

## TRANSCRIPT OF MEETING

Interviewer(s): N/A

Other persons present: Andrew MITCHELL MP  
Warwickshire Federation (Warks)  
West Midlands Federation Representative (W Mids)  
West Mercia Federation Representative (W Mercia)

Tape Counter Times (◆)	Person Speaking	Text
	AM	<p>Thank you very much for coming over, this meeting was conceived about two weeks ago with Ian who asked me whether I would meet you and I said I would be very pleased that I would be sort of meeting our constituency as MP and sort of clear the air, draw a line under the episode but also talk about some of the issues that I know you are very concerned about that Ian mentioned specifically to me for the future and I have therefore, got there things that I wanted to say by way of opening if I may. The first is that I am profoundly deeply sorry about the incident that took place and I want to apologise to all of you and I apologise to the police man with whom the altercation took place in Downing Street, I did apologise and he said I was the first person to apologise to him in twenty eight years I am desperately sorry, not only because obviously the last three weeks of hell for me and my family but also because I recognise the mistake that I made, will never ever happen again. I was a member of the uniformed service myself, I was a soldier I know what the guys get up to and I am full of the profoundest respect, you are one of the best police forces in the world and I really mean that. That brings me on to the second point that I wanted to make, having sort of emphasised the apology for the panel. The second point is that I am a former shadow police minister and I've given away the awards, the police bravery awards in the house of commons and I worked with Jan BERRY and for a long time I was a shadow police minister I know about the police and I argued that you can't have a sworn constable doing the job of the PSE's</p>

		<p>so I know about the police, I have a huge respect for police. In Sutton Coldfield where the police have made us the second safest place in Britain I have an incredibly close relationship. If you talk to any of the police in Sutton Coldfield particularly the last three or four commanders up at the station they will tell you that I am a tremendous supporter and also in my old constituency over in Nottinghamshire where the police force there was quite challenged over some structural difficulties when I was there a young member of parliament in the early nineteen nineties and late eighties I worked very closely with police on issues of content so the only point I am making is for me to be caught on the wrong side of an issue like this is really atypical and my ....(refreshments discussed)</p> <p>So I am not only enormously apologetic, I am also, you know this is absolutely not me I have always defended the police. If you ask the police here in Birmingham and the police in Sutton Coldfield they will tell you that I am not like that, Andrew MITCHELL is the strongest defender of the police you could find anywhere. But the third thing I wanted to say going back to Ian's point, I know there is a bit of a political battle going on at the moment with the government and the police and I really want to help, you know this is what I have done for twenty six years. I would like to have a chance to hear from you the issues that are causing your members so much upset and irritation and annoyance at the moment and see what I can do to assist and what I was going to say which I sort of briefly discussed with Ian you know if it would be helpful for our area of the country here, I will arrange for the police minister Damien GREEN to come to a meeting with the three of you and I'll come too, others who you think should come to make the police case, so you can talk to the horses mouth as it were about the issues, and get his response and I will help convene the meeting either here or in London which ever is most convenient for you so that some of these issues that are causing such upset at the moment can be properly ventilated. So you know my hope is that this meeting can clear the air and draw a line under the regrettable events at Downing Street for which I apologise profusely. But also look at how I can help and assist perhaps in the work of the Fed that you are doing and try and make sure there is sort of not a Megaphone diplomacy, we can actually sit down and have proper dialogue about that</p>
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		so really that is my opening remarks that I wanted to make.
5.42	WARKS	First of all Mr MITCHELL lets deal with the apology which is why we convened the meeting about what happened three weeks ago.
	AM	It was convened for both
	WARKS	Yes I agree but things have come to a head recently about what was said and not said and we all accept here and the police federation and police federation nationally as I understand it, fully accept that you have apologised for whatever happened in Downing Street on that day. And the apology has been accepted and it has been accepted by the officer, but where we have the issues I am sure we all understand, is because you haven't said what you did say, by implication that suggests that the officers account is in someway inaccurate or false and obviously the officers have said what has happened they have said they made their notes as soon as they could afterwards because obviously they were concerned that a Senior Minister had said this to them and the implication that they say that you say they wouldn't hear the last of it. So really the first question we have got to ask because that is why (inaudible) and this is also why this has gone on so long is because you haven't been able to say what you actually did say and I think we would all like you to tell us what you did say.
	AM	It is a very good point and I'll tell you why I haven't done that is because the police account was filtered through a very hostile national newspaper and the police have made no complaint and my apology was accepted and that I felt should draw a line under all of this because my memory of what I did and didn't say is clear and I will not as a supporter of the police for twenty six years be put in a position of suggesting an officer is not telling the truth but equally I did not say and I give you my word, I give you my word, I did not call an officer an f'ing pleb I did not say you are an f'ing moron and I did not say you should know your f'ing place I would never speak to anyone like that least of all a police officer and you have my word I never said those things. And if I say that publicly everyone says does that mean the police are lying or the minister is lying when In fact it may not be like that. This has not come direct from a police report,

