

SAMPLE REPORT
ON
TAILING OPERATION

The following extract from a surveillance report compiled by Probe Investigators in respect of an industrial espionage case, serves as a good example of what can be experienced during a watching operation. There are various potentially 'inconvenient' situations waiting to arise, and the ingenuity of the operatives has to be such that those problems do not affect the operation.

A private surveillance team comprising four operatives, divided between a motorcycle and a car, kept watch on an office manager of a computer firm based near J Block, Rajouri Garden. The object of the exercise was to confirm the movements of the suspect on a specific day. There was a cellular as well as radio communications link between all four operatives, who are referred to as Echo Tango one, two, three and four.

At 5am, Echo Tango 1 and 2 arrived at the subject's Rajouri Garden address and set up an observation point a short distance from the premises. Both operatives were concealed in the rear of a transit van, the remaining operatives were located out of sight of the address with a motorcycle which was to be the primary 'tailing' method throughout the day. Echo Tango 4 was to be the pillion rider, and in addition to being responsible for videoing the subject's movements she was also expected to act as a general safety observer for the driver of the motorcycle. In the event the subject took to foot, Echo Tango 4 would be expected to leave the motorcycle pillion to follow.

The observation point on this occasion was most inconvenient, in that the office was situated in a cul-de-sac. Fortunately, most of the residents in the road lived in large houses, which meant that their private motor vehicles were kept in garages. This left plenty of room for the positioning of a surveillance van (which is not always the case). Whilst this was in some respects convenient for operatives, it did in fact result in the van looking rather out of place, so much so that an elderly male walking a dog appeared to get suspicious at the sight of the vehicle. Fortunately,

his dog decided to take off after a cat and the old man was distracted from the vehicle and its occupants.

Between 5 am and 7.30 am there was very little movement at the address, apart from the delivery of milk and mail. Nothing occurred at the address until 7.40 am, when the subject left, driving a BMW vehicle which had been kept out of sight of the road in a double garage attached to the house.

Immediately on sighting the subject, Echo Tango 1 called the motorcycle team, relaying the description and registration number of the BMW. A few moments later, Echo Tango 3 confirmed that contact had been made with the subject and that they were in pursuit. For a period of twenty-five minutes the motorcycle team followed the BMW, which took them to another private address in Slough where the subject entered the house with his own key. It later transpired that this was in fact the home of his parents where he had called in for a visit.

Adhering to normal procedure, Echo Tango 3 had provided regular position reports to the transit van, which had made its way to the Slough address, arriving at approximately 8.10 am. By now, two magnetic signs advertising a building firm had been attached to the side of the vehicle. Once in place, the transit took over the job of watching the Slough address and once again the motorcycle kept out of sight.

At 9 am the subject was again on the move; by this time traffic conditions were so heavy that Echo Tango 3 was obliged to keep very close to the BMW. However, this did not create any real problem as there were a number of motorcycles on the road at the same time. The transit, guided by the motorcycle team, gradually made its way in the general direction taken by the subject of investigation, which was towards the Moolchand Flyover, Lajpat Nagar.

At 9.25 am the BMW arrived at the car park of the Lajpat Nagar House, and the driver entered the building. Echo Tango 4 left the motorcycle and, after quickly dispensing with her crash helmet and anorak, followed the subject into the reception area, where she observed him talking to a middle aged man and woman. After managing to covertly video the group, she took up a vantage point from where she could see and hear what was being discussed.

While Echo Tango 4 was maintaining watch within the reception/lounge area of the Lajpat Nagar House, the transit van was making its way to the car park, where it arrived at approximately 10.00 am. Within seconds of arriving, the builders' signs were changed in favour of florist's signs. Throughout the morning, Echo Tango 4 alternated with Echo Tango 1 and 2, and between them they managed to monitor the movements and conversations of the subject and his associates, who at 11.30 am were joined by two younger males.

At 12.30 pm, the group entered the Cavery Restaurant where they remained deep in conversation until 2.45 pm. With a little ingenuity, Echo Tango 2 and 4 managed to acquire a table adjacent to the group, from where all conversations were tape recorded.

After taking coffee in the reception area, the group dispersed and the primary Suspect walked to his BMW car where he sat talking into a cellular telephone for 15 minutes. The remainder of the group walked to a Ford Granada vehicle, the registration number of which was recorded by one of the surveillance team. This information was to play an important part in subsequent investigations.

After terminating his cellular telephone conversation, the Subject of investigation drove out of the car park, and proceeded to the town centre of Windsor, where he arrived at 4.30 pm. By now the surveillance team had been joined by an additional pair of operatives who, using a saloon car, took over from the transit van. The female pillion passenger taking to the streets to follow the Suspect on foot, while the saloon car and motorcycle waited in the area of a multi-story car park in which the BMW had been parked. For thirty minutes the female operative gave a running commentary on the movements of the BMW driver, who thereafter returned to his car and drove off towards his home in Rajouri Garden; this time the saloon car and motorcycle alternated the following between them.

Subject reached home

7 pm: There was no movement of subject.

8 pm: There was no movement

9 pm: Surveillance withdrawn

Agent XYZ

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