

possession of a bottle if my memory serves me right. People were coming and going in the office and there was a lot of activity. There was no standardised procedure in relation to events such as these. It was necessary to think on your feet. I did not have time to write notes about to whom I had spoken. I would never have got anything done if that was the case. I was on my own.

23. I tried to gather as many of the officers as I could to obtain more information so that I was in a position to reassess what action I needed to take. Reserve Constable P40 was present in the office as was Reserve Constable Cornett. I am almost certain that Reserve Constable Atkinson was also there. I know that Constable Neill was not present as he had quite a way to travel back to the station. I did not have an opportunity to speak with each of the Land Rover crew on an individual basis.

24. It was not normal practice to look at notebook entries from those officers on duty as my priority was to obtain evidence in the form of witness statements. I decided that I would not personally take the officer's statements. The reason that I chose not to do this was based on my experience of giving evidence in Northern Ireland. In some cases the legal profession has alleged that detectives have taken statements from officers and worded them to suit the particular situation.

25. I realised early on, that I needed some assistance with the investigation. This was a public order incident, involving, from recollection, 40 or 50 people and it was not possible for me to handle the matter alone. I telephoned Chief Inspector P39 who was the senior CID officer on call for the Division. By Division, I mean the area which covers four Sub Divisions, Portadown, Banbridge, Lurgan and Craigavon. I told her that there had been a serious assault in the town and that there had been disorder. I would have probably informed her that Robert Hamill had been conveyed to Belfast.