		there was no police report there was no police complaint and you get the press saying one thing, they say lots of different things and it seemed to me much better to avoid getting into all that.
08.00	WARKS	I can understand where you are coming from but in fact there was a police report they had to report it because there would have had to have been because they felt there may have been some kind of complaint
	AM	I would never complain of course
	WARKS	No I think the implication from the report is, they reported to superior, they actually put a duty report in of what they perceived happened because they thought there maybe some consequence to that.
	AM	There would not have been I can assure you of that.
	WARKS	No, It is all very well you saying that but you have got a police officer standing there thinking well.....
	AM	Yes obviously, absolutely, but part of my reason for my apology obviously is that he felt that.
	WARKS	I understand but I come back to and I make no apology for it but it is the first time to my knowledge that you have actually said to somebody other than the Prime Minister and we weren't there that publicly or privately you are saying to us that you didn't use the word pleb, moron which is what you have just said
	AM	Yes
	WARKS	You have not said that to the wider public you used these form of words that you don't accept
	AM	Because I don't want to impugn, it is quite possible that there was a mishearing or something. The incident was very brief I complied with the officer and I picked up my bicycle but I did say under my breath but audibly, in frustration, I thought you lot were supposed to f***ing help us and it is for that I apologise and I am grateful to that officer for accepting

		<p>my apology and I should never have said it and I will never do it again and I think we all of us in our lives occasionally let go and that is when I let go but I don't want to get in to a, who is lying, because of my respect for the police and the fact that this may well have got twisted in translation, the first reports that appeared in the Sun Newspaper were very different from the ones different in substance that appeared in the telegraph. The Sun's report suggests I called him a fucking moron and the telegraph didn't. I mean anyone who knows me there are people in the police in Sutton who know that at Christmas I go around and thank all the police in Sutton for the work they have done in the previous year and anyone who knows me knows I would not speak in that way. But I don't want to impugn the integrity of the police.</p>
10.44	WARKS	<p>You must understand we are in a bit of a hiatus here because Honesty and Integrity as I have said a number of times over the last couple of days, is a central tenor to the police core value and if that wasn't the case anything could happen as it should be to politicians and anybody in public life and public office and there is nothing new I can say on that in the last couple of days and to have by implication if not direct accusation to have a Senior government figure suggesting that an officers account of events is inaccurate and possibly untruthful has wider implication, not just for that incident but for the police service in general.</p>
	AM	<p>That is why I have taken all this shit, by not you know, I could have got up in the beginning and published a statement as I saw it in which case there would have been a who is lying battle that would be over by now I suspect because I did not spell it out in that way and I think that was the right thing to do because of my respect and value for the police and the fact that this might well be a genuine mistake you know that I might have been misheard but you guys, upon coming to see me and asked me to tell you what happened I give you my word that I never used those words.</p>
	WARKS	<p>Ok, we, none of us here apart from yourself were there.</p>
12.48	AM	<p>No and I am not asking you to choose between two recollections, I am asking you to draw a line so that we can get on and work together in the</p>

