I think this meets your point about underground systems.

Finally, perhaps I could set out briefly the position which has been reached in discussions between our officials on the definition of public service vehicle. We have adopted what I understand to be the position in Scotland: that is, the provision will catch buses, coaches and minibuses which are used for hire or reward. I appreciate that the bus and coach industry may press for an extension so as to cover more widely minibuses which are not used for hire or reward and if pressure on this point develops during Parliamentary proceedings an amendment may have to be considered. I feel bound to say, however, that any inroads into private vehicles would be bound to present considerable difficulties.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, all members of H and L, Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, John Wakeham, Sir George Engle and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours,
R

The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley, MP

Prime Minister. ②

Interesting that receipts at the gate
from all the Divisions is netted by administration
costs (probably mostly of wages for officials etc).

21 June 1985

MEM 21/6

PRIME MINISTER

FOOTBALL FINANCE

Here is a better look at football finance.

Page 1 - League income in England last year.

Page 2 - Football Trust income and Government money.

Page 3 - Expenditure for the League last year.

JPS.

HARTLEY BOOTH

DBNABE

FOOTBALL FINANCE

INCOME (£ MILLION) - 1983/4 WHERE AVAILABLE

A	<u>FOOTBALL LEAGUE</u>	1984/5	1983/4
1.	Gross Gate Receipts (League Matches)		
	Division 1	- 24.0	
	Division 2	- 13.0	
	Division 3	- 5.0	
	Division 4	- 2.5	
		<u>44.5</u>	<u>44.5</u>
2.	Cup Competitions		
	Milk (League)	- 6.0	
	FA	- 10.0	
		<u>16.0</u>	<u>16.0</u>
3.	Television (Amount paid to League by TV Companies for screening of Football League Matches (including £0.5 for showing matches overseas)		<u>3.1</u>
	FA receive	- 0.5	<u>3.1</u>
	Clubs' deals	- 0.4	
		<u>0.9</u>	<u>0.9</u>
4.	Pools (Amount paid by the Pools Promoters Assoc. for use of the copyright of the Football League Fixture List (25% of this goes to the Scottish League)		<u>5.5</u>
			<u>4.5</u>
5.	Bookmakers' Fees (@ £50 per shop)		0.25
6.	Foreign Pools (Sundry)		0.25
7.	Special Individual Club Deals (Advertising, Lotteries, Canon, etc)		<u>20.0</u>
		TOTAL	<u>£90.5m</u>

B FOOTBALL TRUST INCOME

1984/5 = £6,775,117 1983/4 = £5,865,322

From this, £1,544,000 was given to the League in England in 1984 for police charges etc.

C GOVERNMENT MONEY

(Hansard, 5 June 1985, Col 166)

1. From Sports Council budget of £31.5 million (mostly capital) to Football Association:

1984/5 = £278,153 1983/4 = £354,317

2. Also, the Urban Programme of £35 million provides a substantial sum to football - for non-league facilities.

EXPENDITURE FOR 1984/5 (£ MILLION)

	<u>TOTAL</u>
1. Gross Wages to Players	
Division 1 - 13	
Division 2 - 8	
Division 3 - 5	
Division 4 - 4	
	<u>30</u>
	30.0
2. VAT (£7.5 million on gates)	12.0
3. Police Charges	2.5
4. Administration/Overheads (non capital)	
Wages: Managers	
Groundsmen	
Gatemen	
Secretaries	
Repairs	
Postage	
Telephone	
Rates	

GRAND TOTAL £89.5m

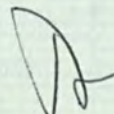
45.0

PRIME MINISTERLEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL AT FOOTBALL GROUNDS

The Legislation Committee will be discussing the Bill to control alcohol at sports grounds next week with a view to immediate introduction. Points to note are the following:

- (i) the Bill will not be brought into effect before 10 August which would breach the normal rules about requiring a 21-day period between the laying of a statutory instrument and its coming into force. There are precedents for this, however, and the Opposition seem likely to agree.
- (ii) the Bill applies only at present to 'football specials' i.e. rail and coach services specifically designed to take football supporters to grounds. There may be pressure for provision to cover normal, scheduled services. But buses already exist for this purpose.
- (iii) you will recall that the Home Secretary wanted to make an exception from the ban on alcohol for "fully enclosed rooms" at football grounds, i.e. sponsors' boxes. The Opposition will not agree to that, however, and the Home Secretary has had to fall back on banning alcohol in any part of the ground with a direct view on to the pitch. If they wish those relatively few clubs with sponsors' boxes could redesign them to provide a closed off bar.
- (iv) there may be pressure to extend the Bill to sales of alcohol in the immediate vicinity of football clubs. The police do, however, have the power under the Licensing Act 1984 to apply to magistrates for pubs and off-licences near football grounds to be closed at the time of matches.

21 June, 1985



COVERING CONFIDENTIAL

CCIB
(the return request to PD)
with
copy
ship
(PL)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:
Your ref:

Done
SLW
26/5

Mark Addison Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
SW1

21 June 1985

Dear Mark,

/ I enclose, as requested, a copy of an internal note of Wednesday's
/ Meeting of the Working Group on Football Ground Improvements, chaired
/ by Mr Macfarlane. I am also enclosing a copy of the FGIT Report
assessing the scale of works necessary and their likely costs,
/ which I should be grateful if you would return as soon as possible,
together with a copy of the summary sheets from that report for
your retention.

I am copying this letter and the meeting note to Christine Heald
and Steve Pike (Home Office), Gerard Hetherington (Scottish Office),
and to the Private Offices of John Stradling-Thomas and Nicholas Scott.

Yours,
Philip Dykins

PHILIP DYKINS
Private Secretary



COPIED

SECOND MEETING OF WORKING GROUP ON FINANCING OF SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS
AT FOOTBALL GROUNDS: 19 JUNE 1985

- <u>Présent:</u>	Mr Macfarlane (Chairman)	<u>Welsh Office</u>
	<u>Football Trust</u>	Mr Whitaker
	Lord Aberdare	<u>NI Office</u>
	Mr Faulkner	Mr Johnston
	Mr Evans	
	<u>FIGT</u>	<u>Home Office</u>
	Mr Wharton	Mr Morris
	Miss Firth	
	<u>Football Association</u>	<u>DOE</u>
	Mr Croker	Mr Routh
		Mr Teasdale
	<u>Football League</u>	Mrs Anderson
		Mr Alexander
	Graham Kelly	Mr Dykins
	Jack Dunnett	
	<u>Sports Council</u>	
	John Smith	
	John Wheatley	
	<u>PPA</u>	
	Mr Endicott	
	<u>Scottish Office</u>	
	Mr Stewart (PUSS)	
	Mr Scott	

Mr Macfarlane opened the meeting by congratulating Mr Wharton for the speedy production of a detailed report which had been placed before the Group on an assessment of the improvement works needed to bring all football grounds in the English and Scottish Leagues up to the standards required by designation under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975, and of the probable costs involved. The Minister asked Mr Wharton to convey his thanks to the surveyors, George Corderoy and Co, who had carried out the assessment, and to everyone else responsible for its production. He expressed his regret that details of the report had reached the press even before the Group had had a chance to discuss it.

Introducing the report, Mr Wharton also regretted that details had already become public, despite a strict limitation on its circulation. He stressed that the surveyors who had carried out the survey were entirely independent and that he was confident of the reliability of their estimates within the constraints which the Group were aware of. It was important to stress that these estimates did not make allowance for any further work that may be required as a result of reports from Chief Fire Officers based on inspections which were now taking place at all grounds, or of any alteration in standards or requirements which may result from the Popplewell Inquiry. The figures given in the report (which were based on current prices) must therefore be regarded very much as provisional.

The scale of works required varied considerably between grounds. In some instances the surveyors had found whole structures which they considered to be beyond repair or alteration. Stands at one ground, Windsor Park in Belfast, had been the subject of a closure order. The (relatively small) sums required for works at clubs which were already designated were largely accounted for by increased standards and by wear and tear on existing safety features.

Mr Wharton confirmed that the estimates had been made on the basis of improving grounds up to standards appropriate to the clubs' average attendances, and not on the theoretical maximum ground capacity. He reiterated that FGIT saw little point in financing clubs to retain excess capacity which their average gates - or in some cases even their maximum gates - could not justify. Matches where unusually large crowds were expected should be transferred to more appropriate grounds, and this view had been reflected in the preparation of the report. No account had been taken in the report of the possible sources of funding for the works described or of a club's ability to contribute its 25% share of any works funded by FGIT.

Mr Stewart wished to emphasise that no decision had yet been taken on whether to extend the designation in Scotland. It was noted that some clubs in the lower Scottish divisions played to very small crowds indeed. Mr Johnston confirmed the position with regard to Windsor Park, but noted that there may well be problems with other grounds in Northern Ireland also, although the 1975 Act did not apply there.

Asked to bring the Group up to date with the Home Secretary's intentions on designation, Mr Morris said that the consultation process was now nearing completion and the Home Secretary would soon be discussing the timing of the designation order with colleagues. It was likely that the Order would be laid in July to come into effect before the start of the new season. This would require newly designated clubs to apply for a certificate under the Act by then. It would then be up to local authorities how quickly they responded to these applications and in what manner. However, the Home Office would be considering what guidance they could give authorities, in particular on the possibilities open to them to grant interim certificates imposing temporary conditions (such as closure of certain areas, or restrictions on attendance at the whole or particular sections of the ground) which would not necessitate the immediate execution of major works.

Clubs would have the right of appeal to the Home Secretary against any conditions imposed. On the question of finance for improvement works, Mr Wharton said that FGIT had around £3m currently uncommitted for works over the next two years. They operated on a "first come, first served" basis and at present had no other system of priority for applications.

Mr Dunnett said that he thought that the costs quoted in the FGIT report must be regarded as minimum figures and that it was now important to consider ways of funding a likely short-fall in the resources available through FGIT. This view was echoed by Mr Croker and Mr Wharton, who said that in addition many smaller clubs might not be able to find the 25% of costs needed to enable them to carry out the necessary improvement works. Mr Croker undertook to supply details of an analysis which the FA had made of the finances of all league clubs.

It was agreed that the Group would meet again in mid July to consider the question of finance and examine what resources might be forthcoming from all quarters. Mr Macfarlane suggested that the various bodies represented should produce written papers to put to that meeting. In the meantime it was agreed that the FGIT report should be regarded purely as a provisional assessment for Government and should not be made available outside the group, not least because the figures therein needed to be seen in the context of the various qualifications and unknown factors previously discussed.

INTRODUCTION

1. This report is a response to instructions received by George Corderoy & Co., on 15th May 1985 from Mr. T. Wharton, the Chairman of The Football Grounds Improvement Trust, subsequent to the fire at Bradford F.C. and the creation of the Working Group on the Financing of Safety Improvements at Football Grounds.
2. Corderoy were directed
 - i) To inspect the 37 non-designated football grounds in the Football League together with the 21 non-designated grounds within the Scottish Football League in order to assess the likely construction costs arising from the proposed designation of these clubs.
 - ii) To carry out a check on the current safety certificate and possible future safety requirements of all designated clubs within the above referred Leagues plus the Windsor Park ground in Northern Ireland.

ACTION

3.i) Non Designated Grounds

Individual inspections were made to all the non-designated club grounds and simultaneously the co-operation sought of the local fire authority. However, at the majority of the clubs, the local fire officer was not able to be present when the Corderoy inspection took place. The majority of grounds had either recently been, or were shortly to be inspected by the fire officers (see club data sheets) and their reports are awaited. In considering this report, cognisance must be taken of the fact that these reports have not been made available to Corderoy.

Introduction

An extensive photographic record was made of all these grounds which may be called upon for reference if required.

i) Designated Grounds

All designated clubs were circulated with a request to clarify their current safety certificate status with particular regard to fire and asked to provide the date of the most recent inspection by the fire officers (see designated clubs) together with information as to those items likely to require safety expenditure. To date, these reports have not been made available to Corderoy, and therefore the likely costs included in this report are based upon the most recent requirements known to have been called for by the authorities, or allowance has been made in the light of experience.

ii) Northern Ireland

Although the Safety of Sports Grounds Act does not apply to Northern Ireland, contact was made with the Irish Football Association to establish the safety status of the National Stadium at Windsor Park.

OBSERVATIONS

4. The criteria used to assess the likely costs arising out of designation of the remaining non-designated clubs in The Football League and The Scottish Football League has been a practical approach with emphasis placed on the clubs' average attendances, not on the theoretical maximum ground capacity.
5. It has been assumed for certain grounds that, should any particular game be likely to attract an unusually large gate, steps would be taken to either change the venue for a more suitable location or a "special safety certificate" would be issued in accordance with the Safety of Sports Grounds Act.
6. Should it be decided subsequently to issue a Safety Certificate, the

Introduction

basis of which was total ground capacities, or the possible attendance likely at either a "local derby" or cup tie game, the indicative costs in this report would very significantly be increased.

Within the assessment of costs to bring grounds up to an acceptable standard of safety, no account has been taken of grounds having dual useage such as:

Speedway/stock car racing, athletics, (around a perimeter track), rugby, pop concerts and like events.

It should be noted however that in some cases a ground accepted as safe for a small number of regular football spectators may well be less than acceptable for larger gates for other regular events.

One of the necessary assumptions made during preparation of this report was that at grounds with regular gates of around 1,000 (often less), it is neither practical nor economically viable to apply the standards demanded by the "Green Guide" for grounds having large attendances.

It has, therefore, been assumed that, where evacuation of relatively small numbers of spectators directly onto the pitch has been accepted as satisfactory in the past (Lincoln City), in the immediate future this procedure of evacuation will continue to be considered satisfactory.

MAIN SUMMARY

£

Non-Designated Grounds

Football League	Page 118	9,250,000.00
Scottish Football League	Page 179	3,258,000.00

Designated Grounds

Football League	Page 183	1,050,000.00
Scottish Football League	Page 184	250,000.00

<u>Windsor Park - Belfast</u>	Page 185	350,000.00
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TOTAL	£14,158,000.00
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S U M M A R Y

£

Non-Designated Grounds

<u>Football League</u>	Average * Attendance	Largest * Attendance		Ground Capacity
Aldershot	1980	12137	205,000.00	16000
Blackpool	5000	12500	278,000.00	17500
Bournemouth	3722	7794	484,000.00	15675
Bradford City	6600	11076	241,000.00	16000
Brentford	3987	8214	1,000,000.00	32000
Bury	3600	8000	358,000.00	16500
Chester City	1960	5000	124,000.00	20000
Chesterfield	4200	7600	171,000.00	18750
Colchester United	2077	4487	238,000.00	14000
Crewe Alexandra	2300	4760	195,000.00	12000
Darlington	4141	14237 (FA Cup Game)	250,000.00	15000
Doncaster Rovers	4103	10583 " " "	236,000.00	21173
Exeter City	2400	3925	179,000.00	17086
Gillingham	4720	8881	632,000.00	16000
Halifax Town	1412	7027 (Milk Cup)	168,000.00	12000
Hartlepool United	2355	8554	196,000.00	16000
Hereford United	3889	15777	198,000.00	16500
Hull City	8010	14750	167,000.00	32500
Lincoln City	2500	6000	123,000.00	16000
Mansfield Town	2300	9102	214,000.00	19400
Millwall	7163	16160	206,000.00	34751
Newport County	2506	5079	260,000.00	18000
Northampton Town	1927	7494	394,000.00	17000
Peterborough United	3157	5341	37,000.00	27842
Plymouth Argyle	5134	9959	194,000.00	40000
Port Vale	3500	6949	276,000.00	30000
Reading	2808	5666	59,000.00	27500
Rochdale	1400	3555	158,000.00	12642
Scunthorpe United	2200	6000	270,000.00	22000
Southend United	2200	5500	151,000.00	31975
Stockport County	2200	11500 (Milk Cup)	246,000.00	14390
Swindon Town	3021	4752	533,000.00	25000

Carried Forward

£

8,441,000.00

Summary

£

Non-Designated Grounds (continued)
Football League (continued)

		Brought Forward		
Torquay United	1350	2891	8,441,000.00	
Tranmere Rovers	2000	4500	168,000.00	5984
Walsall	5200	11102	143,000.00	17500
Wigan Athletic	3600	10000	208,000.00	18000
York City	5544	13376 (FA CUP GAME)	136,000.00	20000
			154,000.00	13376

To Main Summary

£

9,250,000.00

S U M M A R Y

£

Non-Designated Grounds

Scottish Football League

	Average Attendance	League Attendance		Grand Capacity
Albion Rovers	422	1100	215,000.00	9573
Alloa	1000	4209	84,000.00	8600
Arbroath	500	-	151,000.00	10938
Berwick Rangers	450	800	84,000.00	10673
Brechin City	750	5750	100,000.00	7291
Clyde	800	1147	160,000.00	25000
Clydebank	1200	2150 (now in premier league + expect 3000)	134,000.00	9950
Cowdenbeath	300	10000	141,000.00	10000
Dunfermline Athletic	2535	8656	138,000.00	11000
East Fife	1100	1500	208,000.00	10000
East Stirlingshire	256	1100	236,000.00	11000
Falkirk	1600	3000	216,000.00	22250
Forfar Athletic	1500	2200	142,000.00	under 10000
Hamilton Academical	1235	9900	187,000.00	9900
Meadowbank Thistle	800	3000	67,000.00	15000
Montrose	700	1000	171,000.00	8500
Queen of the South	750	5500	126,000.00	15800
Raith Rovers	1350	10000	231,000.00	10000
Stenhousemuir	650	1800	124,000.00	12000
Stirling Albion	800	1800	186,000.00	19000
Stranraer	350	1350	157,000.00	5000

To Main Summary £

3,258,000.00

DESIGNATED GROUNDS

INTRODUCTION

As stated elsewhere in this report, all clubs currently having designated grounds were contacted to ascertain the status of their existing safety certificate with a request that the Fire Officer's most recent requirements at the grounds be made known.

The level of response was generally satisfactory, replies were received from the majority of the 72 designated clubs within The Football League and The Scottish Football League together with a reply from the Irish Football Association relating to Windsor Park. Many of these had been visited recently by Fire Officers and Local Authority representatives, but, although some had been given informal indication of likely requirements, most were still awaiting formal reports.

In the general absence of these reports, assessments have been made as to the likely works required at all designated grounds.

Designated Grounds
Football League

Fire Officer Visit

Remarks/Requirements

Arsenal	April 85 (to visit end June 85)	Generally satisfactory at April inspection - minor works required.
Aston Villa	20 May 85	Generally satisfactory - varied fire safety works required.
Barnsley	21 Jan 85	Generally satisfactory - minor works required.
Birmingham City	16 May 85	Generally satisfactory - minor works required.
Blackburn Rovers	No response	Probably major works to stand which is presently subject of review for safety.
Bolton Wanderers	12 June 85	Report to follow.
Brighton & Hove Albion	13 May 85	Generally satisfactory.
Bristol City	No response	Unknown.
Bristol Rovers	Responded no data available.	
Burnley	4 Dec 84	Generally satisfactory. Fire separation safety works required.
Cambridge United	14 May 85	Satisfactory - (all stands of fireproof construction).
Cardiff City	Jul/Aug 84	Generally satisfactory - minor works likely.
Carlisle United	5 June 85	Minor works required.
Charlton Athletic	13 May 85	Satisfactory.
Chelsea	20 May 85	Satisfactory, - minor works required.
Coventry City	5 June 85	Unknown report awaited
Crystal Palace	11 May 85	Satisfactory - minor works.
Derby County	29 May 85	Probable major works.
Everton	26 Jan 85	Unknown
Fulham	2 May 85	Satisfactory - minor works.

Designated Grounds
Football League

Fire Officer Visit

Remarks/Requirements

Grimsby Town	16 May 85	Emergency exits, fire alarm system various fire safety works.
Huddersfield Town	6 May 85	Satisfactory - report awaited.
Ipswich Town	No response	Unknown.
Leeds United	No response	Unknown.
Leicester City	May 85	Unknown - report awaited.
Liverpool	Jan. 85 (visit end of June awaited)	Satisfactory.
Luton Town	No response	Unknown.
Manchester City	7 June 85	Very extensive works required.
Manchester United	5 June 85	Satisfactory - minor works required.
Middlesbrough	13 May 85	Unknown - report awaited.
Newcastle United	(Acknowledgment only)	Unknown.
Norwich City	28 May 85	Considerable minor works.
Nottingham Forest	Unknown	Satisfactory.
Notts County	15 May 85	Satisfactory.
Oldham Athletic	5 May 85	Generally satisfactory - minor works.
Orient	11 May 85	Generally satisfactory - minor works.
Oxford United	No response	Major construction works currently being undertaken.
Portsmouth	Early 1985	Very extensive fire and general safety works required.
Preston North End	13 May 85	Major works.
Queen's Park Rangers	13/14 May 85	Generally satisfactory - minor fire safety works required.
Rotherham United	14/15 May 85	Satisfactory.
Sheffield United	10 June 85	Unknown.
Sheffield Wednesday	Unknown	Satisfactory.
Shrewsbury Town	22/28 May 85	Unknown - awaiting report.

Designated Grounds
Football League

Fire Officer Visit

Remarks/Requirements

Southampton	13 May 85	Satisfactory.
Stoke City	No response	Unknown.
Sunderland	17 May 85	Generally satisfactory - minor fire safety works required.
Swansea City	14 May 85	Extensive fire safety works required.
Tottenham Hotspur	No response	Unknown.
Watford	23 May 85	Generally satisfactory - minor works.
West Bromwich Albion.	16 May 85	Three stands require very extensive fire safety works to floor, roof and seats - other minor works.
West Ham United	13/18 May 85	Generally satisfactory - minor fire safety works required.
Wimbledon	Unknown	No current safety certificate - works required unknown.
Wolverhampton Wanderers	20 May 85	Unknown - report awaited.
Wrexham	27/29 May 85	Unknown - report awaited.

Estimated likely cost of works listed To Main Summary £1,050,000.00

Designated Grounds
Scottish Football League

Fire Officer Visit

Remarks/Requirements

Aberdeen	13 May 85	Satisfactory
Airdrieonians	No response	Unknown
Ayr United	5 June 85	Generally satisfactory - report awaited.
Celtic	28 May 85	Generally satisfactory - minor works required.
Dumbarton	Dec. 84	Generally satisfactory - minor works required.
Dundee	Dec. 84	Satisfactory
Dundee United	3/7 June 85	Generally satisfactory - minor fire safety works required.
Heart of Midlothian	May 85	Major fire safety works required - emergency lightin fire alarm system, rewire electrical circuits etc.
Hibernian	No response	Unknown
Kilmarnock	14 May 85 5 June 85	Generally satisfactory - minor fire safety works required.
Morton	14 May 85	Various fire safety works required.
Motherwell	31 May 85	Unknown.
Partick Thistle	13 May 85	Satisfactory
Queen's Park	11 June 85	Extensive redevelopment taking place - report awaited.
Rangers	May 85	Generally satisfactory - minor fire safety works required.
St. Johnstone	No response	Unknown
St. Mirren	13/17 May 85	Generally satisfactory.

Estimated likely cost of works listed To Main Summary £250,000.00

Football Association

Fire Officer Visit

Remarks/Requirements

Windsor Park

1/7 June 85

*Extensive work required
to wooden grandstand and
bench seating, segregation
fencing etc.*

Estimated likely cost of works listed

To Main Summary

£350,000.00

From: Mrs C A B Tolley

B
CAB



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB
Telephone 01-218 2452 (Direct Dialling)
01-218 9000 (Switchboard)

ppm

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

Mark Addison Esq
Private Secretary to the Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London SW1

D/US of S(AF)DGT 9/2/1
2 (June 1985)

Dear Mr. Addison,

with MEA

Lord Trefgarne has seen a copy of your letter of 17 June to Mr Macfarlane's office, referring to Mr Stewart's letter of 14 June to Mr Macfarlane. You will by now have seen Lord Trefgarne's letter to Mr Stewart. Our officials have been unable to find any grounds which could support the statements made in Mr Stewart's letter or indicate what embarrassment has been caused by British Servicemen at football matches in Germany. Indeed Headquarters RAF Germany have confirmed that many airmen regularly support local German teams and their presence is welcomed and much valued by those clubs.

Frankly, the Services rather resent the allegations that have been made and Lord Trefgarne has therefore asked the Scottish Office for details of any background to their statements. I shall let you know of the results of any investigations which may follow.

Yours sincerely,
Dorothy Mowley

Private Secretary

Football Hooliganism : Home Affairs P 5.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
MILITARY HEADQUARTERS
LONDON W1A 0AB
Telephone 01-275 275
GPO 1980 (M. 100)



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MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2HB
Telephone 01-218..... (Direct Dialling)
01-218 9000 (Switchboard)

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE ARMED FORCES

Allan Stewart Esq MP
Minister for Industry and Education
Scottish Office
Whitehall
London SW1A 2AU

D/US of S(AF)DGT 9/2/1

21 June 1985

Dear Allan,

I have seen a copy of your letter of 14 June to Neil Macfarlane in which you seek action to prevent British supporters from travelling to the away legs of all European football competition ties involving the five Scottish football clubs competing next season in Europe. Commanders-in-Chief both at home and overseas have been asked to take all possible steps to enforce this ban in so far as Service personnel are concerned.

However, I must express the gravest concern generated in the Ministry of Defence over your comments about the attendance of Servicemen at matches, particularly in Germany, and the alleged embarrassment caused by the form of support given to Scottish clubs by Servicemen. The facts are that over the past four years, there are only two recorded occasions, involving a total of 3 Servicemen who were involved in soccer incidents in Europe. Indeed, I am assured that airmen serving in Germany are regular and much welcomed supporters of local German teams. I would therefore invite your officials to pass to me full details of the incidents which gave rise to these allegations, so that a full investigation can be made.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Leon Brittan, Tim Renton, Nicholas Scott, John Stradling-Thomas and Neil Macfarlane.

Yours,
David

Lord Trefgarne

HOME AFFAIRS. FOOTBALL. P. 3.



PRIME MINISTER

c. Mr. Ingham

FOOTBALL: MEMBERSHIP CARDS

I am worried about the way in which I hear that Mr. Macfarlane's discussions with the football authorities have been going.

Mr. Macfarlane tells me that he reached an impasse in his discussions with Mr. Dunnett. Mr. Dunnett has seen the Sperry system and is not impressed. Mr. Croker is also apparently strongly against membership cards and, while Mr. Millichip would be prepared to give them a try, he has said that he would support Mr. Croker.

The Football League Management Committee are having a meeting next Friday and may well decide to call a meeting of all the clubs. The likelihood must be that this will only extend and solidify opposition to membership cards. Mr. Macfarlane is not due to meet the football authorities again until after he reports from his next meeting with European Sports Ministers in Strasbourg in the week after next. So there is a danger that we are on course for the football authorities rejecting membership cards and the Government's either suffering a rebuff or having to consider enforcing membership cards in the face of a lack of cooperation from the clubs. My impression from talking to Mr. Macfarlane is that he is being a bit passive about this and that, before the Football League Management Committee meet on Friday, he ought to have another go at persuading the Football League of the dangers of splitting with the Government on this issue. It should be possible to persuade them to issue central guidance on a membership card scheme of some sort, evn if they do not try to make it mandatory on their members. But, at the moment, I see the clubs drifting into united opposition.

21 June 1985

PS. Mr. Macfarlane also tells me that he has got a most interesting video of football hooliganism at the Huddersfield v. Leeds match which he would like to show you. It takes about 20 minutes. If you agree we will look for a suitable opportunity for you to see it.

P1. file

Has we discuss on Monday morning

See Mr. Livan's letter - hutton. He will introduce cards

FERB.

✓

PRIME MINISTER

You may be interested to see, for information, the attached correspondence. The letter at Flag A, from Mr Stewart in the Scottish Office, suggested that British Servicemen in Germany had been responsible for some disturbances at football matches there. I asked for further information about this. You will see from the two letters from the Ministry of Defence at Flags B and C, that they hotly refute that there is any substance in this. The Scottish Office have been asked for details of what lies behind their remarks.

(I have the MO.) ; *re-entment* .

M/A.

not ,

21 June 1985

(128)

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 116A

Walter *Subject*
case *cc Ops*
cc Martens

CONFIDENTIAL

26887 - 1

OO BRUSSELS

GRS 341

CONFIDENTIAL

FM FCO 181700Z JUN 85

TO IMMEDIATE BRUSSELS

TELEGRAM NUMBER 99 OF 20 JUNE

INFO ROME, PARIS

WRR 295 14		
RECEIVED IN REGISTRY		
21 JUN 1985		
DESK OFFICER		
INDEX	FA	
		<i>21</i>

-107 *-113*
YOUR TELNOS 199 AND 205: MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MR MARTENS

1. THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM HER TO MR MARTENS IN THE COURSE OF YOUR FAREWELL CALLS.

MESSAGE BEGINS:

SIR EDWARD JACKSON HAS KEPT ME CLOSELY INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS IN BELGIUM AFTER THE FOOTBALL TRAGEDY IN BRUSSELS ON 29 MAY. AS YOU KNOW, I SHARE YOUR PROFOUND DISTRESS AT THE SUFFERING OF THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES. WE ARE MAKING AVAILABLE AN INITIAL DONATION OF POUNDS 5,000 TO THE NEXT OF KIN OF THOSE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES.

2. I AM ALSO VERY CONSCIOUS OF THE WIDER DIFFICULTIES THAT THE TRAGEDY MAY HAVE CAUSED FOR YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES IN THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT. IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THE BEST THING WE CAN DO HERE IN BRITAIN IS TO PRESS AHEAD WITH MEASURES TO ERADICATE THE EVIL OF VIOLENCE AT FOOTBALL MATCHES. THIS I AM DETERMINED TO DO. AND OF COURSE WE SHALL PLAY OUR FULL PART IN INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS IN THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE TO GET TO GRIPS WITH THE PROBLEM.

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR LEGAL AND POLICE AUTHORITIES ARE WELL SATISFIED WITH THE COOPERATION THEY ARE RECEIVING FROM OUR PEOPLE IN IDENTIFYING THOSE WHO MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN UNLEASHING THE TRAGEDY. BUT IF THERE IS ANYTHING FURTHER THAT YOU THINK WE CAN DO, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO GET IN TOUCH BEFORE OUR MEETING IN MILAN AT THE END OF THE MONTH IF NEED BE.

CONFIDENTIAL

26887 - 1

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR NEXT MEETING AT MILAN.
THIS MEETING OF THE COUNCIL PRESENTS US WITH A MAJOR
OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE SUBSTANTIVE DECISIONS TO STRENGTHEN THE UNITY
OF THE COMMUNITY BOTH EXTERNALLY AND INTERNALLY. SIR GEOFFREY HOWE
AND M. TINDEMANS HAVE ALREADY DISCUSSED OUR IDEAS AND I BELIEVE
WE SHARE A COMMON DETERMINATION TO COMPLETE THE COMMON MARKET, TO
REACH FORMAL AGREEMENT ON POLITICAL COOPERATION AND IMPROVE OUR
ABILITY TO TAKE DECISIONS AS A COMMUNITY.
I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TO MAKE THE MILAN EUROPEAN
COUNCIL A MEETING OF REAL ACHIEVEMENT.
MESSAGE ENDS.

HOWE

FOOTBALL TRAGEDY

LIMITED
CONS D
WED
CRD
NEWS D
INFO D
LEGAL ADVS
FINANCE D
PS
PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR LUCE
PS/MR RENTON
PS/MR RIFKIND
PS/PUS
CHIEF CLERK
MR DEREK THOMAS
MR JENKINS
MR BARRINGTON
MR MACINNES

COPIES TO:
PS/NO 10 DOWNING ST
PS/MR MACFARLANE DOE
PS/MR SHAW HOME OFFICE
MS HOGWOOD FINANCE DEPT

2
CONFIDENTIAL

CC HB



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

The Rt Hon Lord Hailsham of
St Marylebone, CH, FRS, DCL
Lord Chancellor's Department
House of Lords
LONDON
SW1A 0PW

MSM

20 June 1985

Alan Gurnitin

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

Thank you for your letter of 6 June.

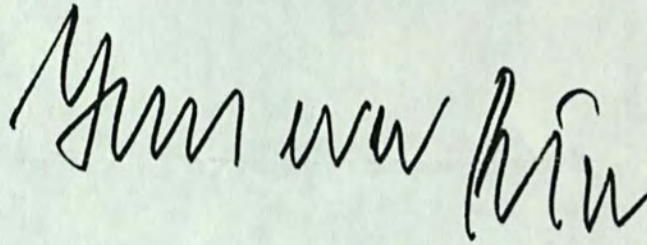
You are right to recall the reasons why we have a legal aid system, and I was mindful of these in framing my earlier letter. Nevertheless, since you have raised the general point I am bound to say that I cannot accept the implication in your letter that all changes to the present rules would prejudice the presumption of innocence. I trust that you did not mean to rule out for all time the possibility of modification to the Widgery criteria. Expenditure on legal aid cannot uniquely be exempt from the assessment of objectives and priorities to which all other public expenditure is subject.

In the context of the legislation which Leon is proposing, my concern is that we take full account of the expenditure implications in our decisions, with the aim of minimising any costs to the Exchequer, if possible avoiding altogether any net costs to the taxpayer.

Under the Widgery criteria, the main reason for granting legal aid is "that the accused is in real jeopardy of losing his liberty or livelihood or suffering serious damage to his reputation." If the proposed offences were punishable not by imprisonment but by a suitably severe fine, the likelihood of recourse to legal aid would be significantly reduced. This is quite apart from the advantage of avoiding additional pressures on the prison service. My point therefore was, and remains, that in considering this legislation we should give full weight to the expenditure and resource implications of the penalties proposed and settle for heavy fines.

As you rightly say this would not entirely eliminate the possibility of legal aid being granted. For this reason I think it is worth considering ways in which defence costs under legal aid can more readily be recovered from those convicted. I appreciate that this concern goes wider than the specific issue of football hooliganism, but I would welcome your and Leon's suggestions on whether and how the courts might be encouraged to ensure that offenders repay the full costs of their conviction, including legal aid, once they have the financial means to do so.

Copies of this letter go to members of L and H Committee, the Prime Minister, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, John Wakeham, Sir George Engel and to Sir Robert Armstrong.



PETER REES

HOME AFFAIRS; Football: PE3.



10 DOWNING STREET

20 June 985

From the Private Secretary

MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO MR MARTENS

Thank you for your letter of 19 June enclosing a draft message from the Prime Minister to Mr Martens.

The Prime Minister has approved the message with some very minor amendments marked on the second page of the draft which I enclose.

Charles Powell

Colin Budd Esq
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

MJ 2AQE

apl

BF
1

Ed

PRIME MINISTER

THE APPROACH TO THE NEXT FOOTBALL SEASON

1. I promised you a note on the public relations/presentational aspects of the approach to the coming football season which opens on August 17.

2. I think that we have avoided raising expectations that ground improvements will be completed by then. Similarly, we have not held out the prospect of an immediate end to violence and hooliganism. So far as I can see my clients recognise that what the Government is seeking is a progressive improvement in both ground safety and spectator behaviour. It will, however, be necessary to reiterate the concept of steady improvement the closer we get to the opening of the season. For many football fans nothing much will appear to have happened, though they may be denied entry to certain parts of their home ground.

3. Against this background, I have two major public relations concerns:

- the first, the Government's - and your personal - need to demonstrate that you have done everything reasonable in the time available to bring about progressive changes in fabric, equipment and attitudes
- the second concerns attitudes and the need to implant in the public's mind the idea that the 1984-85 season was the low water mark for British soccer; enough is enough; an entirely new attitude and approach by Government, police, football authorities, clubs and players - and we hope the mass of decent fans - governs the new season. 1985-86 must mark the return to decency in British soccer.

4. You have so far tended to downgrade the contribution which public relations can make to your objective. In

2
We must discuss
mt

practice the Government is already able to point to an impressive action programme. But that programme will be less effective - and have less impact - if the clubs (the key) are either lukewarm, sullen or half-hearted.

5. You know what the Government is doing to gear up for next season. Similarly, you know what the police are trying to do. But, even after Bradford, you need to be sure that the local authorities are as serious as you are. When you are sure of this, you can exploit the offices of Mayor or council chairman to help bring about a change in attitudes. But the (key) elements you cannot rely on are the football authorities and the clubs.

6. What follows is a suggested programme of Government/Prime Ministerial action based upon this analysis.

7. First, if it is accepted that the clubs are the key, then each of the 92 League clubs must be required at the first few home games of next season (and regularly thereafter, if necessary) to:

- print a message from the chairman in the programme containing the points in the draft message at Annex I; you will see these cover the club's attitudes to hooligans and spectator and player (very important) behaviour and to what clubs expect of the police, courts and spectators; successive messages will need to be tailored to experience of the ground, and if necessary Government will have to provide alternative drafts;
- ensure that a spokesman for the club, who is the most articulate and persuasive, summarises this programme message over the tannoy and makes the following point:
 - anyone who steps on to the pitch without authority will be liable to arrest by the police and prosecution; it is now not a case of asking people to keep off the pitch - we are telling you that if you don't you can expect to end up in court;

It is not an offence

- demonstrate in various ways - weight of police, stewards, Mayor or chairman speaking from the pitch - that things are being taken seriously;
- ensure that at club annual meetings held August-October resolutions on the lines of Annex I are passed, preferably unanimously, and given publicity.

8. Second, we should ensure that the chairmen of clubs call in the various editors of press, radio and television before the first home game to explain the new attitude. They should be flanked by the Chief Constable or his representative who makes quite clear to press, radio and television how, with the backing of the Government and club, he is going to discharge his responsibilities.

9. Third, we should get official supporters clubs to issue statements to the media condemning hooliganism and violence; demanding an end to it; and emphasising their support for tough club, police and court action.

10. Fourth, we need to gear up the media, and especially commentators, to put over as strongly as possible on radio and especially television the Government's determination that 1985-86 will mark the return to sanity and safety; what you have asked the clubs and police to do and what they have undertaken to do; and what you hope the courts will do. In this context there is much to be said for your holding a briefing of top football writers and commentators and specifically asking people like Jimmy Hill and Bobby Charlton to be as firm as they can be in supporting authority and condemning hooliganism on and off the field of play.

11. A variant of, or added to, this is to try to organise the more articulate goalkeepers, who are often first in line of hooligan fire, to launch a campaign - "Goalies against Hoolies". We are proposing you should give an interview to Gary Bailey, Manchester United and England goalkeeper, from Piccadilly Radio, Manchester - an interview which we should get networked. Bailey is an articulate graduate.

12. Elton John, chairman of Watford, has suggested an interview with Bailey. But all the glamorous pop names in soccer have a role to play in getting the right approach to next season, and we should consider organising the main radio and television sports programmes to get as many of them on the air as possible immediately before the season to spread the word.

13. Fifth, David Davies, a curious animal in that he is both a political and football correspondent, has asked you to give a pre-season interview to BBC Grandstand on a Saturday lunchtime. I think you should do this early in August before you go on holiday, and also give one to ITV's World of Sport.

