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STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF FATHER SEAN DOOLEY

DATED THIS 28 DAY OF June 2006

1. I, FATHER SEAN DOOLEY, of an address known to the Robert Hamill Inquiry, declare that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that if it is tendered in evidence at the Inquiry I will be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.
2. Between September 1992 and September 2000, I was attached to the Parish of Drumree in Portadown.
3. Portadown had become a horrendous place to live around 1996 and 1997 because it practically became a stronghold for militant Protestantism and for Orange people in particular. The centre of the town, Market Street, High Street, around there is practically a no-go area for the Catholic people from the Garvaghy Road area. They would have been chased out and there would have been fights and violence.
4. On 11 May 1997, I received an anonymous telephone call about the Robert Hamill murder. I think the caller phoned earlier while I was out and asked for me by name. On this occasion, I answered the phone. To get a call like that around 9 o'clock in the evening was most unexpected. I wasn't sure of the identity of the person, whom I may have encountered in my duties, or if it was somebody just trying to cause trouble because Portadown was in such a situation at the time that this could have been somebody from a militant wing of the Nationalist community trying to stir up trouble maybe trying to get me to pass on information for them. I still don't know who made the call but I assumed it was a policeman because of the amount of information he had. He said that there were four officers in the Land Rover and that they were sleeping, they had been on duty since 4.00 pm and were on overtime but didn't want to be there.

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