		future because I am one of your local MP's you're my local fed. I am ask that we draw a line now and get on with that work and there were nine cameras down there.
	WARKS	We have said today that it is time to move on , we as you know as a federation have issues with the reform of this woman that the conservative party have and sorry we are just moving on here and I don't know if Ken or Chris have anything to ask around the issue of Downing Street. Chris have you got anything?
	W MIDS	Did you make any notes about what you said?
	AM	I made a note of the exchange about two days later when I had no idea there would be this enormous shit storm so I made a note of what was said, you know the CCTV shows that it was forty seconds of exchange it was incredible short and I complied with the officer. They very generously opened the gates for me three or four times during the day so when I got to the gate and the guy said he wouldn't open them, I mean they are extremely heavy gates and these guys they are there to secure the centre of Britain really and I shouldn't have said what I said but then I gave him my absolute apology he pointed out some advice about my bicycle and I pointed out that I was the chief whip and I worked in number nine which is just above the gates so I did make a note of what I said but I remember the recollection absolutely and that is why I answered, have given you the answer now.
	WARKS	I appreciate that you have gone beyond said what you said
	AM	But I don't want to in any way impugn the police force in any way and peoples recollections can vary very quickly and if there is wind a lot of people mishear things so.
	WARKS	I appreciate that and I think we all said outside that you know, everybody can have a bad day and is entitled to lose their temper every now and again
	AM	Yes but I will never lose mine ever again

	WARKS	I would never hold it against you to never lose your temper again it is just the nature of things to lose your temper but if we are happy to move on from that claim
	W MIDS	Are you happy though that those officers made their notes up in accordance with the courts and were they to give their evidence for any reason would expect to rely on those notes in court.
	AM	I am not going to say anything to impugn the integrity of a police officer but I am giving you my word that I never used those words.
	W MIDS	Yeah but do you accept that if those notes were made up and used in court that is.....
	AM	I have no idea, you know but it is a fair question but it is not one that I would be able to answer because I don't know nor do I care to get into that.
16.00	W MIDS	The issue here is the officers made there notes immediately after events so they could refresh their memory for the standard of the court so any officer now wishing to rely on those notes, their notes in court will find it difficult to do so.
	AM	That is another reason for me spelling it out because I don't want to go down that route.
	W MIDS	But you have put every single officer in the country now in the position where they can't rely on their notes in court.
	AM	I hope that is not true but you know you have asked me to tell you what has happened I have given you my word and I have made it very clear as part of the reason why I have taken all this shit for the past three weeks, because I did not want to get into a fire fight I did not want to impugn the integrity of a police officer.
	W MIDS	I accept that

	AM	And I have tried to avoid the very situation which you are identifying.
	W MIDS	But we are in that situation
	AM	Well I hope you are not
	W MIDS	Well we are because you disagree with their account , yet there notes were made up immediately after the event where as your notes were made up two days afterwards
	AM	But my memory is absolutely clear
	W MIDS	But then you went on to say that people's recollections can vary quite quickly
	AM	Yes, but not on whether they have called somebody an F'ing pleb or moron
	W MIDS	But they have wrote that in their notes haven't they?
	AM	Of whether you say you hope somebody knows their f'ing place, I mean anyone who knows me knows that I would not use words like that and I have given my word on that and I hope that you will accept that.
	W MIDS	But that isn't in their notes
	AM	But the notes are not making any complaint you know the police are not proceeding with any complaint that is the point
	W MIDS	No, that is not the point.
	AM	So the notes are not you know needed in court
	W MIDS	No they are not, but if those notes were needed in court those officers won't be able to rely on those notes and that is the point.
	AM	Yes well I am sure that is true, you take my point

