

To: Director

## Parliamentary Question on Death of Robert Hamill

The following is the information relevant to the Parliamentary answer:

1. A police investigation file relating to the death of Robert Hamill was received in the Director's Office on 07/08/1997.
2. Following consideration of that file a direction was issued on 27/01/1998 to prosecute one person [Paul Rodney Marc Hobson] for the scheduled offence of murder.
3. On 25/02/1999 at Belfast Crown Court that person [Hobson] was found not guilty of murder but guilty of affray and sentenced to 4 years imprisonment.
4. On 12/06/2001 a second police investigation file dealing with matters arising out of the investigation into the death of Robert Hamill was received in the Director's Office.
5. Following consideration of the second file, on 20/08/2001 a direction was issued to prosecute two persons [Michael and Andrea McKee] for the offence of doing an act with intent to pervert the course of justice.
6. On 07/05/2002 at Craigavon Crown Court the two persons pleaded guilty to the offence. One [Michael McKee] was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment and the other [Andrea McKee] was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment suspended for 2 years.
7. On 19/12/2001 a third police investigation file dealing further with matters arising from the investigation into the death of Robert Hamill was received in the Director's Office.
8. Following consideration of the third file together with further material which only became available in May 2002, a decision on prosecution or non prosecution of persons reported in that file will issue [imminently?] [very shortly?].

The file has been considered by Gerry Simpson QC whose advices have been incorporated into a draft direction by Mike Matthews. Mr Simpson has provided a provisional direction of proofs. I have consulted with investigating police who are urgently obtaining any outstanding evidence.

Directions could be issued to police next week with committal papers to follow within about two weeks and disclosure shortly after that. If normal procedures are followed, i.e. directions only to be issued when all other papers have been perfected, I could not guarantee that directions would be issued before the New Year.

Ivor Morrison  
25/10/2002