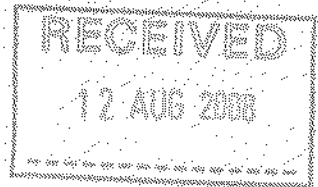


STATEMENT OF WITNESS



STATEMENT OF GODFREY DEAN SILCOCK

DATED THIS 04 DAY OF 08 2008

I, GODFREY DEAN SILCOCK 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 18 years. I am now a Reserve Constable in the Tactical Support Group based in Armagh. At the time of the incident in April 1997, I had been stationed at Portadown for approximately eight years. I have been on patrol in the Market Street, Thomas Street, High Street and Woodhouse Street junction before. That area was known as a flashpoint interface for sectarian incidents. At one point in the 1980s sectarian disturbances were very regular but by 1997 it had died down considerably. There was always potential for violence, however.
3. On 26 April 1997, I was detailed along with Constable John Adams on mobile patrol. When on mobile patrol our responsibility was to respond to any incidents which occurred in the area. At approximately 1.47 a.m. we picked up a radio transmission from another patrol requesting assistance in the town centre. I cannot recall what was said but from the tone of voice and the background noise I could tell that a disturbance had developed. We were on the Gilford Road at that point. We responded immediately and it took us about two to three minutes to get to the town centre. We drove into the town via Bridge Street and then into Market Street. I have marked "X 70" on a map of the town centre to show the position of the vehicle, page 73916