

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL – POLICE

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE POLICE (MDP)

NEWS BRIEF

DATE: Tuesday 4 December 2012 [Updated 23 & 28 August 2013; 27 Sept 2013; 19 November 2013; 25 June 2014]

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

BACKGROUND [REDACTED]

On 16 February 2012, MDP CID arrested a serving member of the Royal Marines [REDACTED] at Deepcut Barracks in Surrey, on suspicion of money laundering. The matter related to his role as a quartermaster at RM Poole at the relevant time (2007). It was alleged that the owners of a storage company made payments to him in return for his awarding their business MOD contracts outwith the usual MOD enabling arrangements

He was taken to a Surrey police station for questioning before being released on police bail pending further enquiries. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He answered bail in Portsmouth on 29 January 2013.

On 30 May 2012, MDP CID arrested a second suspect, a 31-year-old Corporal in the Royal Marines [REDACTED] in connection with this inquiry. He was interviewed at Bournemouth Police Station and was bailed until 30 January 2013. On 27 September 2012 a further search under warrant was carried out at a commercial premises in Poole. [REDACTED] was subsequently arrested [REDACTED] and taken to Portsmouth Central Police Station for interview. [REDACTED] answered bail on 16 January 2013. Two further civilian suspects - the manager of the company searched in September, and his wife - were arrested on 18 October 2012 on suspicion of corruption. They were interviewed at Bournemouth Police Station and bailed until 27 March 2013.

On 2 August 2013, [REDACTED] together with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of Poole in Dorset [REDACTED] were jointly charged with seven counts of corruption. [The approval of the Attorney General was required before corruption charges could proceed]. [REDACTED] was also charged with one count of money laundering. The charges relate to payments which are alleged to have been made to [REDACTED] k by a private company run by [REDACTED] in return for MOD storage contracts.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], also still serving, was charged arising from the same investigation, with possession of a prohibited firearm found at his home during the police searches.

All four appeared at Portsmouth Magistrates Court on Friday 23 August 2013, and then on 16 September 2013 at Portsmouth Crown Court for trial. Proceedings were adjourned and the accused were remanded on unconditional bail to appear at the Court on 18 November 2013 (only a Plea and Case Management hearing – trial will not be resumed on that date).

Update: [REDACTED] pleaded guilty to the firearms charge and was sentenced on 15 November 2013 to 12 months imprisonment, suspended for 12 months.

Update: The main trial will resume at Portsmouth Crown Court on 7th July 2014.

Lines to Take:

- On 2 August 2013, [REDACTED] a serving member of the Armed Forces, together with [REDACTED], were jointly charged with seven counts of corruption following an MDP criminal investigation. [REDACTED] was also charged with one count of money laundering.
- The charges relate to payments which are alleged to have been made to [REDACTED] by a private company in return for MOD storage contracts.
- [REDACTED] also a serving member of the Armed Forces, was charged arising from the same investigation, with possession of a prohibited firearm.
- All four appeared at Portsmouth Magistrates Court on Friday 23 August 2013, and then on 16 September 2013 at Portsmouth Crown Court for trial. Proceedings were adjourned on 18 November 2013. The trial resumes on 7th July 2014.
- [REDACTED] pleaded guilty to possession of a prohibited firearm and was sentenced on 15 November 2013 to 12 months imprisonment, suspended for 12 months.

O&A

Q. Why is the MOD Police carrying out this investigation?

A. The MDP have a responsibility for the policing of the Defence Estate and this investigation falls within its remit.