14. Sixth - and this depends on the outcome of Mr Macfarlane's current talks with the FA/FL - we need to tie in these two authorities in any publicity exercise. They must be required to make the right noises, too; otherwise the impact will be reduced.

Arguments

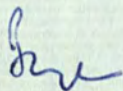
15. It may well be objected that this gives you a very high profile and that when there are further outbreaks of hooliganism next season you will be seen to have failed. This argument has some force, but not all that much since the objective of the programme I outline is to put the clubs in the front line of responsibility. In any case, it should be clear to most people now that if there is serious trouble next season clubs are going to find their grounds closed. We are not simply talking about exhortation; you have a lot of measures and sanctions backing that up.

16. You are not in a position to let go of this issue now. You have so grasped the nettle that football must next season progressively become safer and more ruly. We have to put everything behind that effort.

Conclusions

17. I have discussed the ideas set out above informally with John Smith, Chairman of Liverpool, and Neil Macfarlane is aware of them and I believe generally supports them.

18. You may care to discuss.



BERNARD INGHAM

20 JUNE 1985

ANNEX I

Last season was a disaster for English football - and tragic for many innocent fans who died attending their favourite sport.

Last season must be the last of its kind. English soccer simply cannot go through another season like it if it is to survive as a sport.

Soccer must make itself safe and rid itself of the minority who have brought violence, hooliganism, intimidation and disgrace to far too many matches.

This 1985-86 season must mark the return to sanity in our sport and, with it, our eventual return to free competition with clubs abroad.

Accordingly, I and my fellow directors, want to serve notice on all who would cause trouble on or around our ground. This club has resolutely set its face against hooligans. We are determined to stamp them out.

To this end we have taken the following measures:

- safety]
-] [give list]
- public order]

But in addition we have informed the Chief Constable/Chief Officer of Police that they have our full backing in taking firm action against anyone who steps out of line. We give due notice that we shall fully support a determined and thorough policy of prosecution, and if those tried are found guilty, we hope the courts will hand out heavy punishments.

As one single illustration of this we have asked the police to eject from the ground anyone who goes on to the pitch without specific authority.

No hooligan can expect any quarter on or around this ground from the club, the police and, I hope, the vast mass of decent fans who want to enjoy the game in peace, comfort and security. That is what we aim to provide our fans. They deserve no less.

We shall, of course, expect the highest standards of conduct from our players so that they set a good example, on behalf of the club, to all on the terraces.

So to summarise: the game we all love has got to be cleaned up. We have got to give every family who would like to come and enjoy themselves watching their favourite team the confidence to do so. If we don't, it is no exaggeration to say that soccer will simply go down the drain and cease to exist as a serious sport.

The clean up starts now.

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

LIMITED

Patron: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
President: H.R.H. THE DUKE OF KENT
Chairman: F.A. MILLICHIP

General Secretary:
E.A. CROKER



Phone: 01-262 4542/402 7151
Telex: 261110

16 LANCASTER GATE, LONDON W2 3LW

Our Ref: FAM/JAC/9332

Your Ref:

19th June, 1985

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher,
The Prime Minister,
10 Downing Street,
London,
SW1.

Dear Prime Minister

I am in receipt of your letter of the 17th June 1985 summarising the measures already taken by the Government and those suggestions which are to receive your further consideration.

Together with Mr. Dunnett and Mr. Kelly from the Football League, Mr. Croker and I have already had further discussions with the Minister for Sport on the various areas where you are expecting The Football Association and/or the Football League to take action.

It is quite unnecessary for me to assure you of our determination to take whatever action be necessary to restore football's good name and to repair the inestimable damage occasioned to our country.

Despite doubts expressed by us as to the practicability of Membership Cards, that and all the other areas referred for our consideration, are already listed for action. The detail for Membership Cards is the only item on the Agenda when further discussions will be held today between Mr. Teasdale, Mr. Croker and Mr. Kelly.

We, at The Football Association, are much consoled by the proposed new legislation and with the speed at which it is proposed to be introduced.

Cont./...

CJHB

SS(006) PM in consultation with CRE(FIC)

cc info to those who received meeting record of 13/6

120

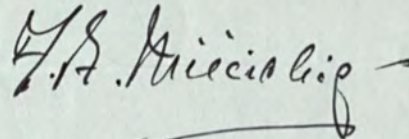
CFMS

The Rt. Hon. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher

19th June, 1985

One grey area, however, continues to disturb me. The Qualifying Rounds for the European Championship commence in September 1986. We could be drawn in opposition to any European footballing country. Unless some restriction is placed upon persons travelling to Europe for the clear purpose of attending matches, we can only expect trouble of the worst kind. I hope that the whole subject of "travel" can receive the closest examination by the appropriate Departments.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'F.A. Millichip', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

F.A. Millichip,
Chairman.

Soccer Hooliganism: HOME Affairs
Pt 3.

1 copy to Address
Aachen

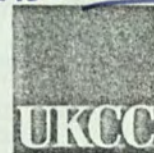
PERSONAL

MRH/LCD

19 June 1985

Bernard Ingham Esq
Press Office
10 Downing Street
London SW1

For football file.
(But no mention here that cards
potential can control access
to grounds).



Dear Bernard,

I am sending you a copy of a letter which has gone to Neil McFarlane. Its purpose is simply to let him know that there is a system up and running, which with little modification could provide the national registration of football supporters. We have developed the technology to provide plastic cards. Whatever the Football Association may say about practical problems we believe that these could be overcome. I can understand that there may be real 'theological' problems, but there are advantages for clubs in a reliable registration system.

I am sending you this simply so that someone at the centre knows that solutions are around, and that many people are anxious to help.

Yours,

M R Hanson

M R Hanson

MH/EMH

United Kingdom
Central Council
for Nursing,
Midwifery and
Health Visiting
23 Portland Place
London W1N 3AF
Tel 01-637 7181

18 June 1985

Neil McFarlane, MP
Minister for Sport,
Department of the Environment,
2 Marsham Street,
London SW1



Dear Minister

The United Kingdom Central Council and Electronic Data Systems have developed a computer based system for the registration of nurses. This covers the whole of the United Kingdom and contains over 2.4 million records. It is a working system and with little adjustment could provide a system for the national registration of football supporters. We believe that this registration system could provide the Football Association with the technology to help tackle the problem of football hooliganism.

The UK Central Council is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament and is responsible for the registration of the nursing profession. Its computer based registration system is acknowledged to be at the forefront of technology and was developed with the assistance of the Health Departments. The Minister for Information Technology is personally aware of the developments.

Electronic Data Systems is the largest data processing services company in the world. It recently acquired Unilever Computer Services Limited and Unilever's nationwide voice/data network. EDS is a wholly owned subsidiary of General Motors which, as you know, sponsors the Football Association through Vauxhall Motors. EDS is also known to the FA since they are currently in discussion for a system for the registration of players and referees.

The UKCC and EDS have recently entered into a three years Facilities Management contract and they have a joint agreement to develop and market the computer system.

This registration system is working and is a practical option. As well as assisting in the regulation of crowds and supporters it would also provide other benefits to football clubs, e.g.

- it would provide mailing lists for marketing and promotion;
- it would facilitate payment of fees and the sale of tickets;
- it would help win back lost supporters because a reassurance of crowd control would be given;
- it is a modern system and would not have the historic objections associated with the issue of identity cards.

The development of this technology would provide tangible proof that problems were being tackled and this would help the UK to win back the international prestige which it has lost.

The UKCC and EDS are ready to make a presentation to you and the Football Association and, given the resources and the will, believe that a registration system could be introduced before the start of the next football season. In view of the urgency of this matter EDS will be contacting your office later this week.

M R Hanson
Director of Administration
(UKCC)

Stephen P Bunker
Government Marketing
EDS (UK)

Ref. A085/1675

MR BUTLER

--- Sir Kenneth Stowe has sent me a copy of the note (copy attached) which he has received from the Chief Medical Adviser to the Department of Health and Social Security about the use of alcohol and its effects on health and social behaviour.

2. His main point is that alcohol, particularly in the form of wines and spirits, is now cheaper in real terms than it has been for very many years.

3. Since this is implicitly an argument for much higher taxation of beer, wines and spirits, a copy of Dr Acheson's minute is being sent to the Treasury.

ROBERT ARMSTRONG

19 June 1985

Sir Kenneth Stowe



ALCOHOL: BRUSSELS, AND HEALTH

Although my concern in connection with alcohol should be limited to its effects on health, there are one or two points about recent trends of which I am aware which may be relevant to Brussels and to football violence in general. As I have not heard them made in the public debate I take the liberty of setting them out here:-

1. Alcohol is now cheaper than it has been for very many years, particularly in the form of wines and spirits, and is obtainable more freely.

2. In absolute terms it is at present possible to purchase 100 cc of alcohol in a 10 per cent solution in the form of supermarket wine for £2.00 and an equivalent dose in the form of spirits for £2.35 and of beer for £2.75.

Bringing Hogarth up to date, it is possible to be drunk for £2.00 and dead drunk for £3.00! The product of an hour's work!

3. Relative to 1965, the amount of work which is needed to earn money to purchase a given quantity of ^{alcohol} ~~work~~ has fallen by 63 per cent for spirits, 56 per cent for wine and 17 per cent for beer.

4. During the period the consumption of alcohol per capita has, except for a check during 1980-2, risen as has the prevalence of alcohol related disease.

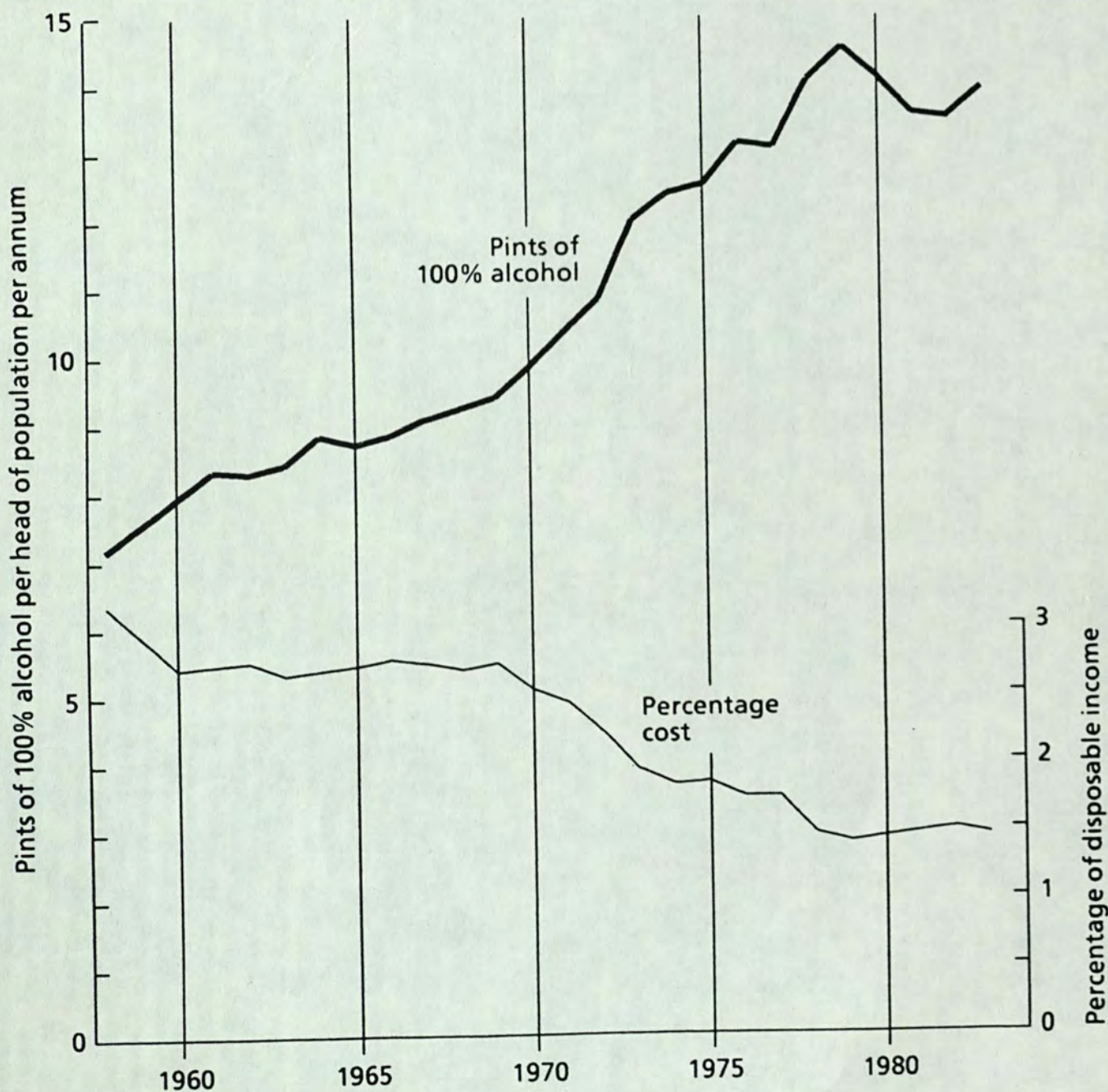
10 June 1985

Amaladas
CMO

Fig. 3 Cost per pint of 100% alcohol as percentage of personal disposable income at current prices compared to annual consumption per head of population

Sources: HM Customs and Excise; National Association of Cider Makers; Office of Population Censuses and Surveys; Central Statistical Office.

Source: Alcohol Statistics 1984. ⁴² Based on the national consumption, and price, of the different types of alcoholic beverage.



010

CRK

①



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

19 June 1985

Dear Charles,

Prime Minister
Yes - very good idea Agree this message
no to M. Martens?

Possible Message from the Prime Minister to Mr Martens

CDP
19/6

You will have seen Sir Edward Jackson's telegrams numbers 199 and 205 (copies enclosed for ease of reference). Sir Geoffrey Howe thinks it would be helpful if the Prime Minister could send Mr Martens a sympathetic message before they meet at the Milan Council. I enclose a draft telegram.

As you know, the Prime Minister was unable to accept Mr Martens' invitation to her to visit Brussels at the beginning of June to return his visit here on 2 March. Sir Geoffrey Howe did of course visit Brussels on 1 June, as it happened three days after the Brussels football tragedy.

Yours ever,
Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

OUT TELEGRAM

	↓	Classification and Caveats CONFIDENTIAL	Precedence/Deskby IMMEDIATE
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ZCZC	1	ZCZC
GRS	2	GRS
CLASS	3	CONFIDENTIAL
CAVEATS	4	
DESKBY	5	
FM FCO	6	FM FCO 181700Z JUN 85
PRE/ADD	7	TO IMMEDIATE BRUSSELS
TEL NO	8	TELEGRAM NUMBER
	9	INFO ROME, PARIS
	10	Your telnos 199 and 205: Message from the Prime Minister to
	11	Mr Martens
	12	1. The Prime Minister would be grateful if you would pass the
	13	following message from her to Mr Martens in the course of your
	14	farewell calls.
	15	Message begins:
	16	Sir Edward Jackson has kept me closely informed of developments in
	17	Belgium after the football tragedy in Brussels on 29 May. As you
	18	know, I share your profound distress at the suffering of the
	19	victims and their families. We are making available an initial
	20	donation of £5,000 to the next of kin of those who lost their
	21	lives.
///	22	2. I am also very conscious of the wider difficulties that the
//	23	tragedy may have caused for you and your colleagues in the
/	24	Belgian government. It seems to me that the best thing we can do
	25	here in Britain is to press ahead with measures to eradicate the

NNNN ends telegram	BLANK	Catchword evil
File number	Dept WED	Distribution Football tragedy limited
Drafted by (Block capitals) C A Munro		
Telephone number 233 4759		
Authorised for despatch		
Comcen reference	Time of despatch	

OUT TELEGRAM (CONT)

Classification and Caveats
CONFIDENTIAL

Page
 2

1 <<<<

2 evil of violence at football matches. This I am determined to do.
 3 And of course we shall play our full part in international
 4 efforts in the Council of Europe and elsewhere to get to grips
 5 with the problem.

6 I understand that your legal and police authorities are well
 7 satisfied with the cooperation they are receiving from our people
 8 in identifying those who may have been involved in unleashing the
 9 tragedy. But if there is anything further that you think we
 10 can do, please do not hesitate to get in touch, before our
 11 meeting in Milan at the end of the month ^fis need be.

12 I am looking forward to our next meeting at Milan. ~~It seems to me~~
 13 ~~that~~ ^T this meeting of the Council presents us with a major
 14 opportunity to take substantive decisions to strengthen the unity
 15 of the Community both externally and internally. ^{Sir} Geoffrey Howe
 16 and ~~Lee~~ ^T Tindemans have already discussed our ideas and I believe
 17 we share a common determination to complete the Common Market, to
 18 reach formal agreement on political cooperation and improve our
 19 ability to take decisions as a Community.

20 I look forward to working with you to make the Milan European
 21 Council a meeting of real achievement.

22 Message ends.

24 HOWE

26 NNNN

31 ///

32 //

33 /

34

NNNN ends
 telegram

BLANK

Catchword

FOOTBALL TRAGEDY

ADVANCE COPIES

45 17



PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR RENTON

PS/PUS

MR DEREK THOMAS

MR JENKINS

MR BARRINGTON

MR MACINNES

HD/WED

HD/CONS D

HD/CRD

HD/NEWS D

HD/FINANCE D.

RESIDENT CLERK

PS/NO.10 DOWNING STREET

PS/MR MACFARLANE, DOE

PS/MR SHAW, HOME OFFICE

GRS 350

CONFIDENTIAL

FM BRUSSELS 000147Z JUN 85

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 205 OF 18 JUNE 85

AND TO IMMEDIATE DESKBY 191000Z LUXEMBOURG (FOR SECRETARY OF STATE'S PARTY)

YOUR TELNO 109: FOOTBALL VIOLENCE;
POSITION OF BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER.

1. I UNDERSTAND FROM YOUR PRIVATE OFFICE THAT YOU ARE ENCOURAGING THE PRIME MINISTER TO CONSIDER SOME KIND OF PERSONAL MESSAGE TO MARTENS. YOU MAY HOWEVER WISH TO KNOW BEFORE YOU SEE TINDEMANS IN LUXEMBOURG THAT HE CONFIRMED PRIVATELY TO ME AT LUNCH YESTERDAY (17 JUNE) THAT MARTENS WAS INDEED RATHER BETTER AT THE COMPLICATIONS WHICH THE HEYSEL TRAGEDY HAD CAUSED FOR THE GOVERNMENT IN THE RUN-UP TO THE ELECTIONS IN DECEMBER, FOLLOWING MARTENS' SUCCESSFUL RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BELGIAN ECONOMY AND HANDLING OF THE CRUISE MISSILES. NOTHOMB ALSO CONFIRMED IT DURING ANOTHER FAREWELL MEAL FOR ME LAST NIGHT TO WHICH HE SAID HE HAD MADE A POINT OF COMING.

2. YOU WILL APPRECIATE THAT THE PRESSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT ARISING FROM CRITICISM OF NOTHOMB, WHO IS THE SENIOR FRANCOPHONE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT IN THE COALITION AND SOMEBODY TO WHOM MARTENS IS PERSONALLY VERY WELL DISPOSED, MUST ALREADY BE CAUSING SOME STRAINS IN THE COALITION. TINDEMANS CONSIDERATELY WENT ON TO SAY THAT MARTENS BITTERNESS WAS NOT PERHAPS DIRECTED SOLELY AGAINST THE BRITISH BUT ALSO AGAINST CRAXI'S SHARP REACTIONS AND AGAINST THE WEAKNESSES IN THE BELGIAN PREVENTIVE AND INTERVENTION MEASURES. NEVERTHELESS HIS AND NOTHOMB'S COMMENTS TO ME GAVE ME THE FEELING THAT THE GOVERNMENT...

BRITISH BUT ALSO AGAINST CRAXI'S SHARP REACTIONS AND AGAINST THE WEAKNESSES IN THE BELGIAN PREVENTIVE AND INTERVENTION MEASURES. NEVERTHELESS HIS AND NOTHOMB'S COMMENTS TO ME CONFIRM MY FEELING THAT THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL EFFECTS OF THE TRAGEDY HAVE IMPLICATIONS WHICH MAY BE AFFECTING MARTENS' ATTITUDE TOWARDS BRITAIN IN A WIDER SENSE, AND STRENGTHEN THE CASE FOR A CONCILIATORY MESSAGE TO HIM FROM THE PRIME MINISTER, ESPECIALLY IN THE RUN-UP TO MILAN.

3. I HAVE ALSO (A) ASKED TINDEMANS' CABINET TO WARN HIM THAT WE ARE THINKING OF PAYING £5,000 IMMEDIATELY TO FAMILIES OF THE DEAD, IN THE ABSENCE SO FAR OF A DISASTER FUND, AND THAT YOU WISH TO MENTION THIS TO HIM. THE CHEF DE CABINET'S INITIAL PERSONAL REACTION CONFIRMED THAT PAYMENTS TO THE WOUNDED WOULD BE VERY COMPLICATED AND POSSIBLY CONTENTIOUS AND THAT PAYMENTS TO EG POLICE FUNDS WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE (B) REPORTED SEPARATELY A SUGGESTION TO ME LAST NIGHT BY NOTHOMB THAT THE BRITISH MINISTER ATTENDING THE MEETING OF INTERIOR AND JUSTICE MINISTERS IN ROME ON 20-21 JULY SHOULD HAVE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH HIM AND GOL (MINISTER OF JUSTICE) ABOUT MEANS OF MITIGATING THE PRESENT BELGIAN BAN ON ALL SPORTING TEAMS.

JACKSON

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GRS 570
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FM BRUSSELS 140830Z JUN 85
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 199 OF 14 JUN
INFO PRIORITY ROME AND PARIS

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE - BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS INTERVIEW.

SUMMARY

1. IN AN INTERVIEW ON 13 JUNE IN LE SOIR (CENTRE) MARTENS DISPLAYS EVIDENT IRRITATION THAT THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HIS GOVERNMENT SINCE 1982 IN RESTORING THE BELGIAN ECONOMY AND 'CEASING TO BE THE SICK MAN OF EUROPE' HAVE BEEN 'TARNISHED' (IN A DIFFICULT ELECTION YEAR FOR HIM) BY THE HEYSEL TRAGEDY. HIS FEELINGS, LIKE THE BELGIAN BAN ON BRITISH TEAMS, ARE UNDERSTANDABLE AND THE PRIME MINISTER MAY WISH TO CONSIDER SOME PRIVATE GESTURE TO HIM BOTH IN ORDER TO PROMOTE EFFECTIVE BILATERAL COOPERATION OVER POST HEYSEL MATTERS AND TO IMPROVE THE CHANCES OF SUPPORT FROM MARTENS FOR OUR OBJECTIVES AT MILAN.

DETAIL

2. MARTENS FIRST SAID IN HIS PRESS INTERVIEW THAT THERE WAS NOTHING WITH WHICH TO REPROACH ANY BELGIAN AUTHORITIES, BUT WAS THEN PRESSED INTO SAYING THAT HE COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY RESPONSIBILITY ON THE PART OF THE BELGIAN AUTHORITIES PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THE BELGIAN COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY, THOUGH ITS CONSEQUENCES WOULD HAVE TO BE ACCEPTED. HE REJECTED COMPARISONS BETWEEN HIS ATTITUDE AND MRS THATCHER'S, ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE ORIGINS OF THE TRAGEDY WERE CLEARLY BRITISH.

3. MARTENS IS ^{NOT} BEING ALTOGETHER UNREASONABLE, THOUGH HE IS PERHAPS UNDULY TIMID AND DEFENSIVE, IN INSISTING THAT HE CANNOT IMMEDIATELY ACCEPT ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY ERRORS BY BELGIAN MINISTERS AND AUTHORITIES (IN THE WAY THAT THE PRIME MINISTER COULD SHOULDER RESPONSIBILITY IN GENERAL TERMS FOR THE REPREHENSIBLE ACTIVITIES OF A GROUP OF PRIVATE CITIZENS ABROAD). WE MUST ALSO HAVE SOME UNDERSTANDING FOR HIS IRRITATION AT US FOR THE EMBARRASSMENT THE BRITISH HOOLIGANS HAVE CAUSED FOR HIM BOTH OVER THE BELGIAN AUTHORITIES' EVIDENT INADEQUACIES AND OVER BELGO-ITALIAN RELATIONS. FLASHES OF THIS IN PUBLIC ARE ONE OF THE PRICES WE HAVE TO PAY FOR THE LIVERPOOL THUGS' BEHAVIOUR.

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4. AT THE SAME TIME HIS MINISTERS ARE HELPFULLY DOING WHAT THEY CAN TO LIMIT THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE TRAGEDY FOR OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS (CF TINDEHANS' ATTITUDE WITH YOU ON 1 JUNE AND NOTHOMB'S TENTATIVE IDEAS FOR DILUTING THE BELGIAN BAN ON BRITISH SPORTING TEAMS REPORTED IN MY TELNO). IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO TRY TO ASSUAGE MARTENS' EVIDENTLY STRONG FEELINGS IN ORDER TO PROMOTE MORE HELPFUL GESTURES OF THIS KIND, AND YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER WHAT MIGHT BE DONE URGENTLY AT PRIME MINISTERIAL LEVEL TO BUILD ON MARTENS' GOOD EARLIER RESPONSE TO HIS VISIT TO CHEQUERS ON 2 MARCH. THIS COULD ADDITIONALLY SERVE TO IMPROVE THE CHANCE OF SUPPORT FROM MARTENS AT MILAN FOR OUR CONCEPTS OF THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY.

5. YOU WILL BE ABLE TO JUDGE BEST IN LONDON WHAT FORM SUCH ACTION MIGHT TAKE, BUT AS SEEN FROM HERE A PERSON L AND PRIVATE MESSAGE FROM MRS THATCHER TO MARTENS THROUGH ME IN ADVANCE OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL, EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE BEEN CAUSED FOR HIM AS A RESULT OF HEYSEL AND COVERING EUROPEAN COMMUNITY QUESTIONS AS WELL (SEE MY TELNO 197) MIGHT BE ONE WAY OF PROCEEDING.

JACKSON

FOOTBALL TRAGEDY

LIMITED

CONSULAR DEPT.

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CRD

NEWS DEPT.

INFO DEPT

LEGAL ADVISERS

FINANCE DEPT.

PS

PS/LADY YOUNG

PS/MR LUCE

PS/MR RENTON

PS/MR RIFKIND

PS/PUS

CHIEF CLERK

MR DEREK THOMAS

MR JENKINS

MR BARRINGTON

MR MACINNES

COPIES TO:

PS/NR. 10 DOWNING STREET

PS/MR MACFARLANE, DOE

PS/MR SHAW, HOME OFFICE

MS HOGWOOD, FINANCE DEPT.

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10 DOWNING STREET

CF

To answer HB's
clarification of set
applies to Scotland
and set bylaws.

MEAT 18/6

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BT

You will see from the attached letter that the FGIT have now reported, following their recently completed survey, and that they estimate that some £12 million will be required to bring football grounds up to standard, £9 million of this for the 37 grounds not yet designated: about £0.25 million per ground. The Neil Macfarlane Working Group considering the costs of safety improvements, meets tomorrow. There is clearly some prospect of the football authorities going public and trying to press the Government into making any early commitment into financial support.

POE will be regarding to me after the game meeting (Stubs et 4pm) next 15/6

You have always made it clear that before the Government could decide on the scale of its' contribution, if any, the following two steps need to be taken:

- (i) the cost of the required improvements needed to be identified;
- (ii) the extent to which the game itself could meet those costs from its own resources had to be assessed.

We are in fact still some way off completing the first step. Popplewell has not yet reported, and nor have the Chief Fire Officers (though the overall figure may be pushed up once these assessments are in). Furthermore, we should not be assuming every ground and stand needs to come up to a particular standard. Some rationalisation of the use of existing football authorities may need to be considered. It is also still far from clear what the game can afford to pay.

The important point for now is that limits will need to be placed on attendance, the location of some matches will need to be changed etc. to ensure the required safety standards are met at the beginning of the season. And that even in the longer term not every stand and terrace is necessarily sacrosanct if the game is to be effectively, safely and economically managed.

Julie Bowers

pp MARK ADDISON

18 June 1985

CONFIDENTIAL

ce 173



HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SW1H 9AT

18th June 1985

Dear Phil,

why? } Mr. Macfarlane yesterday met with Mr. Shaw and officials to discuss the line to take on the recently-completed FGIT survey report, both at the Working Group meeting on Wednesday and over the coming weeks. He referred to the FGIT report findings that some £12m would be required to bring grounds up to standard. £9m of this (less than had been anticipated) related to the 37 grounds not yet designated; the remainder related to grounds already designated and Scottish grounds. He said that the football authorities might use this to show that designation under the 1975 Act was in itself insufficient. They might also argue that with the CFO reports and the Popplewell inquiry recommendations still to come, the total money eventually required for ground improvements could well be substantially higher than the £12m FGIT forecast. He was therefore concerned that the football authorities would, in the context of falling attendance figures, seek to publicise the FGIT report to support their argument for Government financial backing for ground improvements, especially where these were to be made before the beginning of next season. Mr. Macfarlane stressed that he fully agreed with the Home Office's timetable for designation. He was anxious that the Working Group meeting on Wednesday should not get involved in detailed discussion on where the finance was to be found or whether the Government should make money available to clubs prior to designation.

nb and Footwell Minutes } Mr. Shaw suggested that the step-by-step nature of the Government's approach should be emphasized. The Working Group's findings, the results of the CFO inspections and the Popplewell inquiry would all have to be taken into account before any final conclusions were reached. He would not wish the Government to be pressurised into financial assistance for clubs in a piecemeal fashion. Mr. Shaw pointed out that it had never been the aim of designation to enforce a range of structural improvements to grounds by the beginning of next season. The CFO reports would be looking primarily to ensure greater crowd safety within existing structures at individual grounds; this could be achieved by restrictions on crowd numbers, steward systems etc.

As far as the handling of the Wednesday meeting was concerned, he thought it would be sufficient merely to seek the football authorities' views on how, and to what timescale, they saw the FGIT findings being implemented. They could be assured that they would not be pushed into immediate action on the scale envisaged in the report. Our public posture should be that grounds will be made safer, but that this could be achieved without immediate large-scale structural improvements. Mr. Macfarlane pointed out that the football authorities themselves could take mitigating steps and the Government should do nothing which absolved them from the requirement to do so.

/It was agreed that,

P. Dykins Esq.
PS to the Minister for Sport

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It was agreed that, in order to lessen the impact of the line that the football authorities might take publicly on this, the Home Office should stand ready to make a positive press statement if necessary on Wednesday on their intentions on the timing of designation; this should emphasise that guidance would be made available to local authorities, at the same time as the designation orders were made, outlining the possible options open to them.

I am copying this letter to Mark Addison (Prime Minister's Office), Rachel Lomax (HM Treasury), John Graham (Scottish Office), Colin Williams, (Welsh Office) and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Yours ever

Stephen Pike

S. J. PIKE

Private Secretary

CONFIDENTIAL



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Press Secretary

Neil Macfarlane Esq MP
Minister for Sport
Department of the Environment
2 Marsham Street
London SW1

18 June 1985

Dear Mr Smith,

I am sorry that John Smith, Chairman of the Sports Council and of Liverpool FC, mentioned that I had seen him yesterday before I had a chance to write this note to you.

The meeting originated with Mr Smith's visit to No 10 in the immediate aftermath of the Brussels disaster. I was then on holiday, but Mr Smith leant heavily on the advice given to him by No 10 Press Office, and more especially by Iain Murray.

On my return from holiday, Iain Murray suggested that it might be a good idea if I met Mr Smith since it was important that he should understand that, while No 10 Press Office wished to be helpful, it could not act for the Sports Council - and must not be seen to be doing so.

It had originally been arranged that I should see Mr Smith at the Reform Club last week. This was re-arranged and, rather to my surprise, he suggested we should meet yesterday at the Football Association in Lancaster Gate. The two of us did so - without anyone else present - from 3.30 to 4.10pm. I did not see anyone from the FA during my visit.

I made it clear that my main purpose in meeting him was to try to be helpful. But if No 10 Press Office was to be helpful, I said it was crucial that we did not go behind the backs of either the Sports Council or the Department of the Environment, or get wires crossed.

Mr Smith immediately said that he had asked the Sports Council's press office to keep in close touch with us. I said that I hoped this would not be broadcast. I added that Robin Butler, the Prime Minister's Principal Private Secretary, knew that I was meeting him and that I would give you an account of our discussion.

I told Mr Smith that I felt the FA/FL cut a poor figure before the Prime Minister at their second meeting. Indeed, I formed the

Mr Butler

1. Mr. Addison -ls see

2. File

view they were probably less inclined to do anything after 94 deaths (55 Bradford; 38 Brussels; 1 Birmingham) than before. There seemed to be a crisis of leadership in the football authorities. He agreed.

I added that because of this, and the Prime Minister's involvement, I was deeply concerned about how the approach to the opening of the next season was to be handled. She had welcomed my offer to write a paper on this. But before I did so (and you will be sent a copy) I would like to try out some ideas on him.

First, it seemed that whatever the Government or police did - and together it would add up to an impressive amount - it would carry less impact if the FA/FL and clubs were seen to be half-hearted or sullen. Thus I believed that as a very minimum each individual league club, from top to bottom, needed to make it clear in the immediate approach to next season and on the opening day that:

- i. football must get rid of violence, hooliganism, intimidation and unruly behaviour which, as was seen last season, had led to deaths of innocent spectators;
- ii. if it didn't, its very existence was at stake;
- iii. accordingly this club wants to serve notice on the public that, so far as it is concerned, it is going to take every possible measure to stamp out hooliganism; enough is enough;
- iv. the club will give the police their full backing in taking firm action against any who transgress; will fully support a determined and thorough policy of prosecution; and hopes that the courts will deal out heavy punishment;
- v. from now on, no hooligan can expect any quarter on this ground from the police, the club and, we hope, decent fans; and as a demonstration of our purpose we have asked the police to eject anyone who goes on to the pitch without authority.
- vi. we expect the highest standards of conduct by our players;
- vii. finally, this game which we all love has got to be cleaned up on every league ground in the country, and the clean up starts now.

Mr Smith said he would go along with all this, and indicated he was planning something similar at the opening match - though with an act of atonement as well - involving the Archbishop of Liverpool.

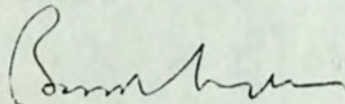
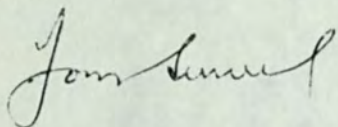
I said that, emboldened by his support, I would write a paper for the Prime Minister advocating a clear demonstration of determination by clubs to stamp out violence and hooliganism.

The rest of the conversation involved:

- i. a duet of headshaking about the shortcomings of the FA/FL; Mr Smith said he was proposing to try to fuse the two to create a unified - and united - authority;
- ii. Mr Smith's ideas for fund raising in sport generally and more particularly in soccer, notably by raising registration fees for players in the 40,000 affiliated clubs; it was no use soccer arguing it had no money when this one example of fund raising had not been tapped.

I ended by reiterating my concern that our relationship should take account of my need to avoid problems, whether of amour propre or substance, between the Sports Council and the Department of the Environment on the one hand and No 10 on the other. Mr Smith agreed, though I am bound to say that I think No 10 Press Office will have to work at this because Mr Smith seems anxious to keep on tapping advice which he has found reliable.

I hope this record is helpful. I am copying to Robin Butler.



BERNARD INGHAM

CGAB



QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

18 June 1985

NBPM

Dear Mr Rees

file with MEA 18/6.

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

Thank you for your letters of 4 and 10 June. I am glad to see that you regard my revised proposals as a reasonable compromise.

On the financial and manpower implications, I do not envisage that this legislation will necessitate any increase in police establishments. It may be necessary for some police officers to be re-deployed from duties elsewhere, and I cannot exclude the possibility that there will be some additional police overtime, but I would not expect this to be significant. Nor do I expect any additional resources to be required by the courts; there may be some consequential delays in hearing other cases, but I would not expect this to be more than marginal. Accordingly I do not expect that the legislation will lead to any significant increase in court or police expenditure. Such increase as there may be will also be offset by an increase in fine revenue.

Of the particular suggestions in your letter of 4 June, Quintin Hallsham has already dealt with that concerning legal aid. The only point I would wish to add is that I have considered whether it is necessary for some of the proposed offences to be imprisonable, as they are in Scotland. I have concluded that the penalties in England and Wales should be no less severe than those for equivalent offences in Scotland.

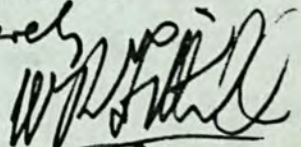
You also suggested that fines should be set sufficiently high to avoid any net cost for the public purse. In practice this would be impossible to ensure without infringing the discretion of the courts to impose whatever sentence is suitable in the circumstances. I also have to have regard to the need to ensure consistency in maximum penalties, so that lesser offences do not attract higher penalties than more serious ones. Against this background I propose that the Bill should set the maximum fines at the level of the equivalent offence in the Scottish Act, which should be sufficiently high to mark the gravity of the most serious cases. Within these maxima it will, of course, be for the courts to decide on the fine to be imposed in particular cases, taking

account not only of the offence but of the means of the offender - as they are statutorily obliged to do.

On policing costs, the practice of charging for policing at football matches is governed by section 15 of the Police Act 1964, which provides that a charge may be made by the police authority if the chief officer of police has provided on request special services at any place. "Special services" are services which would not normally be provided in pursuance of the general duty of the police to preserve law and order. So, at a football match the organisers are charged for the services of police officers provided for duty solely inside the ground. Officers on duty outside the ground, for the purposes of crowd and traffic control, are regarded as performing normal police duty. To the extent that the new legislation resulted in additional police officers being provided, at the request of the organisers, for duty solely inside the ground, the additional costs would fall on the football club. But it seems likely that most of any additional costs will arise from searches and arrests outside the ground and subsequent court proceedings. Under the existing legislation, these costs would be borne by the police authority.

In your letter of 10 June you said that the proposal to involve magistrates in the granting of exemption orders must be properly costed and that it was entirely reasonable to recover the costs of granting exemptions from the clubs who apply. You hoped that means to achieve this could be identified. I would expect courts to spend some time on the initial applications for exemption orders; thereafter, providing that there was no trouble at the grounds concerned, no doubt the time spent by the magistrates and others will be reduced. But we shall not know for certain about this until the legislation has had a chance to settle down. I propose that a fee should be charged for the grant of an exemption order, and that this should be set at £12.50, which is the current fee for the grant of a new licence by licensing Justices. I think it would be inconsistent, and difficult to justify, to charge more than this at this stage. However, as you know, we are reviewing the general level of licensing fees to take account of the costs of hearing applications, and I shall be prepared to adjust the fee for exemption orders in line with the outcome of this review.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, members of H and L, Geoffrey Howe, John Wakeham, Sir George Engle and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours sincerely,


Approved by the Home Secretary
 and signed in his absence



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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

17 June 1985

A copy of Mr. Stewart's letter to your Minister, of 14 June, arrived here today.

