(38)

Subject:- Parades at Londonderry on Saturday, 2nd November 1968.

SECRET
CRIME SPECIAL

COUNTY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE
C. S. BRANCH
4 NOV 1968
L.C.S. 12/2 (2)
R.U.C. LONDONDERRY

Inspector General

Submitted. The attached reports from the District Inspectors on duty indicate the progress of this parade. I was with District Inspector McGimpsey on the journey from the Railway Station and I agree with his observations.

There appeared to be no reason why the leading marchers should have stopped at the Gate. It is probable that they were expecting more determined opposition and that they did not realise that the crowd of people in the archway were photographers. As far as I can ascertain no blows were struck and the Committee members walked in small groups to the Diamond.

In the Diamond there did not appear to be undue tension and the Marshals did excellent work in getting their followers to disperse.

Traffic was allowed to flow normally and this helped us to break up the groups.

G. P. Kerr

County Inspector.

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(37)

Subject:- Parades at Londonderry on Saturday, 2nd November, 1968

City of Londonderry

DISTRICT INSPECTORS OFFICE
R. U. C.
- 4 NOV 1968
S. 887
REF No.....
LONDONDERRY

County Inspector,
Londonderry

Submitted.

I have to report that on Saturday, 2nd November, 1968, I performed duty in Londonderry in connection with the notified parades from Waterside Railway Station, via Duke Street, Craigavon Bridge, Carlisle Square, Carlisle Road, and Ferryquay Street to the Diamond, by the 15 Committee members of Londonderry Citizens Action Committee and the Loyal Citizens of Ulster.

I had, at 11.30 a.m. and 12.15 p.m. respectively, on the 2.11.68, served notices as per attached copies, on Major R.T. Bunting, who informed me he was the organiser of the Loyal Citizens of Ulster parade, and Messrs. J. Hume, J. Doherty, M. Canavan, and I. Cooper, who had signed Form 11/5 in connection with the parade and meeting by the Londonderry Citizens Action Committee. These notices were served at Victoria Police Station.

When the police had been detailed for duty in connection with these two parades, I accompanied County Inspector Kerr to Waterside Railway Station. On arrival there at 2.20 p.m. I saw a number of people standing along the footpath of the opposite side of the road from the Railway Station forecourt. I also saw a white Cortina car, Reg. No. 6355.UZ parked in the station forecourt. This car was fitted with loudspeaker equipment. Major R.T. Bunting, who was wearing an Army battledress jacket and civilian trousers, was on occasions sitting in this car, and on other occasions he was standing beside the car and speaking to a group of men, amongst whom I recognised Robert Buchanan, 12 Melrose Terrace, Londonderry. It was he who had given the police notification per Form 11/5 of the intended march by the Loyal Citizens of Ulster. Six ladies were grouped at the side of this car and they commenced to sing hymns. There was a Union Flag and an Ulster Flag displayed on this car. A number of photographers and Press men were also in the forecourt.

I formed the opinion that the people standing on the footpath were sightseers. This crowd was gradually increasing but were playing no active part.

I went forward to Mr. Buchanan and served a notice on him as per attached copy.

At this time I received a message that I was to communicate with County Inspector Corbett at Control, Victoria, per telephone. On returning to the Railway Station from Waterside Police Station, I saw that marshals of the Citizens Action Committee had taken up position along the street and that the 15 Committee members were formed up in threes in Duke Street. It was then 2.55 p.m. I remained in the vicinity of this parade, and as 3 p.m. approached I heard Mr. Hume, one of the marchers, say, "Thirty seconds to go." He was looking at his watch. The parade moved off at 3 p.m. and some marshals formed in behind it. Three tenders drove in behind this group, and County Inspector Kerr and I followed in a D.M.P. car. I did not see Major Bunting leave the Railway forecourt, but I understand he and a party of men left the station shortly before 3 p.m. and travelled up Bonds Hill.

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The County Inspector and I followed the parade as far as Walker Street and we then travelled via Craigavon Bridge, Foyle Road, Lower Bennett Street, and Abercorn Road to Carlisle Square.

