

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF WITNESS A

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

I declare that this statement consisting of 6 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 10 day of May 1997

JOHN MCATEER DCONST  
SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

by whom statement was recorded or received

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On Saturday 26 April 1997 I went to the disco at the Coach in Banbridge. I was with Shelley Liggett who works with me in the part time job I do at the Mandarin House Chinese Restaurant, West Street, Portadown. We got a taxi at about 10 45 pm to go to Banbridge. I met up with my friends Pauline Newell, Tracy McAlpine, Kelly Lavery, Clara Glover, Vicki Clayton. Along with my friends I travelled back to Portadown on the bus that leaves at 1 15 am. We got off the bus at the Classic Bar in Bridge Street. We got together and walked up High Street towards the town centre. I don't remember how many of us there was in the company but a crowd of fellows joined up with us. Pauline Newell went into Boss Hoggs and got chips and we waited for her. We walked up as far as the Mandarin House in West Street. I think at that stage the other persons with me were Pauline Newell, Tracy McAlpine, Kelly Lavery, Shelley Liggett and a fellow called Jason. I would say that it was about 1 45 am approx when we were in West Street as the bus got in at about 1 30 am. Around this time we heard shouting coming from the Main Street. I can't remember what was said but it was something like, 'Fight Fight'. We all ran down to see what was happening. When we got as far as the Church I could see a crowd

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at the junction of Thomas Street/Market Street. I met up with Stephen Bloomer at Poundstretcher and I just sat down beside him. I saw two people lying on the street, one was near the centre of the road and the other was near the footpath close to Eastwoods. The person I saw in the middle of the road I thought was dead as he was not moving. It was at this time I saw a number of persons gathered around the person lying in the centre of the road. These persons were kicking the person on the ground around the head and body. I saw them jump on the person on the ground. They jumped all over him and kicked him. I saw the persons who were doing this and I can identify them as

(1) Dean Forbes (2) Alister Hanvey (3) Stacy Bridgett (4) 'Muck'

(5) Rory Robinson. The other person lying near Eastwoods was being helped by Michelle Jamison but I saw persons run up and kick him around the head and body and Michelle was telling them to stop. At that time I saw a number of Police behind the crowd who were attacking the two persons lying on the ground. As far as I could see the Police were not doing much to stop what was happening. The next thing I remember was more Police arrived and pushed the crowd back. The ambulance arrived and took the two persons who had been attacked by the crowd away. The Police then made us move up the street to the Church. They later moved us up to West Street. It was at this time I spoke to one of the Police whom I know to be Robbie Atkinson. I asked him if the two men who had been kicked were they okay and he shook his head. We then went on to the party at Tracy McAlpine's house at [REDACTED] I'm not sure of the name of the new estate. There was a good crowd at the party and everybody was discussing what happened in the town centre

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and some of the people who had been involved appeared to be happy about what they had done. I remember they mentioned the name of one of them as Hamill but I can't remember what exactly was said. I went home the next day and told my parents what had happened and about the two men being attacked in the town centre and that my ex boyfriend Alister Hanvey was involved in it. I spoke to Alister Hanvey on the Tuesday and I told him about what I had seen and that I had told the Police about everything and that he was in deep trouble. He said he would meet me after work and I met him outside my house at about 11 05 pm. He wanted to know what I had told the Police and as I had not been seen by the Police I made up a few things to annoy him. I remember Robbie Atkinson's name coming up and Alister said that Robbie Atkinson had been very good to him because on the Sunday morning after the incident in the town centre he rang him at about 8 00 am and told him to get rid of the clothes he was wearing the previous night. Since then Alister has contacted me on numerous occasions and he keeps asking me what I have said to the Police. He also told me that Robbie Atkinson was ringing him everyday to keep him up to date with the Police investigation. On Thursday of last week Alister's mother rang my work to speak to me but I was off that day and I didn't speak to her. I spoke to Alister Hanvey yesterday and I asked him what he did to the persons that they attacked in the centre of Portadown who is now dead. Alister said he jumped on his head and kicked his head. I told him that is how he got the fractured skull and he said he doesn't have a fractured skull anymore.

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CHECKED AND CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL SIGNED :