I think the Prime Minister will be concerned to read about the embarrassment which British Servicemen have caused at football matches in Germany. I should be grateful for a short note on the background to this, before putting Mr. Stewart's letter up to her. You will no doubt need to draw this up in conjunction with the Ministry of Defence.

I am copying this letter to the Private Offices of Ministers to whom Mr. Stewart copied his.

Mark Addison

Phil Dykins, Esq.,
Office of the Minister for Sport



Prime Minister

Prinjenaki MKA 17/6

PRIVY COUNCIL OFFICE

WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AT

17 June 1985

Dear Leon

^{A2}
FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

Thank you for your letters of 31 May and 6 June seeking agreement to the content of legislation limiting the supply of alcohol to football supporters.

L Committee has now agreed that legislation should be prepared as a matter of urgency. As regards the policy, I note that the Prime Minister, George Younger, Nicholas Edwards, Peter Rees and Michael Havers are content, and I understand that Quintin Hailsham, Geoffrey Howe and Nicholas Ridley are too. You will, however, need to take account of the particular points raised by George, Peter and Nicholas Ridley. Subject to that, you may take it that you have policy approval for the proposals.

I am sending copies of this letter to the members of H and L Committees, to the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, the Minister without Portfolio, the Paymaster General, First Parliamentary Counsel and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Mark
W.M.

The Rt Hon Leon Brittan QC MP

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CC BT
CHB

Prime Minister. For information
MEM 17/6

QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

17 June 1985

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2 Nick,

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

Thank you for your letter of 6 June.

I have considered whether the Bill should cover minibuses, ships and aircraft, as you suggest. I agree that it is desirable that the Bill should cover minibuses. I understand that such vehicles have been hired by some groups of supporters, who have then used them to travel to football matches where they arrive under the influence of alcohol. I agree therefore that the Bill should cover minibuses and similar vehicles, and our officials can be in touch about how this can be achieved.

You also ask me to consider whether the Bill should extend to ships and aircraft primarily carrying football supporters. I understand that the captains of ships and aircraft already have full discretion to refuse to carry people who are drunk or in possession of alcohol - a power which some ferry masters have already exercised. They also have full power to refuse to serve or sell alcohol. Legislation would not therefore strengthen the powers available to the ship and plane operators; instead it would expose them to the risk of criminal proceedings if they did sell, or permit the carriage of, alcohol.

Moreover, there are valid distinctions between ships and aircraft on the one hand and land-based transport on the other. Many ships and aircraft operating from our seaports and airports are run by foreign carriers, and the proposed legislation could not properly be applied to them. So far as ships are concerned those used by football supporters travelling abroad are, so far as I am aware, scheduled services; as you know the legislation on coaches and trains does not extend to scheduled services, and I do not think that it would be wise to breach that principle. So far as aircraft are concerned, how are the offences to be enforced? In order to achieve effective enforcement it would be necessary for policemen to travel on aircraft, and practical problems would need to be overcome - for example in arresting and detaining offenders on board aircraft and in returning offenders to the United Kingdom.

For these reasons I do not think it would be appropriate to extend the proposed legislation to ships and aircraft. I do of course appreciate the need to re-assure other countries about the arrangements on board ships and aircraft and, though I do not think that this is a matter for legislation, I do support the need for arrangements with ferry companies and air carriers to ensure so far as

The Rt Hon Nicholas Ridley, MP

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possible that (once the ban on matches abroad is lifted) our supporters arrive on their shores in a sober state. I understand that your Department and the British Transport Police have made considerable progress, particularly with the ferry companies in dealing with potential soccer hooligans, and I see this as the right way of dealing with the problem.

I agree that we need to do what we can to re-assure transport operators, their employees and their agents that they will not be unreasonably exposed to the risk of criminal proceedings. Under my proposals it will be an offence for such persons to permit the carriage of alcohol. Under English law this already incorporates considerations of mens rea; that is to say there must be either knowledge of the offending circumstances or wilful blindness. For an offence to be committed a guard, for example, would need to know of or suspect the carriage of alcohol, and to have failed to have done all he reasonably could to have prevented it. I appreciate that in the Scottish legislation there is a specific statutory defence, but it would not be appropriate to include such a provision in the proposed Bill because this would call in doubt more generally whether the word "permits" imports mens rea. I am sorry therefore that I shall not be able to meet your point in the way you suggest, but naturally we shall do what we can in speeches during the Parliamentary proceedings to reassure the transport industry on this point.

I am copying this to the Prime Minister, all members of H and L, Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, John Wakeham, Sir George Engle and Sir Robert Armstrong.

Zw,
L

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10 DOWNING STREET

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THE PRIME MINISTER

17 June 1985

Dear Mr. Millipip

I am grateful for the useful discussion we had on Wednesday. Since our last such meeting on 1 April we have witnessed the dreadful events at Bradford, Birmingham and Brussels. I am glad we are agreed on the urgent need for radical action to restore the good name of football and of our country.

At our meeting, I noted the Government had decided to accelerate the programme of action it had agreed at the April meeting. I summarised the measures taken so far:

(1) The Government proposed to introduce, if possible this Session, legislation similar to that contained in the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980. That Act makes it an offence to be drunk, or possess alcohol, on football coaches, on entry to grounds and in most areas of grounds.

(2) The Government would proceed next Session with the new legislation on public order. The proposals on assemblies in the open air would permit the police to impose limits on the numbers of people attending football matches if they anticipated disorder. The police already had full powers to take the necessary steps to deal with criminal activity inside grounds.

(3) Mr. Justice Popplewell would continue with his inquiry into the events at Bradford City and Birmingham football

grounds on 11 May. He would also be taking into account any lessons to be learned from the events in Brussels on 29 May. It was hoped to receive his interim report before the end of July.

(4) The Home Secretary had set in hand the procedure for designating under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 all clubs in divisions 3 and 4.

(5) The Government had considered with the police measures to improve their effectiveness in dealing with football violence. Serious charges would be brought whenever the evidence was available. The police would be discussing with the Government and the Football Trust the outcome of the CCTV experiment, in particular with a view to providing more sophisticated equipment. Two more photographic vans would be purchased. Radio communication links between British Transport Police contingents travelling on trains and local forces would be provided. The Police aimed to introduce for next season new arrangements for collecting and disseminating information about behaviour at matches.

(6) The Home Secretary was drawing attention to the Court of Appeal guidelines on sentencing violent offenders and encouraging magistrates to make full use of their powers.

(7) The Government would continue to take the lead in developing international measures to deal with hooliganism. The Sports Ministers from the Council of Europe were holding a special meeting on 27 June. The hope was that the existing Council of Europe recommendation on reducing violence at football matches would be strengthened into a binding convention. Also that an agreement with UEFA would be concluded to require that the arrangements for international matches should comply with certain conditions. You and the Football League will of course be consulted on the drafting of both documents.

(8) After the events on 29 May in Brussels, the Government had indicated that we were anxious to give the Belgian authorities every possible assistance in bringing to justice people from this country who had committed offences. We were willing in particular to give them every assistance to meet our evidential requirements in extradition proceedings. We were also prepared, if suitable legal arrangements could be made, that they should serve their sentences here, and it was hoped that this would encourage the Belgian authorities to press the appropriate charges.

In the course of our discussions on Wednesday we also agreed to consider the following suggestions which you and your colleagues put forward.

- i) Nominating a central point to which clubs and others could refer information about trouble-makers. This might enable a cumulative data bank to be developed which could help in the identification of those responsible for football violence.
- ii) The merits of introducing a new criminal offence to prohibit unauthorised access to the pitch.
- iii) The possibility that clubs be provided with lists of offenders to help them keep out those with a record of violence.
- iv) The Mexican Government will be approached to try and ensure that visas should be obtained in advance for those travelling to matches.

In our discussion you identified the following areas where you would be taking action:

(1) The Football Association and the Football League would urgently consider, jointly with the Government, on a working group under the chairmanship of Neil Macfarlane, the details of a scheme of membership cards and the other matters referred to below. Mr. Macfarlane had already seen a feasible system of membership cards; you noted that you were proposing to see a system being demonstrated as well. Once the working group has considered the matter you will be giving instructions or advice accordingly to the clubs.

(2) On travel and ticket arrangements, you have agreed to make more use of all ticket matches for the future. For matches abroad where an English team is playing you are taking steps to discourage travel by supporters.

(3) When it is considered possible that a match would give rise to hooliganism you would consider whether there was a need to change the location.

(4) You are discussing with the Football Trusts and the Football Grounds Improvement Trust the wider introduction of closed circuit television at grounds. The Football Trust had already allocated £500,000 this year for that purpose. You are also considering with the Trusts the provision of more family enclosures and the improvement of seating arrangements.

During our discussion you also agreed:

i) To consult with the clubs to set up arrangements to ensure that the police were able to search people entering grounds, as a condition of entry.

ii) In advance of the new legislation on public order, to press clubs to act on police advice on attendance at matches.

You and the Minister for Sport will be keeping in close touch on all these matters through the Working Group. My particular concern is that by the beginning of next season the football authorities should have taken, and be seen to have taken, a real step towards improving the clubs' ability to prevent potential trouble-makers from getting into the grounds. A scheme of membership cards, compatible between one club and another, offers a feasible way forward, and I particularly welcome your willingness to discuss this urgently with the Minister for Sport. I believe you should aim for your instructions or advice to be available to the clubs in good time before 17 August, and I have accordingly asked Neil Macfarlane to report to me on the progress that is being made.

I am grateful to you for all the co-operation you are offering on these points, and I am glad you and I share the view that major steps must now be taken if football is to survive as a spectator sport.

I am copying this letter to Mr. Jack Dunnett.

Yours sincerely

Nargant Dhalita

Bert Millichip, Esq.

Prime Minister. (2)
Interest in administration (probably
mostly in wages)

14 June 1985

PRIME MINISTER

From papers received by Downing Street and from other enquiries, it is possible to have a better look at the Football Leagues' income/expenditure position (accounts attached).

H. Booth

HARTLEY BOOTH

DBNABE

FOOTBALL FINANCE

INCOME (£ MILLION) - 1983/4 WHERE AVAILABLE

A	<u>FOOTBALL LEAGUE</u>	1984/5	1983/4
1.	Gross Gate Receipts (League Matches)		
	Division 1	- 24.0	
	Division 2	- 13.0	
	Division 3	- 5.0	
	Division 4	- 2.5	
		44.5	44.5
2.	Cup Competitions		
	Milk (League)	- 6.0	
	FA	- 10.0	
		16.0	16.0
3.	Television (Amount paid to League by TV Companies for screening of Football League Matches (including £0.5 for showing matches overseas)		3.1
			3.1
	FA receive	- 0.5	
	Clubs' deals	- 0.4	
		0.9	0.9
4.	Pools (Amount paid by the Pools Promoters Assoc. for use of the copyright of the Football League Fixture List (25% of this goes to the Scottish League)		5.5
			4.5
5.	Football Trust (To cover Police charges)		1.0
6.	Bookmakers' Fees (@ £50 per shop)		0.25
7.	Foreign Pools (Sundry)		0.25
8.	Special Individual Club Deals (Advertising, Lotteries, Canon, etc)		20.0
		TOTAL	£91.5m

EXPENDITURE FOR 1984/5 (£ MILLION)

	<u>TOTAL</u>
1. Gross Wages to Players	
Division 1 - 13	
Division 2 - 8	
Division 3 - 5	
Division 4 - <u>4</u>	
	30.0
2. VAT (£7.5 million on gates)	12.0
3. Police Charges	2.5
4. Administration/Overheads (non capital)	
Wages: Managers	
Groundsmen	
Gatemen	
Secretaries	
Repairs	
Postage	
Telephone	
Rates	
	<u>45.0</u>
	GRAND TOTAL £89.5m

B FOOTBALL TRUST INCOME

1984/5 = £6,775,117

1983/4 = £5,865,322

C GOVERNMENT MONEY

(Hansard, 5 June 1985, Col 166)

1. From Sports Council budget of £31.5 million (mostly capital) to Football Association:

1984/5 = £278,153

1983/4 = £354,317

2. Also, the Urban Programme of £35 million provides a substantial sum to football.

(mostly on non-league clubs)



SCOTTISH OFFICE
 WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AU
 TELEPHONE: 01-233 3000

Neil Macfarlane Esq MP
 Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
 Department of the Environment
 2 Marsham Street
 London
 SW1 3EB

14 June 1985

Dear Neil,

As you know, the five Scottish football clubs competing next season in European competitions have agreed with the SFA that they will do everything possible to dissuade supporters from travelling to away legs of all European ties, other than finals played on neutral grounds. No tickets for away games will be sold by the clubs. Despite the good behaviour of Scottish supporters in recent years, I am certain that this is a sensible course to follow in present circumstances.

The clubs have raised with me two matters on which they would like our help. The first is the question of ticket sales by the home club. There is clearly the possibility that away games involving Scottish clubs in accessible countries will attract undesirable elements. I hope that the binding agreement you and your fellow Ministers in the Council of Europe are seeking with UEFA will prevent tickets for such ties being available in the UK or on sale locally during the week of any match.

The other matter is the attendance of servicemen at matches, particularly in Germany. The clubs were quite clear that they did not wish servicemen to attend any ties in Germany. In normal circumstances the football authorities have been embarrassed by the form of support given them by servicemen. I understand that your officials have a working arrangement with David Trefgarne for matches involving English clubs. I should like it to be extended to cover Scottish clubs, and suggest the appropriate officials meet to discuss this.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, Leon Brittan, David Trefgarne, Tim Renton, Nicholas Scott and John Stradling-Thomas.

Yours ever,
Alan
 ALLAN STEWART



HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SW1H 9AT

14 June 1985

Dear Mark

We have the following amendments to suggest to the draft letter to Mr Millichip which you circulated this morning concerning the Prime Minister's meeting on Wednesday.

Page 2, paragraph (5) Delete and substitute:-

"(5) The Government had considered, with the police, measures to improve their effectiveness in dealing with football violence. Serious charges would be brought whenever the evidence was available. The police would be discussing with the Government and the Football Trust the outcome of the CCTV experiment, in particular with a view to providing more sophisticated equipment. Two more photographic vans would be purchased. Radio communication links between British Transport Police contingents travelling on trains and local forces would be provided. The police aimed to introduce for next season new arrangements for collecting and disseminating information about behaviour at matches."

Page 3, paragraph (8) Delete the first sentence and substitute:-

"(8) After the events on 29 May in Brussels, the Government had indicated that we were anxious to give the Belgian authorities every possible assistance in bringing to justice people from this country who had committed offences. We were willing in particular to give them every assistance to meet our evidential requirements in extradition proceedings."

/Page 3,

M Addison, Esq

Page 3, second paragraph Delete from "We also agreed" to "the following points"
and substitute:-

"In the course of our discussions on Wednesday we also agreed
to consider the following suggestions which you and your
colleagues put forward:"

Yours ever
William

W R FITTALL

MARK

Pile

SLH



(DCAARC)

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

14 June 1985

Devine

Following the meeting with the football authorities on Wednesday, I attach a draft letter for the Prime Minister to send Mr. Millichip. I would ask you and copy recipients to let me have urgent comments on the draft by mid-afternoon today.

I am copying this letter to Len Appleyard (CEO), Hugh Taylor (HO), Rachel Lomax (HMT), John Graham (SO), Richard Allen (Transport), Phil Dykins (Sport), Colin Williams (WO), and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

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es. am.
es

Mark Addison

MARK ADDISON

Miss Sue Vandervord,
Department of the Environment

887

DOE points

I am grateful for the useful discussion we had on Wednesday. Since our last such meeting on 1 April we have witnessed the dreadful events at Bradford, Birmingham and Brussels. I am glad we are agreed on the urgent need for radical action to restore the good name of football and of our country.

At our meeting, I noted the Government had decided to accelerate the programme of action it had agreed at the April meeting. I summarised the measures taken so far:

- (1) The Government proposed to introduce, if possible this Session, legislation similar to that contained in the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980. That Act makes it an offence to be drunk, or possess alcohol, on football coaches, on entry to grounds and in most areas of grounds.
- (2) The Government would proceed next Session with the new legislation on public order. The proposals on assemblies in the open air would permit the police to impose limits on the numbers of people attending football matches if they anticipated disorder. The police already had full powers to take the necessary steps to deal with criminal activity inside grounds.
- (3) Mr. Justice Popplewell would continue with his inquiry into the events at Bradford City and Birmingham football grounds on 11 May. He would also be taking into account any lessons to be learned from the events in Brussels on 29 May.

It was hoped to receive his interim report before the end of July.

(4) The Home Secretary had set in hand the procedure for designating under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 all clubs in divisions 3 and 4.

(5) The Government had considered with the police measures to improve their effectiveness in dealing with football violence. Serious charges would be brought whenever the evidence was available. They would be discussing with the Government and the Football Trust the outcome of the CCTV experiment; in particular, the authorities would see if more sophisticated equipment could be provided, capable of taking pictures which could be used to collect evidence as well as for crowd control. Two more television vans would be purchased. ACPO had agreed that the British Transport Police should be provided with multi-channel radio sets to give them access to police radio communications. The police aimed to introduce for next season new arrangements for collecting and disseminating information about behaviour at matches.

(6) The Home Secretary was drawing attention to the Court of Appeal guidelines on sentencing violent offenders and encouraging magistrates to make full use of their powers.

(7) The Government would continue to ^{take the lead} ~~co-operate~~ in developing international measures to deal with hooliganism. The Sports Ministers from the Council of Europe were ^{holding special} ~~re-convening~~ a meeting on 27 June. The hope was that the existing Council of Europe recommendation on reducing violence at football matches would be strengthened into a binding convention. ^{Also start} ~~Furthermore~~ an agreement with UEFA would be concluded to require that the arrangements for international matches should comply with certain conditions. ~~The drafting of the convention would need to be considered~~

170

10E

pro

pro

D. R.

carefully. You and the Football League will of course be consulted in the drafting of both documents.

(17)

(8) After the events on 29 May in Brussels, the Government had indicated that we were willing to extradite to Belgium any individuals against whom a prima facie case could be made in accordance with our requirements on evidence. We were also prepared that they should serve their sentences here, and it was hoped that this would encourage the Belgian authorities to press the appropriate charges.

(18)

We also agreed to consider, as a result of our discussion ^{on Wednesday} yesterday, the following points:

i) Nominating a central point to which clubs and others could refer information about trouble-makers. This might enable a cumulative data bank to be developed which could help in the identification of those responsible for football violence.

ii) The merits of introducing a new criminal offence to prohibit unauthorised access to the pitch.

iii) The possibility that clubs be provided with lists of offenders to help them keep out those with a record of violence.

(19)

iv) ~~The Mexican Government were being approached with a view to seeing that visas for those travelling to matches should be obtainable only in advance.~~ ^{Approaching} ^{will be approached to try and ensure should be obtained in advance}
(v) ^{The future pricing and availability of football specials}

In our discussion you identified the following areas where you would be taking action:

(1) The Football Association and the Football League would urgently consider, jointly with the Government, on a working group under the chairmanship of Neil

and the other matters referred to below

~~to be forwarded to the clubs~~

Macfarlane, the details of a scheme of membership cards. Mr. Macfarlane had already seen a feasible system for himself and you noted that you were proposing to do the same. Once the working group has considered the matter you will be offering advice accordingly to the clubs.

membership cards

see a system being demonstrated as well

giving instructions as

RH

(2) On travel and ticket arrangements, you have agreed to make more use of all ticket matches for the future. For matches abroad where an English team is playing you are taking steps to discourage supporters from travelling to see them.

(3) When it is considered possible that a match would give rise to hooliganism you would consider whether there was a need to change the location.

(4) You are discussing with the Football Trust and the Football Grounds Improvement Trust the wider introduction of closed circuit television at grounds. The Football Trust had already allocated £500,000 this year for that purpose. You are also considering with the Football Trust the provision of more family enclosures and the improvement of seating arrangements.

During our discussion you also agreed:

i) To consult with the clubs to set up arrangements to ensure that the police were able to search people entering grounds, as a condition of entry.

ii) In advance of the new legislation on public order, to press clubs to take full account of police advice on attendance at matches.

You and the Minister for Sport will be keeping in close touch on all these matters. My particular concern is that

by the working group

E.R.

by the beginning of next season the football authorities should have taken, and be seen to have taken, a real step towards improving the clubs' ability to prevent potential trouble-makers from getting into the grounds. A ^{compatible between one club & another,} compatible scheme of membership cards offers a feasible way forward, and I particularly welcome your willingness to discuss this urgently with the Minister for Sport. I believe you should aim for your ^{message} advice to be available to the clubs in good time before 17 August, and I have accordingly asked Neil Macfarlane to report to me on the progress that is being made.

nt

I am grateful to you for all the co-operation you are offering on these points, and I am glad you and I share the view that major steps must now be taken if football is to survive as a spectator sport.

Bert Millichip, Esq.

Football

B. B.





SCOTTISH OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AU

The Rt Hon Viscount Whitelaw PC CHMC
Lord President of the Council
House of Lords
LONDON
SW1A OPW

13 June 1985

NBPM

Dear Willie,

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

Leon Brittan's letter of 6 June *at flap* asked for urgent comments on his revised proposals for the control of alcohol within football grounds. I have no objection to these proposals which, being closer to Scottish practice than before, should not raise any awkward problems.

The flexibility recommended in relation to exemption orders could conceivably lead to demands for a similar relaxation for Scottish supporters to which I could not, in present circumstances, be able to accede. We have, however, always envisaged the possibility of allowing some limited exemptions, in the light of experience, to the ban which operates in Scotland. I would not therefore wish to oppose this degree of flexibility and will, indeed, be interested to see how exemption orders operate. If they prove compatible with effective crowd control we might consider following suit at some future date here.

I am sending copies of this letter to Leon Brittan and the Prime Minister, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, John Wakeham, Sir George Engle, Sir Robert Armstrong and to members of H Committee and L Committee.

*Yours well,
George.*

Football Hooly : Home
Affairs
PE 3.



cc 100

NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
WHITEHALL
LONDON SW1A 2AZ

SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR
NORTHERN IRELAND

The Rt Hon Leon Brittan QC MP
Secretary of State
Home Office
50 Queen Anne's Gate
LONDON
SW1H 9AT

13 June 1985

MBM

Dear Leon,

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE : LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL *in #2*

You asked for comments on your note of 31 May to the Lord President, covering your initial proposals for measures to control alcohol-induced violence at football grounds within England and Wales.

In general terms I am sure that you are right to build on the measures which are already proving to be reasonably successful in dealing with these problems in Scotland.

Fortunately alcohol-induced violence does not occur at sports fixtures in Northern Ireland on anything like the scale which has been experienced in England and Wales in recent years. This is partly due to the scale and nature of professional football in Northern Ireland where there are only 14 league clubs and they tend, on the whole, to number their supporters in hundreds rather than thousands. It is also due in part to the RUC who are, by now, adept at nipping public order problems in the bud.

Nevertheless, I have consulted the police and the football authorities here, and they feel that, although violence at football matches in Northern Ireland only occur sporadically and on a minor scale, it would nevertheless be an advantage to have powers of control such as you have proposed. I shall wait with interest, therefore, to see the final form of your proposals and, following consultations in Northern Ireland, will probably then be bringing forward proposals on identical lines for Northern Ireland.

/I am

I am copying this to the Prime Minister, Members of H Committee,
Geoffrey Howe, John Wakeham and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

James,
Douglas.

Home Affairs

Herbyganism 73
17/4

MARK

CONFIDENTIAL

File

SRWACK

SUBJECT
cc Plaster Set



cc H. Booth

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

13 June 1985

Dear Sir

The Prime Minister, accompanied by the Home Secretary, the Secretary of State for the Environment, the Secretary of State for Transport, the Minister for Sport, Mr. Tim Renton, Mr Allan Stewart and Mr. Wyn Roberts met representatives of the Football Association and Football League yesterday. The Football Association was represented by Mr. Bert Millichip, Chairman, and Mr. Ted Croker, General Secretary. The Football League was represented by Mr. Jack Dunnett, President, and Mr Graham Kelly, Secretary. Mr Hartley Booth was also present.

The Prime Minister welcomed Mr. Millichip, Mr Dunnett and their colleagues. Since the last meeting in April, the dreadful events at Bradford, Birmingham and Brussels had taken place. The UEFA and FIFA bans had been imposed on English teams. There was therefore an urgent need to take stock of the progress which had been made since the last meeting, and to identify what further measures needed to be taken.

The Government had decided to accelerate the programme of action it had agreed at the April meeting. The Prime Minister summarised the measures taken so far:

- (1) The Government proposed to introduce, if possible this Session, legislation similar to that contained in the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980. That Act makes it an offence to be drunk, or possess alcohol, on football coaches, on entry to grounds and in most areas of grounds.
- (2) The Government would proceed next Session with the new legislation on public order. The proposals on assemblies in the open air would permit the police to impose limits on the numbers of people attending football matches if they anticipated disorder. The police already had full powers to take the necessary steps to deal with criminal activity inside grounds.
- (3) Mr. Justice Popplewell would continue with his enquiry into the events at Bradford City and Birmingham football grounds on 11 May. He would also be taking into account any lessons to be learned from the events in Birmingham on 29 May. It was hoped to receive his interim report before the end of July.

(4) The Home Secretary had set in hand the procedure for designating under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 all clubs in divisions 3 and 4.

(5) The Government had considered with the police measures to improve their effectiveness in dealing with football violence. The police had confirmed they would bring serious charges whenever the evidence was available. The police would be discussing with the Government and the Football Trust the outcome of the CCTV experiment; in particular, they would see if more sophisticated equipment could be provided, capable of taking pictures which could be used to collect evidence as well as for crowd control. Two more hoolivans would be purchased. ACPO had agreed that the British Transport Police should be provided with multi-channel radio sets to give them access to police radio communications. The police aimed to introduce for next season new arrangements for collecting and disseminating information about behaviour at matches. They would be discussing with the football authorities arrangements to ensure that they were able to search people entering grounds as a condition of entry.

(6) The Home Secretary was drawing attention to the Court of Appeal guidelines on sentencing violent offenders and encouraging magistrates to make full use of their powers.

(7) The Government would continue to co-operate in developing international measures to deal with hooliganism. The Sports Ministers from the Council of Europe would be re-convening at a meeting on 27 June. The hope was that the existing Council of Europe recommendation on reducing violence at football matches could be strengthened into a binding convention. Furthermore an agreement with UEFA would be sought to require that the arrangements for international matches should comply with certain conditions. The drafting of the convention would need to be considered carefully.

(8) After the events on 29 May in Brussels, the Government had indicated that we were willing to extradite to Belgium any individuals against whom a prima facie case could be made in accordance with our requirements on evidence. We were also prepared that they should serve their sentences here, and it was hoped that this would encourage the Belgian authorities to press the appropriate charges.

In discussion on these points, the FA agreed that in advance of the new public order legislation, they would arrange with the clubs to ensure that police advice on attendance at matches was followed. The football authorities agreed that safety at grounds needed to be considered in the round and, for instance, in the case of perimeter fences, it was important to ensure easy and quick exit from stands was available. The Football Association would continue its discussions with the Football Trust to encourage the introduction of CCTV as widely as possible; special attention needed to be paid to picture quality. The League agreed that agreement to police search should be made

a condition of access to grounds.

Mr. Croker said that a new offence should be created on unauthorised access to the pitch. The Home Secretary believed the simplification and modernisation of the legislation on public order would encourage the police to bring charges of, eg, threatening behaviour where this was called for following an invasion of the pitch by fans. He agreed, however, to consider the idea of a specific new offence in consultation with the police. On the suggestion of Mr. Dunnett, the Home Secretary also agreed to consider the possibility that clubs should be provided with the names of those who had been convicted of offences relating to football hooliganism, to help them keep out those with a record of violence.

Mr. Millichip accepted the need to clarify the application of the UEFA and FIFA bans. But his particular concern was the danger that the first match played by the England national team in Europe would lead to an outburst of violence. This could well result in the England team being banned from the World Cup, for which the draw took place in May 1986. The difficulties of preventing supporters from this country being able to buy tickets on the day at matches abroad should not be under-estimated. Mr. Macfarlane noted that this was why there was a need for an European initiative, such as was currently under way.

The Football Association and the League said they remained concerned about organised hooliganism, particularly at matches overseas. They already pursued arrangements whereby no tickets were made available to UK supporters for these matches. But it was difficult if not impossible to prevent fans travelling on their own initiative. The Prime Minister noted that in the case of Mexico it had been suggested to the Government there that visas should be obtained in advance. The Government was pursuing this. This, again, emphasised the need for proper controls on overseas matches through the appropriate international forum.

The FA and the League said that identifying the hard core of those responsible for inciting others to hooliganism was difficult. Though the Association and the Clubs had much information, it could not be used to pin down the culprits because there was no central co-ordinating point. The Home Secretary noted that the new police arrangements for collecting and disseminating such information would help. He also agreed that the police should nominate a specific department to whom all such evidence could be referred. This would enable a data bank of information to be developed cumulatively. He would consider further with the police how this might best be arranged.

The Prime Minister then turned to the action the FA and the League were now proposing to take on the points identified at the earlier meeting as falling within their area of responsibility. The Prime Minister took the view that improving the control over access to football grounds

was essential. The trouble-makers had to be isolated and dealt with. Membership cards were a feasible way of doing this. Some clubs were already experimenting with them. She accepted the difficulties of introducing a national scheme immediately, but it was important that any systems which the clubs set up should not only be effective in controlling access to all parts of the ground but should also be compatible between one club and another. Unless the systems were compatible, clubs could spend large sums and access to away matches could still prove impossible to control. The Football Association and the League agreed urgently to consider jointly with the Government, in a working group under the chairmanship of the Minister for Sport, the details of a scheme of membership cards initially at club level but bearing in mind the need for compatibility, and to offer advice accordingly to the clubs as soon as possible.

On travel arrangements for supporters, it was noted that the recent decision by British Rail not to offer cheap fares on football trains might increase the use of private transport. This could make it more difficult to control consumption of alcohol en route to matches. The FA pointed out that there was generally less trouble at matches where stations were close to grounds and they confirmed that this would be a factor in their consideration of which grounds should be used for certain matches. The FA and the League agreed to continue their discussions with the Minister for Sport on these matters, and on the arrangements for issuing tickets. The FA would also continue their discussions with the Football Trust about improving the arrangements for seating in grounds, and introducing family enclosures. The Prime Minister noted that controlling the issue of tickets both at home and away matches would be considerably more effective as a control if membership cards needed to be presented before tickets could be bought. In conclusion, the FA and the League agreed that they would keep in close touch with the Government on all these matters.

Summing up, the Prime Minister noted that ultimately clubs were responsible for the safety of those using their ground. That was a responsibility which could not be evaded. The clubs, the Association and the League therefore had to set action in hand which would protect those who wished to attend matches to watch the game, and to forestall those who went to cause trouble. The alternative was the collapse of football as a spectator sport.

After the FA and the League representatives had left the meeting it was agreed that the Home Secretary would consider the possibility of taking powers to close clubs whose supporters had a bad record of violence. This might be required if the football authorities proved unwilling to take the radical steps to combat hooliganism which were now required. The FA already had such a power, but had proved unwilling to use it or to amend its rules to enable it to be deployed more effectively.

I am copying this letter to Len Appleyard (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Hugh Taylor (Home Office), Rachel Lomax (H M Treasury) John Graham (Scottish Office), Richard Allen (Department of Transport), Phil Dykins (Office of the Minister for Sport), Colin Williams (Welsh Office and Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Len

Mark Addison

(MARK ADDISON)

Miss Sue Vandervord,
Department of the Environment



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434
My ref:

Your ref:

13 June 1985

Dear Mark

MA

BRUSSELS

My Secretary of State thought that you might like to consider whether the Prime Minister would be interested in glancing at this supplement from the Liverpool Echo. The letters give a flavour of the awful tragedy, and also of the Italian provocation.

Yours ever

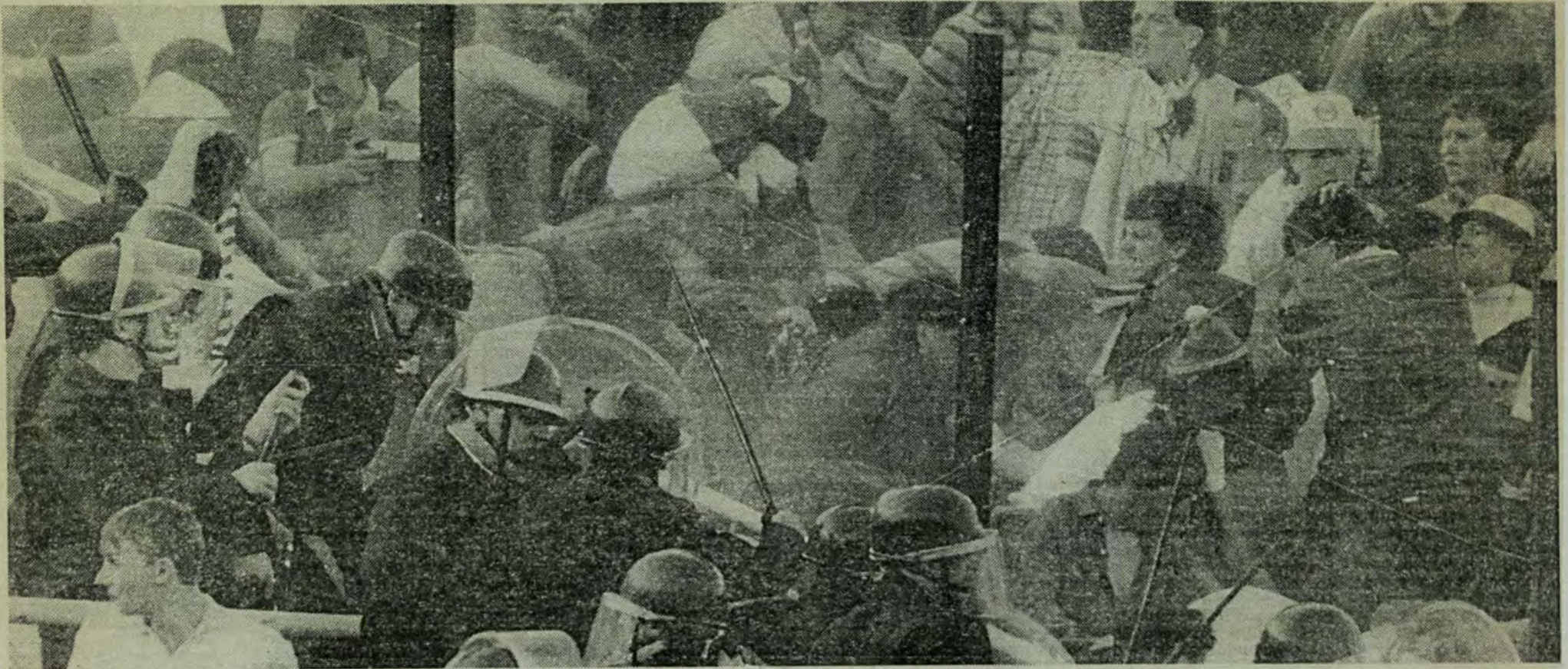
Alan

ALAN DAVIS
Private Secretary

Mark Addison Esq

THE SHAME AND THE SORROW

120 letters of sadness



● Battles on the terraces that led to 38 deaths at the Heysel stadium

AFTER the Brussels tragedy, we asked Echo readers: Were you there?

We received 120 testimonies, many of them full of emotion, all of them with a story to tell.

Pictures

Some enclosed match tickets, proof of the ease with which ticketless fans entered the Heysel Stadium.

Others enclosed colour pictures of holes in the outer wall of the stadium, through which fans could enter the terraces.

Fund

One enclosed 1,500 Belgian francs for the Echo disaster fund.

We have published a selection of your letters. These, and the rest, have been presented to Liverpool FC's legal adviser Tony Ensor by Echo Editor Mr. Chris Oakley.

They may help to answer the question: How did it happen?

Anonymous fan says: I helped to start it all

Oh God forgive me for what I have done!

SORRY about the writing and grammar, but I can't stop shaking and crying as I write this.

Yes, I was on the terraces on Wednesday night. I saw how it started because in a way I was one of those involved.

It wasn't like they say in the media. I was one of the supporters who fought with the Italian youth.

Madness

You can't imagine how I feel. I want to go straight into the local police station and tell them my part in it. I try to tell myself it wasn't my fault, but I can't. I haven't stopped crying since Wednesday night.

You think we've all forgotten it and don't care but you're wrong. If you knew how broken inside I feel, then maybe you'd realise it was just two minutes of madness. We just didn't realise how out of hand it got.

As far as we were concerned it was just a fight but look now, 38 dead. Oh God, I'm sorry.

Let me start by saying how it started and how I got involved, maybe that will give an indication of how we do feel — not just me but everyone concerned.

Axe

Before the game drink was freely available and yes I was drunk.

Outside the ground it was the same for the Italians, they were drunk and very aggressive. They were pulling knives out on everyone.

I was sitting on a wall when an Italian ran at me with an axe, he missed my head by an inch, and to get away I had to jump over a wall and run through an ally way.

By the time I got into the ground I was drunk and inside blamed all Italians for the attack on me. I was boiling up inside.

Once in the ground it was so packed I jumped over a fence/barrier. I stood there. There were many Liverpool supporters but mostly Italians.

I stood there for about five minutes. In that time one brick missed me by inches and another bottle hit a young lad in front of me. I hadn't done anything, I just watched, but at the same time I was thinking those animals. If I get the one who is throwing the missiles I'll have him.

Not long after that an older man who I'd watched trying to rally everyone to attack the Italians shouted to me and anyone around: "Why are we taking all this?"

He said something about the N.F. boys would show us how it's done and walked back to a larger group of men.

Laughing

At first I wasn't interested, I don't know if they were Chelsea N.F. as you suggest, but they were definitely Southerners.

I stood there for a minute or so, then I noticed large groups of Italian youths walking over and they walked near to me and I backed away.

One was laughing at me and then he pulled up his jumper and pulled up a large blade. I swear by now almost everyone of the young Italians had a knife.

I looked behind me for someone to run and suddenly, the group led by the Londoner ran down and started fighting and the Italians backed away.

