



Com Sec 97/195/23.
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SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR
NORTHERN IRELAND

Ronnie Flanagan Esq OBE
Chief Constable
RUC Headquarters
Brooklyn
Knock Road
BELFAST
BT5 6LE

28 November 1997

Dear Ronnie,

**MEETING WITH ROBERT HAMILL'S FAMILY - MONDAY 24
NOVEMBER 1997**

I met with Diane Hamill, together with three of her sisters, [REDACTED] from the Committee on the Administration of Justice, and Father [REDACTED] at Diane Hamill's request to receive a 20,000 signature petition calling for an independent inquiry into the death of their brother in May this year. The petition also called for the suspension of four police officers who allegedly failed to intervene to stop the murder.

Briefly, the background is that Diane Hamill wrote to me in August requesting a meeting. I agreed, as they were raising issues about the system for investigation but explained that I could not comment on the investigations into the death or the complaint themselves. Having arranged to see me on 24 November, Diane Hamill sent me a letter on Friday 21 November listing a number of points. This became the focus of the meeting, but the delegation also raised a few additional points. I explained to them that I could not comment on their detailed questions because they either fell to you or to the Attorney General. I also sought, on more than one occasion, to get the family to encourage their relatives and friends to co-operate with the processes that exist for investigating the murder and the complaint against