

he said that I realised we might be dealing with a serious assault rather than a normal Saturday night brawl.

21. I phoned Detective Constable Keys immediately. He was the CID call-out officer. I asked him to go to Portadown police station as there had been an assault which might be life threatening. I then suggested that he go to the scene to co-ordinate the early stages of the investigation in consultation with me and to establish where the scene was.
22. I can see from my notebook entry [Page 9960] that I gave a number of instructions that morning in respect of the incident. I spoke to Constable Cooke, who had the best local knowledge, and asked him to consult with the other section officers who had been at the scene. In particular, I wanted them to draw up a list of persons identified at the scene to assist in the investigation. It was very obviously implicit that it needed to be done quickly and I have a recollection that Constable Cooke then started to do that in the communications room. However, I had every confidence that Constable Cooke would supply that list to Detective Constable Keys to support the investigation.
23. I then directed Constable Cooke and Constable Orr to go to Craigavon hospital to get the clothing of the injured men for forensic examination.
24. I directed all officers on duty that night who had attended the scene to make formal statements. I cannot remember if that direction was given before or after Detective Constable Keys' arrival but I emphasised to them that I wanted statements to be completed before any officer terminated duty. The Land Rover crew had already terminated duty so I ordered them to report back to the station to make their statements as I wanted to ensure nothing would be lost in terms of the individual officers' evidence, and around the initial actions at the scene. I also briefed Chief Superintendent McCreesh, Chief Inspector McMullan and Superintendent [REDACTED] about the incident.
25. The police press office issued a press release [Page 15066 -15067] in the early hours, which was based on information we had at that time and authorised by