	W MIDS	I understand what you say that you didn't say that. But it feels to me there is an untruth still and I know you don't wish to impugn those officers but if they have put those words in their notes and they wish to rely on that as their original, as the notes that they would use to refresh their memory in evidence, The court would expect that to be true and accurate.
	AM	Well I can't explain that, you know I just ask you to accept what I have said which is true and I have given my word on that
	W MIDS	In that case then how did the officers manage to get it so wrong in their notes?
	AM	Well I don't know that any one has seen these notes have they?
	W MIDS	They were published In the Telegraph
19.25	AM	Yeah but how can they know the notes are correct. How do you know the police gave the notes to the Telegraph?
	W MIDS	Well I don't know how, but nobody has come out and said they aren't their notes, nobody has questioned that, nobody has said. I would expect those officers to come out and say no they are not mine
	AM	Ok well I can't answer that because they weren't my notes but I hope you will feel that I have given you a truthful account which is what you asked for and what you deserve coming here today and that you will feel we can draw a line under this no and move on.
	W MIDS	We have got bad apples have we got bad apples in our barrel
	AM	I am not comfortable to comment on that I wouldn't
	W MIDS	It doesn't feel right that the officers have attributed those words to you if that's not true.
	W MIDS	They don't wish to have a misconduct hearing in the Met. We would want

		a misconduct investigation now, because that is a false document
	AM	Well there is an enquiry isn't there.
	W MIDS	On what happened
	AM	On how the notes got....
	WARKS	Yes there is an enquiry into that but not about what happened. I get where Chris is coming from and I hear what you say and I am reluctant to suggest that your memory may be incorrect because both memories may not be quite accurate but I do struggle to accept that if the officer's notes are as reported in the Telegraph how they can get it so wrong. I understand peoples recollection and the wind and lowered voices you said you said something under your breathe
	AM	No that is not in contention
	WARKS	All I am saying is that I can understand certain parts being, getting the wrong way around getting words wrong but to get so much fundamentally wrong I mean it is almost like it is a complete falsification
22.10	AM	Well this is why I did not want to get into this because I think I would be impugning the integrity of a police officer, I get letters and emails from people saying perhaps you called them plod and they misheard but I didn't call them plod either, offering a way out, but there is no way out because as I say you have my word I never used the term Pleb I never used the term moron, or fucking moron I never said you should I know your f'ing place.
	W MIDS	But never the less you are content now to have officers remain in situ if they got it so wrong and these are officers guarding senior members of our Parliament.
	AM	The Prime Minister indeed. That is not for me to deal with, I know what I said and I have been very keen not to escalate this and not to have a fire fight with the police. You asked me in good faith what I said and I told

		you.
	W MIDS	Yes and I have heard what you have said but the issue remains that if those notes have been reported not accurately and those were the notes
	AM	If they were
	W MIDS	If they were the notes made then there are blatant lies in those notes and you are quite happy to accept that.
	AM	I am trying to avoid getting into any of that.
	W MIDS	You might be trying to avoid it but you are quite happy to accept that. It feels to me that you are quite happy to accept that and I don't think the man in the street would be happy to accept that
	AM	Can I say that the point I am making is that I am trying not to escalate it and I why I have not been explicit publicly is to try not to have a fire fight with the police and impugn the service of the police I have mentioned to you that for twenty six years I have worked closely with the police I have been in the uniformed service myself, the last thing I would want to do is go down that route but I was very shocked when those words appeared because I never used them
	W MIDS	And you give me your word you that you never said that.
24.47	AM	I give you my word
	W MIDS	I find it strange then that you say you don't want to impugn the person that you don't want to take it any further because in effect they are calling you a liar.
	AM	I think we should try not to call people liars
	W MIDS	But there is a big discrepancy between the two accounts now.
	AM	Well that is true but I think there has been no police complaints I have

