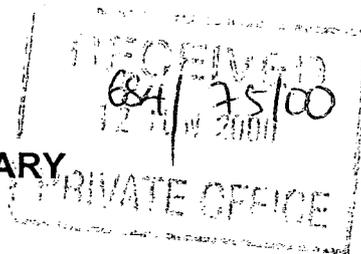


CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: [REDACTED]

PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY  
12 JUNE 2000



cc: PS/Secretary of State (B&L)  
PS/Mr [REDACTED] (B&L)  
Mr [REDACTED]

MR [REDACTED]

HAMILL

During a meeting with the Chief Constable on a range of subjects on 9 June I asked him about various aspects of Hamill.

2. I said that the Secretary of State was seeing increasing difficulty about resisting the demands for a public inquiry in light of the allegations made about the slowness to react of the officers in the Landrover. Ronnie said that, if the Secretary of State decided to set up a public inquiry, he would not be resisting it. During later discussion he admitted that this was because he believed that little harm could be done to the RUC by a public inquiry into this case.

3. On the ICPC wish to bring a disciplinary charge against the most senior constable in the Landrover Ronnie said that

- he thought that this was motivated more by presentational questions than a sound analysis of the evidence
- the RUC were taking counsel's opinion on the ICPC's wish and had told the ICPC so
- if counsel thought that there was a reasonable chance of a disciplinary charge succeeding, the RUC would bring one

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