

**FROM: SARAH TODD**  
**Security Policy and Operations Division**  
**12 July 1998**

cc See Copy Distribution

PS/Secretary of State (B&L)

**SITUATION REPORT: SUNDAY 12 JULY 0630 - 1830 HRS**

Summary

Update on Mr Perry's report of 0600 hours. In the aftermath of this morning's murders - 3 children in Ballymoney and young man in Silverstream Road, Belfast - the day has been characterised by intense activity aimed at resolving the stand-off (the Parades Commission turned down the fresh application to walk Garvaghy Road); and easing tensions for tomorrow's parade on the Lower Ormeau. Throughout the day it has been generally quiet at Drumcree and elsewhere.

Detail

2. Following meetings held between the First Minister and County Grand Masters; and separately between the LOCC and Alex Maskey, statements were issued as follows:

- By the First Minister and Deputy First Minister, calling for the Orangemen at Drumcree to immediately end their protest and for the residents' committee and the people of Garvaghy Road to positively recognise the significance of such a move. (There has been no response yet from Orangemen at Drumcree.)

- By the LOCC saying that as a mark of respect following the Ballymoney murders, tomorrow's protest will be dignified and non-confrontational.

3. In the morning an outer security cordon was installed on the Lower Ormeau in a joint operation by the RIR and RUC. At around 1600 hours the police issued a press statement and moved in to put in place the inner cordon. However, in the light of the LOCC's statement the police eased the inner cordon and withdrew to maintain the outer cordon only.

4. There was a report of a lone gunman having fired shots in Alliance Avenue, Belfast. The incident was later linked to this morning's Silverstream murder and following it three people were detained by police. Police have said the murder was not sectarian and not Drumcree-related.

5. At around midday the peace camp at Hillsborough Castle was reported to have disbanded, apparently in response to this morning's murders.

6. The lorry on the Loughgall to Armagh road was found to contain a viable device consisting of 1000-2000 lbs of HME, booster tubes and a detonator. It was successfully defused but a tupperware type box was also found in the vicinity and this remains the subject of an ongoing clearance operation.

7. ATO was tasked to a suspect device at Markethill (no further details available at present); and to forensic clearance of a burnt out vehicle at Coalisland.

RUC Statistics (Not for public release and subject to amendment)

From 0600 4 July - 0600 12 July 1998

Attacks on security forces (including 19 shooting incidents and 42 bombing incidents)	598
Arrests for Public Order Offences (eg Riot/Disorder)	254
Petrol bombing incidents	621
Petrol bombs recovered	2237
Hijacking	176
Criminal damage to homes	130
Criminal damage to other buildings	155
Criminal damage to vehicles	453
RUC officers injured	70
PBRs fired	751

NI Departments

The Met Office issued a further severe weather warning giving 40% risk of heavy rain and strong winds for Northern Ireland.

DOE (NI)

Roads

Marshallstown Road and Woodburn Road in Carrickfergus closed. Armagh/Moy Road closed due to security alert. Some damage has been caused to traffic signals in Belfast.

MB/26098

### Transport

- Air and sea ports operating normally.
- Rail service from Belfast to Dublin working to a restricted timetable but this is not connected to the Drumcree situation.
- Some diversions to Citybus service in Lower Ormeau Road area due to a security operation.

### Housing

There have been incidents of intimidation in Bangor, Donaghadee, Lurgan, Armagh and Dungannon. Four families have been placed in temporary accommodation. Others are staying with relatives. Emergency repairs have been carried out to 28 dwellings. Twelve properties have been boarded up, seven of these in Rathgael and Bangor where houses which had previously been boarded up had boarding removed for bonfires.

### Fire Service

There were 243 call outs of which 52 were attributed to civil disturbances. Four firemen were slightly hurt - two at the fire which killed the three children in Ballymoney.

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