

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF P39

DATED THIS 21 DAY OF JANUARY 2009

I, P39, 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. In April 1997, I was a Detective Chief Inspector attached to 'J' Division comprising three sub-divisions namely Portadown, Banbridge and Lurgan. In relation to daily business I reported directly to Regional CID Headquarters in Armagh, Detective Chief Superintendent McBurney. I also reported to the Divisional Commander on a weekly basis and occasionally more frequently. After retiring from the RUC I retained possession of my journals, which was customary at that time. I had these journals destroyed for security reasons, at that time there was no talk of any inquiry. I therefore make this statement relying solely on my memory and those papers disclosed to me by the interviewers.
3. Over the weekend of 26/27 April 1997 I was the on-call Duty Officer for CID in 'J' Division. At approximately 6.50am on 27 April 1997 Detective Constable Keys telephoned me and informed me that an incident had occurred in the town centre and as a result two people were in hospital. I asked about the scene and he confirmed that it had been sealed. I also asked him to call out Scenes of Crime Officer (SOCO) and the photographer.