		apologised and that has been accepted and I think we should move on.
	W MIDS	There has been no police complaint because pressure was put on the top brass.
25.08	AM	I very much doubt it, I very much doubt it but you know the top police senior police better than I do. It was a long time ago that I was the shadow police minister it was 2005
	W MIDS	The integrity of the police is at the core of the service that has to be preserved. The public have to be able to believe police officers and if we have got bad apples in our barrel surely we should be doing something about that.
	AM	Well the police enquiry about how these notes reached the media that's not an issue how it reached the media
	W MIDS	That is another issue how they reached the media and that is maybe a misconduct offence itself
	AM	Or not at all the media may have come out and invented that.
	W MIDS	But has anyone come out and said that? Somebody should be shouting from the roof tops that that isn't their notes, that that is a falsification.
	WARKS	I would expect that the Metropolitan police if the notes as reported in the telegraph would have come out with a statement saying we are in possession of the notes, because they are our officers notes and the notes that were reported in the press were not as powerful as those written down and I would expect that to be done because it needs to be. Especially the way it has gone on, it has gone on and on you would expect that if they weren't accurate the police would be stepping up and saying hang on a second the press are inaccurately reporting our officer's notes.
	AM	As I said there was no complaint and my apology was accepted and I think that was something that bought a degree of closure to it I think that

		is the answer to that question.
	W MIDS	I think you apologised for your behaviour in general and the fact that it had fallen below the standard that you require yourself and someone in your position.
	AM	I did apologise profusely with feeling for what I did say it fell well below the rights they have to expect and the standards of a cabinet minister and I reiterate that apology to you
	W MIDS	But whatever turn we take we always come back to the point that the notes differ significantly from your account and you have given your word that what you say is true.
	AM	But that has been the case from the beginning that there was a discrepancy in the account
	W MIDS	Yeah, and what I am having difficulty, sorry carry on
	AM	Yes and that is why I think we should draw a line under it, because there has been no complaint from the police and I have apologised.
	W MIDS	Yes but I am struggling now, that you are content for those notes to be inaccurate and on record
	AM	Well they haven't been used in court
	W MIDS	No but they are on record and
28.34	AM	Well they are not really they have appeared in the tabloid media it is not a formal record.
	W MIDS	It is in the public domain now and nobody has challenged the accuracy of that except for you.
	AM	I have been very clear throughout

	WARKS	We are where we are, yes it may not have gone to court it may not be used in any complaint but if an officer has written those words in his pocket notebook or in a report and they are false then that is actually a very serious misconduct issue for a police officer it is a complete breach of police regulations so it is not just like we can shove it under the carpet
	AM	Not under the carpet but it is not an issue except for this escalation because there was no police complaint and it followed on my apology so for myself I wouldn't endow it with that significance.
	WARKS	But their integrity is no longer intact
	AM	Well it is because for three weeks I have not escalated this I am trying because the apology has been accepted I feel we should draw a line under this.
	W MIDS	But I feel really uncomfortable now knowing we have got officers who are prepared to lie on paper to a court.
	AM	It is not, they have not made a statement in court, this is Chinese whispers in the press
	W MIDS	They have committed to paper in a formal record which is held on record within the Metropolitan police an account of events which is blatantly untrue. They have put words in your mouth that are untrue.
	AM	If the log book genuinely says what is, or has been in the press
	W MIDS	But you are not shouting from the rooftops that you want that investigated
	AM	No I am not but that is the point, I have made it clear I am trying to deescalate this and not have a great massive row over who is lying and who is not because it seems to me that is not in the interest of the police and it is not in my interest.
	W MIDS	That is absolutely in the interest of the police.

