

1 **B.C.1 22.2.1999 R. -v- HOBSON (11.00 a.m.)**

2 **MR [REDACTED]: DULY SWORN: EXAMINED IN CHIEF**

3 **BY MR KERR:**

4 **MR KERR:** Are you a mapping officer attached to the
5 Royal Ulster Constabulary mapping section?

6 A. I am, My Lord.

7 Q. At the request of police on Friday, 9th May 1997,
8 did you visit Portadown town centre?

9 A. Yes, My Lord.

10 Q. Did you take notes and make observations?

11 A. Yes, My Lord.

12 Q. Along with those and ordnance survey maps did
13 you prepare a number of maps for the court?

14 A. I did, My Lord.

15 Q. Can I ask you if you could deal with the location
16 map, which is Exhibit 31. Is that a map which you
17 prepared? A. It is, My Lord.

18 Q. Does that show a number of streets in relation to
19 the centre of Portadown? A. Yes, My Lord.

20 Q. What scale is it drawn to? A. 1:1,250,
21 which is approximately 1":104', My Lord.

22 Q. Have you placed a key on the map showing (a) to
23 (g) various locations? A. Yes, My Lord.

24 Q. Have you marked those with numbers, circles and
25 arrows at the locations concerned for the assistance of the
26 court? A. I have, My Lord.

27 Q. In particular, is one of those (g), which is marked,
28 St Patrick's Hall? A. Correct, My Lord.

29

30

1 B.C.2

2 Q. Can you confirm because on the map it is cut off,
3 can you confirm is that on Thomas Street? A. It is, My
4 Lord.

5 Q. Does it run up towards the centre of town, the
6 junction with Market Street? A. Yes, My Lord.

7 Q. Dealing with that, do you know My Lord asked
8 about Bridge Street? A. I don't know, My
9 Lord.

10 Q. We will deal with that with another witness. Have
11 you placed an enlarged area on the map and prepared
12 Exhibit 32, which is the enlarged area? A. Yes, My
13 Lord.

14 Q. Have you marked where there are traffic lights
15 with 'TL', showing traffic lights at the junctions of Thomas
16 Street and in the area of Woodhouse Street?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Have you marked 'SL' for street lighting?

19 A. Yes, My Lord.

20 Q. Have you marked, liaising with the photography
21 officer, the photographs which are contained in the album
22 which is Exhibit 1? A. Yes, My Lord.

23 Q. Have you also marked on the map the names of
24 the buildings in and around the junctions with Thomas
25 Street/Woodhouse Street on High Street and Market Street?

26 A. I have, My Lord.

27 Q. Can you give us a number of measurements? Can
28 you give us the measurement if you would from Eastwood's
29 clothing outside Eastwood's clothing where the roadway
30 starts, the whole way across the road towards the Alliance &

1 B.C.3

2 Leicester, as straight a line as possible, to give an indication
3 of the size of the road? A. The distance is
4 twenty metres, approximately 65 feet, My Lord.

5 **THE JUDGE:** Is that building to building, to footpath
6 to footpath? A. That is the roadway, My Lord.

7 **MR KERR:** How have you marked the footpaths?

8 A. By a dotted line, My Lord.

9 Q. Can you take a measurement from the footpath to
10 the area which is marked by an arrow just above
11 photograph 9, the area indicated by the CID?

12 A. The distance, My Lord, from the end of the arrow
13 to the footpath is nine metres, which is approximately 29
14 feet.

15 Q. That was the area beside photograph 9?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. Can I ask you if you could turn to a further plan
18 and that is your plan marked Exhibit 42, which is the same
19 enlargement but on the right hand side is a plan of a RUC
20 Land Rover? On that map did you liaise with the
21 photography officer but show a different album of
22 photographs with the numbers? A. Correct, My Lord.

23 Q. Have you marked on that the position of a Land
24 Rover? Three different locations? A. I have,
25 My Lord.

26 Q. Where did you get the information to do that?

27 A. I was present the night it happened, the night of
28 the reconstruction.

29 Q. Have you put in your key Land Rover 1, 2, 3?

30 A. Yes, My Lord.

1 B.C.4

2 Q. Shown on the night of the reconstruction, 10th
3 June 1997? A. Yes, My Lord.

4 Q. Can you see the same area indicated by police
5 which you have marked on the previous map this time it
6 appears there beside photograph 9, but to the left on the
7 map and slightly lower on the photograph 9? There is two
8 areas indicated by the police? A. Yes, My
9 Lord.

10 Q. The one on the left hand side?

11 A. Yes, My Lord.

12 Q. Can you from that point give me the distance to
13 an area that would represent the rear doors of the Land
14 Rover in position LR2? A. The doors, My Lord,
15 to the area indicated by police and to the rear doors of LR2
16 is 17 metres, approximately 55 feet.