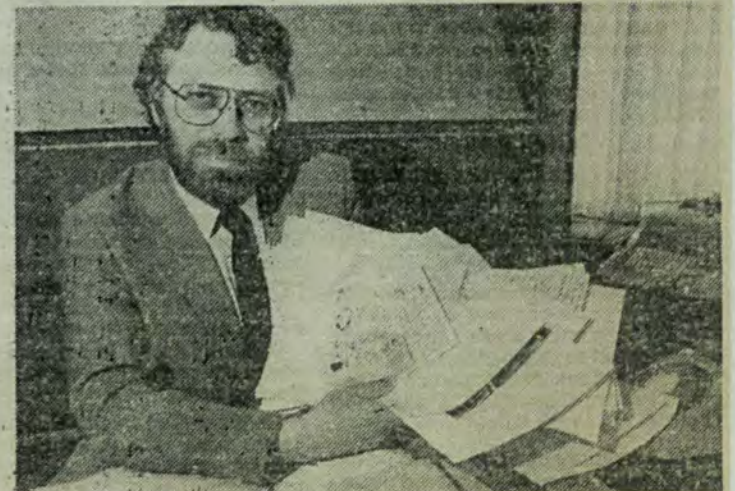
Hitting

Suddenly I snapped, I lost my head. I joined in. I ran towards the Italian who had pulled out the knife in front of me and I started fighting with him. He ran away and for some reason I chased him. I wanted him. I caught up with him again half way up the terracing.

He had nowhere to run. I started hitting him and lost my head, I started hitting any Italian who was anywhere near. It didn't matter who as long as they were Italian. I must have been enjoying it or I wouldn't have done it.

As I had run forward I was in a gap on my own. The Italians were backing away — I couldn't see the Italian who had the knife but it didn't matter, there were Italians everywhere.

(Continued on Page 2)



● Echo Editor Chris Oakley with readers' letters that will go to Liverpool F.C.

Eight pages of testimony on the Brussels tragedy

Crush — then fights began

WHEN we got to the turnstiles, we found many people climbing over the walls. Then the gates opened and everyone, expecting to show their tickets, moved as one towards them, but there was nobody there and everyone just walked in, still I had not shown anyone my ticket.

There seemed to be no breathing space at all and we were hurried towards the flimsy fence, through which we could see the Juventus — and some Liverpool fans. The crush got worse and then we saw a couple of fights break out in Z area.

One scene I remember vividly is a small Liverpool lad, swathed in scarves, being repeatedly punched by two or three Juventus youths. A few angry shouts began and soon the fence began to give way. The wire came down like paper and we were into area Z.

Bottles

My friend and I saw three English fans move towards the Juventus youths, but many Italians had, by this time, started to edge towards the other side as more and more Liverpool fans crowded through. Soon many fights had broken out and the Italians began running. Wave after wave of Reds streamed over and bottles and stones flew overhead.

After about half an hour, I can't remember exactly how long it was, we could see the Italians all in the same corner and still people ran into them kicking and punching. Martin O'Shea, Garston.

Belgian police's cowardice — by PC

A LOT of criticism has been levelled at the Belgian police by the media and while my report is equally scathing, I feel that as a constable in the Greater Manchester Police and life-long Liverpool supporter, my opinions are possibly more valid than most.

Outside the ground the humour was outstanding; souvenir swapping, hand shakes, friendly football matches and good humoured singing.

Cockney

It was noticeable, walking around the ground that a lot of people were wearing England football shirts, a practice totally alien to Liverpool supporters and at one point I was approached by a Cockney with a handful of tickets for the Z area, offering to sell them for 500 francs. My own ticket was for the XY area, issued by the club.

The police presence outside the stadium was minimal and only four inside the gateways through which 11,000 supporters had to pass (the four's sole purpose was to remove any poles from flags when it could quite clearly be seen that Italians at the opposite end of the stadium were waving flags).

Ironic

The entrances were just two doorways, no turnstiles, which were manned by two elderly men at each. Shortly after I entered, the gates were closed on the fans outside as the gatemen could not cope. This incensed the fans outside, who were forced to climb over the walls to gain entry even though they were in possession of tickets.

Despite the XY area becoming very crowded, the good humour was still prevalent and ironically many jokes were made about the insecure terracing.

I could now see that the fans in England shirts that I had seen outside had been joined by many others, equally unusually dressed, in the Z area, adja-

cent to the barrier with the XY area.

I saw with surprise the makeshift barrier between the two areas with, in comparison to English games, very few police manning it.

Police ran

The trouble started with cat-calling in the Z area between the Italians and English; several flares were also fired into the Italians from deep within the XY area. This incensed them and several started throwing lumps of concrete towards the English; several were returned.

'When it got worse — they backed away'

A number of charges were then made by the English at the Italians, several kicks and punches were exchanged. The police, amazingly, turned and ran and at no time made any serious attempt to stop this relatively minor level of trouble, when they were adequately armed to do so, with shields and large batons.

The English in the Z area then encouraged fans in the XY area to join them. The fencing was pulled down, I could not see by whom and approximately 50 fans joined the others in the Z area.

Again, with the problem escalating, the police backed away, showing embarrassing cowardice.

Factions

A now much larger group ran at the Italians, causing widespread panic, the resulting tragedy now much publicised. Once again, the police were very slow in recognising what was happening and

the wall collapse was made much worse by their lack of assistance.

All this time, the Italians at the opposite end were fighting among themselves and many banners were in evidence, pledging allegiance to various factions. There was also a large banner proclaiming "Reds — Animals" before any trouble had started. At this point, also the lack of police action was obvious.

Despite all the chaos at the wall collapse and the Italian fans on the pitch, the police found it necessary to surround the previously peaceful bulk of the Liverpool supporters, while the Italians at the opposite end continued to fight and throw missiles. At one point, approximately 15 Italians ran the length of the pitch and attacked the enclosed Liverpool supporters with bricks, flag-poles and the corner flag. Not one was arrested, all were ushered politely back to their own end of the ground.

Horror

The upsetting appearance of Mr. Fagan was greeted with jeers and abusive gesticulations by those fans in the Z area. Quite obviously not Liverpool supporters. The announcement by Phil Neal was similarly greeted.

At no time was the situation made clear in English, when apparent announcements were being made in Italian. The true extent of the horror was not confirmed until we could buy papers at Dover at 7.30 a.m. the next day.

At the end of the game, everybody made their way to exits, only to find them shut and barred.

Everybody ran quickly away from the ground towards their various transport. I did overhear a shout in a southern accent to the effect "Let's get the bastards," directed towards a group of passing, marching riot police. The call was largely ignored.

John Dunstan, Manchester.

Boy of 10 was being kicked

AS I approached the Liverpool end of the Heysel stadium in a group of about 30 other Scousers we were shepherded by the Belgium police into entrance Z, the excuse being X and Y were jam packed.

On entering the ground we found to our amazement 5,000 Juventus fans having a verbal fight with Liverpool supporters on the other side of the fence.

We automatically went to the fence standing on the Juventus side with about another 500 Liverpool supporters. Next thing, missiles were thrown from both sides, and about 100 Juventus fans approached us, some clearly brandishing blades.

Senseless

The police quickly moved in and started to escort us onto the pitch and into the Liverpool end. Amazingly they stopped after about only 250 of the 500 were through.

The next thing I saw was a boy sporting Liverpool colours being kicked senseless by 10 Italians. The boy was no more than 10.

Then the fence was down and the tragedy occurred.

It was quite clear the ring leaders had London accents but Scousers did follow. I was appalled by the scenes but I swear the Juventus fans caused their own downfall.

Their behaviour matched that of the animals dressed in the red of my beloved Liverpool.

F. Thompson (Dovecot).

Italians spitting through fence

I BOUGHT a ticket for block Z which was allocated for Juventus fans.

I saw leaflets being handed out with a man voicing they were from the National Party.

I made my way to the middle of the terraces and was forced over to the left handside towards the wire mesh fence.

I saw Italian supporters spitting through the fence. These people were provoking Liverpool fans.

Retaliate

Then I saw bricks, blocks of concrete and coca-cola bottles being thrown at and over the fence into Block Y where Liverpool supporters were situated, men women and children.

Italians pulled at the fence but backed off when a small number of so-called Liverpool supporters started to retaliate. These supporters also definitely spoke in a London accent. Older people asked them to behave themselves, but one fan still sticks out in my mind.

He had a picture of a flag on his T shirt and N.F. tattooed on his forehead urging his mates on.

By this time they were tugging at the

fence, the Italians were already backing off.

When the fence came down I would say there were only 25-30 fans running toward the Italian fans, some of whom were being trampled on by fellow fans in the far corner.

Riot police took about 10 minutes to enter and gain some sort of authority on the terraces of Z and Y.

These so-called fans started to pelt police with bottles and flag poles.

I heard the wall collapse, and Liverpool supporters were urging these so called fans to stop.

The police retaliated towards the fans who had not caused the trouble. This caused a near riot as they retaliated having been beaten by police for nothing.

The police backed off and the so-called supporters pelted them with bottles.

While this was going on the Italians where still trampling over each other, the fencing down.

Hardly any of them helped each other. There were about 20 Liverpool supporters out of block Z helping the Italians to escape.

Paul Bennett, Anfield.

God, please forgive me

(From Page 1)

I stopped and looked around before I had taken it upon myself to become a yob and I had seen numerous fights in the ground around me, what had made me join in. I was well forward with a group of Liverpool supporters in a gap on our own. I looked back, no — walked back to where I had been standing and couldn't believe my eyes.

Thousands of Liverpool supporters had jumped the fence and came running over.

And then I stopped. It suddenly dawned on me, what was I doing.

As they came running towards me, I ran to the top of the terraces at the back of the ground and stopped.

I couldn't believe what I'd done. It was all sinking in now. I couldn't see now what was happening, but apparently it's on the cameras i.e. the Liverpool supporters ran at the Italians acting like animals, but only minutes earlier so had I.

Cut eye

I stood there and looked around at the Italian fans. I started to cry. I wasn't the only one.

One minute I was acting like a yob you see on TV, the next I was crying.

One young Liverpool supporter who I had seen fighting, his

eye cut just stood there and said "Oh God, what have we done, this wasn't supposed to happen."

An Italian family stood with us. The mother and father were trying to get their two children out of the ground. I gave the young girl my scarf and tied it around her neck. My friend did it also to the other young Italian.

Without saying anything we lifted the 2 children up to the Italians on the wall. All we could keep saying was sorry. The mother and father thanked us, — for what.

Caught up

Anyway, after 15 minutes with a bit of order restored I went back to the other side of the fence, there was lots more room. I still felt sick and disgusted with myself, one minute I just wanted to hurt the man who wanted to kill me, the next I knew I'd just lost my head, and got caught up in it all. If only I could have those 5 minutes all over again.

Imagine how I felt when they or I, found out that anyone had been killed, I didn't want anyone even hurt, except maybe my own Italian.

We had been misguided by pride, by the older ones, drink — certainly, or had we just forgotten ourselves when we shouldn't have.

I feel I was directly or indirectly involved in the murder of 38 people. Just because I couldn't keep my head, because I was drunk, because I thought I had something to prove.

Authority

How do you live with all this? If I had the courage I'd be down the police station telling them what I'm telling you, but I'm a coward.

If someone in authority could tell me for certain how I'd be treated, I'd come straight in, but no, the only thing people know is what they've seen on TV.

I won't ever forget what I've seen and to some extent done, but what is for certain, I'll never go back to a ground again. It's all over, my life as a decent person — decent?

Lonely

I'm scared. I think everyone who took part in it is scared. As they realise what they've done, especially those who didn't know when to stop.

This started as a letter for your dossier, but now maybe it's a cry from the heart, someone who's scared, lonely, who needs someone to talk to.

God forgive us for what we've done. Our lives have also just ended.

A shamed Liverpool fan.

I want to tell the police my part — but I just can't

THE SHAME AND THE SORROW



● Eric Winters — saw drunken fans.

Abuse from drunken Reds fans

ON arriving at the Heysel Stadium, my wife and I went to a mobile outside the coach park which was selling soft drinks, hamburgers etc.

In the queue were drunken Liverpool supporters who were using abusive language. They were carrying six-packs of small bottled lager. It seemed everyone was drinking beer and there was plenty of wine flowing.

On his own

A policeman was doing body searches on men and searching ladies' handbags. He was taking sticks out of flags. However, this seemed a bit ridiculous, as there was only one policeman and one barrier, which the fans just lifted out of their way. The policeman could not have done anything if he'd have wanted because he was on his own.

My wife and I made our way to a spot just behind the goal by the fence that dismantled. However, we soon had to move further

away from the fence because of the rocks (picked up from the ground!) cans etc., being thrown in our direction.

The ground was in an appalling state, the steps were breaking up, the barriers had no chance of holding up if the crowd had surged, they were cracked and you could see the iron bars inside them.

Liverpool supporters draped their scarfs and banners over the fence that was supposed to separate the crowd, as did the Juventus fans on their side of the fence.

Spitting

Then Juventus fans removed Liverpool banners and started provoking Liverpool supporters. Liverpool supporters retaliated by spitting, throwing cans. I saw one Juventus fan scale the fence and call Liverpool supporters to come in there, they spat and swore at them.

Meanwhile, not one policeman made any attempt to intervene or make any steps towards preventing the trouble, because at this time there were only about 20 people shouting, spitting, etc.

Drink

The disaster was a combination of things, the segregation was ridiculous, with the majority of Liverpool fans crammed into the XY side, whereas the Juventus fans had loads of room.

There were fans from other parts of the country who were involved in chanting and provoking the Juventus fans.

Also, the Juventus fans were not entirely blameless — they had crash helmets on and scarves covering their faces, and they were shouting the Liverpool fans to come on and fight, a number of these were also drunk. Eric Winters, Bootle.

Bricks and bottles

I WAS in block Y at the very top with four friends making our way down the terracing, when just below us, in block Z, there was a scuffle.

There seemed to be two or three Liverpool fans being set upon by at least ten Italians.

Then the Liverpool fans in their anger, pushed against the fence, which immediately fell down, but only at the top. We were pushed through with the surge of the crowd. The first Liverpool fans who had rushed over to the Juventus fans, were returning back to the Liverpool section, when the Juventus fans started pelting us

all with bricks, bottles and anything which they could find.

This made Liverpool fans more angry and even more fans ran over this time. Many Liverpool fans were hit by these missiles and suffered very bad cuts to the head. Less than half a minute later, the Liverpool fans had moved back towards their section, but the Italians carried on pushing to get out.

Charging

The Italian fans who were involved in the fighting just trampled over everyone to get out of the

way. There was absolutely nothing for them to run away from, as the Liverpool fans were back in their own section, but they still panicked and punched each other.

Shortly after, the Juventus fans, who ripped up their own fencing, came charging down the running track to the Liverpool section and began throwing missiles and attacking Liverpool fans who were on the pitch to help the injured.

But this, as everything else, has never been mentioned and probably never will.

Mr. Green, Wavertree.

They went berserk

ENTERING the stadium grounds we had to show our tickets, but walking completely around the stadium discovered fences down and fans just walking in.

Then entering the stadium itself through gates Y we expected to be searched but the police were only interested in taking the sticks out of all flags and banners.

Inside the stadium the youths match was taking place and most people were watching that. Originally we stood right by the inadequate chicken-wire fence, guarded by only two or three police along its

whole length. The fence separated us from the supposed neutrals but 95 per cent were Italians.

The youths' match finished and after a while people seemed to get bored. Then missiles starting flying mainly from Liverpool fans in Y over to Z. Many fans seemed incensed that the Italians had around 75 per cent of the ground while thousands of Liverpool fans outside had no tickets.

We moved back and away from the fence and noticed that fans were just getting in now without tickets.

Next minute about 100 so-called Liverpool fans by the fence just went berserk. The totally inadequate fence and police stood no chance and the Liverpool fans poured across to Z.

They started attacking Italians who then started pouring out on to the pitch. But the police who should have been helping them batoned them and tried to force them back.

It would never have happened if the two sets of fans had been kept at different ends of the ground or if two adequate fences kept the fans 30 feet apart

D. Jackson, Prenton.

Italians in Reds' area

I immediately noticed how full the ground was, and that the Italian supporters not only had all of the opposite end, but half of our so-called section of the ground as well.

There was no disturbance at this time, although a small number of Liverpool supporters who were in Z section were trying to move nearer the Liverpool section, and a number of minor scuffles broke out.

These very isolated incidents continued for approximately another 20 minutes without any noticeable intervention by the police, who were conspicuous by their absence.

When the police arrived, a small number of them appeared to go into the terraces, but they were totally lacking in organisation and the odd policeman just tried to rush small groups of Liverpool supporters who were now jammed against the fence segregating Z from XY section.

A small number of supporters reacted to the police, who immediately ran away and left. A number of Italians now started attacking the Liverpool supporters in Z section, and unfortunately some Liverpool supporters climbed out of XY section and clashed with the Italians.

G. Ireland, Woolton.

The battle unit that charged and charged

I WAS standing on terraces Y where I saw terraces Z reserved for Juventus supporters, this shocked me because I could sense trouble coming.

Along the segregating fence between Y and Z I could see the Juventus supporters standing well back off the fence out of trouble allowing a gap to form between themselves and the fence.

I could see people entering the Z terracing through the entrance where the wall eventually collapsed, wearing Liverpool colours, walking in front of the Juventus fans and waving flags.

My first thoughts were that the Juventus supporters would attack them, but to my pleasure they sat down, ignored them and like the rest of us looked forward to the game.

This carried on until the gap that had been formed was filled with so-called Liverpool supporters who had started to congregate beneath the scoreboard.

Bottles and lumps of concrete were then being thrown at the Juventus supporters by this minority of Liverpool supporters who had started to assemble into some form of battle unit.

Horror

I saw these so-called Reds supporters charge at the Juventus supporters who, at first fought back. The Liverpool fans then retreated into this corner beneath the scoreboard.

A second charge was then enforced by the Liverpool supporters in larger numbers which started to panic the Juventus fans, who began running to the

side. The Liverpool supporters once again retreated and congregated beneath the scoreboard, as if to wait further instructions.

By this time the Juventus fans were squashed like sardines against the wall, I thought then that these so-called Liverpool supporters would have the sense to see that the Juventus fans did not want to fight.

But too my horror a third charge was then lead toward the Juventus fans who were so scared they began pushing go get out of the ground, which resulted in the wall and fencing collapsing.

But, still these sick so-called Reds fans carried on putting the boot in on fans who could not escape.

A. McAllister, Tuebrook.

Police 'are to blame'

THERE was no sign of trouble until the police began pulling down banners draped over the front of the fencing. This brought a series of brick and bottle assaults on the police.

When missiles came from the fence separating Y and Z there became an atmosphere of violence and it was clear that a small incident could spark off a total tragedy. This incident, I believe was caused by Italians in section Z.

I heard shouting and saw scuffling from that section, and when I turned I saw about 20 youths aged about 18 running to a lad to help him but I could see with my eyes the Juventus fans pulling out knives

E. McGill, Neston.



● Mr. Ambrose — ground was a joke.

Find the scum who did this

FIRST let me apologise for the "scum" who caused all this horror.

Outside of the ground we were called so-and-so Scousers for not attempting to fight the Juventus supporters.

The person who called us was not from Liverpool, but was wearing our colours.

Going into the ground itself was a joke. The police searched us, took the canes out of our flags and threw them onto the floor.

Those who were carrying beer had it taken off them, and it was put on the floor. When they let us past them everybody was picking up what they had taken off them.

The entrance to the ground was also a joke.

Two police and a ticket collector — can you imagine it. One door was open at the back of XY and the door was wooden, about 6ft high and 2ft wide, so the pressure of the fan's trying to get in and the time it would have taken was unbelievable.

The ticket was snatched from you, ripped in half and stuffed in your hand again. I saw fans from Liverpool climbing the wall which was about 8ft high.

On entering the ground, it was a disgrace. The barriers, with a steel tube on top were

already loose and dangerous. We should have had the full allocation of the XYZ — it was pathetic the way they segregated the fans.

Yes, I did see some of our fans throwing bottles, but who can say they were actually from Liverpool itself.

You cannot tell me we Liverpool supporters waited 22 years just to start all this horror.

So for God's sake clear our names. Find the scum who did it. They must be on video or photos, so please find them.

A. C. Ambrose, Allerton.

'People were picking up the confiscated beer cans'

Seconds

to go

● Panic and fear drives the Juventus fans against a wall. While the madness of the Heysel Stadium continues just feet away, the wall cracks and collapses just seconds later. Thirty-eight people lose their lives.

—then tragedy strikes

Half-naked fans left girls crying

I WAS having a meal in a Brussels branch of McDonalds where the staff were threatened by half-naked supporters, one of whom was so drunk he had to crawl across.

As I left I told the manager how sorry I was and that we were not all like the people who had been in and left most of his young female staffs in tears.

However, as I was talking to the manager two people in Liverpool colours were relieving themselves against his front window.

I can't be sure when the trouble started inside the ground, but I would agree with most accounts that it was about 18.30 when the Liverpool fans started to throw stones (the flooring of the terraces) and fire either rockets or flares in section Z.

Surprised

Most people moved away from the fence. There was a period as things seemed to cool down.

Then the Liverpool fans started to push the fence down, without any provocation from the Italian fans. They came through the gaps and forced the Italians further over towards the far side of the ground. Again things seemed to calm down.

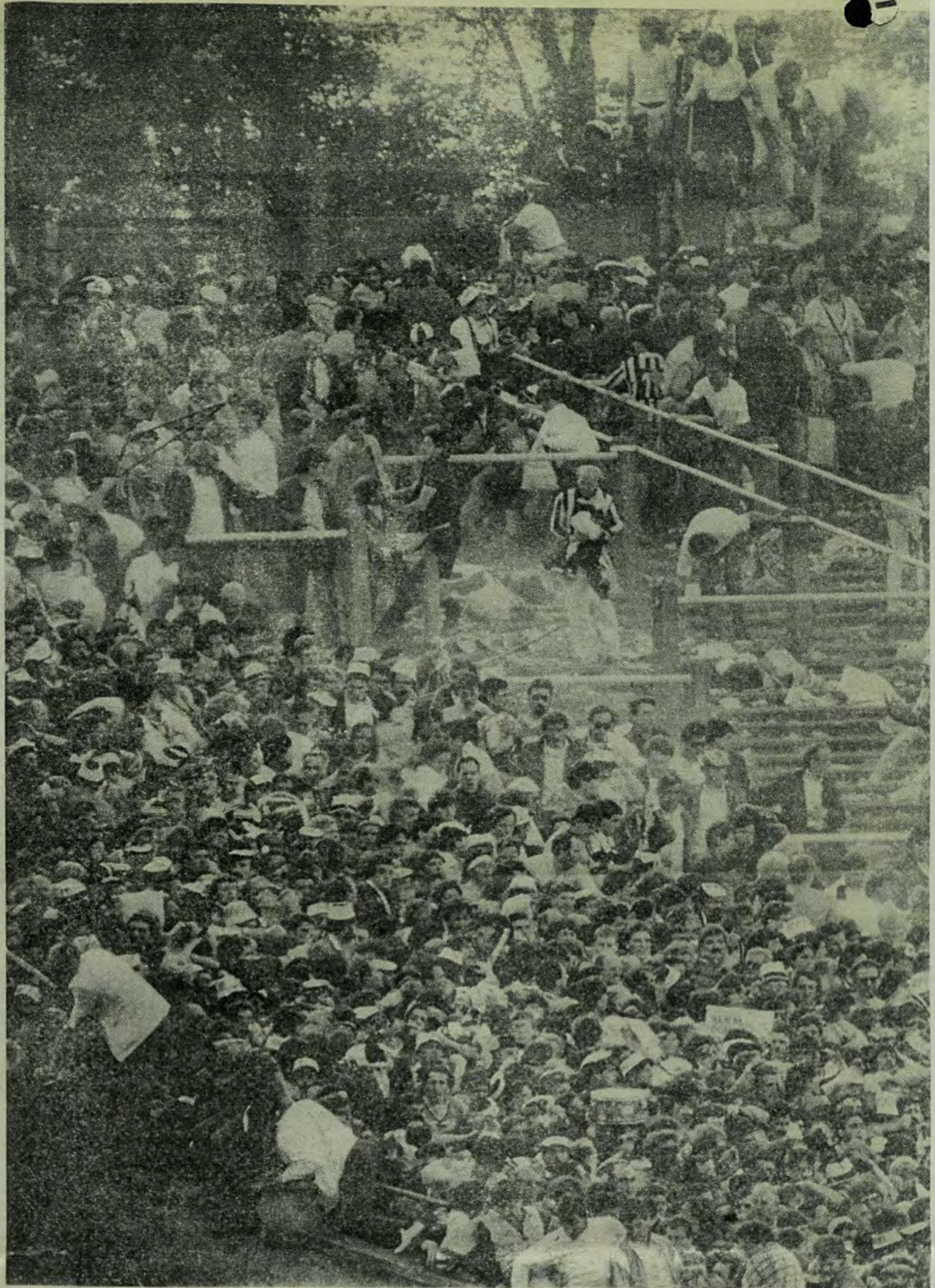
I was very surprised that no action had been taken by the police, in fact I could not see any police at this point. A second and more powerful charge by, I would estimate 200-300 people,

came across the spaces left empty, by the Italian fans. Unlike the previous charge these people crashed into the fans forcing the Italians down into the bottom corner of their section.

The crush forced the fencing over. There was a dull thud and the side wall gave way. Still many fans kept charging into the Italians, others danced up and down across the terracing. Only after this point did the police arrive in any number. However, they made little attempt to clear the area of section Z still occupied by Liverpool fans. Next the mounted police came. They seemed to think they were to give a riding display as all they did was form lines and trot around the running track.

The thing which shocked me was that as people were lying on the pitch dead or dying, a number of people started to play football in the goalmouth in front of us. There seemed to be some feeling that Italians got what they deserved for what they did to us in Rome. I can't be 100 per cent certain, but to the best of my knowledge these attacks were unprovoked, the Italians did not even fight back.

T. Johnston, Hough Green, Widnes.



I AM a coach driver who carried Liverpool supporters to Brussels.

On entering the ground I was searched by the police. I had a bottle of Coca-cola which I was told to drink. The empty bottle was placed outside the entrance and all flag poles were confiscated from the Liverpool supporters.

In the next compound the Juventus fans still had their flag poles and they were drinking wine from glass bottles.

At full-time of the youth friendly, the Juventus fans began to poke their flag poles through the rails (the ends were pointed) at the Liverpool fans, including myself. Then they began throwing bottles over.

Liverpool fans responded by throwing bread-rolls back. Next a flare was fired through the fencing and it struck a man just in front of me. I decided to move to the back of the terraces then for safety.

As I headed away I heard screams and bangs and I saw that the wall had collapsed and Reds' fans were climbing over the rubble. They appeared to be only wanting space.

The Italian fans began to climb out of the stadium via the perimeter wall.

John Standing, Rock Ferry.

I SAW a flare being thrown into the Liverpool Section Y. People retaliated with bottles, and other objects were thrown from both sets of supporters. The fence separating Y and Z started to be pulled down and climbed over, then all hell broke loose. We saw people scatter and run towards the corner of Z section, the police stood there like dummies before they had the courage to move in, then it was too late.

A Wolf, Bootle.

A YOUNG fellow from the Z section jumped upon the mesh and was calling to his mates on our side. He clearly had a Scouse accent.

A policeman came from nowhere and started to hit the mesh, near to this lad, with a big black or brown stick. The lad dropped down into the Z section. Behind us people were pushing and shouting abuse at the policeman.

Weapon of fear

I heard a whoosh from above and I looked up. There was a red flare heading into the Z section apparently fired from the XY section to our left.

I saw people pushing and climbing the mesh to get into the Z section.

The Italians began to run away from a gang of about 50 or so from XY section. The Italians were being punched and kicked.

I saw a man in Juventus colours throwing bottles back at us and the police just stood there and did nothing.

Jeffrey Morris, Norris Green.

WE HAD been in Y section about 10 minutes when I saw about 50 Liverpool supporters at the gate by the Italians trying to get with the Liverpool supporters.

I saw about 10 allowed through but the rest didn't get through so they made their way to the



Terror ordeal for my children

I WAS in section X with my 9-year-old son, 11-year-old daughter and two lads aged 14 to 16.

My son and the others had each purchased a flag, and were holding them by their sides waiting to enter, when suddenly a Belgian policeman snatched it from his hands, ripped the flag from the small stick, leaving the flag on the ground, and the lad in tears.

On entry to the stadium, we were again forced to submit to a token search, which in my case with the two little ones caused me to feel bitter towards the police.

I entered the stadium and told the children to wait just inside the gate. As I was looking for them, another policeman grabbed my bag, ripped it open spilling personal items over the floor. My daughter was in tears as she thought I was being attacked.

We decided to go into the corner of the X section near the stands. Flares and crackers were moving about from both sides of the terraces.

Rampant

Suddenly as a result of an Italian charge towards the Liverpool section, a counter-charge started and the fence in between the fans appeared to give way, and a full-scale charge took place, with the Italian section moving back towards the end of Z Section.

Italians from the other end of the ground ran the length of the pitch, and were directly in front of us, calling to the Liverpool fans to come over the fence, which I am sorry to say some tried to.

To protect the children from the fans climbing the fence near us, we were forced to get the children down onto the ground and cover them as supporters with London accents were jumping at the fence above us.

The riot police then started to hit the fence with the batons, missing the heads of my children by inches.

I can honestly say that at this time I had never been so frightened in my life.

Colin V. Wells, Leyland, Preston.

Moment all hell broke loose

I am a development agent for Liverpool F.C. and had won a free trip to Belgium for two. I took my youngest boy Robert, aged 8.

At about 6.15 the police inside the Z section were marshalling people down and out of a gate. Then in the space of 5 minutes all hell broke loose.

Flares were fired from positions below me into the Z section. Some went over the people and the stadium wall, but I saw two land directly into the crowd. Then bottles were being thrown from Z into Y and from Y into Z.

The police in the Z section then started pushing the people towards the wall. It was at this time that the dividing fence was pushed down.

The rush that ensued was like wild animals running from a fire. Italians then panicked and rushed towards the side of Z.

Cliff

The police on the outside of the fence at position H then started to hit the people with their batons. People were fighting for their lives and the Belgian police were trying to knock them back with batons.

I then saw a young man sitting astride the wall fall down as the wall, and the people there, fell down as though going over a cliff.

While this was taking place people at the Italian end pulled down the fence and started running up the track towards positions X and Y.

They were throwing anything they could lay their hands on.

My eldest son then started crying when he saw this and I moved my position higher up the terrace.

G. E. White, Appley Bridge.

—the flare

Some of the supporters started to take down so they could get through to the Liverpool supporters. There was now between the Italian and Liverpool sup-

porters as the fence was taken down a lad and us held an Italian flag aloft and set there were some cheers around.

When I knew, the fighting broke out. There were no police at all to be seen. At first only about 10 supporters involved in the others saw that the Italians fighting back, things just got out of

porters wearing Liverpool colours ward to attack, more and more tag with every surge. The rest of us at night it would be over in a minute if the police would surge in and stop cool supporters, but no police came

and things got from bad to worse.

All the Italian supporters were fleeing for their lives as our so-called supporters ran after them. I saw three Italians stop and turn but about 20 Liverpool supporters attacked them.

This was my first European game and it will be my last.

Sean Culligan, Netherton.

MY brother and I entered the stadium and had taken a position some 20 yards from the dividing fence (between Sections Y and Z), about half way towards the front.

At this time there was a game on the pitch between two youth teams. After watching this game for a while our attention was distracted by a red "distress type" flare which had been fired from our far left (somewhere near to where the terraces and stands met) deep in the Liverpool Section X.

The flare landed among the Juventus fans congregated in the Z Section. This sparked off a short period of missile throwing from both sides of the Y/Z partition. Calm returned once again for a few minutes

before another flare was fired from the same area.

Once again the flare landed among the Juventus fans far away to our right in Section Z. And once again missile throwing began across the Y/Z dividing fence.

Meanwhile, we had noticed some Liverpool fans in Section Z making their way out of Section Z (at an exit in the fence by the athletics track, and being allowed to enter Section Y with the rest of the Liverpool following).

At least two more flares were fired (again from the same area of the Liverpool section), only to miss the Juventus fans.

But then another red flare was fired from the aforementioned area and, seconds after, two yellow/white flares were shot from behind us (to our right), quite close to the Juventus fans, some of whom retaliated by running towards the front of Section Z and assaulting the Liverpool fans trying to make their way from Section Z to Y.

S. A. and G. R. Avann, Knowsley.

THE SHAME AND THE SORROW

It all started with a banner

Scousers came under attack

BY about 6 p.m. the atmosphere was building up to that typical of a big final.

There was no real sign of trouble although, there was a small number of Liverpool supporters in section Z which should have alerted the police that there was the possibility of some trouble. At that time they could easily have been moved to section XY.

At about 6.30 a couple of small missiles were exchanged over the fence and fans became aware that it would not be advisable to stand too close to the barrier dividing them.

The police did nothing, they should have sent half a dozen men or so to stand alongside the dividing fence, which would have been the case in England.

Retaliated

The next thing I saw was that the small number of Liverpool fans in Z section were attacked by Juventus thugs who were obviously looking for aggro.

This incensed the main group of Liverpool fans in XY section and various missiles, including bottles and pieces of concrete were thrown by Liverpool yobs at the

I WAS at the rear of the terracing and had a very good vantage point over the whole affair.

At the time of the incident, the Liverpool part of the terracing was certainly not overcrowded, as some people have suggested. In fact, many people in the ground were lying flat out sun bathing and others just sitting down.

I happened to see the very incident which I thought sparked the whole invasion by Liverpool supporters.

Liverpool fans had draped the intervening fence between themselves and the opposition supporters with numerous banners and flags.

After the ritual burning of a Juventus banner by Liverpool supporters, an Italian tried to place another banner on the fence. The Liverpool supporters then not only tried to remove the banner, but also the Juventus supporter.

That was the time that many Liverpool supporters surged forward, bringing down the barrier and attacking anyone who appeared to be a Juventus follower, women and children included!

Prior to this, the Liverpool supporters had for long periods showered the Juventus supporters with a various array of missiles, bottles, bricks, stones, flares and coins.

I and my wife had the misfortune of being in Brussels for the whole of

Wednesday prior to the game. While it cannot be denied that many Liverpool supporters were in good humour, chatting with Juventus supporters, the vast majority were in a drunken stupor for most of the day, generally being obnoxious and terrorising local residents

Obscene

I have followed Liverpool for 30 or more years, home and away and in that time have seen the transformation from the fun loving, witty humour of the 60's to the present filthy, obscene chanting and the obsession to fight.

Going back to the riot, I must just add that it wasn't just a handful of people involved, but at least 1,000 or more.

The drunken Liverpool louts who were locked outside the stadium then proceeded to attack the ambulance-men and injured Italian supporters, plus pick-pocketing and then kicking the corpses.

I'm sure these actions were not National Front inspired! I see Union Jack flags at both home and away games, week in and week out.

I drove to Brussels and on the return trip decided at Zebrugge to telephone home to ease relatives' fears. The lout in front of me dialled to Liverpool just to find out how many were dead!

He turned to me and said we've killed 40 in a jubilant manner. I was speechless.

I am still so shaken by the events that even now, five days later, I feel myself getting very emotional when discussing the matter with friends. — K. Martindale, Mossley Hill.

The Juventus thugs who wanted aggro

Juventus yobs, who retaliated.

The genuine fans on both sides of the fence retreated so a gap developed about 10 yards either side of the fence.

The Liverpool fans in section Z were well behaved and moved to the top corner of their section close to the score board. Meanwhile the yobs from both sides continued to throw. I could only see the faces of the Juventus front line and they were taunting and gesticulating the Liverpool fans both in their own section and those on the other side of the fence to come and fight.

It didn't take much for them to cross the fence, it was little more than chicken wire.

It started with about a dozen but within a couple of minutes a few hundred had crossed and were fighting and throwing at the Italians.

The only escape route was on to the pitch but the only way on to the pitch was through a small gate in the front fence which they were all trying to get through. The pressure finally told and the wall and several barriers gave way.

After about 10 minutes of mayhem and with what little Belgian

police there was dealing with the dead and injured, about 200 Italians broke out of the fence at the other end of the stadium.

They were armed with staves and charged the length of the pitch and began pelting the genuine Liverpool fans

I had my two sons and mother and father-in-law with me. I put my two lads and mother-in-law on the floor and myself and father-in-law stooped over them with our backs to the missiles which were raining all around us.

J. R. Hughes, Halewood.



● Jane Colley — too few police

A teenager's diary on day of agony

I AM 16 years old and travelled with my older sister and brother and his friends.

On arriving outside the ground at about 3 p.m., we noticed quite a few people with Union Jacks draped round them and one or two we spoke to had Cockney accents.

We decided to enter the ground early, about 5.30, almost three hours before kick-off and we noticed several things.

● There were only two turnstiles for over 14½ thousand fans.

● The barriers inside the ground were very unsteady, in fact, on leaning on one, it moved slightly forward.

● The steps had grass growing from them with very loose stones which were used as missiles.

● On entering the ground, the lads I was with were searched, although this stopped later when the turnstiles were kicked down.

● The atmosphere became very tense, and

then Italian fans started throwing bricks and bottles, at which Liverpool fans retaliated.

● Then some Liverpool fans — a number wearing Union Jacks — kicked down the very inadequate fence partitioning the two sides and started fighting.

● A few people were drunk, but the drunken people I saw were incapable of causing any fights and the number didn't seem as high as some of the newspapers have stated.

● There were very few police to stop the fighting and they didn't have a clue what to do, both Italian Liverpool fans almost teasing the police.

The only sensible decision to be made was for the game to continue, because I hate to think what would have happened if it was cancelled — the same applies if Liverpool had won. It's the only time I have been thankful we lost. — Jane L. Colley, Maghull.

Italians started air raid

I HAVE sat and watched every news bulletin since I came home, waiting for someone to come forward to try to put Liverpool's side.

I went in the ground at 4 p.m. I, my son and my friend were searched three times before we got to our seats.

When we sat down we were watching the Liverpool end. All at once, a shower of bottles, tin cans and bricks came over from the Juventus side of the wire.

Iron bar

At that time we didn't see them being thrown back, that was much later. We also saw the police over the fence hitting our people with their truncheons.

Later, when the idiots from Juventus came running along the track, my son and I ran to the back of the seats. He was almost hit with an iron bar that some fool had thrown over the

fence and only for me screaming at him to run, it would have hit him on the head.

Massacre

They were also smashing bottles on the fence and ripping the boards from round the track and throwing them. Please don't think I condone what happened, because I don't. I'm as upset as anybody else about the deaths. I sent my deepest sympathy to the Italian families.

But my heart is broken for the lads — they played not to win and I'm not the only supporter who thinks that.

We'd just like to thank them because if they'd have won, it would have been a massacre in Brussels.

The U.E.F.A. committee say they have evidence that it was Liverpool supporters who did all the damage, I'd just like to know how.

M. Johnson, St. Helens.

Fans kicking and punching

I WAS right next to the fence in section Y. All of a sudden through the fence I saw people from both sets of fans kicking and punching each other.

The fencing between us and supposedly just our fans, as I thought, gradually went crashing down. There were people trying to get out of the way of the fighting from the other side of the fence, plus people from my section making their way to where the violence was.

For a moment it had stopped between the two sets of the supporters, and then our so-called fans charged the police. People were pulling the fence nearest the pitch down and scrambling for safety on to the running track.

There was more scuffling with the fans and the police. Eventually it seemed to stop when I think most people realised the extent of the damage to people and property they had caused.