	AM	No, because there wasn't a complaint and I have apologised and this is not a matter that has gone further
	W MIDS	So what happens next time then if those officers are involved in an incident and it is a matter that does go to court and they go to court and lie in their statements on that occasion
31.05	AM	Well that is a hypothetical question
	W MIDS	But how do we trust these officers in the future to tell the truth
	AM	That is a hypothetical question
	W MIDS	We do need to be able to trust these officers don't we?
	AM	Well that is a matter for the Met really and it is a matter for this police report, this enquiry which has been set up and you know we will see what comes out of that. Is it worth just spending a moment on the second and third part of what I said?
31.32	WARKS	We can
	AM	Let's deal with this now.
	WARKS	We are stuck between a rock and a hard place really because we are stuck. Either we fully accept and take your word which is what you were saying, and you have asked me to do that and we have to accept that is not true which means that we are accepting that because of what and I know you are saying no complaint has been made but from a police perspective, an internal police perspective and senior Officers perspective and the core values of the service, it matters not whether, the fact that if an officer, if what you are saying is true, and has committed to paper a falsehood and that falsehood is basically, and I am not being funny but the account as it is, could actually form an offence under the public order act, as a criminal offence if they have falsified an account that forms a criminal offence, that is a criminal offence in itself and is called perverting the course of justice which is imprisonable by life

		because it is a common law offence it has absolutely and massively serious implications and is most certainly a misconduct and this is where as a police servant and police officers it might be easy for someone who is not in the police service to say well its ok sort of thing, but for a sworn officer who has sworn attesting officer who has sworn to be truthful and is required to be a hundred percent truthful and not only are you subject to a discipline code under Police regulations but obviously you are subject to the criminal law if you are falsifying an account which could be a criminal offence and perverting the course of justice that is very, very. I can't even emphasise enough how serious
	W MIDS	By virtue that is a common law offence and anybody within your own ranks will tell you how serious that is.
	AM	You know I just want to illustrate one last time that I give you my word I never used those words I never called an officer a fucking pled, I never called an officer a fucking moron, I never said you should know your fucking place and I give you my word on that and secondly that I am conscious of the fact that there was no police compliant and I apologised for my misconduct in using the words I did use and
	W MIDS	I accept that you have apologised and you have given this apology and it was accepted that should be the end of that aspect of it because you have done the decent thing there and I respect that.
	AM	Thank you
34.52	WARKS	The only way that we can over come this difficulty really is to confirm
	W MIDS	It should be a misconduct investigation
	WARKS	Is to confirm sorry if what was reported in the Telegraph was accurate as to what the officer has written down
	AM	Yeah
	WARKS	If I was investigating something now, and we were there then my next

		line of enquiry would be, because you have said they are inaccurate then we would go and get the original notes, we'd get the Met officers original notes and compare what was written down in the Telegraph and other newspapers
	AM	I am not seeking to do that
	WARKS	I know you are not seeking to do that.
	AM	And I am very keen as you can imagine after the last few weeks to draw a line under this and I hope that is how you feel that is the right thing to do and I have said what I want to say on that and I have told you the truth and I want to draw a line under it.
	W MIDS	Well I have some difficulty with that because those officers now have to be interviewed under caution
	WARKS	Well we have definitely reached an impasse as to the main reason for the meeting
	AM	Well the main reason for the meeting with respect was to draw a line under this incident and talk about the issues and concerns that is what Ian asked for
	WARKS	There is nothing we would like to do more than to draw a line under it but as Chris has said we are now put in a position as Police Officers under our Code. Having spoken to you under our code of conduct we should report this to the Met and say as far as you are concerned we are in possession of information now.
	AM	What I have said has been in the press
	WARKS	What you have said to us is that the words you said you do not attribute, which is a lot different to you saying in my eyes what I said is different
37.56	AM	No it is the first time you heard me say it, in the reporting it is always clear that I have made it clear that I never used those words and in particular pleb and moron so I have not said anything new today but I

