

6. Contd

The court room at the Maze is relatively small, with only sufficient sitting room for approximately 6 members of the public. On Wednesday 19 November 1997 there were approximately 12 members of the Hamill family and friends present in the Court. Diane Hamill was heard to pass comments to the accused in the witness box, and one other member of the Hamill party also passed comment to a defence solicitor regarding the proceedings. Three additional police officers were brought into the court as a precaution to prevent possible disorder. In keeping with current practice two police officers also accompanied each of the three defendants, all of whom were together in the dock. Consequently a total of 9 uniformed police officers were present in the restricted confines of the court.

7. Video Evidence

No video evidence is available and Police are unaware of the source of this alleged information.

As outlined above the investigations into the murder of Robert Hamill and the complaints against police are ongoing. I am sure you will therefore understand, why it would not be appropriate to comment publicly on any of the information given.

I hope this will be helpful as background information and if I can be of further assistance do not hesitate to contact me.



R FLANAGAN
Chief Constable

The Rt Hon Dr M Mowlam MP
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