S. Ashworth, Fazakerley.

'I screamed as an iron bar flew at my son'

THE SHAME AND THE SORROW

Fan ripped up three tickets

THE ferry journey was made in good spirits, even though there was a slight confrontation with "so called" National Front supporters from Coventry and West Ham.

Approaching the stadium, I witnessed a car carrying Juventus fans who were leaning out of the window wielding knives trying to inflict injuries to the passing Liverpool supporters. Outside gate Z, Juventus fans were congregated and I saw a Juventus fan approach a Liverpool fan and ask him if he would like to buy a match ticket. He then proceeded to rip three match tickets before his own disbelieving eyes. Understandably the Liverpool fan reacted with anger, only to be confronted by the same Italian waving a knife before his face.

Knives
I was in section Z surrounded by Juventus fans, I made my way to the flimsy fence which paraded both sets of supporters, hoping to be allowed into the Liverpool section.

At that time there were about 300 Liverpool fans standing alongside the fence and within the next 10 minutes we were subjected to extreme provocation, not only were we jeered at, spat at, a number of Juventus fans held up various offensive weapons including knives. All of a sudden, missiles were thrown by both sets of supporters, and as I turned around to face the Juventus fans I was hit by a brick to the stomach. I looked to see the fence being ripped apart through which Liverpool fans charged towards the Italians.

I must point out that when calm was restored in the Liverpool end I saw quite a number of "so-called" supporters, e.g. wearing the red and white of Liverpool, were bearing tattoos of Chelsea and Tottenham on their arms.

M. S. Keeling, Woolton.

Trouble seekers

THERE were, I believe, many people in the X, Y, Z end who were not Liverpool fans, but intenders of trouble. One person came up to me and offered me bricks and stones to throw at the police. He was wearing an away England kit with a Union Jack around his shoulders.
Carl Flynn, Liverpool.

The Belgian in a Union Jack

WE were in Brussels wondering how to get to the ground when a man about 18 asked my friend for a light for his cigarette.

He told us which train to get to the station and what time it was leaving and where we would get it from.

The thing which mystified us was that he was Belgian and he was wearing a Union Jack draped around his waist.

As we got to the ground we were starting to see the lack of presence from the police which really amazed us.

We went through the big main gate which was littered with at least a dozen ticket touts and I heard at least three London accents and two foreign accents.

Four out of our group of six did not even show their tickets as we moved around to the Liverpool end of the Heysel and we just could not believe the scenes outside of the ground.

My personal opinion of why the fighting started was because a boy only about 10 or 12 was getting hit by some Italians, so the Liverpool supporters ran and the chicken wire went.

I was virtually in tears and could sing no songs. I took my hat, scarf and also my top off and the six of us left and set off back to our hotel in Brussels.

We were confronted by Italians as we were leaving the ground they spat at us and started calling us English bastards and English murderers.

We just looked at them and put our heads down because in a way we were.

So at the end of the day I would put the blame on the English supporters at the Liverpool end of the ground, not Scousers because they were outnumbered by at least four to one by Cockneys, Irish, Belgium and Dutch.

Ian Walmsley, Bootle.

Stamford stomper

Why was this Chelsea skinhead at the Cup final?

ON our arrival at the stadium we approached the perimeter fence where some supporters dressed in England hats and the Union Jack draped over their shoulders were being refused access.

We made our way towards the turnstiles Y and Z and passed another gate with only one policeman and a stadium official in attendance. The supporters outside just casually pushed past them making little effort to show any tickets.

There were two lads to my left handing something out like newsletters, but I saw no one next to me take any (I now

believe they must have been Nazi leaflets).

I noticed an unusual amount of Cockney people mingling with the Liverpool supporters. They stood out by their accent, and dress was different from the way your average Reds supporter dresses for matches.

We stood and watched the youngsters playing a match on the pitch for about ten minutes, then I was distracted by a disturbance in the Z section, we were in Y section.

I saw what I thought was a scuffle of about six or seven people. A few seemed to be fleeing towards our side. This was followed by some shouting from supporters on this side of the fence and some climbed up

and waved fists in anger and shook the fence.

A couple of minutes later, a lad standing behind me was struck in the face by a concrete brick the size of a fist. He was just standing watching the kids and was not involved with any incitement.

We moved further over towards the stand but only got half way over because of the crowd.

When I looked over to where we had been there was a group of youths and skinheads jumping up and down at the fence at about the middle.

Then the fence went down and they charged through which made the crowd on the other side scatter.

During all the fighting and charging the section of Liverpool supporters where we were now standing began singing "pack it in, pack it in" to which some of the rampaging yobboes turned and put up two fingers.

We kept on pleading to them but they kept on charging. The police appeared in that section and for a while seemed to divide the two sections of supporters. Then came another charge and the police ran away leaving the poor people to defend themselves.

In all I suppose there were about 50 to 60 yobboes from the English side involved. Then the disaster happened—I was so shocked I decided not to stay, I already had a feeling that some of those supporters had been killed before the wall went.

Italians were outside the Liverpool end of the stadium, beating up Liverpool fans who tried to leave the stadium. Once again there appeared some Cockneys wandering around and they were high on drugs or beer, shouting abuse and generally threatening.

One will live in my mind for the rest of my life—he had a skinhead hair cut, a Union Jack tee-shirt, skin tight jeans, a pair of boxing shoes, Chelsea F.C. tattoo on his arm, and a belt with Stamford Stomper written on it.

You could tell they'd been fighting by the look of them.

We consistently came across gangs of arrogant Londoners dressed in England hats, Union Jacks and some even wearing Chelsea colours.

R. Guy, Norris Green.

Flares fired into Juventus section

I WAS in section XY halfway up the terracing but about 10 yards from the stands where all the Liverpool supporters sat.

There had been no trouble at all when suddenly a man of about 20, who was standing about five yards in front of me, set off a green flare.

It shot high in the air over the Juventus supporters and landed at the back of the stadium. About 30 seconds later he set off another flare (a red one) this time it landed right in the middle of the Juventus supporters.

It was at this point when all the hooligans attacked the Juventus crowd.

About two or three minutes after the red flare was set off the man was arrested, but he was not arrested by police, he was arrested by five people (three men and two girls) dressed in combat uniforms, white safety helmets and white bibs with a red cross on their chests.

The man did not seem to resist arrest. I did not see if he was handed over to the police or not.

I saw a lot of fans without tickets walking through the gates—the officials did not bother stopping them.

At half-time during the game I went to the top of the enclosure to go to the toilet and I found that all the gates had been left open.

A. Anderson, Shevington, Wigan.

'Huyton Baddies' banner

I WAS on the terraces X & Y and hopefully have some information which may be of some help to you about the disaster.

Where the fighting occurred there were Liverpool supporters with a flag saying "The Huyton Baddies".

This seemed to always be among the trouble. It was first shown in the main Liverpool section and then when the fighting broke out it reappeared in the disaster area.

Name and address supplied.

Evertonian hooligan

We arrived in Brussels at noon on Wednesday. The availability of beer was very apparent, the Liverpool fans were buying packs at a supermarket. Lots of under-age youths were being served.

We met many Liverpool fans without tickets. Many Italians beating drums were walking up and down the main street selling tickets.

On entering the ground some were searched, sticks were taken off flags and thrown into alcoves at the rear of the ground which were easily retrieved by the fans later.

In the area Z the Italians were throwing sticks at the Liverpool fans. A number of youths in Y block started rowing cans and bottles. The police did nothing. Then the youths charged the

flimsy fence collapsed and the people on the other side ran. The wall collapsed under the pressure and panicking people were crushed. The wall that collapsed and the walls around the stadium were most unsuitable for the safety of such a large crowd.

It was crazy—it all could have been avoided if they had put two lines of police in the space between rival fans.

Accents

Better still, the whole section should have been given to Liverpool fans, as the whole of the terraces at the other end were totally allocated to Juventus fans.

Many of the youths who had charged, later came and stood in front of us. A majority were not from Liverpool—they had cockney accents.

There were a number from Birmingham

—one youth had a Union Jack draped around him with Birmingham City across the middle.

Another young boy standing in front of us wearing Liverpool colours kept throwing bottles at the police. My friend asked him what he thought he was doing. He turned around and said he was an Evertonian and only there for the trouble.

We later found out from asking questions and listening that there were a number of youths who had made the trip solely to cause trouble.

A number of these were on the pitch fighting.

We tried to leave before the final whistle and got trapped at the top of the terrace. How more people did not get killed in the panic to get out I don't know.

Miss M. Harper, Sefton Park.

'It was crazy—it all could have been avoided'

THE SHAME AND THE SORROW

My five hours of absolute terror!



● Patricia Myers — I was scared.

OUR party split up outside the coach park, the younger members going down the hill to the front of the stadium, to buy large flags at a kiosk.

There they were set upon by a gang of Juventus youths, one of whom tried to "brain" one of our friends with an iron bar. Only a shout from a friend and a lucky duck and swerve saved his life. They ran — to get away from trouble.

Meanwhile, my husband and I stayed near the X/Y area, taking in the atmosphere, which seemed quite happy. Police were searching all males going through the link fencing in front of the stadium walls. They took all flags off staves and handed back the flags, and all bags carried by women were searched.

Refused

We were refused entry because I had a can of orange juice and a can of bitter for my husband, to last the waiting hours and the game, so we sat outside to drink on the grass, watching the proceedings.

The fencing was in panels, linked by simple twist ties which were easily indone, and we watched people getting through not 20 feet from the police, who did nothing about it.

We entered the crumbling old stadium in the X area. There was no real control at the

door, no turnstile, and only 2 policemen on duty.

I became separated from my husband in the pushing and shoving around us, and the police had to drag him through and push me back to get us through together (he had the tickets).

The tickets were not checked, just torn and passed back, and we were roughly shoved into the stadium.

That stadium was the worst I've ever seen. We walked from the fencing between the Z and Y area to the stands bounding the X fencing.

Crushed

The terraces were crowded, unsafe (crumbling into shale and dirt rather than solid concrete), too steep, and there were not enough crush barriers. The very few barriers that were there were twisted, had sharp bars sticking out of their ends, and had crumbling concrete posts that would have collapsed at the first surge.

I spent the next 5 hours in terror, too scared to leave the stadium (not knowing whether our coach was unlocked), not knowing whether to move up away from the Italians who were charging up from the other end of the stadium, or down to avoid getting crushed by people who were close to panicking and getting out.

We were not close enough to the Y/Z wall to observe the incidents that sparked the

The people fell forward, I knew they were

dying—we were horrified

charge — although all of us stood or sat shocked, ashamed and in tears when forced to watch people dying — but reports came back to us from those close by.

Panicked

If that gang of Juventus youths I spoke of earlier were in the Z section, they may have been the ones who set about the very young Liverpool fan, or who, possessing cans of beer, then urinated in the cans and threw them over the fence, drenching the Liverpool fans.

Once it happened, the Italians panicked. The police came up into the terrace.

However, instead of grabbing the offenders and marching them off, they pushed both sides back.

I watched as they forced the Italians into an impossible situation — there was no more room, yet still the police backed into them, forcing them up walls and down on to the fence.

As the people fell forward I knew they were dying (they had to be, from the sheer weight of numbers) and the police stood by and did nothing to help. After the bravery we had seen by our police at the Bradford City fire, we were horrified.

Hordes

There was nothing we could do — if we had moved it would have looked like provocation — and everyone around shouted for calm, for people to sit down, be quiet, not panic.

I sat there in tears and watched the panicking hordes scrambling up the wall, and hid my face as I saw the wall go down, covered with people, having stood not 30 feet from the other side of that fairly high wall, before entering the stadium.

It took 40 minutes for useful medical help to arrive.

We moved gradually back, picking our way through the decent citizens of Liverpool seated on the crumbling terraces, while a group of idiots, not 30 feet below us, tried to pull down the fence from the inside while Italian thugs pounded up the running track towards us.

The leading thug, seen clearly on television according to our worried relatives at home, flung an iron bar into the mixed-nation stand by the X area, and hit a lad from our coach on the head.

As this lad was taken from the stand by police for his head to be dressed, he was accused of fighting.

In front of others of our coach party (in the same stand) an unfortunate woman sat in the front row, with her arms round two children to protect them, while Juventus fans (allowed to roam from their enclosure by the useless police) stuck knives through the wire — slashing her arm.

A middle-aged Italian fan got up in disgust, tore up his Juventus banner, and walked out of the stadium.

Disgusting

What happened to the Juventus thugs? The rioters who were allowed to roam at will around the stadium? They returned like wounded heroes to their homes. Have Juventus been banned? Not a sign as yet! Have Belgium been attacked for permitting its disgusting decrepit stadium to be used for a major sporting fixture, when it was not fit for a pig pen?

All I have heard is of "drunken Liverpool fans", while the sanctimonious, greedy Belgians kept their bars open all night on Tuesday, till 6 a.m. on Wednesday, to sell their entire stock, grabbing in our money, yet complaining about the drunken English.

They obviously see no immorality in their own actions, reflected in the quality of their policing, which is beneath contempt.

Patricia Myers, Allerton.

You didn't need a ticket to get in



Stuart Provo

I was in area Y with my mother and father, and two aunts and uncles.

I could see hundreds of people on the pitch.

In the day-time I saw lots of skin-heads by the shop where the jewels were stolen, but it wasn't them. My mother and aunt saw the window go in and they said they were locals they had no scarves on them or any red.

The skin-heads all had Union Jack regalia on and were Londoners, and I'm sure National Front.

There were three people on our coach who didn't even take their tickets out of their pockets. They walked straight in. I saw fans

shouting out from a hole smashed in a wall for fans to come over who didn't have tickets and there were two armed police inside doing nothing.

The police took all the flags from fans of Liverpool and snapped them in half but let Juventus fans in with theirs.

Just after I got into the ground fans were coming out scared saying "don't go in" but I did, I wanted to see the match.

At this time Liverpool fans climbed onto the toilets etc. and they were all shaking. Eventually I saw one collapse with fans falling down and that is when I got out through a hole.

There were no turn-stiles or there were none when I arrived. I saw metal bars on the floor in the mud with water everywhere.

All there was before you got in the ground was wire fencing.

Outside after I saw one man from Leicester who had blood all over the back of his head and he was dazed. The police gave him a gauze bandage and that was it.

In the car park there were Juventus fans waiting for people and the police were standing doing nothing saying "We have to sort out people in the ground".

Stuart Provo st, Anfield.

The tragedy that could have been avoided

I ENTERED the ground about two hours before kick-off and was positioned on the sections X/Y border where I watched what was to happen.

The two sets of rival supporters began hurling bricks and bottles at each other.

A small group of about a dozen from the Liverpool section began fighting on the Juventus side. A space emerged on the terracing while scuffles ensued, and the small police presence did nothing to intervene — if anything they moved away.

Seeing there was no opposition, a larger mob, possibly 200-300, charged into the Juventus people who seemed to turn and flee as one. It was at this point the wall collapsed and people were obviously very badly hurt at the opposite corner-flag to where we stood.

I must stress here that initially both sets of supporters were happy to throw bricks and bottles at each other's section. From experience at Roma last year, I know that is a favourite Italian trick.

After a while, with a lot of Italians having spilled onto the pitch and a lot of Liverpool fans standing peacefully on section Z, order seemed to restore itself — although it was still quite obvious people were badly hurt in the far corner.

At no point did I think people may have been killed.

Then there was some commotion at the far-end of the ground. About 10 Italians had broken out of their section and were heading down the running-track, confronting Liverpool fans in the stand as they did. They then stood in front of our section and hurled all sorts of missiles at us.

The police, standing about 10 yards from them, did nothing whatsoever. All

through the violence and mayhem they just seemed powerless.

Right up to kick-off time, the Italians at the far end of the ground continued rioting with the police. Many of them roamed the running track, even the pitch, with the odd scumish between any police and Liverpool fans they came across. Again, the police did nothing at all to combat this.

It was obviously one of the greatest tragedies at a football match, but the greatest tragedy of all is perhaps that it all could have easily been avoided.

The deaths were obviously caused by Italians fleeing from the charge of thugs.

While it would be nice to lay the blame at somebody else's door, we must face the fact that we would have this carnage every week at the Anfield Road end if segregation was not proper. Hooligans, unfortunately, are a cancer at every club.

John Foster, Toxteth.

'Both sets of fans were happy to throw bricks'



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

17 June 1985

Dear Lear,

Thank you for your letter of 6 June in which you outlined your proposals for restricting the sale and possession of alcohol at sports grounds.

I think the approach which you now propose is right, and will be seen as rather firmer than your previous suggestion. In particular, I am pleased that you intend the legislation to cover any sports grounds that you may designate; we have already seen a decline in the standard of behaviour at a number of other sports, and there is a fear in some minds that restrictions on football grounds could result in the transference of trouble elsewhere. Having said that, I recognise that the question of whether, and when, to designate other grounds is one for further consideration.

There is one observation I would make about this. Under your previous proposal it would have been possible to designate grounds without it having any immediate effect; it would merely have given the police a power which they could have used as they saw fit. Under the new proposal, designation would impose an immediate ban on sale and possession, which would apply unless and until exemptions were allowed by Magistrates. At the same time, police would have no power to impose restrictions unless a ground were designated.

It seems possible that, in the future, we may find ourselves in a position where we would like to give powers to the police to require selective restrictions, either for specific matches or in specific parts of a ground - for example, if we face an increase in the current trend towards aggressive drunkenness at major cricket grounds. As I understand it, we could only give the police such powers by requiring grounds to go through the procedure of applying for exemption from a designation and consequent blanket ban. This may not be entirely a bad thing; but we might have to be careful about the timing of designation in such circumstances, in order not to penalise sports grounds or clubs unfairly.

I know that my officials have been in close touch with yours, and will continue to be as things go forward.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, members of H and L, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, Sir George Engle and Sir Robert Armstrong.

You are
Patrick

PATRICK JENKIN

Home Affairs : Hoshigamson K 3



12/6/85

Prime Minister

—

The feeling at his end of the table is that there is not much point in prolonging this ~~meeting~~ meeting; and that you should wind it up on the basis that the football authorities will now urgently discuss membership cards etc. with DOE.

FERB

—

Robin Butler.

NBPM



HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

13 June 1985

Dear Mr. C,

..... I attach as requested a copy of the press statement released last night by Gerald Kaufman, M.P. The Home Secretary responded by putting out a statement on the lines that work on the legislative proposals was at an advanced stage; we would, of course, consult the Opposition as soon as we were in a position to do so; the Government's determination to press on with the legislation as fast as possible could not be in doubt.

Neither statement ^{appears to have} attracted much publicity.

*Yours sincerely
H H Taylor*

H H TAYLOR

Mark Addison, Esq.

Statement by rt hon Gerald Kaufman MP, Shadow Home Secretary

In the Labour Party we are extremely anxious to take strong and urgent action to deal with football hooliganism. Because of that, Neil Kinnock and I have offered to take part in consultations with the Government in order that legislation agreed between us could go through Parliament as speedily as possible. We did this most recently in the immediate aftermath of the Brussels disaster.

I have to say that since the Brussels disaster the Government has made no effort to take up our offer of consultations, and that no initiative of any kind has been made by the Government. The legislation needs to be debated and passed by both Houses of Parliament within the next six weeks at most, if it is to become law in time for the start of the football season in nine weeks' time.

It is obviously essential for us to know what the Government has in mind before we can be sure that we are able to agree to what may be brought forward. We will have to consult the football interests and the police, among others, before we are ready to come to a final view on any proposals from the Government.

Good, effective law which enjoys wide backing clearly requires consultation by the Government with us about what it intends to do. We are keen to get on with such consultations. Accordingly, we wish to make it absolutely clear that any possible delay in the passage of the legislation will be in no way the responsibility of the Labour Party. It will be entirely the responsibility of the Government.

CCHB.



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From The Secretary of State for Wales

The Rt Hon Nicholas Edwards MP

12th June 1985

Leon

Thank you for copying me your letter of 6 June to Willie Whitelaw setting out further proposals for controlling the sale and supply of alcohol at football grounds.

These proposals seem more appropriate to the dire situation arising from the events at Brussels and will better suit the circumstances and the general feeling that drastic action is needed. The clubs must accept the loss of revenue as part of the price of regaining the good name of British football and I am content for such arrangements to apply in Wales.

/ Copies of this letter go to members of H and L Committees, the Prime Minister, Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, John Wakeham, Sir John Engle and Sir Robert Armstrong.

John
Nigel

The Rt Hon Leon Brittan QC MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department
Home Office
Queen Anne's Gate
LONDON
SW1H 9AT

ANTI-HOOLIGAN SYSTEM

CHELSEA FOOTBALL CLUB TODAY DISCLOSED DETAILS OF A SOPHISTICATED NEW COMPUTER CARD SYSTEM AIMED AT COMBATING HOOLIGANISM.

THE CLUB IS SPENDING £50,000 ON THE SCHEME, MAKING IT THE FIRST IN BRITAIN TO INTRODUCE AUTOMATED TURNSTILES.

CHELSEA CHAIRMAN KEN BATES SAID THE CLUB PLANNED TO INTRODUCE THE NEW SCHEME AT THE START OF NEXT SEASON.

"I WILL BE THE FIRST TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS WILL NOT ELIMINATE HOOLIGANISM. THERE IS NO SYSTEM THAT WILL ELIMINATE THEM, JUST AS THERE IS NO SYSTEM THAT WILL ELIMINATE CRIME. WITH THE SCHEME WE HOPE TO REDUCE IT AND CONTROL IT."

THE NEW SYSTEM WILL NOT BE COMPULSORY AND WILL APPLY TO MOST BUT NOT PARTS OF THE STAMFORD BRIDGE GROUND.

THE PLANNED MEMBERSHIP CARD, SIMILAR IN SIZE TO A BANK CASH CARD, CARRIES A PICTURE OF THE OWNER WITH PERSONAL ENCODED INFORMATION. SUPPORTERS WILL OBTAIN THEM BY BECOMING MEMBERS OF THE CLUB AND PAYING A £10 FEE, WHICH INCLUDES SUBSCRIPTION TO THE CLUB'S NEWSPAPER.

SUPPORTERS WILL ENTER THE GROUND BY PASSING THE CARD THROUGH A READER AT THE TURNSTILE WHICH CHECKS ITS AUTHENTICITY AND ADMITS THE SPECTATOR.

IF THE CLUB WANTS TO BAN A SUPPORTER, THE RELEVANT CARD NUMBER IS RECORDED ON A CENTRAL COMPUTER SYSTEM AND ADDED TO A PROHIBITED LIST.

THE NEW SCHEME IS THE IDEA OF COMPUTER MANUFACTURERS SPERRY, WHO ARE HOPING OTHER CLUBS FROM ALL DIVISIONS OF THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE WILL FOLLOW CHELSEA'S EXAMPLE.

101514 JUN 85



Prime Minister

I attach a copy of a letter I have today sent to Tim Renton at the Foreign Office recording the outcome of my meeting with other European sports ministers in Amsterdam yesterday.

The decisions reached are highly satisfactory, and I cannot overstate the degree of unanimity and the sense of urgency and purpose which were evident amongst my European colleagues. These moves, including the proposal to tie UEFA into a binding agreement, should help the FA's efforts to rehabilitate English football in Europe once we can come to grips with the problem domestically, and this is a point which might usefully be reinforced to the football authorities at this afternoon's meeting: the Government is doing all we can to help; it is up to them to recognise the urgent need for positive action on their part.

I am copying this to Patrick Jenkin, Leon Brittan, Giles Shaw, Tim Renton, Allan Stewart, David Mitchell, and Wyn Roberts.

NM

12 JUN 1985



DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

Tim Renton Esq MP
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1

12 June 1985

Dear Tim:

FOOTBALL SPECTATOR VIOLENCE: COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION

I attended a meeting in Amsterdam yesterday of some of my fellow Council of Europe Sports Ministers, called by the Dutch State Secretary, Joop van der Reijden, to discuss common action needed in the wake of the Brussels tragedy. Present were Ministers from Belgium (Robert Urbain), Federal Republic of Germany (Waffen Schmidt), France (Alain Calmat) as well as Holland and the UK; Italy and Luxembourg were represented by senior officials. The Council of Europe was represented by the Deputy Secretary General, Gaetano Adinolfi.

You will be glad to know that the meeting was very positive, both in attitudes and future commitment. There was a welcome recognition of our decisive action since Brussels. Ministers were concerned in any case not to apportion blame, but to agree on a programme of action to counter spectator violence in the future.

The unanimous view was that we had already determined valid measures to be taken, by Government and football authorities, in Council of Europe Recommendation (84)8. The obvious need was for this to be strengthened - as, you will recall, was agreed at the Prime Minister's meeting with our Football Association and Football League on 1 April - and made binding on Member states. The Deputy Secretary-General's advice was that we should seek an open Convention, based upon Recommendation (84)8. This was agreed. Additionally, Ministers were concerned to seek and conclude a binding agreement with UEFA.

There was, as you would expect, a great sense of urgency. The Council of Europe agreed to organise an informal meeting of Sports Ministers on 27 June in Strasbourg to consider, and hopefully to agree, a draft Convention. If we are successful, the proposal is that Sports Ministers would also agree to implement the document informally and bilaterally in time for next season. We are to prepare a draft in the UK, for consideration by an experts' working group meeting in Strasbourg on 25/26 June. My officials will of course be in touch with yours.

✓ I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister, the Lord Chancellor, Giles Shaw, John Stradling-Thomas, Allan Stewart, Nick Scott and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Neil

Neil

NEIL MACFARLANE

Meeting of Ministers and State-Secretaries responsible for Sport delegates and observers from Belgium, Federal Republic of Germany, United Kingdom, France, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Italy, together with the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, Amsterdam, 11 June 1985.

Conclusions on the consequences of the acts of Violence on the occasion of the European Cup Final in the Heyzel-stadium in Brussels, and the common actions needed to prevent their repetition.

The Ministers repeated their sorrow and regret about this tragic event and expressed their determination to do everything possible to counter such hooliganism.

While restating their own separate but complementary responsibilities of the national governmental and local authorities and sporting bodies, Ministers emphasized that it is primarily the responsibility of U.E.F.A. to do everything within their power to prevent events of this nature. They have taken note of the measures taken so far, e.g. the temporary exclusion of certain countries or teams from competitions, and agreed that coordinated concrete and binding measures against violence must be taken immediately in Europe.

Moreover they are of the opinion that U.E.F.A. to achieve this aim, must introduce a system which would apply strict standards governing the selection of approved stadia and the preparation and conduct of matches. Compliance with the standards must be monitored and guaranteed by U.E.F.A.

Ministers discussed measures against hooliganism among spectators and decided to submit to U.E.F.A. a catalogue of measures which they consider imperative and to request U.E.F.A. to include the measures in the criteria governing the selection of approved stadia and matches.

The Ministers decided to instruct their representatives to the Council of Europe working group, due to meet on 25 - 26 June 1985, to prepare a draft catalogue to this effect, on the basis of their proposals taking particular account ~~of the importance of:~~

- a. effective segregation,
- b. control of ticket sale,
- c. effective policing,
- d. consequences of alcohol consumption,
- e. problems of transport and access,
- f. suitable penalties for offenders,

The Ministers, moreover, decided:

1. To ask the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe to convene a conference of the Ministers responsible for sport of the Council of Europe on June 27th.
2. To propose to their colleagues and the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe the urgent drafting and implementation of ^{a legally} binding ~~legally~~ Council of Europe Convention on the reduction of spectator violence at sports events, and in particular at football-matches, on the basis of their Council of Europe recommendation - R (84) 8.
3. To propose to this conference to conclude an agreement between all member countries of the Council of Europe and U.E.F.A. relating to the binding conditions for the selection of approved stadia and matches under the auspices of U.E.F.A..



C

Prime Minister

CF
we should await
H/see comments before
putting back to PM)

EUROPEAN CUP FINAL: BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE REPORT

I am sure you will want to see the enclosed letter from the Chief Constable of the British Transport Police. It covers a report on the events in Brussels, prepared by Mr McGregor their Assistant Chief Constable (Operations). In addition to Mr McGregor's report, Appendices F and G are particularly useful. I have congratulated the Chief Constable and his officers on their splendid efforts.

In view of some of the comments in the report, I recommend that the documents should be treated in confidence.

I believe that the report is valuable and constructive. The BTP are in close co-operation with the Chief Constable of Merseyside and a copy of the report is being sent to him.

On pages 4 and 5 of his letter, the Chief Constable makes three associated recommendations on matters affecting the policing of hooligans generally. I support these recommendations but I should be grateful to know if you agree and to have the views of Leon Brittan and Neil Macfarlane (to whom this letter and enclosures are copied) before we respond in full to the letter. It would be particularly helpful to be able to tell the Chief Constable that his Force could have direct access to the Police National Computer, and that their Mobile Support Units could have access to the local forces radio network via the multi-channel radio ART 177. These are practical ways in which overall police effectiveness in combating hooliganism can be quickly improved.

British Transport Police



PO Box 260
15 Tavistock Place
London WC1H 9SJ
Telephone 01-388 7541 ext
Telex 23508

Chief Constable's Office

Secretary of State for
Transport,
Department of Transport,
2 Marsham Street,
LONDON SW1P 3EB.

K.H. Ogram QPM
Chief Constable

y/r
o/r CC/HP

Date 4 June 1985

Dear Sir,

I forward for your consideration a report submitted by my Assistant Chief Constable (Operations), Mr. McGregor who, together with nine other members of this Force, travelled to Brussels as liaison officers in connection with the Liverpool-v-Juventus match played on 29 May 1985. They were accompanied by a police officer from each of the Kent and Merseyside Forces. Whilst performing their liaison duties, which were undertaken at the request of the Chief Officer of police in Brussels, these officers wore plain-clothes but were identifiable by specially produced and clearly displayed badges.

For many years this Force has policed the movement of football supporters throughout the United Kingdom by both British Rail and London Regional Transport and has been well aware of their propensity for disorder and violence. Liaison with the civil police forces and within the transport industry has been developed to such an extent that, on occasions when football matches are to be played, all relevant parties are notified in advance of the anticipated number of supporters intending to travel or actually travelling together with an indication of their mood or previous history.

The fact that alcohol adversely affects behaviour has long since been recognised and in August 1980 action was taken to control possession and consumption of alcohol on British Rail trains and railway premises by the introduction of a bye-law. - (B.R. bye-law 3(a)).

/continued...

The large scale participation by British Clubs in European Football competitions led to this Force forging links with the various police forces of the E.E.C., other continental policing agencies and ferry operators.

In 1983 formal contingency plans were drawn up for disseminating information about the movement of football fans abroad which included direct contact with football clubs, the Football Association, UEFA and British Consulates throughout Europe.

In 1984, subsequent to the publication of the Department of Environment Working Party Report on Football Hooliganism, the role of the British Transport Police for monitoring the movement of football supporters was formally recognised by the Association of Chief Police Officers.

The report prepared by Mr. McGregor contains his "Final Observations" and it is appropriate for me to add my own comments and, where necessary, recommendations, which I shall confine to Part A of Mr. McGregor's observations since these relate to general matters affecting the Force.

I shall refer to those observations in order :-

1. The British Railways Board maintains a fully trained and equipped police force of some 2,000 officers at considerable cost which over the years has seen its role extended from assisting the commercial operations of the industry to include a more general law and order enforcement role. This is perhaps typified by our role in connection with the movement of football supporters. The British Railways Board is totally committed to the principle of maintaining "in-house" police services by means of a professional body dedicated to the specialised role of the industry. However, the increasing commitment to a general law enforcement role often leaves our resources very stretched. For example, it is not uncommon for trains containing several hundred football supporters to be escorted by only four or five police officers with limited radio communication. This situation occurs quite regularly simply because of the increasing work load. In 1984 police escorts were required on 3,840 trains which often travelled long distances and through areas where, for technical reasons, they were out of radio contact.

/continued...

2. The success of the operation clearly indicates the need for a co-ordinating body.
3. I have already submitted a paper to the Department of Transport concerning the proposed introduction of legislation similar to Part V of the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980, concerning the experience of the Force whilst enforcing restrictions on the possession and consumption of alcohol on the railways following the introduction of British Railways Board bye-law 3(a) in August 1980.
4. & 5. Clearly a restriction on the sale of alcohol by Masters of ferries was a significant contribution to the success of the overall operation. However, it cannot be said that all vessels carrying Liverpool fans to the continent were alcohol free and it is almost certain that Masters would not have been prepared to co-operate had they not been guaranteed a police presence.
6. Experience over the years has shown clearly that trouble is minimised by timing the arrival of supporters as closely as practicable to the commencement of the football match or sporting activity, thereby restricting the opportunity to consume alcohol or indulge in general mischief. This applies equally to the arrival points of supporters and I endorse moves which have been taken and which are planned to facilitate the routing of football traffic to specially built or modified stations or halts close to major stadiums.
7. The linking of all tickets sold to supporters travelling away, to an identifiable mode of travel assists supervision and control.
8. It has been suggested that legislation might be introduced which would give powers to police at sea and airports to prevent the embarkation of persons known to have criminal convictions for public order and related offences. It has also been suggested in some quarters that restrictions should equally apply to known members of extremist organisations. Clearly legislation couched in these terms would be beneficial but to restrict it to points of embarkation would perhaps limit its effect and it might be more appropriate, in the case of those intending to travel by rail, to endeavour to detect such persons before they commence their journey.

/continued...

Similarly, although I endorse the suggestion of issuing identity cards to persons attending football fixtures, the practicalities will require careful consideration. For instance, if they were to be used as a method to control undesirable people travelling by British Rail to the various matches, including continental fixtures, it would be necessary to examine documents at the point of departure as opposed to arrival at the point of embarkation.

My personal observations lead me to make three specific recommendations :-

- (i) That consideration be given to contributing to costs of the British Transport Police in relation to its public order role should any approach be made by British Railways Board.
- (ii) In order for this force effectively and properly to carry out its duties in connection with present or proposed legislation, I consider it essential that the previous decision to refuse direct access to members of this Force to the Police National Computer should be reviewed as a matter of urgency. Though, generally, co-operation exists between individual forces and British Transport Police it is a fact that the rules contained in the Home Office Consolidated Circular on Crime and Kindred matters (Paragraph 1.45b) has led to some variance in the response from various forces when assistance has been urgently requested. The rules are seen by members of this Force to be unnecessarily restrictive and to deny them access, not only to information which they require to perform their duties efficiently but also to deny them access to information intended to warn them about persons known to be violent or likely to inflict harm upon themselves.

It must be stressed that British Transport Police officers often work in exposed and isolated situations and for them to be disadvantaged vis-a-vis their Home Department colleagues, particularly in the field of public order, is unnecessary and undesirable.

/continued...

- (iii) The question of radio communication between this Force and the various Home Department Police Forces with whom we work closely on a daily basis has been the topic of recent discussion and I am aware that both the Department of Transport and the Home Office are anxious to help. The provision of Home Office 'ART 177' sets to my Mobile Units which are frequently deployed in a public order role would be of considerable operational benefit and I will again raise this with those concerned.

Finally I must stress that this letter is my immediate response to the report prepared by Mr. McGregor and, consequently, the points I seek to make are restricted. There are a number of other issues which I would welcome the opportunity to ventilate should future meetings be held.

Yours faithfully,

K. O. G. [Signature]

file

VC

Weekend Box

PRIME MINISTER

You may be interested to see this chilling extract from Newsweek. It supports the view that football hooligans come from a range of backgrounds. The two thugs described are relatively well off, family men and own their own homes. There is no sign here of any clear link between unemployment and football violence.

(MARK ADDISON)

11 June 1985

Stutt



DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:

Your ref:

Mark Addison Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
London
SW1

11⁹⁰ June 1985

HB reply
done on 17/6
with page breaker

Dear Mr Addison

Further to my letter of 5 June, I am writing to confirm the figures we have given you over the past few weeks on the funding of football. They are as follows:-

	Season (£) 1983/84	Season (£) 1984/85
Amount paid by the Pools Promoters Association for use of the copyright of the Football League fixture list (25% of this goes to the Scottish League)	4,578,514	5,493,141
Amount paid by TV Companies for screening of Football League matches (includes £0.5m for showing matches overseas)	3,100,000	3,100,000
Income of the Football Trust	5,865,322	6,775,117

These figures were obtained direct from the Football League and Football Trust. We have been told by the Football League that current negotiations for next season on TV payments are nowhere near reaching an agreement. A further meeting is to be held in the near future.

Yours sincerely
Paul Herson

PP P DYKINS
Private Secretary

cc BU AA



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:
Your ref:

11 June 1985

Dear Mark

MEETING WITH THE FOOTBALL AUTHORITIES

You asked us for briefing for the Prime Minister's meeting with the football authorities tomorrow.

The meeting was originally arranged to review progress on the package of measures agreed with the football authorities at No 10 on 1 April. For ease of reference I attach a copy of the letter you sent subsequently to the Football Association Chairman, Mr Millichip. Obviously, the discussion will be heavily affected by the tragedies at Bradford and Brussels and the statements made to the House by the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary.

I understand that the football authorities will be represented by Mr Millichip, his General Secretary, Mr Ted Croker, Mr Les Mackay (Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee), and from the Football League, Mr Jack Dunnett (President) and Mr Graham Kelly (Secretary).

My Secretary of State suggests that you begin the meeting by reporting on the various Government actions taken. A brief note on the current state of play on these is attached at Annex A. The proposed alcohol legislation has not yet been formally cleared by L Committee; but the FA have been invited to discuss it with Home Office officials as soon as possible.

In turning to the actions agreed by the football authorities, my Secretary of State feels that the main issue is membership cards. The FA duly produced the report they promised and it was to say the least disappointing. It gave questions rather than answers, and did not reveal a practical grasp of the issues and possibilities. But if the game of football is to put its house in order, and convince its domestic and international customers and other authorities that it has done so, an effective membership card scheme still looks to be the best option. I attach at Annex B a note of the alternative membership card schemes which need to be carefully examined. My Secretary of State suggests that you ask the FA to look carefully and urgently at possible schemes, with their costs and benefits, with DOE officials. We should look for a further report from them urgently, with the aim of introducing some sort of scheme - perhaps a pilot one based on the problem clubs - by the beginning of next season.

/ I also attach at Annex C a note on the other items on which the Prime Minister might ask the FA to report.

I am sending copies of this letter and the brief to the Private Secretaries to the Foreign Secretary, the Home Secretary, and the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales, and to Hartley Booth.