		have done you, because you are the leaders of the Fed in your three areas, the fair thing which is look you in the eye and tell you the truth there is nothing new or different I have said today there is no point in rehashing but I have said very little which is new today, I mean there is little point re hashing it but I have explained why I took the view, and it is frustrating.
	WARKS	I understand where you are coming from absolutely I understand that you are saying what you said now, but it leaves us in a very difficult position.
	AM	Well I hope you feel you can say to the nine cameras or what ever it is outside that between us we have drawn a line under this point and I hope also that we can have a few minutes at least on the issues of greater importance.
39.04	W MIDS	I don't think it is possible to draw a line under it because now we know, and I have said before there are bad apples in the barrel and that effects the integrity of every single police officer in the service and that really does need to be looked at now because we can't have officers going to court and not being believed.
	AM	But they haven't gone to court
	W MIDS	They haven't but by virtue of the fact that we have a document where we suspect that there are falsehoods committed to paper
	WARKS	We are required under our code of conduct now that we have information that officers have possibly recorded things inaccurately and false to be reported back to the Met's own professional standards well our own Professional Standards we have got no choice in that because we are in possession of that and our code of conduct which is laid down by.....
	AM	I think the Met are in possession of that and they know what I have said
	WARKS	All I'll say at this point I have no choice, my code of conduct to the police is that we have to without exception report the fact that another officer is

		possibly corrupt. And when I say corrupt I mean he falsified a document and you know tell me if I am wrong as well but as a Sergeant I am not wrong.
	W MIDS	Ditto
	AM	Well you have to do what you think is right and proper
	W MIDS	Ok Well I think yeah enough said then this issue needs to be sorted and put to bed and we can't do that at the moment (inaudible) some other time but this is a burning issue I feel uncomfortable about now
41.35	AM	Well I am sorry if you feel that we can't move on because that was the purpose of the meeting, I have done what you asked me
	WARKS	I appreciate you coming
	AM	I have given you a very, very clear
	WARKS	I appreciate your candour, and we appreciate you have gone beyond what you said in, to the media
	AM	Well I haven't gone beyond
	WARKS	Well I think you've actually said what you haven't said, what you have said rather than what the police are saying
	AM	I did confirm what I have said to the media before
	WARKS	There is nothing more that I'd like to talk to you about the other matters but we are at an impasse and it is not an impasse of our own making
	AM	What do you mean by that?
	WARKS	Because other officers have made a false statement it is not of our making and we are bound by our own code of conduct as professional police officers because otherwise we would be conducting misconduct

		offences as well
	W MIDS	We are in possession of the knowledge
	WARKS	Yes. It's one of those situations where a police officer's lot is not a happy one because we haven't got the position of other citizens
	AM	With respect I haven't told you anything I haven't said before I hadn't said to you
	WARKS	That is the difference
	AM	Well you have come to see me and asked me to come and explain to you and I have given a truthful answer
	WARKS	And I appreciate that you agreed to meet and we appreciate your apology and we accept that you apologised absolutely but what we can't get past unfortunately is to use the political expression we may have bad apples which now we have to address
	AM	Well I hope at some point if you wish to take me up on my offer
	WARKS	It would be good
	WARKS	But we need to get the issues sorted out internally perhaps in the meantime
	AM	(inaudible) you and I talked about it and (inaudible)
	W MIDS	We had and it would have been good to make a joint statement but I think
	AM	I don't know how we could do that though
	W MIDS	No I was hoping that we wouldn't have discovered people perhaps in our ranks that are untruthful
	AM	But how could we have done that though, it would have required me to

		say
	W MIDS	I had my fingers crossed very tightly behind my back hoping and wishing that there would be a bona fide explanation for this. In our world it does happen but here are two sides to every coin and it is always good to hear the other persons account and then the world becomes a clearer place and you see the world through someone else's eyes.
	AM	Well I have been absolutely clear with you and absolutely categoric and I obviously ask you to accept my word, given to you today, looking at you in the eye telling you what I didn't say
	WARKS	Ok thank you very much
	AM	(inaudible)
45.00		Tape ends