

proactive arrests, the briefings of Bronze Commanders, Mobile Support Units & Criminal Investigation Department personnel on the strategies and responsibilities of crime investigation. This represented a major work commitment for me which commenced from before the Robert Hamill Murder Investigation and continued with ongoing investigation for months following.

In 1996 the Drumcree Parade had marched through the Garvaghy Estate following a standoff. A taxi driver, namely a [REDACTED] had been brutally murdered by Loyalist terrorists close to Lurgan. This murder was closely linked to the Drumcree issue. In 1997 the Drumcree Parade again completed its march through the Garvaghy Road. There was always destruction and public disorder associated with the yearly Drumcree parades. The majority of criminal activities associated with the Drumcree parade in Portadown was investigated by Portadown Criminal Investigation Department and a small uniform support team.

Examples of Drumcree 1997 related crimes (which I supervised and managed) are as follows:-

6th July 1997 Hijacking and Arson of vehicle at Garvaghy Road, Portadown. (Vehicle parked into middle of road and burnt).

6th July 1997 Car hijacked by a number of youths at Garvaghy Road, Portadown.

6th July 1997 Ford Sierra hijacked and burnt, Portadown.

7th July 1997 Van hijacked and burnt at Garvaghy Road, Portadown.

7th July 1997 Van hijacked, 6-8 youths pulled driver from vehicle, Obins Street, Portadown.

7th July 1997 Petrol bombing, Garvaghy Road, Portadown.

7th July 1997 Garage burnt by hostile crowd, Ashgrove Road, Portadown.

7th July 1997 Vacant house petrol bombed, Churchhill Park, Portadown.

8th July 1997 Ford Fiesta hijacked from house, Ballyoran Park, Portadown.

8th July 1997 Petrol bombing, Garvaghy Road, Portadown.

8th July 1997 Attempted Murder – Police Mobile Support personnel fired upon whilst performing riot duties at Garvaghy Road. One Police Officer received 3 gunshot wounds to right arm.