On arrival at Carlisle Square I saw that a crowd of several hundred, consisting of men, women, and teenagers of both sexes, were waiting on the marchers. As the procession approached, a number of Union Flags were raised by the crowd, who started to jeer and shout, particularly at Ivan Cooper, who was in the forefront of the procession. As the marchers passed by, one person thrust a Union Flag between the marshals who had arrived at the scene. I spoke to several people who were walking behind the Committee members, and who had shouted at the jeering crowd.

Immediately the rear of the party, which composed marshals and spectators, passed by, I saw the large majority of those who had been on the footpath, fall in at the rear. Some of these people were carrying Union Flags. I immediately directed my R/T operator to inform Control of what had occurred and to advise that if the Committee members were stopped at Ferryquay Gate it would be advisable for the following three tenders to block the road, so that the crowd would be divided.

County Inspector Kerr and I then travelled per D.M.P. car via Hawkin Street to Fountain Street, from where I went to Ferryquay Gate. When I arrived at the Gate I saw that the Committee members and a group of marshals had arrived. Some of them were sitting on the ground on the Carlisle Road side of the Gate, some were squatting, and others were standing.

The crowd was getting larger every moment.

I walked through those who were sitting and squatting and into the Gate to ascertain the cause of the stoppage and to gauge the strength of the opposition. I was surprised to note that there were very few persons in the Gate. I then entered Ferryquay Street and saw that there was only a small number of people on the roadway. I noted a group of Police in front of Artillery Street and a number of ladies standing behind them. I also saw John Hume and Michael Canavan, two of the Committee members, walking up Ferryquay Street towards the Diamond. I saw another person, whom I thought was a Committee member, walking up Ferryquay Street. I could not identify this person as I did not get a proper view of him.

At this stage I looked round and I saw a group of at least 20 Press photographers and writers coming through the Gate. Mr. Claude Wilton, a marcher, passed through this group as they approached me. The crowd in Carlisle Road then came through, and I saw various Committee members pass through in separate groups. All these people walked up Ferryquay Street towards the Diamond. I did not at any time see the procession reform in Ferryquay Street. My impression was that the Press men, by coming in a group through the Gate, had unknowingly given a lead to those who were stopped outside, but from the position as I saw it, I did not know why the marchers had halted. There may have been opposition prior to my arrival, but whilst I stood in Ferryquay Street I could not identify different parties. This may also have been the impression of those in the street.

I walked up Ferryquay Street and into the Diamond, and there saw a crowd assembling opposite Shipquay Street. I returned to the mouth of Ferryquay Street at the Diamond and saw a party of police in position across the street, and a group of approximately 200 ladies, youths, children, and some men, assembled in Ferryquay Street. I also saw Major Bunting's car in this group.

The party in the Diamond held their meeting, and a child, Martin Melaugh, aged 11 years, read the Declaration of Human Rights. A large number of the crowd then dispersed, but a sizeable group of young persons remained.

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On receiving approval from County Inspector Kerr, I directed the police at Ferryquay Street to move to the side, and the crowd in Ferryquay Street moved into the Diamond and took up position directly opposite Ferryquay Street. They were there addressed by Major Bunting, but as the loudspeaker equipment on his car appeared to be defective, I could not hear what he was saying. This meeting, which concluded with the singing of the National Anthem, lasted approximately 15 minutes. Major Bunting then left the scene. He was at this time wearing a civilian suit.

The respective crowds remained in the Diamond and the police ensured that they were kept apart. The only missiles thrown were a few fireworks. The children throwing these were spoken to. No other missiles were thrown, nor was there evidence that those remaining were in possession of weapons. There was an absence of tension which usually precedes trouble. At approximately 4.45 p.m. both crowds dispersed.

No complaints were received by the police that anyone had been assaulted or injured, or property damaged.

I would estimate that approximately 1,000 persons assembled in the Diamond for the reading of the Declaration.

Major Bunting did not march from the Waterside Railway Station, as notified.

No placards, banners, or flags were carried by the Civil Rights members.

At 5.20 p.m. I visited Major Bunting at his request at 12 Melrose Terrace, Londonderry, and there met him and the committee of the Loyal Citizens of Ulster. I was not introduced to all these persons, but I noted that they numbered six. I knew Robert Buchanan and Edgar Allen but I did not know the other four persons.

Major Bunting informed me that he was very well satisfied with the action he had taken, that his committee had made a gesture of opposition, that there had been no violence, and that the world could now see that two different parties spoke in the Diamond at the same time. His committee concurred with this.

