

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF SIMON MARC GODLY

AGE OF WITNESS [If over 21 enter 'over 21'] : OVER 18

I declare that this statement consisting of 3 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 23 day of August 2001

K  
SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

by whom statement was recorded or received

SIMON M GODLY  
SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I am a Constable in the Royal Ulster Constabulary GC currently stationed at Lurgan RUC Station. On the morning of Sunday 27 April 1997 I was on duty at RUC Portadown as the Communications Officer. In addition to my statements of 29 April 1997 and 9 May 1997 I would wish to add the following as clarification to a number of points raised by K during an interview with myself at RUC Portadown on 20 November 2000. Due to the passage of time and the fact that at the time many of these ancillary enquiries pertaining to the events of the night were not thought important, I had little reason to either take notes or memorise any of these events. Following the incident involving Robert Hamill, Portadown town centre was quiet by about 0300 hours and the personnel from the late section and the requested MSU backup were stood down. At this time all hand portable radios were held in the Communications Room in Portadown, and as it would have been necessary for crews coming off duty to return their radios, I would have seen them as a matter of course. I remember talking to Constable Alan Neill and R/Constable Denise Cornett, because they had been the senior Constable and the landrover crewman respectively. As

STATEMENT OF SIMON MARC GODLY

Communications Officer I would be required to make up the morning report, and therefore wanted to have an insight into what had happened. I can remember asking them to ensure that the C6 Occurrence Book entry was written off in detail. I was aware that R/Constable Robert Atkinson came into the Communications Room, but I do not recall holding any particular conversation with him. D/Constable Keys, CID was called in due to the nature of the attack on Robert Hamill. I later became aware that information from Craigavon Area Hospital suggested that the injuries to Robert Hamill were more serious than initially diagnosed. Inspector McCrum instructed me at about 0600 hours to recall the above 3 members of 'B' Section plus the fourth officer P40 to duty. The most likely person to make all 4 phone calls would have been myself as Communications Officer, but it is possible that another person offered to make one or 2 of the calls whilst I was making others. The only person I definitely remember phoning was Constable Alan Neill, and that was because he did not initially return to the station and I had to phone him again. As the Communications Room tended to be an area of congregation I can recall the other 3 coming in at different times, before being taken to another part of the building to be further debriefed by I assumed, the CID. I do not remember exactly when any of the 'B' Section members returned to duty, but R/Constable Atkinson would have been the first in as he lived the closest to the station. I terminated duty at 0815 hours having handed over to the Early Section Communications Officer. I remember it being mentioned that Constable Neill had not come back in. Although I was in the process

STATEMENT OF SIMON MARC GODLY

of getting ready to leave the station I said that I would phone him again, I would have had the number to hand and the incoming Communications Officer was busy reading up on the night's events and preparing for his own section's duty. I am aware of the statement made by Constable Neill in relation to this phone call. I cannot say that when I finished my call to Constable Neill I then handed the telephone to R/Constable Atkinson, because I do not recall doing so. At this stage my mind was more on ensuring that my relief was up to speed on the events and getting home than to whom I was handing the phone. It is possible that this was the case and I would not refute it. Up until my interview with **K** I was unaware of any allegations made against R/Constable Atkinson in connection with the investigation into the death of Robert Hamill. I was aware that he had been transferred to Craigavon Station and that he had spent some considerable time on sick leave, but so had others involved from that crew. At no stage did I hear the name of any suspect for the initial attack on Robert Hamill being mentioned by any officer. I was aware that **A** from my own Section had at one time detained Wayne Lunt, because I had carried out an address check for her. A few weeks after Robert Hamill died I went on leave and was then seconded to the Drumcree Operational Planning Team at Mahon Road for 2 months. I was thus not fully aware as to the developments of the investigations and the arrests that took place.

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

SIMON M GODLY

CHECKED AND CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL SIGNED :

