

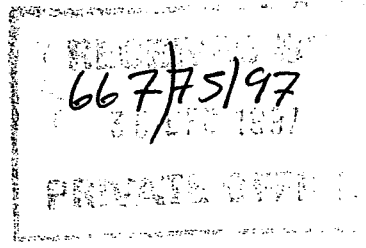
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PA

FROM:



Police Division
22 December 1997



- cc: PS/Mr [redacted] (B&L) - O
- PS/PUS (B&L) - O
- Mr [redacted] - O
- Mr Steele - O
- Mr [redacted] - O
- Mr [redacted] - O
- Mr [redacted] - O
- Mr [redacted] - O
- Mr [redacted] - O
- Mr [redacted] - O

1. Mrs [redacted] (CRC 22/12)
2. PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - O

ROBERT HAMILL CASE

Following her meeting with the Hamill family and others on Monday 24 November the Secretary of State wrote to the Chief Constable and Attorney General asking them to give details, as far as possible, on the points made by the Hamills. She recognised that the Chief Constable and Attorney would have reservations, but wanted to give the family an honest response on the points they had raised. The Attorney General has now replied and this submission provides advice on his response.

The Chief Constable is still looking at the papers concerning the case and I have impressed upon his office the need for an early reply, but they did not see this coming before tomorrow (Tuesday) at the earliest.

The Attorney General has, not too surprisingly because of his desire to keep his independence from the Executive, said that he would like to reply himself and has enclosed his proposed draft. This, subject to a couple of small amendments seems fine and a draft saying this is attached for the Secretary of State to send to the Attorney.

The Secretary of State may want to write to Diane Hamill saying that the AG will be writing to her on those issues which are his responsibility, and that she is still awaiting a response from the Chief Constable.

Incidentally, since the Secretary of State's meeting with the family, Robert Hamill's death has featured on the UTV weekly current affairs programme (with the family's co-operation and involvement). In addition the family launched an appeal, last Monday, for financial contributions towards private prosecutions.

signed

