

9. Later that morning I spoke with Mr [REDACTED], Consultant at Craigavon Area Hospital. He informed me that D had been discharged and that Robert Hamill had been transferred to the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast. I visited the Royal Victoria Hospital and I recall speaking to a female member of staff in the Intensive Care Unit. I was told by this person that Robert Hamill was not in any danger of dying. I kept in touch with the hospital, most probably on a daily basis, enquiring about Robert's condition. At one point I was informed that he had been transferred from the Intensive Care Unit to a general ward. I believed that his condition had improved. I did not anticipate that there would be a murder investigation because of what I was told.
10. DC Keys had asked for some assistance; I asked him to call in Detective Constable McDowell. DC McDowell commenced eliciting information from the statements as to what happened and who was there. When I came back into the station from visiting the hospital and dealing with the other two incidents it was well into the afternoon. D, E, and F were in the office giving statements.
11. I commenced reading the statements. The Detective Constables and I discussed the incident and the statements. It was becoming somewhat complicated in that most people in the town centre could be suspects. I did not think at that time that we had enough evidence to carry out arrests. We needed to gather more evidence and identify witnesses.
12. On 28 April 1997, Detective Inspector Irwin and I worked on the investigation. DI Irwin suggested using an Index System, similar to MIRIAM and also introduced a questionnaire to help identify witnesses and glean further evidence. To enable the investigation to progress more quickly I requested manpower from the Regional Crime Squad. My request was refused.
13. I have been asked about a policy file for the GBH with Intent. Specific policy files were available only within the HOLMES System – for murder investigations. At that time we were using the card filing system for the MIRIAM System, which was kept in DI Irwin's office who was the Inspector-in-Charge of Portadown Sub-Division.