17 Q. There may not be very much difference, but if you
18 wouldn't mind can you check that measurement as against
19 the position which would correspond with the driver's door
20 on LR2? A. From the driver's door to the area
21 indicated by the police is 18 metres, which is approximately
22 sixty feet, My Lord.

23 Q. Just to give an indication, I don't think you need
24 to go through exactly the same measurements, would you
25 give the distance between the front of LR2 and the back of
26 LR3 to show the engine of the vehicle on the last occasion?

27 A. The distance from the front of LR2 to the rear of
28 LR 3 is three metres, approximately nine feet, My Lord.

29 **THE JUDGE:** What is the length of one of these Land
30 Rovers? A. The length of one of the Land Rovers is

1 B.C.5

2 4.4 metres, which is approximately fourteen and a half feet,
3 My Lord.

4 **MR KERR:** Thank you.

5 **CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR ORR:**

6 **MR ORR:** I wonder could I ask you if you deal first of
7 all with the first of the three, that is, Exhibit 3(1) which you
8 have shown. Within that do you see a dot which is just
9 above the word 'posts' within the square?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Can I ask you to give us from that point travelling
12 North Easterly along high Street to the letter 'S' of 'street'
13 and then down Edward Street to 'F', which is the police
14 station? A. The distance from the dot travelling

15 North Easterly along High Street and then South Easterly
16 towards 'F' is 215 metres, which is approximately 235 yards,
17 My Lord.

18 Q. Just looking at Exhibit 3(1) and in particular
19 Thomas Street there is a bend in Thomas Street travelling
20 towards the centre of the town? A. Correct.

21 Q. Once one goes round that bend one can see
22 straight ahead to the junction? A. Yes.

23 Q. That is shown in the photographs which were
24 referred to. Go to photograph four. One has a view after
25 one comes round the bend up towards the Main Street?

26 A. Correct, My Lord.

27 Q. Can one see there the Alliance & Leicester and the
28 shop to its left? A. You can, My Lord.

29 Q. Can one see there the lay-by, the start of the lay-
30 by? A. You can, My Lord.

1 B.C.6

2 Q. That is the dotted line that one can see starting
3 outside the Alliance & Leicester? A. Yes, My
4 Lord.

5 Q. Moving to 3(2) you gave My learned Friend
6 measurements in respect of the width of the road whether
7 it is Main Street or High Street, Market Street, I think you
8 said that was 20 metres? A. Yes, My Lord.

9 Q. Was that from the edge of the footpath to the
10 edge of the footpath? A. Yes, My Lord.

11 Q. That doesn't take account of the lay-by outside
12 the Alliance & Leicester, In-Step Stores?

13 A. No, that was the measurement across the
14 roadway, My Lord.

15 Q. On the other side of main Street one can see that
16 there is an area which is referred to as 'Bus Stop'?

17 A. Correct, My Lord.

18 Q. Did you take the measurement to the edge of that
19 or the edge of the footpath? A. The edge of
20 the footpath, My Lord.

21 Q. Moving then to the third map, Exhibit 4(2, and
22 dealing with the area indicated by the police and again we
23 will use the one to the left from that point to the driver's
24 door of the Land Rover at LR1, what is that distance?

25 A. The distance from the point indicated by the
26 police across to the driver's door of the Land Rover is 17
27 metres, approximately 55 feet.

28 Q. Can I ask the road itself has a central reservation
29 running along it? A. Yes, My Lord.

30

1 B.C.7

2 Q. Is there anything other than street lights to
3 interfere with the view from LR1 to the area indicated by
4 the police? A. So far as I can remember, My

5 Lord, no.

6 Q. Perhaps it might help you if you wanted to look at
7 the album of photographs, either photograph one or two?

8 A. No, My Lord, there is nothing else obstructing
9 your view.

10 Q. Now, insofar as the positions which you were
11 asked about, could I ask you what is the distance between
12 the front of the Land Rover at LR1 to the rear of the Land

13 Rover at LR2? A. The distance from the front of
14 the Land Rover to the rear of the Land Rover is 18 metres,
15 which is approximately 60 feet.

16 Q. Again, can I ask from the position at LR1 looking
17 straight forward along Main Street does one have a view
18 some distance beyond the junction, the staggered junction?

19 A. You do, My Lord.

20 Q. Thank you.

21 **MR KERR:** No re-examination, My Lord.

22 **THE JUDGE:** Thank you.

23 **DULY SWORN: EXAMINED IN CHIEF**

24 **BY MR KERR:**

25 **MR KERR:** [REDACTED] are you attached to the
26 photography branch of the Royal Ulster Constabulary?

27 A. I am, My Lord.

28 Q. On 27th April 1997 did you go to Portadown town
29 centre? A. I did, My Lord.

30

7