sometimes to be without one for trial. Given the state of affairs at that stage, an opinion by November for an incident that occurred in May would actually have been quite quick.

27. In the absence of the pathology report, I made it absolutely clear that I would not be content advising on a joint enterprise case without an opinion as to the cause of the injury. In December 1997, following the receipt of the pathology report, I advised murder charges against Marc Hobson. A note to this effect is produced and shown to me containing the page number **17631**.

28. My recollection is vague in relation to the forensics report of a blood spot from Stacey Bridgett on Robert Hamill's jeans. I would be surprised if I did not speak directly to Lawrence Marshall, or have the situation clarified for me. I do not know whether this evidence was ever put to Stacey Bridgett but I would have expected the police to have questioned him on it. Again, forensic science was under tremendous pressure at the time. It was not unusual for us not to have a full forensics report until over a year and a half after an event.

29. I have been asked why Stacey Bridgett was never asked for an explanation as to why his blood had landed on the trousers. All I can say is that this would have been a matter for the police. One would normally anticipate that it would be a piece of evidence he would be asked about.

30. A letter, dated 20 May 1999, produced and shown to me containing the page number **19388,** covering the disclosure of transcripts of evidence was used to form a further opinion on 1 July 1999. That opinion contains page numbers **37752 to 37762** and relates to the allegations against the police in the Land Rover. I had no involvement with the RUC in this aspect of the Robert Hamill investigation.

31. I have some recollection of perhaps consulting with Mr McDowell, the forensic scientist who did a mock up of the position of the Land Rovers. Mr McDowell gave