He then discussed with me arrangements for a parade on the 9th November, 1968, from Waterside Railway Station to the Diamond, where it is proposed to hold a meeting.

This will form the subject of a separate report.

R. Lyle Bunting D.I.

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Statement of District Inspector E. Woods, R.U.C. regarding parade by Londonderry Citizens Action Committee in Londonderry on 2.11.68.

On 2nd November, 1968 I was in charge of a party of police positioned at Ferryquay Gate, Londonderry for the passage of the proposed parade by the Londonderry Citizens Action Committee and the rival parade by the "Loyal Citizens of Ulster." We took up duty at this point at 2 p.m. and everything appeared normal. The stationing of police at this point was a precautionary measure. Here there is a junction formed by Fountain Street on the one hand and Bridge St. and Orchard Street on the other. Carlisle Road separates these two areas which are occupied by opposing political factions and Ferryquay Gate is right inside. It was through this gate that the proposed Action Committee's procession was to enter the old City and it was considered wise for the purpose of the police arrangements to regard a hostile demonstration as a probability.

At 2.45 p.m. approx. Major Ronald Bunting the prime mover in the movement and styling itself the "Loyal Citizens of Ulster" passed along the processional route in his car. It was prominently displaying the Union and Ulster Flags but without incident. He returned again about 2.50 p.m. and parked his car nearly in Fountain Street. He was met by a few others and this small party equipped with amplifier and blackboard took up a position on the footpath just outside the gate on the Fountain St. side. Other persons attached themselves and eventually the group numbered about fifty at least half of whom were women and girls.

Major Bunting placed his blackboard and easel on the roadway several feet out from the footpath and near it the amplifier. The roadway narrows down considerably at this point as it enters the gate. In this position the equipment was occupying almost half of the roadway. I spoke to Major Bunting pointing out that this was an unreasonable and unnecessary obstruction of the road and asked him to move it in close to the footpath. Reluctantly but very affably he did so pointing out that he was compelled to make a protest. I said I understood but suggested that if he did not desire trouble it would be an earnest of his good faith if he addressed his supporters accordingly. This he commenced doing, interspersed of course with remarks about the necessity for the stand they were taking on this occasion. I placed most of my men in a line sealing off this group. While Major Bunting was addressing his followers the procession arrived and immediately there was confusion. Ahead of the procession had come a battery of photographers, and seeing the Major's party with their Union Flags they halted at the gate, no doubt scenting trouble. Almost immediately a large number of marshalls appeared on either side of the road and linked arms. They, too, halted, thus effectively if momentarily cutting off the police from free movement on the roadway as they were between the police and the centre of the road. Some of the processionists made their way through the photographers while some seemed to halt. I and other police had to force our way through the marshalls to get out on to the road. Several hundred spectators who had been following the procession swelled in on each side thus narrowing down the passage to the gateway. Some of the marshalls called for a 'sit down' and some fifty or so persons did so; other marshalls urged the procession to keep moving. For two or three minutes there was confusion. In a short time the press and photographers moved on and the rest of the crowd followed them into Ferryquay Street. There was much pushing and heaving, but no violence or fights and eventually the pressure lessened and the situation returned to normal.

Throughout the confusion at the gate Major Bunting's party sang occasionally and shouted the odd political expression but I must say they never moved and with the police between them and the opposing crowd there was no physical contact between the two. Nor on the other hand did the large crowd supporting the processionists make any attempt that I could see to attack the Bunting camp. There had been no necessity for the halt which

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(32)

had occurred. It was brought about unwittingly by the photographers stopping to take photographs then by the confusion of the marshalls as to whether to continue or stop and finally by the huge crowd behind surging forward thus filling the roadway. The marshalls were both a help and a hindrance.

As soon as the procession had passed Major Bunting packed up his equipment and with flags flying his small contingent set off for the Diamond. I requested permission from Control to follow with most of my party, now no longer required at Ferryquay Gate, to assist at the Diamond and we remained there until all was quiet and the crowds dispersed.

