

TO: CITY MANAGER

**1997 JANUARY 02
96-65957, X-ref BP 600**

**FROM: OFFICER IN CHARGE
BURNABY DETACHMENT RCMP**

**SUBJECT: EDMONDS APPLIANCE CENTRE
- COMPLAINT OF BREAK AND ENTER
BURNABY, B.C. - 96 NOV 08
BURNABY FILE 96-65957**

**PURPOSE: TO REPLY TO A LETTER, DATED NOVEMBER 18, 1996, WRITTEN
TO BURNABY CITY COUNCIL FROM MR. BARRY GUNN.**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT Council receive the attached report for information purposes.
2. THAT a copy of this report and Council's resolution be forwarded to Mr. Barry Gunn, President, Edmonds Appliance Centre, 7788 Edmonds Street, Burnaby, B.C. V3N 1B8.

REPORT

This is to advise that Corporal ARMSTRONG was the north side supervisor on the date in question and has first hand knowledge of the file. The delay in attendance was due to Cst. PETTIT, acting on Corporal ARMSTRONG's instructions, to not attend immediately.

The night shift commenced on 1996 November 06 with Corporal ARMSTRONG, Constables PETTIT, AHMED, HUMENY AND GRONDIN on shift. On 1996 November 07, at 02:19 hours, dispatch advised of an alarm at 7956 Winston, Edmonds Appliance Centre. Corporal ARMSTRONG was within two minutes of the scene and attended, along with Cst. GRONDIN. Cst. PETTIT arrived approximately two minutes later at 02:23 hours. The premise was found to be secure and the alarm was false (file 96-65740).

Approximately twenty minutes after they cleared from this alarm, the members became involved in a double fatal motor vehicle accident on Hastings Street (file 96-65742). This tied up all the north side members until well past the end of their shift.

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On Thursday, 1996 November 07, the night shift commenced with the following members north side: Corporal ARMSTRONG and Constables PETTIT, GRONDIN, AHMED, and HUMENY. This shift was very busy for north side members. At approximately 21:20 hours they became involved in a call of a female possibly being held against her will in an apartment. It was being alleged that she had a gun held to her head (file 96-65922). This file was successfully dealt with and the members cleared the scene at approximately 23:00 hours. The members continued to attend other calls and dealt with additional matters once they had cleared.

After receiving information, it became apparent to Corporal ARMSTRONG that a debriefing was needed to deal with both the motor vehicle accident of the previous night and the gun call earlier that shift.

As a result, at 02:40 hours, Constables PETTIT, HUMENY, AHMED, GRONDIN and Corporal ARMSTRONG met for a debriefing. At the onset of the debriefing an alarm came in from Edmonds Appliance Centre. Cst. PETTIT was assigned to the file and was preparing to leave. She was instructed by Corporal ARMSTRONG to delay in going to the alarm.


The reasons for delaying Cst. PETTIT's attendance to the alarm are as follows:

1. With the information that had been received, it was critical that a debriefing be done in regard to the activities of the two night shifts with respect to the accident and the gun call. This had to be done prior to the end of shift.
2. It was a very busy shift and this was the first opportunity for the members to have the debriefing. It was anticipated that the night would continue to be busy and as a result, it was felt if the debriefing did not take place at that time, there would be a lengthy delay. Under the circumstances, that would not have been appropriate.
3. The call of the alarm at Edmonds Appliance Centre had gone off approximately 24 hours earlier and had been false. The member was also aware there had been previous false alarms at that business.

Due to the nature of the two calls being debriefed, it took approximately 35 minutes to complete the debriefing. No priority calls occurred during this time. Cst. PETTIT attended Edmonds Appliance Centre as soon as the debriefing was over.

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A PIRS check was done December 15, 1996 on Edmonds Appliance Centre for 1996. This business had nine false alarms to that date, with four of them being at the Winston Street address where the break and enter occurred. The last false alarm came in 1996 November 11, three days after our attendance on the break and enter.



**R. W. Fenske, Superintendent
Officer in Charge
Burnaby Detachment RCMP**

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