

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF **P89**

DATED THIS *24th* DAY OF *FEBRUARY* 2009

I, **P89** 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 relevant page number.
2. I served with the RUC for 27 years and retired on medical grounds in 2001. In April 1997 I was stationed at Portadown Police Station. At that time I think I had been there for around a year, having come from Lurgan. I had been based in Portadown for six years previously before being transferred to Lurgan so it was my second tour of duty in Portadown.
3. On the night of 26/27 April 1997, I was on duty to supervise my section which was referred to as "C Section". Inspector McCrum was the duty Inspector and my immediate supervisor. It was my responsibility to give the briefing to "C section" that night which I did at 23.45.
4. At 00.10 I also briefed the mobile unit who had been retained from their earlier shift to support the section of officers who were on duty from 23.45. This unit consisted of Reserve Constables **P40** , Atkinson and Cornett and Constable Neill. These officers would have commenced duties around 15.45 the previous afternoon and would normally work through until midnight or just after. They were retained that night to provide a patrol of the town centre and had been briefed to pay particular attention to the Magowan Buildings and Woodhouse Street which was a well-known flashpoint interface for trouble at the weekends.