

22. I cannot recall how many times I visited Michael McKee during the investigation, other than when I went to investigate the threatening letter and, later, to arrest him.

23. I am asked why the Atkinsons and Hanveys were not charged together with the McKees. We had 2 strong admissions from the McKees, but not from the others. I cannot really comment much on why we did not run with charges against the others. In any event, there were 2 conspiracies to pervert the course of justice. There was the 'kitchen table' conspiracy when the 2 McKees and the 2 Atkinsons sat down together to decide what to do and there was the other conspiracy involving the telephone call to Allister Hanvey. The evidence we had on one did not necessarily prove the other. Ultimately, however, the decision as to whom to prosecute was a decision for the DPP. It was the DPP who decided what to do in that case. There were numerous consultations with the DPP and I am sure that was thrashed out in fine detail. I believe Chris Mahaffey was at some of those consultations also and Queen's Counsel was involved too. Obviously a decision was made by someone to proceed in the manner in which we did.

24. Around the time of the arrests, the police undertook an intrusive surveillance operation at the homes of the Atkinsons', the Hanveys' and the McKees'. I had a role with respect to part of the surveillance operation which I do not think I should discuss. However, I can say 2 of the devices were compromised. I am not sure about the dates, but it was perhaps 2 weeks after the date RC Atkinson was arrested. Reserve Constable Atkinson found one in his house and, on the following day, Allister Hanvey found one in his house. As a result, I was tasked to get them back. I went to Reserve Constable Atkinson's house and was met by a very unhappy family, their solicitors and some politicians. Nevertheless I did retrieve the device with their co-operation. At Allister Hanvey's house, again I was met by an unhappy family, their solicitors and politicians. What was more sinister were the elements of the Ulster Volunteer Force and Loyalist Volunteer Force present at Allister Hanvey's house as well. As a direct result of the surveillance devices being compromised, I received threats to my life. I think the Loyalist paramilitaries in