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31 JUL 2008

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF JOHN BRIAN FOSTER ADAMS

DATED THIS 30th DAY OF June 2008

I, JOHN BRIAN FOSTER ADAMS, declare that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that if it is tendered in evidence at the Inquiry I will 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.

1. The Inquiry has disclosed a number of documents to me. Where I make specific reference to a document in my statement I have given the number of the relevant page.
2. I have served with the PSNI formerly known as the RUC for 26 years and my present position is that of Call Manager in the Communications Centre in Portadown Police Station.
3. On the night of the 26th April 1997 I was stationed at Portadown police station and on general patrol duties with Reserve Constable Silcock. One of our responsibilities was to attend call outs to assist other mobile patrols in the area. The Land Rover crew were the crew dedicated to the town centre. That junction was known as a flashpoint for sectarian incidents. I have patrolled that area many times myself and have seen a number of incidents there.
4. At approximately 1.47am Reserve Constable Silcock and I heard a transmission requesting assistance in the town centre. I cannot recall what was said but remember that the officer requesting assistance sounded anxious. The two of us headed off into the town centre straight away. We entered via Edward Street. It took us no more than a couple of minutes to get there. When we arrived I could see a crowd of people at the junction of Thomas Street, Market Street, High Street and Woodhouse Street.