

- (ii) The parameters of the supervised investigation. In the circumstances I feel the scope of the enquiry needs to be extended to explore the totality of the circumstances surrounding the actions of police prior to the removal of Robert Hamill to hospital including the claim police made no attempts to render first aid to Mr Hamill following the dispersal of his assailants and prior to the arrival of an ambulance at the scene.
- (iii) Hopefully related police/ambulance R/Ts have been seized. In addition we require to explore the issue of video footage as there are media reports of video cameras being fitted to local retail outlets.
- (iv) I assume Forms 17/3 have been served on the suspect officers and related notebook extracts seized.
- (v) Allister Harvey, Wayne Lunt, Paul Hobson, Dean Forbes and Stacy Bridgett have been arrested in connection with the murder of Robert Hamill. We require to interview and secure witness evidence from these persons and any other civilian either arrested in connection with the murder or identified as being at the scene of the incident. The evidence of the ambulance crew will, I feel, be particularly significant.
- (vi) I assume witness statements have been taken from the three civilians identified as being in the company of Robert Hamill at the time of the assault. Copies of these statements should be secured by ourselves. Notwithstanding, [REDACTED] Solicitor, should be contacted forthwith for the purpose of arranging interview of Diane Hamill. The other two potential witnesses require to be approached with a view to obtaining evidence.

As soon as possible following the completion of witness interviews we should commence interviews of police concerned. All crucial interviews to be conducted in Supervisor's presence.

Clearly our meeting of 12 May 1997 is very important in that by its conclusion we will have a thorough knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the attack on Robert Hamill and have agreed a strategy as to how best to pursue the investigation. It will be interesting to establish whether or not the RUC appeal for witnesses has met with any success.



GREG MULLAN

12 MAY 1997

3. FILE NOTE

Notwithstanding the above, I believe it would prove useful to request the I.O. to contact the R.U.C. Press Office for the purpose of submitting to the Commission (a) copies of all RUC Press Releases issued (b) all media material relating to the incident now under investigation.

GM 12/5/97

27271

1

MR [REDACTED]

2

COMMISSION

RE

[REDACTED] SOLICITOR
ON BEHALF OF ROBERT HAMILL AND DIANE HAMILL, [REDACTED]
PORTADOWN

- (i) Date of Complaint 9.5.97
(ii) Commission received papers 9.5.97
- (a) This case was early referred to the Commission under Article 7 of the Police (NI) Order 1987.
- (b) On 6 May 1997 the above solicitor wrote to police on behalf of Robert Hamill (now deceased) and his sister Diane in relation to an incident which occurred at the junction of Thomas Street/Market Street, Portadown during the early hours of 27 April 1997.
- (c) It is alleged that police witnessed Robert Hamill being attacked yet failed to 'intervene as promptly as possible'.
- (d) As you are aware a decision to supervise the investigation into the above matter was made on 9 May 1997 and a meeting with D/Chief Superintendent McBurney and Superintendent Anderson has been arranged for Portadown RUC Station at 8.30 pm on 12 May 1997.
- (e) I note that contrary to what we were led to believe on 9 May 1997 Superintendent Anderson has been formally appointed as Investigating Officer and I consider his appointment should now be formally approved. To this end I have prepared letters to Superintendent Anderson and the ACC, filed at 2A and 2B respectively, for approval.

I have also prepared at draft 2C and 2D letters which I consider should be issued to Diane Hamill and [REDACTED] respectively.

At our meeting with police on 12 May 1997 we will be briefed on the background to the complained of incident, the measures taken by way of investigation to date and the evidential documentation available.

Notwithstanding the above there are a number of areas which I believe we require to raise/clarify including:-

- (i) Clarification of D/Chief Superintendent McBurney's role/responsibilities as distinct from those of Superintendent Anderson.