Before concluding this report I would like to sound a note of caution about the employment of marshalls for parades such as these. They were active and generally speaking did a good job. But in large numbers and especially when they take the vigorous role they did on 2nd inst., I find the idea a little disquieting to say the least. I think they should not be too numerous, should not reflect sectarian feeling and should confine their attentions to keeping their own processionists only in order. It occurs to me if, where two factions meet, and both have lusty marshalls in large numbers a situation might arise where the marshalls themselves would be in conflict and in large crowds one has no means of knowing what are the political affiliations of individual persons and they would resent being pushed around by marshalls from the opposite camp. On the whole I do not think they are to be encouraged.

District Inspector.

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(31)

Subject:- Rival Marches in Londonderry on 2/11/68.

R.U.C. STATION
STRABANE
- 3 NOV 1968
Co. TYRONE

District Inspector,
Londonderry.

I was in charge of a party of two Head Constables., seven Sergeants and 37 Constables detailed for duty at the Diamond in connection with the Civil Rights march. We took up position at 2.25pm. I had two tenders with this force. I paced one tender in Bishp Street about 50 yards from the Diamond and placed the Armagh Force of one Head Constable, three Sergeants and 12 Constbles in this as reserve. I placed the second tender in the bottom right of the diamond when facing towards the Guildhall. I placed a Tyrone Force of two Sergeants and 12 Constables in this tender. The remaining men were divided into sections under a Sergeant and placed around the Diamond on the Ferryquay Street side of it. Shortly after 3p.m., when I heard over the radio that the marchers had left the Waterside Station, a car came down from Ferryquay Street and encircled the Diamond and returned back down Ferryquay Street. There was one and possibly two Union Flags flying from this car. A few minutes late another white car with a Union and Ulster Flag flying from it came into the Diamond from Ferryquay Street. It appeared to be fitted with a speaker and I believe that Major Bunting was in it. This car stopped in the Diamond between Shipquay Street and Ferryquay Street. I had a message to this effect sent by pocket radio to Control. In a few minutes however, this car drove off down Ferryquay Street. Although spectator traffic was considerable in the Diamond and Ferryquay Street at this time, no incident occurred.

Shortly after this, I saw that the parade must be in the vicinity of Ferryquay gate as the road there appeared to be blocked with people. At this stage I called in the Reserve party in the two tenders and they were stationed in the Diamond on each side of the entrance to Ferryquay Street. The marchers next appeared and encircled the Diamond to their loud speaker van on the Shipquay Street side of the Diamond. I noticed that a number of Civil Rights stewarts followed at the rear of the Civil Rights supporters. They had joined hands and it seemed that their purpose was to ensure that they all remained in a body. I next noticed a small crowd of people with one or two Union Jacks at the Bishop Street edge of the Diamond. I sent a number of police to reinforce those already at this point. There were only about one dozen juveniles in this group. They sang some party songs but they presented no real problem. At this stage the Civil Rights meeting was under way and there was considerable noise and din. I then noticed a party of 50 to 100 unionists marching up Ferryquay Street towards the Diamond. In this procession a number of Union Flags were being carried. I instructed Sergeant D. Reid, Cookstown, and other police to stretch across the mouth of Ferryquay Street at Austin's shop and to join arms and to block off the entrance to the Diamond. I got other police to form a second line behind the first. The Unionist party stopped a few yards short of the police line and no attempt was made to force a way past. I noticed that a member of the Unionist party was carrying a loud speaker on his shoulder, facing towards the Diamond. I cannot say who the speaker was although I believe it was Major Bunting. The din was so intense at this stage that I do not remember whether the Unionist supporters were singing hymns or party songs although both featured in the programme during the afternoon.

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The position remained thus while the Civil Rights meeting was going on. No attempt was made by either group to 'get at' the other. Approaching 4 p.m., the Civil Rights meeting appeared to be over although there was still a large no. of people around the Diamond.

District Inspector Mc Gimpsey then allowed Major Bunting and his party into the Diamond. They took up position at the Ferryquay St. side of the Diamond. At this stage there were shouts from this crowd, " We want Paisley " " We want Craig." Major Bunting appeared to be the speaker but I couldn't hear what he said because by this time a large no. of people had congregated in the Shipquay/Ferryquay quarter of the Diamond. I detailed police to form two separate lines alongside the rival supporters. There was a gap of about 5 or 6 yds., between the rival groups. I told police at the top of Shipquay St. to keep the traffic moving through the Diamond. The bus traffic particularly helped maintain a reasonable corridor between the rival groups. There was no effort by either group to get at the opposition. Rival party songs and slogans were exchanged. The Civil Rights group comprised mostly young persons with many women. Several men who said they were stewards moved through this crowd and urged them to move away. They had a little success.

