

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF IAN ALEXANDER RITCHIE

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

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 30 day of January 2001

J [Redacted]

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

by whom statement was recorded or received

I RITCHIE

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I am a Full Time Reserve Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary presently attached J1 MSU at Mahon Road, Portadown. On 13 May 1997 together with other officers from my unit 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 A10 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Order for items of clothing in connection with the murder of Robert Hamill in Portadown. The briefing in relation to the clothing specifically mentioned that we were to look for a silver or grey jacket. Following the briefing I accompanied other police to [Redacted] [Redacted] were the search commenced at 11 07 am. I was part of Search Team A with Constable Ward. We conducted a methodical search of the house. The search terminated at 11 35 am and as far as I was concerned had been carried out thoroughly. No items of clothing were seized as nothing matching the description of the silver or grey jacket was uncovered. During the course of the search I did not note any evidence of burnt clothing, if I had done I would have brought it to the attention of the search team leader. Following the termination of this search I accompanied other police to [Redacted]

## STATEMENT OF IAN ALEXANDER RITCHIE

where the search of that house commenced at 11 50 am. Again as in the previous search I was part of search team A with Constable Ward. Again we conducted a thorough search of the house. The search terminated at 12 07 pm and no items of clothing were seized as nothing matching the description of the silver or grey jacket was uncovered. I remember that these premises were a small pensioners type bungalow with 1 bedroom and the search didn't take very long. During the search I did not note any evidence of burnt clothing, if I had done I would have brought it to the attention of the team leader. In relation to the search at [REDACTED] I personally have no recollection of the garden being searched by myself and if it had been it would have been noted in the search record. In relation to the search at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] again I have no recollection of the garden being searched but feel that if it had been it would have been noted in the search record.

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I RITCHIE

CHECKED AND CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL SIGNED :

