



BAILIWICK OF GUERNSEY LAW ENFORCEMENT

Working together to make the Bailiwick safe and secure
Nous travail ensemble pour protéger et sauvegarder le Baillage

MEDIA STATEMENT

18/10/18

Statement from Guernsey Police Chief Officer Patrick Rice:

'As stated previously, this was always going to be a lengthy and complex investigation. The nature of the remains found in a burnt out car in January led us to request specialist forensic examinations that could only be completed by experts off-island. There are very few of these specialists and they are stationed in different jurisdictions, which means we were very much in their hands in terms of timings. However, we requested this specialist forensic support to ensure we explore every legitimate avenue to help try and establish cause of death. I am unable to provide details of those findings at this stage, as the work is linked to other ongoing enquiries. However, I will be able to share more details with the community in due course once all lines of enquiry are complete.

'While I am conscious of the desire for more information, from Mr Alps' loved ones, who we remain in regular contact with, the media and the community, it is common for investigations of this complexity to take a significant amount of time. We are seeking to bring the various experts who have supported our investigation together, to examine and discuss all forensic findings. This will help ensure clarity. While we are again reliant on coordinating diaries for experts who are very busy, we are in the latter stages of our investigation and I will provide the community with more detailed information about our enquiries and findings as soon as possible.

'I would again repeat the facts that I am able to confirm at this stage. The investigation has so far established that the remains found in the vehicle in January were that of Mikus Alps. A handwriting expert confirmed that a letter handed into police, which was sombre and reflective in content, was written by Mr Alps. The remains of a shotgun were also found in the car next to the remains of Mr Alps. Mr Alps was a supporter of a pro-Ukrainian movement and had visited the country. We are aware that Mr Alps' Facebook account has been active since his remains were found; it is not uncommon for people to share their social media log-in details with others.

'Based on what we have established so far, there is no evidence linking Mr Alps' activity in Ukraine with his remains being found in a burnt-out car in Guernsey.'

ENDS