Ultimately most of this group moved into Shipquay St. where stewards continued to persuade these people to clear off. I had a discussion with S.I. Hood at this stage and we agreed that the large no. of police in the area was keeping a lot of spectators about and we therefore sent a number of police into the tenders I have already mentioned. I believe that this helped in the quick dispersal of the remaining spectators. In a short time traffic had resumed normal Saturday afternoon density and on instructions from Control the major part of the police in the Diamond returned to Victoria Station.

District Inspector.

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(30)

SUBJECT:- Civil Rights March and Counter Demonstrations in Londonderry on 2nd November, 1968.

DISTRICT INSPECTOR'S OFFICE
- 4 NOV 1968
REF. No.....
R.U.C. RESERVE FORCE

County Inspector,
C.S. Branch.

I have to report that I was detailed for escort duty at the rear of the Civil Rights March from the Waterside Station to the Diamond, Londonderry, on the above date. To carry out this task I used one Platoon of the Reserve Force in three tenders and our job was to travel immediately behind the marchers.

We took up position in Simpson's Brae which is opposite the forecourt of the Waterside Railway Station at approximately 2 p.m. At approximately 2.15 p.m. a few spectators, reporters and photographers started to gather and by 2.30 p.m. approximately 150 people were congregated around the square and adjoining street corners. At 2.35 p.m. Major Bunting arrived by car displaying the Union Jack and the Ulster Flag. Bunting was dressed in a British Army battledress blouse with Major's badges of rank, flannel trousers and a tweed hat. I spoke to him and he told me that in view of the notice previously served on him by District Inspector McGimpsey directing him to delay his parade to 4 p.m. that he was not going to have a parade but was going to address his supporters and ask them to join the others at the 'Teach-Out' at Ferryquay Gate. At this stage it was impossible to tell one lot of supporters from the other or to distinguish them from spectators. Bunting set up a very inefficient public address system with the speaker on the top of his car and addressed his supporters which only amounted to a couple of dozen, read the police notice served on him and moved off via Bonds Hill before 3 p.m. without incident.

At approximately 2.40 p.m. the fifteen civil rights marchers arrived with a large number of marshalls wearing white arm bands. The size of the crowd increased to approximately 500 at 3 p.m. The marchers formed up and on the stroke of 3 p.m. moved off in five columns of three along Duke Street. As they passed the mouth of Simpson's Brae I followed immediately behind them on foot with the three Reserve Force tenders behind me. Other police marched parallel with them on each flank. The marshalls endeavoured to keep the fifteen isolated by directing supporters to walk on the footpath and in this they succeeded to a certain extent. Crowds lined the route mostly in support of the marchers but some small sections carried Union Jacks, shouted insults and sang Loyalist songs. This was the general pattern along Duke Street, Craigavon Bridge, Carlisle Square and Carlisle Road.

The right hand man of the last section of three had a Walkie Talkie two way R.T. Set and was in constant communication with another set approximately sited near Ferryquay Gate. I was able to overhear his transmissions and most of the messages received.

In Carlisle Road the supporters along the route had joined the rear of the procession and all marshalls were ordered forward as the parade approached Ferryquay Gate. They ran forward and linked arms as they did so. When we came in sight of Ferryquay Gate I saw a vehicle coming through the arch towards us indicating that the crowd was not too dense. I then

/ saw

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saw two flags similar to the ones in Bunting's car appearing in the arch together with a number of Union Jacks. The parade halted within a few yards of the gate and immediately the fifteen marchers and their supporters were ordered to sit down on the roadway. Most of them complied with this order. In a matter of seconds the gateway cleared and everyone got up and rushed through the gate led by reporters and photographers. As I came through the gate I could only see a handful of police and it was obvious that Bunting had ordered his supporters to withdraw inside the walls. At this stage the fifteen marchers were swamped by their supporters and were lost in the crowd which surged towards the Diamond along Ferryquay Street. The Civil Rights supporters streamed into the Diamond and when the Declaration of Civil Rights was being read I estimated that at least 2,000 people were present. After the Declaration was read we saw a crowd of about 200 headed by Bunting carrying Union Jacks and singing Loyalists songs coming up Ferryquay Street towards the Diamond. We immediately placed a double cordon of police across the mouth of Ferryquay Street and prevented them from entering the Diamond. At this stage the Civil Rights marshalls were endeavouring to clear the Diamond after their meeting. When the Diamond was reasonably clear we allowed Bunting and his followers which consisted mainly of women and children into the Diamond where he held a short political/religious meeting. While this meeting was going on some Civil Rights supporters gathered opposite them in a corner of the Diamond and both sides later engaged in a slanging, chanting, singing match with a row of police keeping each side hemmed in with traffic flowing through between them. When the opposing functions tired they dwindled away and the Diamond was practically clear at 5 p.m.