Your ever
Alan Davis

ALAN DAVIS
Private Secretary

Mark Addison Esq

ACTIONS TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT

Legis , Enforcement

1. Introduce, as soon as possible, legislation similar to that contained in the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980. That Act makes it an offence to be drunk or possess alcohol on football coaches, on entry to grounds and in most areas of grounds. It also makes it an offence to be in possession of containers that could be used as missiles.
2. Proceed next Session with the legislation envisaged in the Government's White Paper on the review of public order. The proposals on assemblies in the open air will considerably strengthen the powers available to police to guard against the risk of disorder.
3. Mr Justice Popplewell will continue with his inquiry into the events at Bradford City and Birmingham football grounds on 11 May.
4. The Home Secretary has set in hand the procedure for designating under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 all clubs in Divisions 3 and 4.
5. Continue to cooperate in developing international measures to deal with hooliganism.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

A system of membership cards will only be successful if it effectively denies admission to trouble-makers. There are already in existence a number of club-based schemes which do not achieve this; they simply restrict admission to certain parts of the ground, thus ensuring a degree of 'safety' to card-holders, but not addressing the problem elsewhere in the stadium. The attraction of these schemes to the clubs (and to the FA) is that they arguably increase revenue by removing a disincentive to watch football, whereas schemes that restrict admission to the ground as a whole might reduce income by deterring 'casual' spectators.

At the meeting on 1 April the FA were asked to examine options for membership card schemes. Such schemes would fall into 2 broad categories - computer-based or photograph based. Computer schemes might be prohibitively expensive (they would require a terminal at each turnstile) but would perhaps be the most effective in terms of security against fraud and other abuses. A scheme based on photograph identity cards would be perhaps easier to circumvent, but could probably be introduced much more cheaply and more quickly.

The other major choice is between national schemes and club schemes. Again, a club scheme could be introduced quickly - and if there were enough of them a national co-ordinating system might develop - but they would have the disadvantage of merely transferring troublesome fans from one ground to another.

The FA do not appear to have examined these options in detail. A costed comparison of a number of possible schemes would allow informed decisions to be taken about their merits and drawbacks. The Prime Minister may like to tell the FA that she had hoped to receive from them a rather more rigorous examination of possible kinds of scheme, and suggest to them that they discuss with DOE officials how best to undertake such an examination.

OTHER POINTS TO RAISE WITH THE FA

1) change to FA rules. Three alternative new rules were before the FA's AGM recently and the Home Secretary wrote to Mr Millichip with his recommendation. His advice was not accepted; he has written to express the Government's disappointment at the outcome, but the Prime Minister may want to have a further explanation from both Mr Millichip and Mr Dunnett of the way in which the rule newly adopted is to operate and to be enforced and of their assessment of its potential for reducing hooliganism;

2) perimeter fencing. Doubts have arisen about perimeter fencing since the Bradford and Brussels incidents. Such fencing obviously needs to be effective for safety as well as crowd control. You might ask the FA for a progress report and their current assessment;

3) closed circuit television. Apparently the Football Trust doubt whether all the £500,000 allocated for this year will be spent. However, further funds could be made available in future years. Both the FA and the FL are strong supporters of CCTV. We should expect them to encourage clubs to make early applications for grants from the Trust for CCTV; they might also consider how they could advise the Trust on a work programme that would help

ensure the speedy introduction of CCTV at the grounds where it is most needed;

4) all ticket matches. On 1 April the FA and FL agreed to make more use of all-ticket matches in future. These become less important if an effective membership card scheme is in operation. However, it will take a while for any such scheme to get fully underway; in the early stages, hooligans will get cards and will then need to be weeded out. During that early phase all-ticket matches will continue to be important. You should ask the FA what steps they and the FL intend to take to encourage clubs to make problem matches all-ticket in the coming season.

5) ban on visiting spectators. The FA have previously attempted a ban on visiting spectators, following incidents with Chelsea football club. However, supporters still travel to matches and were admitted on the advice of the police. As the FA also fear that their judgement against Chelsea was ultra vires, they withdrew the ban and have since been very reluctant to take similar action against problem clubs. I suggest that you should ask the FA for their current assessment of the practicalities of putting a ban on fans of particular clubs in the coming season.

ACTIONS TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT

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2. Proceed next Session with the legislation envisaged in the Government's White Paper on the review of public order. The proposals on assemblies in the open air will ~~allow the police to use~~ considerably strengthen the powers available to police to guard against the risk of disorder, ~~and a police will allow them to impose limits on the number of people attending football matches if they anticipate trouble.~~

3. Mr Justice Popplewell will continue with his inquiry into the events at Bradford City and Birmingham football grounds on 11 May. He will also be examining the ~~events in Burnley on 29 May to see what lessons can be learnt from them.~~

4. The Home Secretary has set in hand the procedure for designating under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 all clubs in Divisions 3 and 4.

5. Continue to cooperate in developing international measures to deal with hooliganism.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

*why aren't
these effective?*

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?
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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

11 June 1985

MEETING WITH FOOTBALL AUTHORITIES: 12 JUNE

I enclose a note which sets out what the Prime Minister might aim to get out of tomorrow's meeting with the Football Association and the Football League. The last paragraph, in square brackets, indicates in particular what the football authorities might be pressed to agree to. The note might also form the basis for any press notice to be issued after that meeting. The Prime Minister will no doubt wish to discuss it at the meeting of Ministers beforehand.

I am copying this letter to Hugh Taylor (Home Office), Phil Dykins (Minister for Sport's office, Department of the Environment), Richard Allan (Department of Transport), Alistair Harrison (Mr Renton's office, Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Peter Ritchie (Mr Stewart's office, Scottish Office) and Simon Morris (Mr Roberts' office, Welsh Office).

(Mark Addison)

Miss Sue Vandervord
Department of the Environment

The Prime Minister and her colleagues reviewed with the representatives of the Football Association and Football League the progress made on the programme of action in the Prime Minister's letter of 4 April to Mr Millichip.

The action which the Government has so far taken is:-

1. The Government is introducing, as soon as possible, legislation similar to that contained in the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980. That Act makes it an offence to be drunk or possess alcohol on football coaches, on entry to grounds and in most areas of grounds.
2. The Government will proceed next Session with the legislation envisaged in the Government's White Paper on the review of public order. The proposals on assemblies in the open air will considerably strengthen the powers available to police to guard against the risk of disorder, and in particular will allow them to impose limits on the numbers of people attending football matches if they anticipate trouble.
3. Mr Justice Popplewell will continue with his inquiry into the events at Bradford City and Birmingham football grounds on 11 May. He will also be ^{abuse that was not any lessons for} ~~examining~~ the events in Brussels on 29 May to see what lessons can be learnt from them.
4. The Home Secretary has set in hand the procedure for designating under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 all clubs in Divisions 3 and 4.
5. The Government has considered with the police measures to improve their effectiveness in dealing with football violence:

The police have confirmed that they will bring serious charges whenever they have the evidence to

justify this.

The Government and the police, will discuss the outcome of the CCTV experiment with the Football Trust. In particular they will see if more sophisticated equipment can be provided, capable of taking pictures which can be used in evidence as well as for crowd control purposes.

The Government has decided to purchase a further two "hoolivans" centrally so that three vans will be available next season for deployment on request. Before next season an evaluation report will be issued to chief officers of police on the public order photographic van.

There will be discussions with the football authorities about arrangements to ensure the police are able to search people entering grounds as a condition of entry.

The Association of Chief Police Officers has agreed that the British Transport Police can be provided with multi-channel radio sets which will give them access to police radio communications [for use on trains.] *x BTP cars*

By next season the police expect to have in place new arrangements for collecting and disseminating information about behaviour at matches.

- Make to check* ←
- Bruce arvedu*
6. The Home Secretary has drawn attention to the Court of Appeal guidelines on sentencing violent offenders, and encouraged magistrates to make full use of their powers, including detention and attendance centre sentences, and bail conditions forbidding attendance at matches. The heavy sentences imposed by the judge in the Cambridge case at the end of May were widely welcomed by the press and the public. Home Office Ministers will take any

further suitable opportunity to remind courts of the range of the powers and penalties available to them.

7. The Government is continuing to cooperate in developing international measures to deal with hooliganism. The Minister for Sport has today been taking part in a meeting of European Ministers for Sport in the Netherlands. *The meeting will reconvene on 27 June.*

The Council of Europe Working Group [to examine scope for developing rules into binding convention]

[The Football Association and the Football League agreed today to ^(H&A 6/11) develop urgently, in consultation with the Government, advice which they will give to the league football clubs on further action which the clubs should take. The subjects to be covered will include:-

- membership cards - *Admin. need a foolproof scheme*
 - *control adm. one whole*
 - *enable individual schemes conceivable.*
- travel arrangements for supporters - *alcohol dealt with*
all ticket matches - only if card
- ticket issue - *only to members.*
 - *B&R have said no cheap travel for fans.*
- seating arrangements
- family enclosures.

The aim will be to produce advice in time for the start of the forthcoming season. In preparing this advice full account will be taken of the conclusions of the Popplewell inquiry as these become available.]

Mexicans → UK will hold Mexicans to same rule.

[Rule change.]

F. R. B

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There will be discussions with the football authorities about arrangements to ensure the police are able to search people entering grounds as a condition of entry.

The Association of Chief Police Officers has agreed that the British Transport Police can be provided with mult-channel radio sets which will give them access to police radio communications, for use on trains. *[also in B.T.P. Cars]*

By next season the police expect to have in place new arrangements for collecting and disseminating information about behaviour at matches.

6. The Home Secretary has drawn attention to the Court of Appeal guidelines on sentencing violent offenders, and encouraged magistrates to make full use of their powers, including detention and attendance centre sentences, and bail conditions forbidding attendance at matches. The heavy sentences imposed by the judge in the Cambridge case at the end of May were widely welcomed by the press and the public. Home Office Ministers will take any

further suitable opportunity to remind courts of the range of the powers and penalties available to them.

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The meeting will ~~be~~ resume on 27th June

[The Football Association and the Football League agreed today to develop urgently, in consultation with the Government, advice which they will give to the league football clubs on further action which the clubs should take. The subjects to be covered will include:-

- membership cards *- admission to ground. - computer screens.*
- travel arrangements for supporters *- bar on visiting spectators*
- all* - ticket issue *- Club membership cards*
- seating arrangements
- family enclosures.

The aim will be to produce advice in time for the start of the forthcoming season. In preparing this advice full account will be taken of the conclusions of the Popplewell inquiry as these become available.]

From: THE PRIVATE SECRETARY



HOME OFFICE
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE
LONDON SW1H 9AT

11 June 1985

Dear Mark

PRIME MINISTER'S MEETING WITH FA

... I attach briefing as requested on the two outstanding points from the Prime Minister's letter of 4 April to Mr Millichip.

Yours ever

William

W R FITTALL

M Addison, Esq

BRIEFING FOR MEETING WITH FA, 12 JUNE 1985

Police effectiveness

1. Home Office officials have discussed with the police measures to improve their effectiveness in dealing with football violence. In brief:

- (i) The police have confirmed that they will bring serious charges whenever they have the evidence to justify this.
- (ii) Together with the police, Home Office officials are to discuss the outcome of the CCTV experiment with the Football Trust. In particular they will see if more sophisticated equipment can be provided, capable of taking pictures which can be used in evidence as well as for crowd control purposes.
- (iii) Before next season an evaluation report will be issued to chief officers of police on the public order photographic van (the "hoolivan" as it is now known in the popular press) so that forces can decide whether to buy such vans, from their existing equipment budgets. We have also decided to purchase a further two vans centrally so that three vans will be available next season for deployment on request.
- (iv) Officials will be discussing with the football authorities arrangements for ensuring that the police are able to search people entering grounds as a condition of entry; this will

/ensure

ensure that police action is on a safe legal basis.

- (v) The Association of Chief Police Officers has agreed that the British Transport Police can be provided with multi-channel radio sets which will give them access to police radio communications, for use on trains. This will greatly improve communication links, the need for which was demonstrated in connection with the Luton v Millwall match.

- (vi) By next season the police expect to have in place new arrangements for collecting and disseminating information about behaviour at matches, to ensure that chief constables have comprehensive information about the likelihood of disorder.

Courts

2. So far as the courts are concerned, in a speech to the Plymouth magistrates on 29 March, the Home Secretary drew attention to the Court of Appeal guidelines on sentencing violent offenders, and encouraged magistrates to make full use of their powers, including detention and attendance centre sentences, and bail conditions forbidding attendance at matches. The heavy sentences imposed by the judge in the Cambridge case at the end of May were widely welcomed by the press and the public. Home Office Ministers intend to take any further suitable opportunity which offers itself to remind courts of the range of the powers and penalties available to them in this connection.

PRIME MINISTER

MEETING WITH THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION AND THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE:
12 JUNE

Attending tomorrow's meeting at 1600 from the Association and the League will be:

Mr Bert Millichip: FA Chairman
Mr Ted Croker: FA General Secretary
Mr Les Mackay : Chairman of the FA Disciplinary Committee
Mr Jack Dunnett: Football League President
Mr Graham Kelly: Football League Secretary

The briefing from the Department of the Environment, which we discussed earlier today with their officials, is at Flag A. It contains a copy of the letter you sent Mr Millichip after the previous meeting on 1 April.

Attached at Flag B is a note suggesting what you might aim to achieve from the meeting. You could start by describing, in the terms indicated, the action which the Government has taken on matters for which it accepted responsibility in the letter to Mr Millichip. The last paragraph sets out what you might press the football authorities to agree to. The precise content of that paragraph will of course depend on the outcome of the meeting.

I have circulated the note at Flag B to the other Ministers who are to attend and you could have a word about this at the preparatory discussion which starts at 1530.

At Flag C is a report by the British Transport Police on the European Cup Final at Brussels, together with a covering note from Nicholas Ridley. Mr Ridley will be attending the preparatory meeting, and the report may be raised. Much of it makes very interesting reading. The main conclusions seem to be that alcohol was effectively controlled so far as transport to the match was concerned. The problem rose because of the

gap of several hours between the fans arrival in Brussels and the beginning of the match, which in combination with the Continental licensing laws, led to the events which followed. The Transport Secretary seeks your views on the recommendations on pages 4 and 5 of the Chief Constable's letter. I think you will wish to await the Home Secretary's comments on these three recommendations before responding.

Flag D is the Press Association report on the Chelsea Football Club announcement of a membership card system. You may wish to have this to hand before the meeting.

There is a note at Flag E setting out the latest figures from DOE on the funding of football.

Mark Addison

MARK ADDISON

11 June 1985



Professional Footballers Association

124, Corn Exchange Buildings, Manchester M4 3BN.
Telephone: 061-834 7554

Secretary: Gordon Taylor B.Sc. (Econ.) Tel: Home, Mellor (025481) 3177

With Compliments

Prime Minutes (4)
You may be interested to see this.
Much of it is fully in line with the
action now underway. Interestingly, it
shows the players favor at least
experimenting with a system of m'ship 19/6
cards, whatever the FA & FL think. M&P

mf

R18 ~~CEB1~~



Professional Footballers Association

124, Corn Exchange Buildings, Manchester M4 3BN.
Telephone: 061-834 7554

Secretary: Gordon Taylor B.Sc. (Econ.) Tel: Home, Mellor (025481) 3177

Ref : GT/KJE

10th June 1985

Mr N L Morgan
Secretary to the Inquiry
Committee of Inquiry into Crowd Safety and
Control at Sports Grounds
Home Office
Queen Annes's Gate
London SW1H 9AT

Dear Sir

COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO CROWD SAFETY AND CONTROL AT
SPORTS GROUNDS - CHAIRMAN MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL

Thank you for your letter of 3rd June 1985. My Chairman, Brian Talbot has asked me to reply on behalf of the Professional Footballers' Association in the light of my experience in this matter since being elected to the Management Committee of the P.F.A. in 1971 and becoming Chairman from 1978-80 and then appointed as full-time administrator in 1980 on my retirement as a player. During the past 15 years I have been involved with and made aware of a multiplicity of reports, working parties, conferences and meetings discussing the subject of crowd violence at football grounds.

Following the Wheatley Report on crowd safety subsequent to the Ibrox disaster in Glasgow in 1971 at which 66 fans were killed, the Safety of Grounds Act came into being in 1975. The Football Grounds Improvement Trust was established at this time funded by the Pools Promoters from the Spot the Ball competition. F.G.I.T.'s brief was to help designated clubs meet the requirements of the Act and the funding therein. In 1980 the Football Trust was established chaired by Lord Aberdare. The terms of reference for the Trust included measures to deal with the question of football crowd violence and the P.F.A. has been represented on the Trust since that time by our former Secretary - Mr Clifford Lloyd and I would assume that you will be in direct contact with the Football Trust personnel to obtain their evidence as they are a body with great experience in the field of safety at grounds and measures taken to help control crowd violence.

Before I outline the P.F.A.'s point of view I think it would be pertinent to catalogue the list of references to this subject in my possession which summarise the depth to which this subject has already been discussed and the involvement and concern of the P.F.A.

1. The report of the enquiry into crowd safety at sports grounds by the Rt Hon Lord Wheatley May 1972 (HMSO) involving the disaster at Ibrox Park, Glasgow in 1971 in which 66 fans were killed.
2. Football hooliganism, conference in November 1972, City Hall, Glasgow. chairman, Mr S Stevenson, senior magistrate.
3. Football Association - report on action taken to combat hooliganism in relation to football, February 1980. Working Party of 1968 under the chairmanship of John Lang, recommendations inter-alia co-operation between clubs and police, reporting centres for offenders, increased seating, segregation of young people - recommendations to Minister of Sport, Denis Howell. 1974 - Denis Howell working party recommendations to clubs in May 1974 and amended recommendations in 1975 and 1976 together with advice to clubs travelling abroad. 1975 - Safety of Sports Ground act - designation of clubs needing Safety Certificates, local authorities to use 'Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds' as a basic yard stick.
4. 'Public Disorder and Sports Events' joint publication of the Sports Council and the Social Science Research Council Panel, 1978.
5. Football Trust - 'Hooliganism and Football' conference at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London 2.3.81. 'Statistics and Information re. Football' organised by Football Trust at the Social Science Research Council, London May 1981 - following a report on public order and sporting events in 1978, recommended a positive system of collecting information for police forces in England and Wales though police authorities were reluctant to add to the burden of statistics at the Home Office. N.B. following the Luton -v- Millwall game in March 1985 a conference of Chief Constables under the chairmanship of James Anderton agreed to set up an intelligence network to combat soccer violence by identifying trouble-makers and exchanging information about their movements. Each Force would create a data-bank of trouble-makers and inform other Forces and British Transport Police when they leave home for away matches!! 'Football Hooligans and Football Hooliganism Statistics' by E Dunning and J Williams of Leicester University. Football Trust papers outlining the work of the Football Trust and Football Ground Improvement Trust, October 1980, February 1982 and March 1985.
6. 'Patterns of Social Violence - Football as a Focus for Disaster' conference organised by the Centre for Contemporary Studies at the Royal Society of Arts in May 1983, publication of the meeting on January 30th, 1984.
7. Department of Environment Circular re crowd control to football league clubs, July 1983 along with a document discussed by European Ministers responsible for sport following their conference in London 1978, Majorca 1981 and Rotterdam 1983.

8. February 1984 'Football Violence - The Metropolitan Viewpoint' by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

9. Football League/Football Association/P.F.A. Circular re hooliganism to football league clubs 1983 and 1984.
P.F.A./Football League Circular to clubs covering discipline of players 1981 - 1985. P.F.A. AGM Report covering players' behaviour.

10. May 1984 - 'Hooligans Abroad - A Study of Behaviour and Control of English Fans at Continental Football Matches' by J Williams, E Dunning and P Murphy, published by Routledge and Kegan Paul.

11. 'Football Spectator Violence' - Department of the Environment report of an official working group (HMSO 1984). PFA viewpoint expressed in letters to Neil MacFarlane, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment dated 27th November, 1984 following a letter of 12th May, 1983.

The experience of the last fifteen years shows that the football authorities do not have the necessary financial resources or legal authority to provide an effective cure or short term answer to contain a many-sided and deep-seated social malaise. Hooliganism manifesting itself at football grounds which have become a focus for disorder has its roots in society problems and a cure will only occur with a long term change in attitudes to discipline and the growing cult of violence.

Lack of discipline at home and in schools, inner city decline, increasing disrespect for authority as futures look bleak for so many young men leaving school without jobs and frustrated at a lack of identity offset by their group organised violence at football games, has led to an escalation from obscene chanting and the throwing of toilet rolls to the throwing of dangerous missiles (flares, darts, coins, stones) physical violence and the deaths of innocent people.

Football authorities have continually asked for Government help in a concerted effort to contain this problem which is not confined to Britain alone, or even to football grounds but has been seen at holiday resorts home and abroad, at Brixton and Toxteth, National Front marches and on miners picket lines. The permissive society and cult for violence on films and T.V. has exacerbated the problem as well as mirrored it. Many are of the opinion that containing the violence at football grounds means keeping it off the streets but if there was no professional football the problem would not go away but another vehicle would be found by the thugs.

The P.F.A. has continually asked for a joint attempt to deal with the problem involving a high calibre central team made up of top ranking personnel from the Home Office and Police, Magistrates

Association, Local Authorities Association, Transport, Department of the Environment and Football. This team to lay down specific guidelines to be adhered to by all football clubs, covering segregation, ticket distribution, sale of alcohol, fencing, transport to games, policing and punishment of offenders.

If these requirements are not adhered to then the license for a particular ground to stage matches would be removed. The National Committee would liaise with local committees drawn from the same departments to make sure that requirements were followed.

Dealing with the problem on an ad-hoc localised basis without specific requirements and no sanctions has led to the situation we have today. I am enclosing copies of correspondence with the Sports Minister from 1984 and 1983 which covers our suggestions on this matter. It is sad and unfortunate that the Government seems willing to get involved, finally, after the deaths in Brussels.

It is also interesting to note that in 1981 following the Football Trust Conference we asked for a body to collate information on hooligans - who they were, where they came from, why they did it and how best they could be kept away from grounds. The Home Office said that there were problems of confidentiality and local forces said they did not wish to burden the Home Office with statistics.

In April of this year, a conference of Chief Constables agreed to set up a Data Bank on hooligans to exchange information with other forces prior to and subsequent to games.

Increased measures will need extra financing but compared to horse racing and the arts, football despite being the major spectator sport, receives minimal Government help - 42 and a half percent betting tax on football pools (over £200 million) compared with 4% on course and 8% off course tax on racing along with the returns back via the Levy Board. More favourable tax treatment is needed for football on condition that extra revenue is used to combat hooliganism and improve ground safety.

My apologies for the length of my answer but you will no doubt appreciate the problem is one of particular concern for our organisation. I will try to be concise in answer to your questions in the appendix attached to your letter.

HOOLIGANISM

1. Occurs mainly because of away supporters.
2. Stop and search by Police for offensive weapons - offenders taken into custody - stop and search for alcohol and offenders the worse for drink detained for a short period. N.B. Football Crowds (Control) Bill 1980/81 - W Whittock sponsored by J Farr, T

Home Sec
has looking
again.

Bradley and Jack Dunnett. Custodial sentences for worst offenders and greater use of attendance centres on match days - greater supervision of such centres with no age limits.

3. Early start for local derbies and teams with bad record of crowd trouble.

4. 'Vulnerable' matches to be all ticket. 'Fans' turned back without a ticket. Card system to be experimented with at problem clubs. No supporters allowed to travel abroad without a ticket.

OFFENCES

Use of cameras inside grounds and use of film evidence. Police encouraged to bring charges involving more effective punishment as at Cambridge recently.

ALCOHOL

Has definitely contributed to hooliganism. Scottish legislation has had a significant effect in controlling violence in Scotland.

OTHER SPORTS

Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975 should apply to cricket, rugby, tennis, motor racing and horse racing.

LEGISLATION

There should be a time span (since 1975, 3rd and 4th Division clubs have not been designated) to allow safety work to be done and a Government contribution to costs via interest free loans or favourable tax treatment, via V.A.T. or reduction in betting tax. The resultant saving to football pools companies to be grants to football clubs for safety and improvement work.

At least 50% of ground capacity to be seating to allow greater control and prevent the 'hit, run and hide' syndrome (standing areas to be sectionalised and policed). Nearly all outbreaks occur on terraces where people are standing. Provisions for family areas.

It should be an offence to be unlawfully on the field of play. There is an increased danger to our members in the light of recent developments. Access to pitches controlled by police and stewards. To complement the police, self-stewarding by officials of home club and away club.

Yours sincerely

GORDON TAYLOR
Secretary



TELEPHONE:
ST. ANNES 729421
(STD 0253)

THE FOOTBALL LEAGUE LIMITED

REG. NO. 80612
ENGLAND

TELEX:
67675

REGISTERED OFFICE
LYTHAM ST ANNES
LANCS.
FY8 1JG.

SECRETARY:
R. H. G. KELLY, F.C.I.S.

6/5485

22nd May, 1985.

G. Taylor, Esq., B.Sc.(Econ.),
Secretary,
The Professional Footballers' Association,
124 Corn Exchange Buildings,
MANCHESTER,
M4 3BN.

Dear Gordon,

Club Discipline

Your letter dated 7th May was referred to the Management Committee at their recent meeting.

The Committee approved of your suggested changes to the P.F.N.C. recommendations on club discipline. A revised disciplinary schedule will be circulated to clubs prior to the start of next season.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Ref : GT/KJE

7th May 1985

Mr R H G Kelly
Secretary
The Football League Limited
Lytham St Annes
Lancs
FY8 1JG

Dear Graham

Further to the meetings of the Liaison Committee on player/referee relationships and the escalation of cautions and sendings-off; we would suggest the following changes to the PFNC recommendations on club-discipline :

OFFENCE	% of wages to be fined		
	1st	2nd	3rd
SENDING OFF	50%	100%	150%

I would be pleased if you could let me know if this recommendation meets with your approval.

Yours sincerely

Gordon Taylor
Secretary



Professional Footballers Association

124, Corn Exchange Buildings, Manchester M4 3BN.
Telephone: 061-834 7554

Secretary: Gordon Taylor B.Sc. (Econ.) Tel: Home, Mellor (025481) 3177

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ON CLUB DISCIPLINE.

The P.F.N.C. recommends that clubs give due consideration to the following guidelines which will be used in assessing any fines imposed on players for disciplinary reasons:

SUBMISSION RE. CLUB DISCIPLINE

In the event of a Club imposing fines on their Players in respect of breaches of discipline both on and off the field, it is recommended that the scale of fines for the various offences be clearly stated and displayed on the Notice Board in the Club's Dressing Room prior to the start of the Season.

It is also proposed that the scale of fines to be imposed should be subject to discussion by a Committee comprising Chairman/Director, Manager, Senior Club Players including the Captain and PFA Delegate.

An appeals procedure to a Committee constituted as above should be available to any Player considering himself harshly treated in the circumstances.

Such a system would help to avoid unnecessary appeals to the Football League Management Committee where fines have been imposed arbitrarily incurring expenses to all parties involved.

OFFENCE	% of wages to be fined		
	1st	2nd	3rd
1. Dissent (e.g. verbal & kicking the ball away)	10-15	20-25	35-40
2. Lateness	5-10	15-20	30-35
3. Sending-off	20	40	80

DEDUCTION OF FINES FROM NET/GROSS WAGE

Fines should not be deducted from a player's wage without his consent.

Where the above percentage system is operated a fine may, with the player's consent, be deducted from gross wages.

Likewise, a player fined one or two weeks' wages may have the fine deducted from gross remuneration.

However, where a player is fined a specific amount, e.g. £50, the money should be repaid by the player (or deducted) from his net wage.

REGULATION 46(3)

Where a player is the subject of disciplinary action by a Club, a copy of the notice served on the player should be sent by the Club to The Football League and The Football Association in accordance with Regulation 46(3).

(Continued.....)

Each action by a Club under Clauses 16 and 18 carries with it the right to appeal and the penalties are suspended until the appeal procedure is exhausted. A fine may be paid directly by the Player or may be stopped from his wages. If this procedure is used then the sum deducted in any week should not be greater than half the Player's basic wage (Clause 18). Under this procedure, for example, a two week fine (the maximum) would be deductible over four weeks.

The appeals procedure has two stages once the matter progresses beyond the level of the Club (Clause 16) -

1. To the Football League Management Committee.
2. By either Club or Player, depending of course on the outcome of the first appeal, to the Football League Appeals Committee.

In each case the appeal must be lodged within seven days of the formal notification of the previous decision. The Football League Appeals Committee has to hear a case within 14 days of its receipt.

The Football League Appeals Committee is set up by its Regulations. It consists of 4 members, an independent chairman and one member nominated by each of the Football League, the Professional Footballers' Association and the Football League Executive Staffs' Association (managers, secretaries and coaches). It meets usually in London and Manchester or elsewhere convenient to the Club and Player.

In all appeals the Player will be able to obtain advice and representation from the P.F.A. (Clause 20) if he so desires.



Clean up your act

PLAYERS' Union leader Gordon Taylor is calling on footballers to clean up their game.

He demands an end to inflammatory gestures to the crowd, crippling premeditated tackles and abusive language.

Paul Mariner's V-sign to a barracking section of Arsenal fans last Saturday, the tackle by Fulham's Jeff Hopkins that broke the leg of Huddersfield's David Burke and the language of Barnsley's Ron Futcher are three incidents about to provoke a major debate.

Taylor says: "We have given tremendous support to players on a variety of issues, but we cannot have it all our own way.

"We have got to work together to put an end to some of the unsavoury incidents in the game.

"The Football Association come to us for advice. If professionals are out of order, the incidents have got to be looked at.

Controls

"I'm not saying anyone is guilty, but I'm calling for controls. It's the responsibility of the FA, and for us to back them."

Recent cases highlight the need for urgent action before indiscipline on the field reaches crisis point.

Mariner was provoked into a V-sign after scoring Arsenal's late winner against Sheffield Wednesday.

Taylor says: "So many people would like to point the finger at players, accusing them of being responsible for

Players get a warning

crowd trouble, that's why it's the job of a professional to get on with the game and not get involved."

Over-the-top tackles and off-the-ball assaults are escalating to dangerous levels. The Graeme Souness foul on Peter Nicholas and the Henry Hughton tackle that broke the leg of Brighton's Gerry Ryan have not been acted on, but the FA have charged Hopkins with "bringing the game into disrepute."

Sam Allardyce of Huddersfield has been fined £50 and given a warning for taking the law into his own hands after Hopkins' tackle on Burke.

Futcher has been charged with bringing the game into disrepute for foul language at a match at Charlton.

A policeman has



MARINER: V-Sign



HOPKINS: Tackle



FUTCHER: Swore

reported Futcher's remarks to the FA, and Taylor admitted: "Some things are going on that I don't like. The authorities should be looking into them. We have no objections."



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

10 June 1985

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: DISBURSEMENT OF THE £250,000

This is to confirm that the Prime Minister has agreed that arrangements should now be set in hand to make payments to the next of kin of those who died as a result of the events at the Heysel Stadium on 29 May. She has, however, suggested that the payments to each family bereaved should be £5,000, which would leave some £60,000 to be paid out to those who have been badly injured. Her preference also is that payments should be made direct to families if that is possible.

I am sending copies of this letter to Phil Dykins (Department of the Environment) and Nigel Pantling (Home Office).

Mark Addison

Peter Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



MSA

QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

cc #3
10 June 1985

F. A. Millichip,

, attached

Thank you for your letter of 28 May about the decision taken by the Football Association to adopt the amendment to the Association's rules regarding discipline and conduct of clubs, put forward by Mr Dunnett and Mr Wiseman.

Although, as I said in my letter of 23 May, this is essentially a matter for the Football Association, Neil Macfarlane and I are dismayed by the decision that the Association has taken. Your view that Mr Dunnett's proposal will give you greater power over clubs is not one that we share. Certainly, in the light of recent events, the country will expect the FA to make full use of its disciplinary powers. I believe that the decision of the AGM will be widely interpreted as indicating that the FA is faltering in its determination to deal effectively with violence and disorder at football matches; it is now up to you to demonstrate by your actions that this is not the case.

Z sincerely

Leon B. ...

F A Millichip, Esq



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

10 June 1985

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL


The Prime Minister has seen the Home Secretary's letter of 6 June to the Lord President, and is content with the revised proposals, although she is still inclined to believe that a total ban on the sale of alcohol might be the best way forward.

I am copying this letter to the Private Secretaries to members of H Committee and L Committee and also to Colin Budd (Foreign and Commonwealth Office), Rachel Lomax (H.M. Treasury), Murdo Maclean (Chief Whip's Office), Brian Shillito (Parliamentary Counsel Office) and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

Mark Addison

Hugh Taylor, Esq.,
Home Office.

KRB



*With the compliments of
the Attorney-General*

*Attorney General's Chambers,
Law Officers' Department,
Royal Courts of Justice,
Strand. W.C.2A 2LL*

01 405 7641 Extn. 3201



01-405 7641 Extn

ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE
LONDON, WC2A 2LL

ATHB

10 June 1985

The Rt Hon Leon Brittan QC MP
Secretary of State for the
Home Department
Home Office
Queen Anne's Gate
London SW1

Your Leon.

Thank you for copying to me your letter of 6 June 1985
to the Lord President.

My own inclination, on reading your original minute of
31 May, was to favour a blanket ban on the sale of
alcohol at designated grounds. However, I am content
with the modified proposals set out in your letter of
6 June.

I am copying this to all members of H Committee and
L Committee. Copies also go to the Prime Minister,
Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, John Wakeham, Sir George
Engle and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours GC. Michael.

Home Affairs
Football Hooley.

PE 3.



ceHS
SCOTTISH OFFICE
WHITEHALL, LONDON SW1A 2AU

CONFIDENTIAL

The Rt Hon the Viscount Whitelaw CH MC
Lord President of the Council
Privy Council Office
Whitehall
LONDON
SW1A 2AT

7 June 1985

Dear Willie,

see Pt 2 att

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

Leon Brittan's minute of 31 May asked for comments. My officials have been informed that Leon now intends less selective designation ie to cover all football league grounds and non-league grounds housing cup ties against league opposition. In the circumstances (subject to the agreement of Nicholas Ridley) I can agree that legislation on trains should extend to Scotland although it duplicates existing police powers in the railway byelaws. Byelaw penalties would require to be raised to correspond with those in the Bill. In addition the legislation should I think cover coaches to and from designated grounds in Scotland while in England with a reciprocal extension of the Criminal Justice(s) Act 1980 so far as necessary. We should also extend that Act to cover coaches while in Scotland that will pass through England on the way to Channel ports. Extension of the Bill to Scotland may however tend to impede its progress in the House.

Given the Scottish implications in all this, I think it might be useful for a Scottish Minister to sit on the Committee to deal with any Scottish points."

Yours ever,
George

HOME AFFAIRS; Football Hooliganism

Pc 3.



BRITISH OFFICE
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2AT

CONFIDENTIAL

The Rt Hon the Viscount Whitlaw CM MC
Secretary of State for the Home Department
Home Office
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AT

20th June 1982

Bob Williams

The Home Office is pleased to announce that it has agreed to sponsor a series of football hooliganism seminars for the next few years. These seminars will be held at various locations throughout the country and will be aimed at football hooligans and football spectators. The seminars will cover a wide range of topics, including the law, the consequences of hooliganism, and the role of the police. It is hoped that these seminars will help to reduce the level of hooliganism and improve the safety of football matches.

Given the serious implications of all this I think it might be useful for a Committee to be set up to deal with any serious points.

Wm. W. W.

Wm. W. W.

010



2 MARSHAM STREET
LONDON SW1P 3EB

My ref:

Your ref:

CF
for meeting folder pt.
M&A 70/6

Mark Addison Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
LONDON SW1

7 June 1985

Dear Mark,

Mr Macfarlane has asked me to pass on his concern that there is a lack of clarity about the FA's voluntary withdrawal from European football. This was brought home to him by hearing from Sutton United FC, who were due to visit Holland this week on a tour which was to include games against a Belgian team. His own view is that, for the time being, it would not be sensible for any teams to visit Europe, especially if they are taking supporters with them.

In any event, however, he feels it important that clear guidance on this should come from the FA; this does not seem to be happening at the moment.

Perhaps this is something that might be raised with Ted Croker when he meets the Prime Minister next week. We are, of course, providing briefing for that meeting.

Yours,

PHIL DYKINS
Private Secretary

PRIME MINISTER

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: DISBURSEMENT OF THE £250,000

The attached letter from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office sets out their proposals for carrying forward the disbursement of the £250,000 the Government made available after the tragedy at Brussels.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office propose now to pay to the Governments concerned £2,000 to the next of kin of each of the dead. 33 of the 38 victims who died were Italian, so Italy would get the lion's share. Your messages to Signor Craxi and Monsieur Martens said the £250,000 would be for all the families of the victims (ie not just the Italians).

£2,000 for each family seems rather low. It would take up only £76,000 of the £250,000. It is true this would represent only an initial disbursement, and the families of the dead, as well as the injured, could expect more in due course. But you might I think now wish to commit a larger sum for the families of the dead. Perhaps this could be set at \$4,000 per head, which would amount to £152,000 in total. It is worth remembering that the main need for the injured at Brussels will probably be compensation for a period off work. This is rather different from the Bradford case, where the dreadful injuries will need long periods of specialised hospital treatment.

*For letter
to be
forwarded
any*

Content that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office should now make an immediate initial disbursement to the families of the dead; but that this should be at £4,000 per head, not £2,000?

*Would rather pay
direct to families
Julie Bowers
PP Mark Addison.*

(I should pay 5000

7 June 1985

1500

*to each family bereaved
leaving 6000 to be paid out to
any who are badly injured. not*



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 85 - CH-8030 ZÜRICH
TELEPHONE: 65 54 00
CABLE ADDRESS: FIFA
TELEX: 55 678 FIFA CH

TO THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
AFFILIATED TO FIFA

NBPM

Circular No. 352

ZÜRICH
HITZOWEG 11

6 June 1985
JSB/hp-mm

Sanctions against English Club Teams

Dear Sirs,

In connection with the first sanctions decided by the UEFA Executive Committee regarding the tragedy which took place at the Final of the European Champion Clubs' Cup between Liverpool and Juventus Turin in Brussels on 29 May 1985, the FIFA Emergency Committee has made the following decisions:

1. The ban imposed on English Club teams from European competitions is to be extended worldwide over the whole FIFA area. This means that all Clubs and teams under the jurisdiction of The Football Association, London are suspended forthwith from all international football activity. They are prohibited from playing friendly matches, as defined in Article 9, para. 1 of the FIFA Regulations, and from participating in international club competitions (tournaments), be they of official or unofficial nature. Excepted from the ban is non-professional and youth football. The duration of this worldwide ban shall conform to that of the UEFA, the details of which have still to be decided.
2. FIFA has based this decision on Article 2, para. 3 of the FIFA Statutes according to which one of the Federation's objects is:

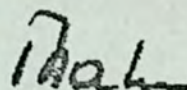
"to control football by taking steps as shall be deemed necessary or advisable for preventing infringements of the Statutes, Regulations and Standing Orders of the Congress of the FIFA or of the Laws of the Game as laid down by the International Football Association Board, to prevent the introduction of other improper methods or practices in the game, and to protect it from abuses."

FIFA already took similar decisions in the case of the DPR Korean national team in 1982 and the bribery case in Belgium in 1984.

