



4. In 1997 I had been at Lurgan for about two years. The three sub divisions in 'J' Division were Lurgan, Banbridge and Portadown at weekends the sub divisional commanders (Superintendent) and deputy divisional commanders (Chief Inspectors) worked a duty rota scheme for the division. I was the duty officer for the 'J' Division from 5pm on 25 April 1997 to 9am on 28 April 1997.
5. In my police journal I recorded the days that I worked and a short note of what I was doing. I have been shown a copy of my journal for the period covering 22 – 28 April 1997 [Page 74151]. On this page I have altered the numbers 24, 25, and 26 I had obviously made a mistake with the dates when returning from annual leave.
6. On 26 April 1997 my journal records that I worked from 8.30am until midnight and that I had attended Portadown regarding a plastic baton round incident.
7. On 27 April 1997 again I recorded as being on duty at 8.30am until midnight. I recorded in my journal that I went to Portadown CID and spoke to the Detective Chief Inspector, which would have been P39. I recall being briefed by P39 about an incident at Portadown and then, when she briefed me on that, we headed straight to Banbridge re a similar incident. I refer in my journal to "*course of action discussed, need for MSUs, etc.*" I cannot now remember what we discussed but MSU refers to Mobile Support Unit for the Banbridge incident.
8. I have then recorded that I visited Lurgan re an incident and I recorded notes re "*checks – also for arrests tomorrow.*" These entries refer to arrests in connection with an incident at Lurgan but I have no recollection now of who or what it was about.
9. I have been shown the notebook of Inspector McCrum [page 9960] in which he refers to briefing me regarding the incident at Portadown on 27 April 1997. I cannot now recall the exact briefing by Inspector McCrum but I obviously received a call out because I was at Portadown at 8.30am which was unusual on a Sunday morning I would not usually have gone in until about 11am. I recall

Mr. McCrum saying the one in Portadown was bad but the one in Banbridge he might die. So he had briefed me on two incidents which had occurred that night.

10. The call out structure would have been for the night duty inspector to have briefed me; it would have been my duty to have briefed the divisional commander or command secretariat but, as I see in Inspector McCrum's notes he had already done so.
11. Having been briefed at Portadown by P39 my main area of concern was to ensure that she had sufficient resources not only at Portadown but at the other incidents at Banbridge. I was not involved in the investigation she would have told me what had been done and I accepted that. I was there to support P39 in every way possible and if she wasn't satisfied or getting enough resources to go to higher authorities and try to get her more resources.
12. I believe that later in the day I learnt that Robert Hamill had been taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast however it might have been from Inspector McCrum when he briefed me. Certainly I know he was seriously injured because he wouldn't have been calling me at 8.0am otherwise.
13. I would have liaised with P39 again later in the day to ensure that she had sufficient resources but I did not brief the divisional commander that would have been for her on the progress of her investigations. Similarly I had no involvement with any press releases that would have been for P39 as part of her investigation.
14. I am aware that there were later criticisms of the way in which the scene was managed. Inspector McCrum did not mention anything of that nature to me and certainly P39 did not do so when she briefed me. Her briefings in Portadown and Banbridge were both something like 'this is what I've got. This is what I intend to do. This is what I need.'
15. I have been asked to explain how officers were debriefed before they went off duty. Uniform officers going off duty would have been debriefed by their

sergeant or inspector, or maybe both; depending what took place, how many incidents and how serious it was. The debriefing could have been anything from the need for writing statements, filling in forms, and it could have been leaving information. It would be normal practise where batons were drawn to submit baton reports before going off duty.

16. Having completed my duty weekend I had no further input to the incident at Portadown on 27 April 1997 which led to the death of Robert Hamill.

**SIGNED:** .....

**HENRY McMULLEN**

**DATED:** .....