It was quite obvious from the outset that the Civil Rights marchers were not out for trouble with either the police or their counter demonstrators and both sides were fully prepared to obey police directions without question. There were a few scuffles but there were of the pushing and shoving type. Certainly I saw no blows being struck. There was absolutely no hostility towards the police and I have never seen a Derry crowd better mannered and this applied to both sides.

The Civil Rights supporters who moved with the marchers were composed of mostly men and youths. It was very noticeable that there were very few women and children except a few along the route.

J Reed D.I.
Reserve Force

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SUBJECT:- Duty in Londonderry on Saturday, 2nd. NOVEMBER, 1968, in connection with march by Citizens Action Committee and proposed march by the Loyal Citizens of Ulster.

District Inspector's Office,
Royal Ulster Constabulary,
MAGHERAFELT,
3rd. NOVEMBER, 1968.

District Inspector,
LONDONDERRY.

Transmitted.

I have to report that I performed duty in Londonderry on 2nd. NOVEMBER, 1968, in connection with the above march and proposed counter-march. The sector for which I was responsible was Waterside area generally and in particular the Duke Street area in vicinity of the L.M.S. Railway Station where both proposed marches were planned to commence. I was accompanied by Head Constable ROBINSON, Victoria, together with other Police.

I took up duty in that area at 2.25p.m. Upon arrival I noted a cream coloured car driven by a man later identified to me as Major BUNTING, Dundonald. The vehicle was parked in the fore-court of the Railway Station, was bedecked with two Union Flags and was fitted to the rear with what appeared to be an amplifier. There were a number of ladies, about eight, standing in the vicinity and a number of males the majority of whomwere carrying cameras of varying sorts. The group of ladies commenced to and continued singing hymns but constant passing traffic reduced audibility considerably. On the opposite side to the L.M.S. about 150 persons, male and female, lined the edge of the footpath. At 2.30p.m. Major BUNTING addressed the assembly stating that an announcement would be made at 2.45p.m.

At approximately 2.40p.m. the fifteen members destined to form the marching Citizens Action Committee arrived accompanied by approximately 30 marshalls. The latter wore white cloth armbands. This ground formed up in Duke Street on the City side of the L.M.S. Station and on the off-side of the carriageway facing towards Craigavon Bridge.

At 2.45p.m., Major BUNTING addressed the persons assembled. He informed them that a march was being held by a group of 'Rebels'; that a march had been planned and arranged by the 'Loyal Citizens of Ulster' but notice had been served by the Police prohibiting the march from commencing until 5p.m. He then read from the notice served and seemed to read the notice in its entirity. Then he said the 'Loyal Citizens of Ulster' were law-abiding and would abide by the direction given. He informed the assembly that they had two choices:-
(1) to go ahead now to Ferryquay Gate where a 'teach-in' would be held or,
(2) fall in and march behind the 'Rebels'. He said also that the Loyal Citizens of Ulster would not allow any 'Placard-carrying Rebels' to pass through the Gates of 'Derry. He announced then that he intended going to Ferryquay Gate in his car and would see them there. This is all I can relate of what Major BUNTING said. Although he spoke for some five minutes, the inferior quality of the amplifier coupled with the noise of constantly passing traffic prevented me hearing further detail even though I was standing conveneint to the persons assembled.

I then went to where the Citizens Action Committee had assembled. No placards were carried. At 3p.m. the procession moved off/

accompanied by

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accompanied by the marshalls but except for occasional cheers from bystanders there was no other reaction. As arragged, three Personnel Carriers followed immediately to the rear of the procession. Immediately after this procession moved off I returned to the L.M.S. Railway Station area and noted that Major BUNTING'S car had left. As it had been expected he intended taking the same route as the Citizens Action Committee marchers I enquired from the Police driver (Const. A. Macauley) the direction he had taken and learned he had driven off about five minutes previously via the orthodox traffic route, i.e., Duke Street/ Spencer Road. A message to this effect was relayed then to Control.

