

RICHARD MONK CMG OBE QPM BA Hon DCL

Richard Monk's entire career was spent as a police officer in this country and latterly abroad. Eventually appointed by the Home Secretary to be a member of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary, he carried out assignments abroad on behalf of HM Government, before undertaking permanent overseas' roles beginning with his appointment by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, to be the Head of the UN International Police Task Force in post-conflict Bosnia between 1998 – 99. He ended his international career as UN Police Commissioner in Kosovo in the turbulent year preceding Kosovo's declaration of Independence in 2007. Uniquely, in this latter post, he held full executive policing powers as head of the 9,000 Kosovo Police as well as the 2,400 member, UN International Police Task Force. Between these two periods, he was a member of the high level UN Secretary General's Panel on Peace Operations, which reviewed the criticisms and failures of past peacekeeping operations, (the Brahimi Report) and in 2001, was seconded by the British government to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and to Belgrade immediately after the 74-day NATO bombing, to single-handedly carry out a 'Study of Policing in Yugoslavia' the Report of which formed the basis of future international policing assistance to the states of the, then, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Between 2002-6, he served as the first Director and Senior Police Adviser to the Secretary General of the OSCE, founding a team of experts responsible for police capacity- and institution-building in the post-Soviet countries of Central Asia and the Southern Caucasus.

Between 1977 and 1980, having won a Home Office scholarship, he came to Chad's College as a mature student to read politics and became President of the Mature Students Union. As a police Superintendent, he attended the three-month FBI National Academy course at Quantico in Virginia, and on return to the UK became the head of Brixton Police in London, building relationships with church leaders and the hitherto highly critical leader of Lambeth Council, which were sufficiently effective in reducing hostility towards the police following the riots of 1981 and 1985 and bringing a measure of calm to the area sufficient to attract personal visits by Home Secretary Douglas Hurd and a full day visit by Prince Charles and Princess Diana. As a Commander at New Scotland Yard he had responsibility for Branches dealing with Crime, Community Affairs and Crime Prevention and for associated crime investigation and detection issues throughout London. Shocked by the amount of child pornography being uncovered by police, he created the first Paedophile Squad in the UK, sending detectives to the Gracewell Clinic, the first residential clinic for offenders in the country, to talk to serial offenders in order to learn how they targeted and groomed their victims and thereby to better uncover, find and prosecute other offenders. In 1990, he went public with a speech about the extent of child abuse discovered in this country and the need for greater intervention by clinicians to interrupt the distorted thinking of offenders which, reported on the front pages of every national newspaper, proved to be a watershed in the open discussion of the subject, especially by victims. He became a founder member of the Lucy Faithfull Foundation which to this day is the only national agency protecting children from sexual abuse.

Before joining HM Inspectorate, Mr. Monk held the position of Assistant Chief Constable (Crime) for the Devon and Cornwall Constabulary (1991-1994) formalising cooperation between the Heads of Health, Education, Social Services, Probation and Police agencies within the two counties, and which became the forerunner of the government's Area Crime Liaison Committees initiative set up in response to the Strangeways Prison riots.

His ideas, leadership, practitioner, and political skills in some of the most challenging roles reforming and developing civilian police forces in countries ravaged by war or governed by oppressive and corrupt regimes, provided him with a status and reputation as much amongst civil society and human rights groups as the security and peacekeeping elements with the UN, OSCE and the EU.

He is a Principal Founder Member of the City of London Worshipful Company of Security Professionals and remains a member of the Company's Court of Assistants. He holds an honours degree in politics and an honorary Doctorate of Civil Laws from the University of Durham and is a member of the Senior Common Room of St. Chad's College. He is also an honourable Professor of the National Police Academy of Kyrgyzstan at which the Crime Science Centre is named after him. His awards include the Queen's Police Medal (1995) the United Nations Medal (Bosnia) (1998) and the United Nations Medal (Kosovo) 2007. He was awarded a Queen's Police Medal in 1996 and an OBE by the Queen in 2000 in recognition of his work advising the Ministry of Defence on the arrest of persons indicted for war crimes, as Inspector of the UK Sovereign Base Area in Cyprus, and as Police Commissioner of the UN international Police Task Force in Bosnia. In 2009 he was appointed by the Queen to be a Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George (CMG).
