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OFFICER'S REPORT RECORD PRINT

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Item Description:- Officer report D/C/I K dated 10/1/01

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R110

# OFFICER'S REPORT – D/CHIEF INSPECTOR K [REDACTED]

Subject: Directional Meeting with the Police Ombudsman  
Date/Time: Wednesday 10.01.01 @ 10 am  
Location: PONI Offices, Belfast  
Present: Representing the Police Ombudsman  
Mr. Chris Mehaffey (Senior Investigator)

Representing the Police Investigation Team  
D/Superintendent Stewart  
D/Chief Inspector K [REDACTED]

## Notes:

The meeting opened with a discussion about the information given by R/Constable G [REDACTED] concerning Timothy Jameson. DS Stewart informed Mr. Mehaffey that R/Constable G [REDACTED] had reported sick on 3.01.01 and had presented a certified sick line from his Doctor for 4 weeks suffering from Anxiety symptoms. DCI K [REDACTED] briefed Mr. Mehaffey on a conversation which he had had with R/Constable G [REDACTED] Inspector, Inspector [REDACTED] at Portadown Police Station. DCI K [REDACTED] referred to a welfare interview, which Inspector [REDACTED] had conducted with R/Constable G [REDACTED] on 1.01.01 in consequence of concerns that the Inspector had about this officer. Inspector [REDACTED] notes the reasons for his anxiety as a combination of personal and work-related problems involving casework and workload. Mr. Mehaffey was informed that Inspector [REDACTED] had indicated that he was not aware of the current investigation or of R/Constable G [REDACTED] involvement in it, and has also stated that R/Constable G [REDACTED] did not raise this investigation with him as a reason for his present anxiety.

In his present role as Senior Investigating Officer to the Hamill murder, and in considering that the information about Timothy Jameson potentially represents new evidence concerning the murder of Mr. Hamill, DS Stewart briefed Mr. Mehaffey on a discussion which he had with DCI P39 [REDACTED] (now retired) on Friday 5.01.01. DS Stewart explained that this was carried out to familiarise himself on all aspects of the Hamill murder investigation, which was carried out in the initial stages. DS Stewart informed Mr Mehaffey that during this discussion, Miss P39 [REDACTED] could not recollect a R/Constable G [REDACTED] speaking to DCS McBurney and herself about information concerning Timothy Jameson. Miss P39 [REDACTED] did however recall R/Constable McCaw speaking to them but cannot recall another officer present. Her present recollection of that conversation is that R/Constable McCaw told them that they should speak to Timothy Jameson who may have seen some of what happened during the assault. Miss P39 [REDACTED] stated that it was her recollection that at no time did R/Constable McCaw indicate or suggest to them that Timothy Jameson had participated in the assault. Mr Mehaffey was informed that Miss P39 [REDACTED] was also emphatic that there was no mention of Jameson 'putting the boot in', and had also said that if they had received this information, the arrest of Jameson would have been considered on receipt of such information. DS Stewart also referred to a discussion that he had with DI Irwin on 3.01.01 in which DI Irwin recalls R/Constable McCaw coming to speak to him. DI Irwin said that, at that time, he was leaving the Police Station to attend a pre-arranged appointment and did not have the time to speak to him. He recalls bringing R/Constable McCaw to DCI P39 [REDACTED] office but did not remain present. DI Irwin could not recall R/Constable G [REDACTED] being present and will state that he was never made aware that Timothy Jameson had participated in the assault. Mr. Mehaffey was informed that the issues surrounding Andrea McKee were not discussed with Miss P39 [REDACTED] and DI Irwin.

The details of what is presently known about R/Constable McCaw's (medically retired) mental illness and current treatment was discussed. Although the full affect of his mental illness and his treatment (electro-convulsive therapy) upon his memory is unclear, it was acknowledged that his reliability and credibility as a witness may be impaired at this stage. Mr. Mehaffey indicated that contact will be made with R/Constable McCaw during the Police Ombudsman's investigation.

**It was agreed that R/Constable G [redacted] should be interviewed at the earliest opportunity:**

- To establish what further information he can recall about the conversation with Timothy Jameson and the circumstances around it, which will assist the murder investigation in terms of evidence and deciding further investigative actions;**
- To establish his knowledge of exactly what information was given to the investigating officers at that time.**

**It was agreed that as the interview of R/Constable G [redacted] was relevant to both the murder investigation and the PONI investigation, this interview should be carried out jointly. It was also agreed that the further interview of R/Constable G [redacted] be temporarily suspended due to his sickness. DS Stewart to monitor R/Constable G [redacted] sickness absence and to review with Mr Mehaffey in 2-3 weeks.**

In view of recent developments in this investigation, investigative actions which had been previously raised on HOLMES in the current investigation concerning DCI P39 [redacted] and DI Irwin and which were pending on the direction of PONI on 13.12.00 were discussed with Mr. Mehaffey.

**It was agreed that:**

- Actions 588, 643, 654 and 655 in relation to DCI P39 [redacted] would be actioned jointly;**
- Actions 585, 653, 729 and 764 in relation to DI Irwin will be actioned by the Police Ombudsman. Regarding A764, in considering that Timothy Jameson is a potential murder suspect, it was agreed that we would interview DI Irwin about this after the Police Ombudsman had interviewed him.**

The progress of telephone analysis and other lines of enquiry being actioned in the current investigation was discussed and reviewed. The evidence of Sergeant P89 [redacted] who states that Atkinson identified Alistair Hanvey to him at the scene was discussed.

DS Stewart stated that his strategy at this stage would be to focus resources on the current investigation involving R/Constable Atkinson in order that investigations, which are at an advanced stage, can be finalised and arrests made as soon as practicable. A provisional time frame of early February for the arrests was discussed.

Further discussion on the intrusive surveillance strategy will take place closer to the time of arrests.

DS Stewart indicated that in the meantime, he would also be re-assessing the issues surrounding the initial police actions at the scene and immediately thereafter, crime scene preservation, initial investigations in the early stages and forensic investigations. He would then intend to re-visit the murder investigation and progress the investigation as necessary. In learning from the experiences of the Hamill murder investigation, DS Stewart indicated that he would be raising any issues from which he considered lessons could be learned with the Chief Constable and he asked Mr. Mehaffey whether the Police Ombudsman had an interest in any issues that emerge. Mr. Mehaffey said that he would discuss this with Mr. Wood and respond in due course.

DS Stewart raised the issue of DI Irwin who has recently joined the investigation into the murder of [REDACTED]. In considering:

1. [REDACTED] involvement in this case prior to the murder;
2. the fact that DI Irwin's handling of certain information is being investigated by the Police Ombudsman;
3. the fact that the Police Ombudsman is now investigating a complaint about the investigation into allegations of police harassment by [REDACTED];

the issue of whether DI Irwin's current role in the [REDACTED] murder investigation compromised in any way the integrity of that investigation was discussed. **It was agreed that DS Stewart would discuss this with the Chief Constable and Mr. Mehaffey would also discuss the issue with Mr. Wood.**

**DS Stewart informed Mr. Mehaffey of his intention to arrange to meet Mr. [REDACTED] within the next few days when he has had an opportunity to familiarise himself with all the issues surrounding this case.** Mr. Mehaffey stated that the Ombudsman had met with the Hamill family before Christmas and had briefed them on the appointment of DS Stewart as the SIO.

Mr. Mehaffey indicated his satisfaction with the way in which the current investigation was being progressed and he acknowledged the help and assistance which the Police investigation team had given his investigation team.

A further meeting to review progress to be arranged shortly.

K [REDACTED]

K [REDACTED]

D/Chief Inspector  
10.01.01