

13. I cannot remember how many officers were at the scene when I arrived but I think there were no more than 8 of us including the Land Rover crew, Inspector McCrum and I. I am fairly certain there was no-one there from the Mobile Support Unit present at this stage because the first thing that entered my head when I arrived on the scene was "*we need help here*". I knew from experience that we would have great difficulty controlling the situation and knew it was important that we move the crowd away from the town centre, as I could see more people coming up Woodhouse Street and it was the time of night when the pubs would be turning people out. If there were more Nationalist people coming up towards the town centre it would have been a very dangerous situation.
14. The Protestant group were in the middle of Market Street directly opposite Thomas Street. These people were milling about and shouting and being very aggressive towards the police and to the group in Woodhouse Street. I cannot recall exactly what was being shouted both factions were shouting at each other. There was certainly a lot of drunk and disorderly youths in the middle of the street. I do not recall seeing any particular individuals with bottles or anything being thrown.
15. I think the police were between Thomas Street and Woodhouse Street and they were trying to move the crowd up Market Street and avoid the people coming from the Bridge Street direction. I could see people coming up from that end of town who were basically looking to see what was going on and trying to make their way home. They were not aggressive but they were adding to the size of the crowd which was a concern for us.
16. I recall saying to Inspector McCrum that we needed to move the crowd away from the town centre otherwise there'd be a full-scale riot. Most of the officers had experience in similar situations so knew what to do. I think both Inspector McCrum and I directed the officers to move the crowd away. I had my riot gun