3. The national representative teams of The Football Association, London are not affected by this decision.
4. FIFA wishes to emphasise that these are to be regarded as provisional measures, since a definitive decision can only be made when the results of the investigations and the decisions of the competent UEFA disciplinary body are concluded.
5. FIFA has also decided to set up a Committee of Experts for Security Matters, co-ordinated by General Secretary, J.S. Blatter, the composition of which, quite understandably, cannot be revealed.
6. FIFA is appealing yet again to all football friends everywhere - regardless of whether they participate actively in the game or as onlookers - to exercise decency and sportsmanship.
7. FIFA urges yet again all those connected with the organisation of football matches - Clubs and National Associations - to co-operate closely with the relevant authorities and police services, for in our society security, law and order are primarily the responsibility of the state.
8. Finally, FIFA beseeches all representatives of the mass media - press, radio and television - to take up the cause of fair-play in football, along with National Associations, Confederations and Clubs and energetically support them in this difficult task.

We are most grateful for the help of everyone in the mutual struggle to combat violence.

Yours sincerely,
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE
DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
General Secretary



J.S. Blatter

Composition of the FIFA Emergency Committee

Dr. João Havelange, President (Brazil)
General Abdelaziz Mostafa (Egypt)
Guillermo Cafedo (Mexico)
Hermann Neuberger (FR Germany)
Tan Sri Datuk Hamzah (Malaysia)
Jacques Georges (France)
Dr. Eduardo Rocca Couture (Uruguay)

cc: FIFA Executive Committee
Continental Confederations
Media



MEA
CR

10 DOWNING STREET

* Not necessarily.
The balance could be
for future claims from
widows of those injured.

1. Andrew T.

2. Charles P.

I would favour
£4000 to next of
kin, balance to
those injured - but here

£2,000 for each family
will be difficult

of the dead squares with the new
Italian Government etc etc

but would fall well short of
the £250,000 already

promised. Presumably the rest
would go to the uninjured. Perhaps

it would be better to exclude
them from the start.

MEA 6/6

file

ea
70

MR FLESHER

MR BOOTH

FOOTBALL FINANCE

I attach a letter from the Minister for Sport's office confirming the figures we had to hand immediately before the Statement on Monday.

The £5 million for fixture lists covers both English and Scottish leagues. As far as I understand it, the contract for TV rights will cover only the English league (NB this is currently under negotiation). The Football Trust income is distributed to clubs in both Scottish and English leagues.

Phil Dykins is confirming all these points, and giving a full breakdown where available of the sums between England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

MARK ADDISON

6 June 1985



File ^{to}

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

6 June, 1985.

Thank you for your letter of 4 June with which you enclosed a bibliography of work on violence in society. The Prime Minister would indeed be grateful if you could provide a more narrative account of the theories and thinking on violence contained in the books on your list.

(Timothy Flesher)

N.A. Pantling, Esq.,
Home Office.

6



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

6 June, 1985

Dear Tim,

Football Violence

In your letter of 30 May to Phil Dykins you recorded the main points of the Prime Minister's meeting with other Ministers, including Mr Luce, on events at the European Cup Final in Brussels on 29 May. We are taking action on international aspects in consultation with the Department of Environment and the Home Office.

There is one major outstanding point. This is the arrangements for disbursing the British Government's £250,000 contribution. Parliament has now been informed that this sum will be carried on the FCO vote. There is also the question of what advice we should give to those wishing to make private donations.

We have sought information on Italian intentions as regards a fund. The Embassy have reported that there is as yet no single authority within the Italian Government responsible for the arrangement of a disaster fund. So far we understand that:

- (a) the Italian Ministry of the Interior have decided upon an initial contribution of Lire 5 million (approximately £2,000) to each family affected by the tragedy;
- (b) the Italian Government is to put a Bill before Parliament to set out criteria for contributions to all victims of "exceptional disasters"; and
- (c) Juventus Football Club have made an initial contribution of Lire 100 million (approximately £40,000) to assist families of the disaster victims - but it is not clear whether they have themselves set up a fund.

The Embassy are in close touch with the Italian authorities about the right way to make available any British contributions to the families. They believe that the wider disaster fund envisaged by the Italians ((b) above) would not be a suitable vehicle for British contributions since there could be no guarantee that our money would get through to the right people quickly enough.



There is also the question whether any of the Italian funds are intended to include the injured as well as the families of the 31 Italian dead. This point is not yet clear.

There is not as yet any Belgian or French fund. The British community in Belgium are making a collection but have not yet decided to whom it should be presented. There were four Belgian dead and the one dead Briton was resident in Brussels. We have a list provided by the Red Cross of the names of the injured who have received hospital treatment but no information on their nationality or the seriousness of their injuries. The French may well not themselves set up any separate fund. We believe that we should aim to make an initial disbursement quickly for the families of the dead to help meet immediate needs. Given the failure of the Italians to establish a fund, we propose that such disbursements should be made direct to the three Governments. Since the Prime Minister made the offer of funds in her message, to Sr Craxi, we should explain our intention to the Italians and secure their agreement before taking any action with the French or Belgian Governments. We would propose to treat the next-of-kin of the Briton who died in the same way as the other families.

We accordingly propose that our initial offer should be of £2,000 to the next-of-kin of each of the dead. That would be in line with what the Italian Government have done. It would mean a total disbursement of £76,000, and hence leave a sizeable amount out of the £250,000 for further disbursement at a later stage either through Governments or any other appropriate channel. I should be grateful if you would seek the Prime Minister's agreement that we should proceed in this way. The Department of Environment are content that we should do so.

Finally, there is the question of how members of the British public should make private donations. The only British fund of which we are aware is that set up by the Daily Mirror and launched by Mr Robert Maxwell with a £25,000 donation. In addition we believe that Liverpool Supporters Club may be sending a donation direct to Juventus. We are advising enquirers wishing to make specific contributions to get in touch with the Italian, Belgian or French Embassies as appropriate. We would of course draw attention to a disaster fund if one was set up by the countries concerned. We

CONFIDENTIAL



believe that it would be best for any funds collected by British communities in the European countries to be administered locally.

I am copying this to Phil Dykins (DOE) and Nigel Pantling (Home Office).

Yours ever,

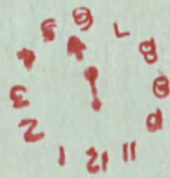
Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

Timothy Flesher Esq
10 Downing Street

CONFIDENTIAL

Football



9 JUN 1985

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152
190

CC BT

PRIME MINISTER

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

You will recall that you thought the Home Secretary's earlier proposal to introduce legislation for England and Wales along the lines of - but not as strict as - the Scottish model did not go far enough. The Home Secretary has now come up with revised proposals as set out in the attached letter to the Lord President.

The letter has been drafted in a hurry, I think, and is not perhaps as clear as it should be. But the gist of it is as follows:

i) There would be a ban on the sale (and supply) of alcohol anywhere in sports grounds except in those private areas out of sight of the pitch (eg boardrooms which do not overlook the pitch). This reproduces the Scottish position. There would, however, in England and Wales, be the possibility of the clubs applying to local magistrates for an exemption order.

ii) Possession of alcohol anywhere in direct sight of the pitch would be an offence (eg on the terraces and in the stands). There would be no exemptions from this provision, which would not prohibit possession of alcohol in eg enclosed restaurants etc., where the pitch could be seen through glass.

The upshot of this is that alcohol could be sold and drunk only in bars which were out of direct sight of the pitch, even if the local magistrates were prepared to make exemption orders. In this way the Home Secretary's latest proposals begin with a blanket ban, to which limited exceptions can be made if the magistrates agree to grant exemptions; his earlier proposal was the other way round, permitting the police to close bars when they thought it necessary.

Content with the Home Secretary's proposals?

Yes - although I think the

total ban on sale

would be better

not

Mark Addison

Mark Addison

6 June 1985



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Principal Private Secretary

6 June 1985

This is just to let you know that your letter of 6 June has arrived safely and that I will show the Prime Minister your notes.

For B

Ian Wooldridge, Esq.

LB

Daily Mail

TELEPHONE: 01-353 6000
TELEGRAPH: DAILYMAIL, LONDON-EC.4.

REGISTERED OFFICE
CARMELITE HOUSE,
LONDON, EC4Y 0JA.
REGISTERED NO. 1160542 ENGLAND

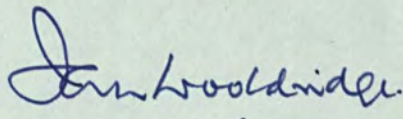
6 June 1985

Sir Robin Butler
The Private Office
10 Downing Street

Dear Sir Robin

The Prime Minister asked me last evening to get these notes to her urgently. I thought it prudent in the circumstances to send them via your office.

Yours sincerely



Ian Wooldridge

Ian Wooldridge

Prime Minister

4

Would you like us
to follow up point (2) in
the attached note?

June 6, 1985

PERB

6.6.

Dear Prime Minister,

Yes please,
This is a very
useful
note
mt

I write firstly to thank you and
Mr Thatcher for a memorably enjoyable
dinner and party last evening.

I also greatly appreciated the long
time you spared me and enclose my
considered thoughts on the matters we
discussed.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Wooldridge.

mt

1. Since we spoke last evening, as you probably know, FIFA, the world governing body, has stepped in to ban English teams from competing in "friendly" pre-season matches on the Continent. I am sure you will be delighted that such a volatile situation has been defused but dismayed that the initiative had to be taken from abroad.

Your guarded assessments of several of the most powerful officials of the Football Association and Football League were absolutely accurate. I believe they still do not comprehend the infinite damage Brussels has done to our country. They paid only lip-service to repeated warnings that a catastrophe of that magnitude could happen and wilfully obstructed many remedial suggestions. Their almost gleeful reassurance to their fans that they proposed to go ahead with these "friendly" games is only the latest example of their insensitivity. I believe your Sports Ministry - a term of convenience - should exert relentless pressure on both bodies to bring the reality of the situation home to them.

2. While you undoubtedly have virtually the whole of the nation behind you in your determination to control the situation, any sanctions preventing the English national team playing in the World Cup Finals in Mexico in 1986

would not be popular - unless, of course, there is further violence by followers of the national team between now and the Finals.

However, after consulting the Mexican Embassy today, I believe the advice you have been given about being able to determine the type of English fan who goes there by the granting or refusal of visas is incorrect.

As I understand it the only entry document required in addition to a passport is a Tourist Card - so easily obtainable that they are distributed by airlines on application.

If this is so I assume Mexico would be as anxious as you are to introduce some method of stringent screening during an emergency period next summer.

3. Your scheme for the introduction of football club membership cards is an excellent one. However you should be aware that until equipment to screen these cards electronically is installed - and that could well be some time, even never, at some clubs because of the expense - a large loophole exists.

It is caused by corrupt gatemmen at stadia accepting cash from would-be spectators without tickets. The cash is pocketed and the spectator

climbs the turnstile without his entry being registered. This occurred at the Cup Final at Wembley last month and two Liverpool fans told me that they witnessed it happening in Brussels last week. The danger of rival hooligans mixing in the same area, let alone stadium over-crowding, is obvious.

The DPP is currently considering the Wembley case, but plain-clothes police surveillance would probably stop further outbreaks.

4. Football's economics, due to mismanagement, are in a disastrous state. They will become even worse, in view of the expensive but vital reforms and ground improvements, if the war between TV and Soccer continues.

I have no vested interest in TV's football coverage and can therefore write frankly that without television these reforms and improvements will never be implemented at many clubs.

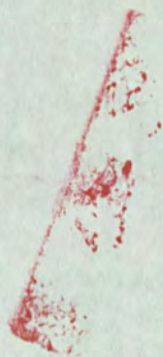
No television exposure will mean the quick defection of the many sponsors who invest large sums in football to get their brand names on television screens at sub-advertising rates.

I believe that the weakest clubs should go to the wall anyway and agree that grounds constantly in trouble should be shut.

However, if the game is not to be decimated, the impasse between TV and Soccer needs to be broken urgently. John Smith, the chairman of Liverpool FC and also new chairman of the Sports Council, is aware that the BBC and ITV will not raise their offers rejected on February 14. Soccer, however, has been dragooned into unrealistic demands, mostly by Robert Maxwell with whom, I think, someone from your Sports Ministry should speak more frankly than he is accustomed to being spoken to.

5. In this and in other matters I believe your Sports Ministry should be much more positive and authoritative. I write this regretfully, since personal friends are involved, but to emerge after Brussels with a document predicting it was going to happen and thus admitting a lack of authority was not very intelligent. Nor is it the usual style of your government. It is almost understandable that football administration should proceed in its own arrogant way when it sees powerful bodies like the Sports Council and the Central Council of Physical Recreation brought to their knees by personal ambition and sub-political intrigue.

6. In the game's financial plight it would certainly be reassuring to know that some of the duty received from football pools could be set aside for ground improvements, with safeguards to see that it is not flippantly squandered on transfer-fees.



E6 JUN 1



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CC #1B
HOUSE OF LORDS,
SW1A 0PW

6 June 1985

MBPM

My dear Peter,

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of 4th June to Leon Brittan on this subject, in which you say your officials have suggested that "offenders under the new legislation should not qualify for legal aid".

I have to say that the expression of this suggestion, and its content are wholly repugnant to principle. A person charged with an offence under these proposals is no offender unless he is found guilty. He must be given the same rights, and chances to make those rights effective, as any other person before the courts. Our principle is that where people face imprisonment on conviction, or penalties of equivalent seriousness, or particular procedural complications they need legal aid if they cannot meet all or part of their costs, so that they get a fair trial. It is unthinkable that an offence carrying a potential sentence of imprisonment should be excluded from the Widgery criteria and thus carry an implication of guilt before conviction.

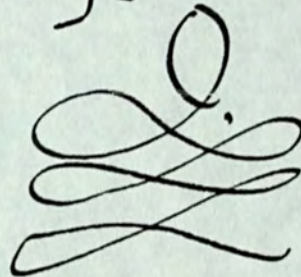
I would not wish it to be thought that I would expect many people to qualify. I can think of very few circumstances involving the sale of alcohol in which the criteria for grant

The Right Honourable
Peter Rees, Q.C., M.P.,
Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

.../2

would be met. But I am firmly of the opinion that it would be unjust and oppressive to deny legal aid in those - necessarily hard - cases where it was appropriate.

Copies of this go to the recipients of your letter.

yrs :




CC H.B.
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

6 June 1985

R Williams,

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

In my minute of 31 May I set out my proposals for England and Wales legislation this session to control the sale of alcohol at, or on the way to, grounds, along lines similar to that enacted in Scotland. I proposed two variations of substance in the Scottish legislation, of which the first was that there should not be a blanket ban on the sale of alcohol inside grounds, which is the practical effect of the Scottish legislation; instead, first, it should be made an offence to be in possession of alcohol on the stands or on the terraces and, second, the police should be given a power to close bars whenever they consider it necessary on public order grounds.

I have concluded, on further reflection, that this variation does not go far enough. In other circumstances it would provide the courts and the police with adequate powers to deal with the problem of alcohol inside grounds but, in the wake of the Brussels disaster, we need to give a firmer lead in controlling alcohol within grounds. There is a public expectation, to which we need to respond, that there will be a ban on alcohol within grounds, although the police do not actually consider such a ban necessary.

Accordingly I propose to include in the legislation a provision to ban the sale or supply of alcohol in designated sports grounds. When the legislation comes into effect I propose to designate all Football League grounds for this purpose.

However, I want to build some flexibility into these arrangements. The position in England and Wales now is not the same as it was in Scotland before the 1980 Act. In Scotland there were no public bars at football grounds, but only some bars with restricted access, for example for members of supporters' clubs. Where these were out of sight of the pitch they continued to be lawful. The main impact of the 1980 Act was in preventing alcohol being brought into the ground rather than in prohibiting its sale inside. Clubs in Scotland did not, therefore, suffer a loss of revenue of the kind which a ban in England and Wales would impose. In England there are a very large number of public bars, as well as the private bars for Directors and others.

We do, therefore, have a substantially different position in England. I think it necessary in the first place to impose a ban on public bars but I think it is desirable to provide a mechanism for that ban to be lifted, when it is safe to do so, and in particular when doing so can provide a positive incentive to good behaviour. Accordingly, I propose to give the local magistrates a power to issue an exemption order from the general ban, on the application of the club concerned. The main criteria to be applied would be the public order record and risk at the club and the police would, of course, be able to oppose such an order being granted. Provision would be included for the cancellation or variation of the exemption order in the event of actual

or anticipated trouble. The magistrates would clearly specify the places within grounds where alcohol may be served and the legislation would encourage magistrates to look with particular favour on grounds, or areas within grounds, to which access is restricted (e.g. to those who have membership cards) and where such restriction is effectively enforced.

These measures would be in addition to the proposals in my earlier minute. It will, of course, still be an offence to be in possession of alcohol in the stands or on the terraces, even where an exemption order has been made in respect of a particular bar. And I propose that the police should also have power to close bars (even where an exemption order has been granted) if trouble develops on the day of the match. Where there are special reasons, foreseeable in advance, for closing bars at particular matches, the police would have to apply to the magistrates for a variation of the exemption order.

I believe that the general ban on alcohol at designated grounds which I am now proposing will respond to the public and Parliamentary mood, while at the same time the possibility of securing exemptions will provide the flexibility needed to reflect the desirability of recognising and encouraging clubs with a good record of crowd behaviour.

I am sorry to have to ask my colleagues on H now to have to consider this amendment to my proposals, but in view of the urgency I have to ask for comments from colleagues on H by next Wednesday, 12 June.

I am copying this to all members of H and simultaneously to all members of L Committee. Copies also go to the Prime Minister, Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, John Wakeham, Sir George Engle and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Law,
L

Home Affairs . PT. II . Soccer
Hooliganism

56 JUN 1985

12 1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10 11



cc/10

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
2 MARSHAM STREET LONDON SW1P 3EB
01-212 3434

My ref:
Your ref:

5 June 1985

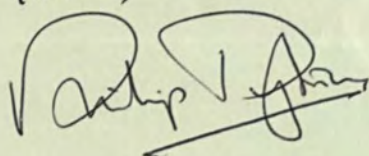
Dear Mark,

I am writing to confirm the figures which officials here telephoned to your Duty Clerk yesterday for inclusion in the Prime Minister's briefing for the statement on football. They are as follows:

- The Pools Promoters Association (PPA) last season paid the Football League £5m for the use of the copyright on their fixture list. (25% of this sum was passed to the Scottish Football League). (£35m has been paid since 1975).
- The Football League are currently negotiating a new contract for TV rights. It is likely that this will run for four years, and will be worth £3.8m in the first year, rising by 6% in each of the following 2 years, and 8% in the fourth year.
- The income of the Football Trust for the current year was just over £7m. (It has received a total of £37m from the PPA since 1975).

These figures have been obtained from the Football League and the Football Trust.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Philip Dykins', written over a horizontal line.

PHILIP DYKINS
Private Secretary

Mark Addison Esq

55 JUN 1985

6 11 12 23 24
9 10 11 12 13
8 7 6 5

CONFIDENTIAL



MBPM

JHB

Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

Rt Hon Leon Brittan QC MP
 Secretary of State
 Home Office
 50 Queen Anne's Gate
 London
 SW1H 9AT

4 June 1985

Dear Secretary of State

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

will request if required

Thank you for copying to me your minute of 31 May on this subject which is to be discussed at L Committee tomorrow.

I appreciate the urgency and agree that we should be taking strong measures to combat this problem. I am however concerned that the need for urgent action to combat hooliganism does not preclude proper consideration of the financial and resource implications.

My main concern is that we should try to ensure that the net expenditure effect of your proposals should be kept to the minimum and absorbed within current public expenditure plans. To this end my officials have asked yours for further information on the proposals and suggested that:-

- (i) the level of fines imposed for offences under this new legislation should be set sufficiently high to avoid any net cost to the public purse;
- (ii) offenders under the new legislation should not qualify for legal aid; and
- (iii) any additional policing costs should be borne by clubs as far as possible.

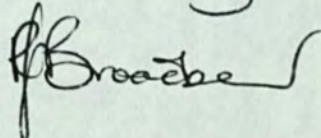
The first of these may enhance the deterrent effect of the legislation, while the second would be a (welcome) departure from normal practice. The key point is that the taxpayer should not have to bear the cost of enforcing these measures.

I also note that your proposals differ from the Scottish precedent in that it is not intended to designate all grounds and you do not intend to impose a general ban on alcohol

inside grounds. I feel that both points could be seen as a weak response to the sense of outrage felt in all quarters after the Brussels episode. It is also hard to see a workable criterion for designating some but not all grounds - quite apart from the irony of such a move after the Bradford disaster. Though these points relate mainly to the effectiveness and the public perception of the proposed legislation, they would have expenditure implications unless the costs of enforcement can be recovered.

None of this raises objections of principle to your proposals which are necessary if we are to be seen to be taking firm action; but I would welcome your assurance that any expenditure effect can be contained within existing provision and your agreement that our officials should continue urgent discussions on the matters raised here in order that they can be properly reflected in the legislation.

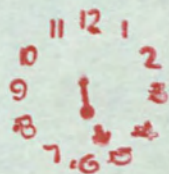
Copies of this letter go to members of L and H Committee, the Prime Minister, Geoffrey Howe, Nigel Lawson, John Wakeham, Sir George Engle and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

Yours sincerely


for PETER REES

[Approved by the Chief Secretary]

- 4 JUN 1985



U. R. 2

PRIME MINISTER

FOOTBALL - ROBERT MAXWELL

Mr Maxwell telephoned me to let you know - before you read it in the newspapers - that he has agreed to arrange a meeting for leading Members of the Opposition with people prominent in football about the problems of hooliganism. The meeting is due to take place in the Shadow Cabinet Room early next week.

Mr Maxwell proposes to include, in addition to himself:

Mr Dunnett, Mr Croker, Mr Taylor (Secretary of the Professional Footballers Association), Mr Bates (Chairman of Chelsea), Mr John Smith (Chairman of Liverpool), Mr Scholar (Chairman of Spurs), Mr Smee (Manager of Arsenal), Mr Pleat (Manager of Luton) and Mr Smith (Manager of Oxford).

Mr Maxwell asked whether you would have any objection to his arranging such a meeting and in particular to the inclusion of Mr Smith. I said I was sure you would have no objection, and that you would regard the inclusion of Mr Smith as positively good.

Mr Maxwell said that he was also considering setting up something similar for the Alliance.

MR

R.E.R.B.

4 June 1985

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PS/LADY YOUNG
PS/MR RENTON
PS/PUS
MR DEREK THOMAS
MR JENKINS
MR BARRINGTON

PS/NO.10 DOWNING STREET
PS/MR MACFARLANE, DOE
PS/MR SHAW, HOME OFFICE
17, Hogwood, Finance

HD/WED
HD/CONS D
HD/CRD
HD/NEWS D

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AND TO IMMEDIATE MEXICO CITY, AND PRIORITY BRUSSELS PARIS BERNE AND BONN

BRUSSELS AFTERMATH

1. THE BRITISH TRADE OFFICE AND BRITISH AIRWAYS IN TURIN WERE ATTACKED DURING THE EARLY HOURS OF THIS MORNING. THE TRADE OFFICE SUFFERED A BROKEN WINDOW AND BOTH BUILDINGS HAVE BEEN SPRAY-PAINTED WITH ANTI-BRITISH SLOGANS. EXTRA POLICE PROTECTION HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR BOTH BUILDINGS BY OUR GENOA CONSULATE.
2. THE BRITISH AIRWAYS MANAGER IN ROME HAS INSTRUCTED HIS TURIN OFFICE STAFF TEMPORARILY TO COVER ALL EXTERNAL BA SIGNS AND ADVISED THEM NOT TO WEAR THEIR UNIFORMS OR BA INSIGNIA FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS.
3. WE HAVE RECEIVED REPORTS FROM ST GEORGES INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN ROME THAT TWO OF THEIR FEMALE TEACHERS HAVE HAD TROUBLE OVER THE PAST TWO DAYS. ONE HAS HAD HER CAR DAMAGED AND BOTH HAVE SUFFERED STONE-THROWING AT THEIR APPARTMENTS. ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR BOTH GIRLS TO SEE THEIR LOCAL CHIEF OF POLICE THIS AFTERNOON AND HE HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE SOME FORM OF PROTECTION.

THIS AFTERNOON AND HE HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE SOME FORM OF PROTECTION.

4. REPORTS THAT THE NATIONAL FRONT INTEND TO BE PRESENT AT THE INTERNATIONAL MATCH BETWEEN ENGLAND AND ITALY IN MEXICO ON THURSDAY ARE WORRYING. ANY VIOLENCE AT THIS MATCH COULD HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS IN ITALY WHERE THE FEELINGS OF MANY ARE STILL SMOULDERING BENEATH THE SERFACE.

FITZHERBERT

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LIVERPOOL/JUVENTUS: VISIT BY LIVERPOOL DELEGATION TO TURIN.

1. YOU SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL IS KEEN TO SEND A DELEGATION TO TURIN TO EXPRESS THE CONDOLENCES OF THE PEOPLE OF LIVERPOOL FOR THE TRAGEDY IN BRUSSELS ON 29 MAY. WHEN THE COUNCIL PUT THIS PROPOSAL TO THE CONSUL IN GENOA BY TELEPHONE ON 30 MAY, WHO IN TURN SOUGHT ADVICE FROM THE MAYOR OF TURIN. THE MAYOR MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE THOUGHT THAT THE TIME WOULD NOT BE RIGHT FOR SUCH A VISIT UNTIL FEELINGS IN TURIN HAD COOLED.

2. THE COUNCIL REPEATED THEIR PROPOSAL TO WICKS ON 3 AND 4 JUNE, SUGGESTING THE DATE OF 17 JUNE FOR THE VISIT. WICKS WILL SPEAK TO THE MAYOR'S OFFICE ABOUT THE PROPOSAL AGAIN TOMORROW MORNING. MEANWHILE SIR TREVOR JONES, LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION GROUP ON THE CITY COUNCIL, HAS SEPARATELY SOUGHT OUR ADVICE ABOUT PARTICIPATION IN THE VISIT. HE SAID THAT HE DID NOT WISH TO TAKE PART IN THE VISIT IF THE RULING LABOUR GROUP ON THE CITY COUNCIL WAS PRESSING IT ON THE TURIN AUTHORITIES AGAINST THEIR WISHES. WE HAVE TOLD HIM THAT WE AWAIT A CONSIDERED RESPONSE FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, AND WE HAVE SAID THE SAME TO AN ENQUIRER FROM A LIVERPOOL NEWSPAPER.

3. THE IDEA OF A RECONCILIATORY VISIT SEEMS A GOOD ONE, ALTHOUGH IT HAS CLEARLY BEEN RIGHT TO DELAY IT UNTIL SUCH TIME AS IT IS WOULD BE WELCOMED BY THE TURIN AUTHORITIES. ONE POSSIBLE SOLUTION MIGHT BE A DELEGATION LED BY THE ANGLICAN AND CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF LIVERPOOL. THIS IS FOR THE LIVERPOOL AUTHORITIES TO DECIDE BUT IT IS AN IDEA WHICH WE MIGHT FLOAT WITH THEM IF THAT SEEMED APPROPRIATE.

FITZHERBERT

FOOTBALL TRAGEDY

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

4 June 1985

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE: LEGISLATION ON ALCOHOL

The Prime Minister has seen the Home Secretary's minute of 31 May to the Lord President.

She has commented, in respect of (ii) on page 2, that this seems to be no time to consider introducing in England and Wales a more relaxed regime on the sale of alcohol within football grounds than is in place in Scotland. She notes that the Police views were given before the Brussels tragedy took place, and that stronger action has now to be considered. She has suggested one possibility might be to impose a blanket ban on the sale of alcohol inside designated grounds on designated days.

MARK ADDISON

Hugh Taylor, Esq.,
Home Office.



Treasury Chambers, Parliament Street, SW1P 3AG

Andrew Turnbull Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street
London
SW1

3 June 1985

Dear Andrew

DONATION TO BRUSSELS FOOTBALL DISASTER FUND

The procedure required to produce the donation promised by the Prime Minister is described in paragraph 2 of Vivien Life's letter of 30 May.

Accordingly a suitable Question and Answer might be as follows:

- "Q. To ask the Prime Minister how the Government's contribution to the relief fund which was offered in her letter to Sr Craxi following the disaster at the European Cup Final will be financed.
- A. A supplementary estimate on the Vote for International Subscriptions, Special Payments etc (Foreign and Commonwealth Office) (Class II, Vote 2) will be presented in due course to cover the [urgent] expenditure on this new service. [Pending Parliamentary approval of this supplementary estimate, the Government's contribution will be financed by a repayable advance from the Contingencies Fund]. This additional expenditure will be charged to the Reserve and therefore does not add to the planned total of public expenditure."

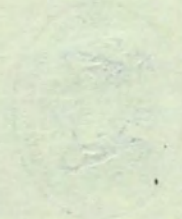
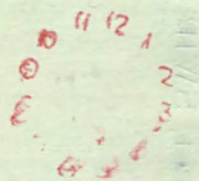
The words in square brackets depend on whether it is necessary to make a payment before the Vote becomes available, with the Appropriation Act, immediately before the Summer Recess. If not, the Contingencies Fund should not be involved and the words can be removed.

Yours ever

Richard

R J BROADBENT
Private Secretary

3 JUN 1985



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TELEGRAM NUMBER 175 OF 3 JUNE 85
INFO PRIORITY ROME
INFO PRIORITY PARIS

MIPT : FOOTBALL VILENCE

MF

SUMMARY

1. THE BELGIANS GENERALLY THMSELVES RECOGNISE THAT THERE WERE ERRORS OF ORGANISATION AND POLICE CONTROL. THE FACT THAT THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE DISPOSITION IN BRITAIN TO TRY TO SHIFT THE BLAME AWAY FROM BRITISH HOOLIGANS HAS EARNED US SOME CREDIT.

DETAIL

2. AS PUBLIC DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF THE HEYSEL DISASTER CONTINUES , FEW IN BELGIUM DOUBT THAT THERE WAS SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES IN ORGANISATION AND POLICE CONTROL. THE MAIN HEADLINE IN TODAY'S LE SOIR (CENTRE) IS QUOTE ARE THE BELGIAN ORGANISERS OF SPORTING EVENTS INCOMPETENT? UNQUOTE. SOME PRESS REPORTS CLAIM THAT INTERNAL ENQUIRIES HAVE REVEALED ASTONISHING LAPSES IN PREPARATION AND COMMUNICATION AND THERE IS SPECULATION THAT SOME GENDARMERIE OFFICERS MAY FACE DISCIPLINARY ACTION. THE AUTHORITIES ARE ON THE DEFENSIVE AND ANXIOUS TO REMIND EVERYONE, NOT LEAST IN ITALY, THAT WHATEVER MISTAKES MAY HAVE BEEN MADE IN DEALING WITH THE BRITISH HOOLIGANS, IT IS THE HOOLIGANS WHO MUST BEAR ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE TRAGEDY.

3. FROM THE START THERE HAS BEEN RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION HERE , BY GOVERNMENT , MEDIA AND PUBLIC, OF THE ATTITUDE DISPLAYED

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BY THE PRIME MINISTER AND MOST OF THE BRITISH PRESS IN NOT TRY-
ING TO SHIFT BLAME AWAY FROM THE SUPPORTERS WHO CAUSED THE FATAL
DISTURBANCE. BUT FOR THIS FACTOR ANTI-BRITISH REACTIONS WOULD
CERTAINLY HAVE BEEN STRONGER. AT THE SAME TIME THERE HAS BEEN
SOME RESENTMENT AT THE AMOUNT OF BBC TELEVISION COVERAGE (SEEN
HERE ON CABLE) DEVOTED TO INTERVIEWS, EG WITH BRITISH FOOTBALL
OFFICIALS AND LIVERPOOL FANS, BLAMING PROVOCATION BY JUVENTUS
SUPPORTERS OR INACTION OR OVER-REACTION BY THE BELGIAN POLICE
(CF INTERIOR MINISTER NOTHOMB'S REMARK THAT HIS SHARPEST COMMENTS
ON BRITISH RESPONSIBILITY WERE PROVOKED BY THE TONE ADOPTED BY A
BBC INTERVIEWER).

COLTMAN

FOOTBALL TRAGEDY

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SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

Why doesn't HMG stop supporters and not clubs from travelling abroad?

- A. In a free country, you don't stop people travelling without evidence that they have committed an offence or intend to do so. We have no powers to do so and I am sure the House would not support our taking them. The FA's action in withdrawing will remove the reason for fans travelling.
- Q. Is there any evidence that the troublemakers were not really Liverpool supporters?
- A. I have heard reports that some British citizens spoke with accents not from Liverpool. But this is not really relevant. It is clear that a number of British citizens were involved in the fighting.
- Q. Could the Belgium police have done more to prevent or reduce the trouble?
- A. I do not wish to pass judgement before we have the results of the UEFA and Belgium enquiries. These will no doubt consider whether the UEFA ground rules and Council of Europe recommendation were properly implemented.
- Q. Were the BBC right in televising the match?
- A. This is a matter for their judgement. I understand they felt it right to continue to report a tragic but major news story. Other people would no doubt take a contrary view and I understand that some other national services did not televise the match.
- Q. Should the match have gone ahead?
- A. This was a decision primarily for UEFA. They felt that playing the match would calm the crowd. There is no doubt some truth in this, but many will find it disturbing that the match went ahead as if nothing had happened.
- Q. Is the Government going to carry out a full inquiry?
- A. We shall await the results of the Belgium and UEFA inquiries.

Q What does the Government propose to do about the Belgian Government's ban on all British clubs, including school and amateur clubs?

A I understand that the Belgian Minister of the interior has announced his Government's intention to take powers to impose a ban. They will presumably wish to take account to the FA's decision in considering how and whether to pursue this. They will also presumably bear in mind the outcome of the UEFA inquiry. I do not think that we can speculate at this stage on what their final decision will be.

Q A voluntary ban on English teams in 'giving in' to the hooligans.

A It is not giving in to the hooligans; it is part of the fight against them. I fully support the FA's decision.

Q The Government should reinvest some of the money it takes out of football in Pools betting duty and VAT into the game.

A Pools betting duty is a tax on gambling, not on football. The Pools Promoters Association pay about £4.5m a year for the use of the league tables. VAT is charged on entry fees to all places of entertainment, including theatres and cinemas. There is no justification for football being treated differently in this respect.

Q Why doesn't the Government tackle the root causes, unemployment etc?

A There is no consensus on what the root causes are. We have to take practical and effective measures that will help overcome the problem quickly.

There has been too many inquiries/working groups. What positive steps is HMG going to take?

A. We shall continue to support the football authorities in their practical endeavours. As I said in my statement, I shall be meeting them soon to discuss progress on the measures they, and we, are taking.

Q. A one year ban isn't long enough.

A. Although the FA have decided not to put teams forward to play in European competitions next season, they will be reviewing the position at the end of next season and will then decide whether they should participate or not in future years.

Supplementary Questions - Transport

- Q1 - Why were trouble makers allowed to leave the ferries in Belgium?
- A1 - There was no reason to turn any supporters back. The British Transport Police had officers on all British ferries, and no alcohol was available to fans. British Transport Police officers also escorted fans travelling by train from Liverpool throughout their journey as far as Brussels. No alcohol was available to them either, with the result that there were no incidents at all, apart from one case of petty theft.
- Q2 - Were liaison arrangements between Police forces adequate?
- A2 - I pay tribute to the co-ordinating role of the British Transport Police who were responsible for the detailed briefing of all police forces involved in this country, as well as in France and Belgium about the number of British fans travelling and the routes they were taking. This provided European police forces with excellent intelligence on which to base their own plans.
- Q3 - What was the role of the Plain Clothed BTP officers in Belgium?
- A3 - The eight officers concerned, who escorted Liverpool supporters to and from Brussels, were there to liaise with local police forces, if necessary, in the transport arrangements between Brussels and the Channel Ports. They were not at the Stadium.
- Q4 - What about the return journey?
- A4 - Not unnaturally, the supporters were much subdued. There were no incidents.
- Q5 - Do the British Transport Police need any additional powers?
- A5 - On the evidence of their excellent performance last week, probably not. But I have yet to receive their detailed report and conclusions.

FOOTBALL VIOLENCE
NOTES FOR SUPPLEMENTARIES

THE SCOTTISH ALCOHOL LEGISLATION

The Scottish legislation - which is contained in the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 1980 - prohibits drunkenness and the possession of alcohol on football coaches, on entry to grounds and in most areas of grounds. It is also an offence to be in possession of containers which could be used as missiles. The maximum penalties range up to imprisonment. There is strong anecdotal evidence of its success in Scotland in curbing hooliganism.

WHITE PAPER

The Government's White Paper on the review of public order was published on 16 May. The proposals concerning assemblies in the open air will considerably strengthen the powers available to the police to guard against the risk of disorder. Whenever they reasonably apprehend serious public disorder at a football match the police will, in effect, be able to limit the gate. Under this sanction, the police should be able to achieve whatever steps they judge necessary to minimise the risk of disorder.

POLICE POWERS OF SEARCH

The Police and Criminal Evidence Act will not reduce the power of the police to search for offensive weapons. On the contrary the Act provides the police in many parts of the country with a power they do not at present have. It is of course right that there should be safeguards and the Act lays down procedures to be followed but special provision has been made to cover circumstances, such as potential public disorder, where they cannot be followed. In

particular I can assure the House that there is no question of the Act preventing the police or stewards searching those entering football grounds on a routine basis, either with their consent or as a condition of entry.

PENALTIES

For all the offences commonly charged against football hooligans, custodial sentences are available. The court of appeal has clearly indicated that custody is the appropriate response to violence directed at the police or at innocent bystanders. For less serious offences committed by young tearaways, compulsory attendance sentences, normally involving Saturday afternoon sessions, are available. Since taking office we have increased the number of attendance centres from 79 to 127, and there are plans to open more later this year. The House will have noted the heavy sentences imposed in the Cambridge case a fortnight ago.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Courts already have very substantial powers to punish offenders by, for example, sentencing them to custody or depriving them of their leisure time and thus preventing them from attending matches.

POLICE MANPOWER

We have greatly strengthened the police service - the total manpower, both police and civilian in England and Wales, has increased by well over 12,000 since May 1979 - so that more officers are available for chief officers to deploy as required.

COST OF POLICING INSIDE GROUNDS

It is general practice for organisers of sporting events to pay for police officers present inside grounds. The cost of policing outside the ground is already met from public funds.

EQUIPMENT

In addition to the equipment normally available to the police they can make use of the closed circuit TV installed at some grounds. The Home Office is also experimenting with a van which is capable of taking good quality still and video pictures outside and inside grounds. The van is intended to assist in crowd control and also to gather evidence for use in court proceedings.

SPECIALIST SQUADS

The police have no plans to form specialist squads to deal with football hooliganism. Instead wherever possible league matches are policed by local officers with reinforcements as necessary.

POLICE OFFICERS TRAVELLING TO AWAY MATCHES

At least one force (Hampshire) has experimented with sending police officers to away matches to assist in identifying a hard core of potential troublemakers. This is one of the options which is being considered by the ACPO Football Subcommittee.