No incidents or difficulties arose at the assembly point in Waterside or along the route to Craigavon Bridge. Whilst I cannot say what group the majority of the bystanders supported, the general attitude seemed friendly and no unpleasantness evinced itself.

After the procession had left the Waterside I moved to the Diamond area via Abercorn Road and Bishop Street upon the instructions of C.I. Corbett, Control. There I joined District Inspector McANDREW and others officers and assisted in keeping the two rival factions apart until their dispersal.

N. J. Forde

District Inspector.

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(33)

Subject: Civil Rights march at Londonderr y on 2nd November, 1968.

DISTRICT INSPECTOR'S OFFICE
- 3 NOV 1968
REF. No.
R.U.C. LIMAVADY

County Ins pector,
Londonderry.

I have to report that in connection with the above I was on duty at Carlisle Square with a party of 1 H.C. 5 Sgts. and 22 Consts.

There were a number of spectators in the vicinity and before the procession approached a crowd of several hundred had assembled - mainly in the area from Abercorn Road to John St. This crowd was mainly Loyalist consisting of men, women and young teenagers.

As the procession of Civil Rights marchers approached the spectators at the Abercorn Road junction moved forward and lined the edge of the route. A number of stewards who were positioned in the vicinity formed a chain along the side of the route at the Abercorn road junction.

There was some cheering, jeering and barracking as the procession passed by. Two or three Union Jacks appeared from the byestanders and I saw one being thrust forward between the stewards and in the direction of the procession.

When the procession passed, the majority of the spectators followed up Carlisle Road. Union Jacks were still being displayed and there was s ome chanting and shouting.

Some time later a party of about thirty youths - boys and girls - came down Carlisle Road in procession form, and carrying a Union Jack,. They went up Abercorn Road towards the fountain. Some half hour later about ten of the same youths again came down Carlisle Road and crossed Craigavon bridge. They were still carrying the flag. They were orderly.

W. G. Harmon

District Inspector.

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(35)

PUBLIC ORDER ACT (N.I.) 1951.

I, Robert Rose McGIMPSEY, District Inspector of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, Londonderry, hereby notify you, that on the occasion of the parade and meeting by fifteen members of the Londonderry Citizens Action Committee from the Waterside Railway Station, Londonderry, via Duke Street, Craigavon Bridge, Carlisle Road, Ferryquay Street, to the Diamond and therein holding a meeting on Saturday, 2nd November, 1968, that the parade commence at 3 pm.

I hereby direct that, as notified by you, the parade is to be confined to the fifteen members of the above mentioned Committee and I reserve the right at any time, either prior to or during the parade, to impose any conditions that I consider necessary to maintain the peace.

R.R. McGimpsey.
District Inspector.

Mr. Ivan Cooper,
Killaloo,
Londonderry
and 27 William Street,
Londonderry.

Mr. John Hume,
7 Beechwood Avenue,
Londonderry.

Mr. Michael Canavan,
Talbot Park,
Londonderry.

Mr. James Doherty,
15 Queen Street,
Londonderry.

District Inspector's Office,
R.U.C. Londonderry.

Ref. No. .....

2nd November, 1968.

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(34)

PUBLIC ORDER ACT(N.I.) 1951.

I, Robert Ross McGimpsey, District Inspector, Royal Ulster Constabulary, hereby notify you that I, having been notified of a parade by the Loyal Citizens of Ulster, from Waterside Railway Station, Londonderry, via Duke Street, Craigavon Bridge, Carisle Road, Ferryquay Street, to the Diamond, hereby direct that your parade is to commence at 4.p.m. on the said date, 2nd November, 1968.

I also reserve the right at any time, either prior to or during the parade, to impose any conditions I consider necessary for the preservation of the peace.

R.R. McGimpsey
District Inspector.

To:- Mr. Robert J. BUCHANAN,
12, Melrose Terrace,
Londonderry.

Major R.T. Bunting,
6, Cumberland Drive,
Dundonald,
Co. Down.

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