

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF GEOFFREY WARD

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

I declare that this statement consisting of 2 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 07 day of February 2001

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SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

by whom statement was recorded or received

GEOFFREY WARD

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I am a Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary. In May 1997 I was attached to J1 MSU at Mahon Road, Portadown. On 13th May 1997, together with other police officers from J1 MSU, I was briefed by D/Constable McCrumlish in relation to 2 searches we were to carry out. These searches were to be carried out at [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] under A 10 of PACE for items of clothing in connection with the murder of Robert Hamill in Portadown. We were briefed to look for specific items of clothing but I didn't make a note of them and now I have no recollection of what they were. Following the briefing I went to [REDACTED] where the search commenced at 11 07 am. I was part of Search Team A with R/Constable Ritchie. The house was quite small and we conducted a thorough search. It terminated at 11 35 am. No items of clothing were seized as nothing matching the items of clothing we had been briefed about was found. During the course of the search I did not note any evidence of burnt clothing. If I had done so I would have seized it as potential evidence. I remember that the area round the house was searched. Following the termination of the search we went to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] where the search commenced at 11 50 am. Again

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as in the previous search I was part of Search Team A with R/Constable Ritchie. As before we conducted a thorough search of the house. I remember that this house was quite small. Again no items of clothing were seized as nothing matching the description of the clothing we had been briefed about was found. There were no items of burnt clothing found either as it would have been seized as potential evidence. I remember that the yard of this house was also searched. As far as I am concerned both searches were done thoroughly and I remember that the washing machines in both houses were searched for the clothing.

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

GEOFFREY WARD

CHECKED AND CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL SIGNED :