JURISDICTION INSIDE FOOTBALL GROUNDS

There is no doubt that the police have the power to enforce the criminal law inside sports grounds. In 1976, in the case of *Cawley v Frost* the Divisional Court, presided over by the Lord Chief Justice, made it clear that a football ground was a public place for the purpose of the criminal law. [NOT FOR USE The cost of policing inside grounds is however charged to the football club. This may appear anomalous, but is not. It is the general practice for organisers of sporting events to pay for police officers inside grounds, while the cost of policing outside grounds is met from public funds. This is a reasonable division of financial responsibility.]

BRUSSELS: POLICE ASPECTS

Police co-operation

Immediately after the scenes in Brussels the police in Kent offered the Belgians any assistance they required, and the Merseyside Police were subsequently in touch with the Brussels police to offer any assistance required in their investigation. Both the Merseyside Police and the Metropolitan Police are examining film of the riot to see if they can identify any of the troublemakers.

National Front involvement

I hope that anyone with evidence that the National Front was involved in organising the violence in Brussels will make it available to the police, who will consider it carefully. It would not be appropriate for me to comment further.

Popplewell

Enquiries into the riot in Brussels are of course a matter for the Belgian authorities, but the terms of reference of the Popplewell Inquiry are already wide enough to enable any lessons learnt from Brussels to be taken into account. Mr Justice Popplewell hopes to be able to submit an interim report before the beginning of next season. (Note The terms of reference are: "To inquire, with particular reference to the events at Bradford City and Birmingham football grounds on 11 May, into the operation of the Safety of Sports Grounds Act 1975; and to recommend what if any further steps should be taken, including any that may be necessary under additional powers, to improve both crowd safety and crowd control at sports grounds.")

REPATRIATION OF PRISONERS: DRAFT CONTRIBUTION TO STATEMENT

We are anxious to give the Belgian authorities every possible assistance in bringing to justice and dealing appropriately with people from this country who have committed offences in connection with this match. It is entirely for them to decide how to tackle that matter, but we want to remove any possible difficulty or disincentive which it is within our power to remove. One possible disincentive may be that it is less trouble simply to remove Britons who may have committed offences from the country than to prosecute and sentence them appropriately. We intend to offer the Belgians the opportunity, in accordance with the Repatriation of Prisoners Act, to remove to this country anyone who may be given a custodial sentence. Belgium is not yet a party to the Council of Europe Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, which will come into effect for the United Kingdom on 1 August. If she wished and were able to enter into an interim agreement with us, we should be ready to do so, and we shall be informing the Belgian Government accordingly.

POSSIBLE RETURN TO THE UK OF BRITISH NATIONALS WHO MAY BE GIVEN
CUSTODIAL SENTENCES IN BELGIUM

Background Note

Ministers are concerned to ensure that the Belgian authorities are not deterred from vigorous prosecution of persons who may have committed offences in connection with the Brussels match, or from the imposition of suitably severe sentences, by considerations of convenience or expense. They therefore wish to offer Belgium their cooperation in exploiting to the maximum extent possible, if the Belgians wish to do so, any opportunity to return the persons concerned to this country to serve their sentences here.

2. The Repatriation of Prisoners Act 1984, which came into effect on 15 April 1985, allows the UK to give effect to any arrangements concluded with another country for the transfer of prisoners. The Council of Europe Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons provides such arrangements. The United Kingdom ratified the Convention at the end of April, and it comes into effect for the UK on 1 August 1985. Belgium has signed the Convention, but has not yet ratified it. We understand the Belgian authorities have previously said that they are unlikely to be able to ratify until 1987, and that the reason for the delay is that Belgium needs still to enact domestic legislation to enable her to give effect to the provisions of the Convention.

3. We should be pleased, both in the present context and generally, if Belgium were able to ratify the Convention earlier.

4. The Convention provides that transfers shall not normally be arranged if the prisoner has less than six months of his sentence left to serve. There is, however, provision in the Convention for this rule to be relaxed in exceptional cases by agreement between the two States concerned. When the Convention was drawn up, it was envisaged that the six-month rule might be relaxed if the prisoner's rehabilitation seemed particularly likely to be assisted by a transfer or if a transfer could be effected expeditiously and at low cost, for example between neighbouring states. The latter consideration, if not the former, would apply in the present case.

5. In the interval before Belgium is able to ratify the Convention, we should also be willing to enter into a special bilateral agreement, if the Belgians wished it and their law allowed it, to provide for the return to this country of Britons given custodial sentences in connection with the Brussels match. Such an arrangement would have to reflect the safeguards contained in the Act, such as the requirement that the prisoner's consent to transfer should be forthcoming. If Belgian law does not allow her to ratify the Convention, nor presumably does it allow her to enter into a bilateral arrangement akin to the Convention. Possibly, however, her law might allow a "one-way" agreement, whereby she could "export" prisoners from Belgium even if she could not "import" them. This is a matter for the Belgian authorities to consider. We should not want the precedent of a "one-way" agreement, or of a special agreement with a country which plans to become a party to the Council of Europe Convention, to be followed widely elsewhere; but it seems right to make the offer of such an agreement in the particular circumstances of this affair.

NOTES FOR SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

Which countries are already parties to the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons?

Sweden, France, Spain, the United Kingdom, and Canada the United States/have ratified the Convention. [Thirteen other member states of the Council of Europe have signed the Convention (including Belgium)].

The Convention will come into effect, as between the United Kingdom and the other states which have so far ratified it, from 1 August 1985. (1 September for Canada).

Can the Belgians enter into an arrangement in advance of their ratification of the Convention?

This is a matter for Belgium. What we propose to do is to make clear to them our willingness to do so if they find it possible and appropriate.

Is it not undesirable to conclude an agreement outside the framework of the Council of Europe Convention?

We hope that as many States as possible will become parties to the Council of Europe Convention. So far as the UK is concerned that Convention, together with any Commonwealth Scheme which may be developed, will be the main vehicle for the transfer of prisoners. Some countries, however - Thailand and Peru - have made clear their preference for a bilateral agreement with the UK. The offer which we propose to make to Belgium does not represent a general desire on our part to conclude special bilateral agreements, but is intended to be part of the most helpful response which we can muster to a dreadful and unique situation.

Why should football hooligans have the benefit of early return to this country while other more deserving prisoners languish in prisons far worse than those in Belgium?

We wish to see the earliest and widest possible institution of arrangements for the repatriation of prisoners, where appropriate, to their home countries. We have brought the Repatriation of Prisoners Act into operation, have ratified the Council of Europe Convention, are in

correspondence with Thailand and Peru and wish to play an active and positive part in the development of a Commonwealth Scheme. Other countries' response depends on them. In this context, we are certainly not saying that we wish special benefits to be conferred on people who may be imprisoned in Belgium. What we want to do is to offer the Government and people of Belgium every opportunity to take whatever measures they are able and see fit to take in this dreadful affair.

Have the Belgians solicited the offer?

No. We would naturally consider with the utmost sympathy any request they made to us in the context of this affair, but this is to be a spontaneous offer made entirely for their consideration as they see fit.

Would not the Belgians prefer to see the offenders serve their sentences in Belgium?

That would be a view which the Belgian authorities could legitimately take. We are not going to press the contrary view upon them. We simply want to offer them assistance.

Is it not undesirable to turn arrangements intended to be of humanitarian benefit to prisoners into a means of applying pressure for stiffer sentences?

There is no question of pressure, but I am certain that the people of this country and of Belgium are united in wishing to see justice done and we are determined that there shall be no impediment which we, for our part, could remove. Any special agreement with Belgium will have to reflect the safeguards for the prisoners concerned which are contained in the Repatriation of Prisoners Act.

Will the relaxation of the six-month limit be applied generally?

The Convention itself provides that a minimum of six months is the rule and anything less than that the exception. We shall be ready, in accordance with the Convention, to consider relaxing the rule in other exceptional circumstances.

E.R.

Should not an agreement on repatriation be concluded in purely general terms, rather than as a device to deal with particular people who have already committed offences?

The precise terms of any special agreement would be a matter for negotiation, but there is no difficulty about concluding an agreement with the intention of applying it to people who have already committed offences and/or have been sentenced. This is, for example, made quite clear in the Council of Europe Convention, which is intended to apply to people who may already have served long periods of their sentences.

ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTARY TO STATEMENT ON THE BRUSSELS FOOTBALL TRAGEDY

Voluntary Contributions

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office are opening an account through which voluntary donations to help the families of the victims can be channelled.

3 June 1985



10 DOWNING STREET

~~CDP~~

Ken Appleyard suggests:

The Brussels Football
Disaster Fund
c/o Foreign &
Commonwealth Office
Whitehall
London
SW1.

JB

3/6

2 - SOCCER CHIEFS WELCOME GOVT COMMITMENT

'THERE SEEMS TO BE A WIDESPREAD BELIEF THAT IF YOU GIVE PEOPLE A LITTLE BIT OF PLASTIC TO PUT IN THEIR POCKET, HOOLIGANS WILL SUDDENLY BECOME WELL-BEHAVED CITIZENS.

'EVERY SYSTEM I HAVE SEEN WOULD ALLOW THE COMMITTED HOOLIGAN TO HAVE A HANDFUL OF CARDS AT CLUBS AND SAY 'TAKE YOUR PICK'. ANY SYSTEM WHICH CAN BE READILY ABUSED IS EXACTLY WHAT THESE TYPES OF INDIVIDUALS WOULD WELCOME.'

FA CHAIRMAN BERT MILLICHIP WELCOMED THE PROPOSED CLAMPDOWN ON ALCOHOL AND SAID HE ALSO PLANNED TO PRESS THE GOVERNMENT TO STOP HOOLIGANS TRAVELLING ABROAD.

'THE ONLY WAY WE ARE GOING TO PUT OUR HOUSE IN ORDER IS TO PREVENT OUR WOULD-BE HOOLIGANS LEAVING OUR SHORES,' HE SAID.

'IT WILL BE HIGH ON OUR AGENDA FOR OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER. IT IS SOMETHING WE HAVE WANTED FOR AT LEAST FIVE YEARS.'

FOOTBALL LEAGUE CLUBS COULD LOSE UP TO £2 MILLION EACH SEASON AS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE DRINKS BAN.

'WE CANNOT PUT AN EXACT FIGURE ON IT UNTIL WE KNOW EXACTLY WHICH PARTS OF GROUNDS ARE AFFECTED,' SAID LEAGUE SPOKESMAN ANDY WILLIAMSON.



Prime Minister. (2)
You ought to be aware of this, I am jettij a note from DUE on their assessment of what has Maxwell has in mind. MKP 4/16

Oxford United F.C. P.L.C.



Members of Football Association, Football League, Football Combination, South East Counties League
Colours: Yellow Shirts, Blue Shorts
Registered Office: Manor Ground, Headington, Oxford OX3 7RS Telephone: Oxford 61503
Registered in England, Registered Number 470509

PRESIDENT: The Duke of Marlborough
CHAIRMAN: I.R. Maxwell M.C.
DIRECTORS: W. Black, G.E. Coppock, J. Devaney, H. Kimber, Miss G.N.M. Maxwell, P.D. McGeough,
P. Reeves, W.H. Reeves, L. Town
Manager: J.M. Smith
Secretary: J.A. Hunt

MK

From:
Robert Maxwell MC
Headington Hill Hall
Oxford OX3 0BB

To Chairmen of all Football League Clubs

cc: Chairman of the Football Association, Mr. F. A. Millichip
President of the Football League, Mr. J. J. Dunnett
For information to the Prime Minister at No. 10 Downing Street

MK

2 June 1985

Dear Colleague,

The mindless violence at Brussels has brought our game into the deepest disrepute. We have all known about the violence in football. It has been growing at increasing speed for more than 10 years.

We have procrastinated long enough.

There is a temptation - to which too many have already succumbed - to find excuses, to procrastinate even more, to find ways of avoiding doing what we must do.

As the chairmen of the League clubs, the ultimate responsibility is ours. We must not duck it. Even if we wanted to, the Government and the nation would not allow it.

I would wish to propose at our Annual General meeting on Friday 7th June that the League Management Committee be voted emergency powers for the next 90 days - effectively, into the start of the new season - to take whatever action, however drastic, to restore confidence in our national game and in cooperation with the Government to help resolve the crisis of violence. The last thing we can afford to do now is to dissemble.

If you have time please write to me before the AGM. As I shall be in the USA for the next 3 days, should you wish to telephone your reaction, in confidence, please do so to Sir Tom McCaffrey at 01-822 3279, and he will pass on your views to me.


Yours sincerely,

Robert Maxwell
Chairman

9 JUN 1985

1985 JUN 11





THE SUNDAY TIMES

A chronicle of violence

May 29, 1974, Rotterdam.

Feyenoord v Tottenham

Uefa Cup final 2nd leg

Spurs fans hurled seats at Feyenoord fans. Rioting followed: 200 people were injured and 100 Tottenham fans arrested. Tottenham were barred from playing next two European matches at home; Feyenoord were fined £3,500 for bad crowd-control precautions; both clubs had to share repair costs.

May 28, 1975, Paris.

Leeds v Bayern Munich.

European Cup final.

Leeds fans hurled bottles and seats on to the pitch, and fought with police and Bayern fans. The damage was £100,000. Uefa banned Leeds for four years from Europe, reduced to two years on appeal.

September 14, 1977, St Etienne.

St Etienne v Manchester United.

European Cup winners' Cup tie

Manchester fans fought with police and French fans before the match started and afterwards went on a night of smashing shop windows and ransacking shops. Manchester United were expelled from the competition by Uefa: on appeal they were reinstated, fined £7,500 and ordered to play the return leg on neutral ground.

June 12, 1980, Turin.

Belgium v England.

European Championships.

English fans attacked Italians who jeered at them when Belgium scored. The police fired tear gas into the crowd; 75 English fans needed hospital attention, one Italian was stabbed in the back. The FA was fined £8,000 by Uefa. Mrs Thatcher apologised and said she would talk to the FA about hooliganism.

September 17, 1980, Madrid.

Castilla v West Ham.

European Cup winners' Cup tie

West Ham fans urinated over Spanish fans and fought with the home supporters. Riot police arrested eight and ejected 30. West Ham were fined £8,000 and told to play next two European ties out of London. On appeal the fine was lifted: the return leg was played behind closed doors in London.

May 30, 1981, Basle.

England v Switzerland.

World Cup.

Drunken English fans attacked Swiss supporters after England conceded two goals in 90

seconds. Police and fans fought in the streets; damage was £60,000. Fifa warned of possible ban.

April 21 1982, Brussels.

Anderlecht v Aston Villa.

European Cup semi-final.

Two hundred Aston Villa fans and police fought on the terraces. There were 40 arrests, and 26 injured. Aston Villa were fined £14,500 and ordered to play next home European match behind closed doors. Anderlecht were fined £4,500.

September 22 1982, Copenhagen.

Denmark v England.

European Championship.

Three days of drunken violence preceded the match; 100 English fans were arrested before the match started. Then English fans attacked the Danes and 52 were arrested. After the game an English gang of 20 caught trying to loot a jeweller's shop. Sports minister Neil Macfarlane apologised.

November 16 1983, Luxembourg.

Luxembourg v England.

European Championship.

1,500 English fans went on the rampage 48 hours before the match, smashing shop windows, cars and bars; 13 fans were arrested, one for stabbing a local man in a bar. The army teamed up with the police to patrol the streets. There was approximately £10,000 worth of damage.

February 29 1984, Paris.

France v England.

Friendly.

Fighting started on the trains from Victoria, continued on the journey to Paris. Duty-free shops were looted, two cars were destroyed at Dunkirk, and the Paris train was badly vandalised. At the match English fans threw seats at the French. France's crack anti-riot squad charged the English fans. Damage was estimated at £700,000. Macfarlane apologised to the French government. Mrs Thatcher told the Commons: "We must all make strenuous efforts to see that these appalling incidents do not occur again."

May 9 1984, Brussels.

Anderlecht v Tottenham.

Uefa Cup final 1st leg.

A Tottenham fan was shot dead in a bar and Tottenham fans rampaged through the streets before and after the game, wrecking bars and shops and setting cars on fire.

PRIME MINISTER

The UEFA Executive Committee meet at 4.00 pm our time in Basle this afternoon. Neil Macfarlane has spoken to Mr. Croker, the FA Secretary. Croker has been trying to make contact with UEFA officials, so far without success. However, his estimate of the likely outcome is:

- a long ban (perhaps 5 years) and a fine for Liverpool
- a ban of more than one year and probably less than 5 for English clubs
- no ban for Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland clubs.

We do not know how long the UEFA meeting will last and there may be no decision to emerge until 7.00 pm. But it is possible there will be news by the time you arrive back at No. 10 around 6.00 pm. The press are likely to be outside. I and a press officer will be there.

The Attorney General on World This Weekend indicated a preference for dealing with the problem through administrative measures rather than through legislation. However he did not rule out statutory measures particularly if administrative action by the clubs, British Rail and pubs did not work.

Suggested line to take:

"Following the horror at Brussels, I have discussed with many of those concerned, including the FA and the journalists at the game, to establish the facts about what took place on that dreadful Wednesday evening.

"I know the UEFA Executive Committee are meeting [have met] to decide what action they will be taking. That meeting was brought forward from next month. I know UEFA will have wished to take their decision in the light of all the evidence. We shall need to consider

very carefully the decisions which [have] come out of that meeting. And how we and the clubs can ensure this kind of appalling event cannot again stain the reputation of the country and the game. We will be announcing our decisions shortly."

On some aspects, { [If asked about legislation: Of course legislation e.g. alcohol control, is one of the options. We have to consider it.] we have already said that we are going to legislate.

(MARK ADDISON)

2 June 1985

Prime Minister

So far, we have had no report that the
UEFA meeting has come to a conclusion (7.15).

We are following up the question of extradition
arrangements with Belgium (and Italy). You may
be interested to see the attached PA report
of the Attorney General's interview this
morning.

Preliminary Home Office advice is that
there is a treaty with Belgium which
would cover offences like assault and robbery.
But officials state the practical difficulties
in identifying the individuals concerned, and in
assembling sufficient evidence to make a prima
facie case, may be very great. They will be
reporting further tomorrow morning. MEA 2/6

NI7836 5 XXX 317

'BRITONS COULD BE EXTRADITED TO BELGIUM'

BRITONS COULD BE EXTRADITED TO BELGIUM TO STAND TRIAL FOR THEIR PART IN THE EUROPEAN CUP FINAL DISASTER - THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SIR MICHAEL HAYERS SAID TODAY.

BOTH SIR MICHAEL AND FOREIGN SECRETARY SIR GEOFFREY HOWE DISAGREED WITH A CLAIM BY THE BELGIAN JUSTICE MINISTER THAT UNDER EEC LAW THE CULPRITS COULD BE TRIED IN BRITAIN.

THIS APPLIED ONLY TO OFFENCES SUCH AS MURDER, SPYING, HI-JACKING AND TERRORISM SIR MICHAEL SAID ON BBC RADIO'S WORLD THIS WEEKEND.

HE DID NOT BELIEVE THAT THE EVENTS IN THE HEYSEL STADIUM, BRUSSELS, COULD BE CLASSIFIED AS MURDER.

BUT IF INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN THROWING MISSILES OR RUSHING ABOUT THE TERRACES COULD BE IDENTIFIED FROM VIDEO FILMS OR PHOTOGRAPHS, DETAILS COULD BE FORWARDED TO THE BELGIAN AUTHORITIES WHO COULD THEN APPLY FOR EXTRADITION, HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, TWO OF THE NINE BRITONS HELD IN BRUSSELS ARE DUE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE EXAMINING MAGISTRATE TOMORROW, AND THE OTHER SEVEN ON TUESDAY. THEY FACE A RANGE OF CHARGES INCLUDING THEFT, RESISTING ARREST, CRIMINAL DAMAGE, AND POSSESSION OF DRUGS.

THE CITY'S PUBLIC PROSECUTOR IS EXPECTED TO REQUEST THE REMANDS PENDING FULL TRIAL, WHICH MAY NOT BE HEARD FOR TWO OR THREE MONTHS.

ONE OF THEM IS ALLEGED TO HAVE ATTACKED A FELLOW ENGLISH SUPPORTER WITH AN IRON BAR AND HAD TO BE PUT IN A STRAITJACKET TO CALM HIM DOWN. HE IS ALSO CHARGED WITH DRUGS POSSESSION.

HE HAS NOT BEEN NAMED, BUT THE OTHER EIGHT, ALL OF WHOM WERE BORN IN LIVERPOOL, WERE NAMED TODAY.

THEY WERE ROBERT MORAN, 25, CHARGED WITH THEFT, CRIMINAL DAMAGE AND RESISTING ARREST; DAVID BENTON, 18, VIOLENCE, ATTEMPTED THEFT; GEORGE DAVIS, 33, AND JOHN AWARK, 30, BOTH THEFT WITH VIOLENCE; JOHN MICHAEL, 19, CRIMINAL DAMAGE, RESISTING ARREST AND THEFT WITH VIOLENCE; STEVEN CONNOLLY, 25, CRIMINAL DAMAGE; JAMES TEMPLETON, 32, AND JAMES PRIOR, 26, PICKING POCKETS.

PERCENTAGE

021928 JUN 85

NI7848 5 XXX 134

UEFA BANS ENGLISH CLUBS INDEFINITELY
BASLE, SUNDAY -- THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE EUROPEAN FOOTBALL
UNION (UEFA) TODAY BANNED ENGLISH CLUBS FROM PLAYING INTER-CLUB
MATCHES IN EUROPE FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD.

THE DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE, WHICH MET IN BASLE IN THE WAKE OF
WEDNESDAY'S EUROPEAN CUP SOCCER RIOT IN BRUSSELS IN WHICH 38 FANS
WERE KILLED, WAS ANNOUNCED IN A COMMUNIQUE.

THE DECISION CAME AFTER A TWO HOUR AND 40 MINUTE MEETING OF
UEFA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN BASEL; UEFA PRESIDENT JACQUES GEORGES
TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE, THE COMMITTEE BASED ITS DECISION ON A
PRELIMINARY REPORT BY THREE OF ITS MEMBERS.

NINE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, INCLUDING THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM
SCOTLAND, WERE PRESENT AND TWO, FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND ITALY, WERE
ABSENT.

021956 JUN 85



10 DOWNING STREET

~~Charles.~~

I have agreed with Richard
Broadbent that to £250,000
is an addition to the FCO
vote, to be met from the
Contingency Reserve.

A.



10 DOWNING STREET

2/6

Pine Minister

UEFA

ms

All English Clubs have been
banned indefinitely from European

Competitions.

(A separate committee is being set up
to look at L'pool / Juventus match and to
consider sanctions).

LINE TO TAKE :

'Govt. and Football Authorities will
need to have a v. careful look at the decision
in detail' - Press reminded of Statement tomorrow.
DUTY CLERK.

Prime Minister

So far, we have had ^{amended} no report that the
UEFA meeting has come to a ~~closure~~ ^{now} (7.15).

We are picking up the question of extradition
arrangements with Belgium (and Italy). You may
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021752 JUN 85

Transcript by
JAMES LEE of:

PROGRAMME ON ITALIAN RADIO AND TELEVISION CONSISTING OF
AN INTERVIEW WITH MR. BERT MILLICHIP, PRESIDENT OF THE
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION AND MR. JOHN SMITH, THE PRESIDENT OF
LIVERPOOL FOOTBALL CLUB, ON SATURDAY, JUNE 1 1985

(VARIOUS PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT STUDIOS: IN BARI, ITALY, THE PRESIDENT
OF THE ITALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE, MR. MATALESI. IN ROME, THE
PRESIDENT OF THE ORDER OF ITALIAN REPORTERS, GUIDO GUIDI AND JOHNNY
ROCCO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF "REPPUBLICA" AND THE DIRECTOR
A MAN FROM THE WORLD OF ENTERTAINMENT WHO HAS STUDIED THE PROBLEMS OF
THE RELATIONS BETWEEN AUDIENCE AND THE ACTORS)

QUESTION (FROM ROME)

I would like to ask the President of the English Federation the
reason behind his decision to withdraw the six English teams from
international competition. Why did you make that decision involving
as it were, other teams as well, in addition to Liverpool?

MR. MILLICHIP

We have had, in England, the problem of hooliganism for a number
of years. We have had problems of exporting our hooligans when clubs
have been playing outside of England and in particular also with the
international side.

The events that happened at Brussels were so serious that I returned
from Mexico City immediately. It is the shortest - in time - 14,000-mile
trip that I have ever taken in a matter of 36 hours. That was the
importance that I placed upon the events that happened in Brussels.

MR. MILLICHIP (CONTD.)

I felt it was so important that I also had to pre-empt any action that would be taken by the UEFA Committee who I understand will be sitting very very soon to make their own decision upon what punishment shall be effected upon English clubs. I anticipate that their punishment could well apply to all English clubs.

QUESTION

What influence had Mrs. Thatcher on your decision?

MR. MILLICHIP

Mrs. Thatcher had no influence whatsoever on that decision, because I did not see her until yesterday afternoon and I announced the decision when I first saw her.

QUESTION

John Smith, what do you have to say?

MR. SMITH

Well, first of all, I would like to express - not only on behalf of Liverpool Football Club, but the whole of our country - the deepest sympathy to the dependants of those people who suffered so greatly. All of us at Liverpool in particular are deeply shocked by those events and after 21 years in Europe we are heartbroken. Our reputation has been ruined in a few minutes at Brussels, and I felt that it was the only thing we could do to immediately withdraw from UEFA competitions for a period of time.

QUESTION

In the series which we presented now on Liverpool, as well as in the Italian newspapers, what emerged was the point that you raised that part of the responsibility on the part of the so-called hooligans who follow Liverpool could be part of the National Front. That seems to be in the papers. That is a sort of extreme right-wing organisational outfit. Do you have any data or material or information to denounce this infiltration of the National Front in the whole affair?

MR. SMITH

It is very surprising that after 21 years of European football, having such an impeccable record as Liverpool has had, that suddenly people should infiltrate and call themselves so-called Liverpool supporters, when we know they are not.

A lot of these organisations -call them National Front or whatever - use football as a platform for their violence, a thing which we thoroughly deplore, but it has been, during the past year or so, a growing menace to our game, and it was because of that and other considerations, that we decided to withdraw.

But more important than anything else, was my determination to recognise the fact that not only the reputation of my club very much at stake, but also the reputation of our country, and that is paramount in my thinking.

QUESTION (FROM ROME)

What measures were taken - what measures could be taken?

MR. MILLICHIP

Well, the measures that will be taken now I am quite certain will be a very much closer relationship between the Football Association and the Government. We have always recognised that there has been a sort of informal partnership between the two bodies, but the Government had indeed new legislation to bring into force which it was anticipated would come into force in the autumn of this year, but having regard to the events in Brussels, it is now considered so important that I anticipate that that legislation will come into force before the commencement of the next football season, and that legislation will give greater powers to the police, give greater powers to the Courts to impose punishments and, I believe, will go a great step forward to enable to find a solution to an intractable problems.

QUESTION

What do you think about prohibiting the charter flights, for instance? Would this infringe civil liberties?

MR. SMITH

The position is so serious that we have to take dramatic measures to stop this menace. I agree entirely with what Mr. Millichip has said. I have every reason to believe that legislation will be brought forward in time for the start of our next season. I also wish to see the abolition of alcohol, which is a contributing factor to our problem.

QUESTION

What about the charter flights, though?

MR. SMITH

There is nothing happened yet about charter flights. This is a newspaper report at this moment of time.

But I would hope that the Government, whether it be an infringement on civil liberties or not, I would sincerely hope that the Government will take active steps to prevent travel agents carrying would-be and possible hooligans, possible people who go looking for trouble - I would hope that they will pass legislation and give powers to the police to stop charter flights from leaving this country purely on a tourism basis.

MR. MATERESI, PRESIDENT OF ITALIAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION.

I would like to express my surprise over why the English Federation wanted to determine the period of exclusion from the European Championship. It would have been much better if they had fulfilled their responsibilities by leaving it up to UEFA to decide for how long English clubs should be excluded.

Why did you decide one year and not more, for example, or less?

MR. MILLICHIP

It must be well understood that I returned from Mexico City within a very very quick time after learning of the terrible tragedy in Brussels.

The Football Association wished to preempt what the UEFA might do only because we wish them to understand how seriously we took the terrible events of that night.

You have suggested why only for 12 months? Again, I say it was done in an emergency. We have said that we will not nominate any clubs for this coming season. There is no reason at all why, in the light of events during this next year, we should not take exactly the same position for the

MR. MILLICHIP (CONTD.)

following year and for ensuing years, until such time as we believe that the football world, the football clubs, have really understood the problems and the responsibilities that they have.

QUESTION

Mr. Smith, how would you answer that?

MR. SMITH

I would say that after 12 months the whole matter can be reviewed by UEFA.

MR. MATERESI

I would just like to remind my English colleagues that it is up to UEFA to decide the period of exclusion. I heard my colleague say that they could decide year by year to extend this period of exclusion. This would mean to go against the regulations of UEFA, so it is really up to UEFA to decide the extent of the exclusion.

MR. ROCCA (ROME)

I would not stop and discuss the sacred nature of UEFA. We acknowledge the merit of immediately and rapidly deciding on that measure and they say it may be extended until the English supporters start to reason, and I hope Mr. Materesi will do something about the Italian supporters. I am here to defend the Italian supporters but I am not here to defend hooligans.

QUESTION

I would like to ask another question, especially to what Mr. Smith had to say: If he agreed in accepting the decision of the UEFA Executive to have the match played despite the fact of 39 victims? Mr. Materesi

QUESTION (CONTD.)

asked the question about the unilateral decision on the part of the English Federation to withdraw and then I add the second question if you agreed on having the match played anyway.

MR. SMITH

I was more than satisfied that we had a very explosive situation and I feel convinced that if the game had not gone on there were all the possibilities of further violence, and that policy which I advocated was vindicated by the fact that during the game there were no disturbances whatsoever and, indeed, at the end of the match, it would appear that both sets of supporters left the ground in an orderly fashion. That might not have happened if there had been no game.

QUESTION

Mr. Smith, but what do you think if the captains of the two teams, instead of announcing that the match would be played if everybody calmed down, if they had said "40 people have died so the match will no longer take place, no sense to it"? Perhaps in that case the people would have been frozen by that announcement, which did not take place, but if the others who had not known what had happened.....I don't know...

MR. SMITH

I do not accept that at all, and as I have just said, the fact that the game was played in an orderly fashion and there was no further trouble supports my view and that of UEFA.

MR. MILLICHIP

I understand that the police officials recommended that the match should be played because of the possibility that there could have been trouble after if there had been an announcement that it was to be abandoned.

QUESTION

What about the friendly match between Italy and England in Mexico City? What do you think?

MR. MILLICHIP

I left Mexico City at a time when we had been unable to contact the Italian officials there. I left in charge, Mr. Wragg, who is the Chairman of the International Committee of our Football Association, and Mr. Robson, who is the Manager, for them to make contact with the Italian Federation as quickly as possible with the sincere hope that the hand of friendship could be handed out.

I would sincerely hope that our two nations can return to normality as quickly as possible and I do assure my Italian friends that I in my position will do everything in my power to achieve that object.

QUESTION

There is still an answer to Mr. Materesi relative to the unilateral decision on your part to withdraw from European competition.

Mr. Materesi says this is a decision which is up to UEFA.

MR. MILLICHIP

He, of course, is quite right. I was not given the opportunity to answer that question before. He is quite right, and the decision taken by the Football Association was in no way intended to take away the jurisdiction of UEFA. We fully understand that UEFA will be meeting, I believe,

MR. MILLICHIP (CONTD.)

tomorrow, and I fully anticipate that when UEFA meet that they will take into consideration and applaud our immediate decision, self-imposed, but they are quite at liberty - and I anticipate they could well extend the punishment upon English clubs, perhaps more so upon the Liverpool Football Club, for whom I have the greatest of sympathy, because over many many years involvement in European football they have played with an impeccable record and I am very very sorry for Mr. Smith and Liverpool Club. I could have understood it with many other clubs involved, but with Liverpool it was quite astonishing.

MR. SMITH

I agree with that. We are horrified at what has happened, and it was the least we could do to withdraw ourselves from UEFA.

QUESTION

I think that the English decision was made a bit too hastily but justified up to a certain point, because with regard to Liverpool, it is very understandable since Lazio but the other English clubs, they do not come into the picture at all. What is the point of all the other English clubs as well?

MR. MILLICHIP

I am afraid that our hooligans do not attach themselves to one club. That is quite evident from the unimpeachable record of Liverpool over the years.

We were concerned that whichever club was playing in Europe, that a hooligan element would follow, and there was no way in which the Football Association could take that risk and I am quite convinced also that this is the way in which the officials of UEFA were giving consideration to it.

MR. SMITH

I agree with what Mr. Millichip has said.

COMMENTATOR

We would like to thank our British friends very much. They have given exhaustive answers to the questions addressed to them and since it is late we would like to thank them very much.

=====

KEN LIVINGSTONE - QUESTIONS ON SOCCER VIOLENCE

Transcript taken from BBC Radio 4, Any Questions, 1 June 1985

Q: In view of what has happened in Brussels, what would the team do to knock out this senseless violence in football?

A: I think there are several obvious solutions that come to mind, like clearly, we need very harsh sentencing to try and act as a real deterrent. We need to see the modernisation of a lot of our sports grounds. Part of the problem is that people standing together, pushing, are more likely to get carried away and we seem to spend nothing like enough on decent sporting facilities. A real attempt should be made to ensure that no drink gets in. But this does not provide any excuse for what has happened; I do not think this will really provide the answer. I've heard people saying that this is linked to unemployment. That is rubbish; I mean unemployed people cannot afford to go to Brussels and pay a lot of money to get in to see this sort of game. It strikes me that it is very much linked to the change in culture in Britain, and we have, over the last 20 or 30 years, had an increasing acceptance of violence in society, in all sorts of ways, and we have come to accept it and tolerate it. TV and cinemas often seem to almost generate it, and legitimise it, and a recurrent theme in a lot of our literature, cinema, TV and so on, has been an acceptability of violence carried out for justified ends, whether it is inside or outside the framework of the law. That sort of cultural attitude tends to start to legitimise violence to the young and easily misled people. I think we have to say that if we want to stop this trend, you have to start looking at the sort of material values we set, and we have seen over the last 30 or 40 years a real reduction in the values that matter in society, service to others, involvement in the community, and a swamping of those values of get what you can, can, look after number one, and would not myself write off the fact that there must be a strong link between that and the sort of mindless self indulgent violence that we have seen. I think from the Government on down, we have to set standards that demand people to contribute to the community, so it is not accepted that people are expected to make contributions to the community, it's not just there for them to take what they can out of it, and I think it is a question of changing attitudes.

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UEFA TAKING IMMEDIATE ACTION

THE EUROPEAN SOCCER AUTHORITIES ARE TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION AGAINST ENGLISH SOCCER CLUBS IN THE WAKE OF WEDNESDAY'S RIOT IN BRUSSELS WHICH LEFT 38 DEAD.

UEFA, THE GAME'S EUROPEAN GOVERNING BODY, HAS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM JULY TO TOMORROW THE MEETING WHICH IS EXPECTED TO CONFIRM ENGLISH FOOTBALL'S EXILE FROM CONTINENTAL COMPETITION.

THE ENGLISH FA HAS ALREADY ANNOUNCED A SELF-IMPOSED ONE-YEAR EXILE FROM EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS FOLLOWING LIVERPOOL'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE EUROPEAN CUP FINAL DISASTER IN BELGIUM.

BUT A UEFA SPOKESMAN SAID: 'WE ACCEPT THAT THE ENGLISH FA HAS MADE A GESTURE, BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH IT WILL INFLUENCE THE DECISION TOMORROW.'

THE SPEED WITH WHICH UEFA HAS ACTED DOES NOT BODE WELL FOR LIVERPOOL AND THE REST OF ENGLISH SOCCER.

THE POWERFUL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL GO INTO SESSION AT AROUND 5PM SWISS TIME, AND BY SUPPER-TIME ENGLISH FOOTBALL COULD BE FACING A BAN OF ANYTHING UP TO FIVE YEARS.

HOWEVER, THE OTHER BRITISH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS - SCOTLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND - WOULD NOW SEEM TO HAVE LITTLE TO FEAR FROM TOMORROW'S MEETING.

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URGENT: UEFA

FOOTBALL'S EUROPEAN GOVERNING BODY, UEFA, HAS BROUGHT FORWARD
FROM JULY TO TOMORROW THE MEETING TO DECIDE WHAT ACTION TO TAKE
AGAINST ENGLISH SOCCER CLUBS OVER THE BRUSSELS RIOT.

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LETTERS

Responses to the Brussels agony

From the Chief Rabbi

Sir, The appalling tragedy in Brussels, which has horrified us all, may merit at least one consoling after-thought.

The quite remarkable acceptance of collective shame for the deeds of some miscreants represents a demonstration of moral solidarity that is as rare as it is significant among the most civilized of nations. Inspired by the resolute example of the Prime Minister, no one in this country made any attempts to vindicate the honour of the nation by the specious argument that only a tiny element of evil men were responsible, and that no blame attaches to the British people as a whole. In fact, religious and political leaders, journalists and ordinary citizens were all united in feeling collectively guilty and disgraced.

How heartening this exceptional response is, testifying to the basic moral strength which distinguishes the British character and the overwhelming majority of the country's citizens. I cannot but contrast this to the callous indifference with which not so long ago many citizens of another European country sought to shed any sense of shared guilt and shame for indescribable barbarities organized and committed for years by an infinitely larger proportion of fellow-citizens and on an infinitely vaster scale.

In Judaism, the acceptance of corporate responsibility has always been regarded as a supreme ideal. Just as acts of virtue by a single Jew are deemed to be a "sanctification of the Divine Name" in which all can take credit, so are public misdeeds of any one denounced as a "desecration of the Divine Name" bringing shame upon all, calling for collective remorse and expiation.

When any part of the human body is afflicted, the entire person is sick. Equally, if any section of society is depraved, all must feel a sense of guilt for allowing it to happen. Evil action should be fought by noble reaction. The British response to the agony of Brussels gives hope that the social cancer will be removed, thus supplanting shame with glory.

Sincerely yours,
IMMANUEL JAKOBOVITS,
 Office of the Chief Rabbi,
 Adler House,
 Tavistock Square, WC1.
 May 31.

From Mr Paul R. Duffy

Sir, Yet again we have to endure the official expressions of regret at

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PRIME MINISTER

We have seen PA reports and the BBC news has carried a story that UEFA are meeting tomorrow. We understand that the meeting will take place in Switzerland at 5 o'clock their time (4.00 pm ours). I have spoken to Neil Macfarlane who is not able to confirm that the meeting is to take place but he does not see any reason to doubt the reports. His concern is that UEFA may take a very tough line but he is going tomorrow to try to find out from his contacts what the likely outcome is going to be and we will report bck to you when we have some news on that front tomorrow.

(MARK ADDISON)

1 June 1985

PART 2 ends:-

Home Sec to LPC 31/5/85

PART 3 begins:-

MUSA to fm 1/6/85

