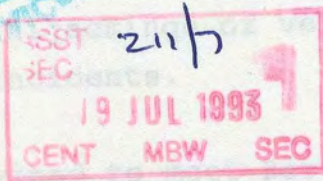
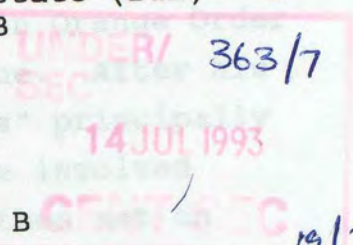


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Mrs. [unclear]
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FROM: SIMON ROGERS
SECURITY POLICY AND OPERATIONS DIVISION 1
7 JULY 1993



cc PS/Minister of State (B&L) - B
PS/PUS (B&L) - B
PS/Mr Fell - B
Mr Ledlie - B
Mr Steele - B
Mr Williams - B
Mr Cooke - B
Mr Wood (B&L) - B
Mr Maitland
Mr McCaffrey - B
Mr Brearley - B



1. Mr Perry
2. PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - B

19/7
Mr. [unclear] (dy)
for free
Dane
8/2

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE REQUEST FOR BRIEFING - ALLEGATION THAT THE RUC MET THE UDA

On Tuesday, this week, the Prime Minister's Office was given briefing on the allegation that a member of the UDA had met a police officer at a house in the Shankill area of Belfast to discuss how the situation in the area could be calmed down.

2. In light of the statement released by the Police last night (Tuesday) this briefing needs to be updated for Prime Minister's Questions on Thursday. A revised background note and lines to take are attached for your consideration. The line to take has not changed significantly, but it cannot now be said that the Police did not speak to the alleged UDA member, although it can be said that they did not have discussions or a meeting with him.

(Signed)

SIMON ROGERS
SPOB
Ext 27032

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Background Note

Brian McCallum, a UVF member, died last week from injuries he received when the grenade he was about to throw at the police exploded. He was part of a group of "hangers on" at an Orange Order parade at Whiterock in West Belfast on Saturday 26 June. After his funeral, on Friday, there were incidents by "loyalists" principally in Belfast, Bangor, Newtownabbey and Dundonald. These involved attacks on police, hijackings of vehicles which were then set on fire and shooting incidents.

The police were invited to meet Rev Ian Paisley and some unionist councillors in a house in the Shankill area of Belfast. It is alleged by "loyalists" that a member of the UDA's Inner Council was also present and had talks with a senior RUC officer (Note: the UDA is a proscribed organisation). The RUC confirmed shortly afterwards that they did meet the political representatives but that they did not have discussions with the UDA. Two of the councillors present stated that the police were not involved in discussions with the UDA.

When asked about the allegations the Secretary of State said on Monday 5 July that he had discussed the matter with the Deputy Chief Constable and had been told by him that, although there was a house in which a meeting took place with representatives of political parties to which a certain person came, that person did not speak to the RUC and there was no discussion between any representative of a paramilitary organisation and the RUC. The Secretary of State also said that it was not the policy of the police to meet with any representative of a paramilitary organisation.

The Police have now issued a detailed statement (on Tuesday evening) in which they comment that when a 'man' arrived unannounced at the meeting he was told by a Chief Inspector that " ... there would be no discussion with him". The man apparently complained in heated tones about police activity in the area. They have, therefore, admitted a " ... brief stand-up" encounter.

This is less unambiguous than the police's initial line that they did not speak to the 'man', but the point is that there was no discussion with him.

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e to take

The police have stated quite categorically that they did not have discussions with a man alleged to represent the UDA and that they would not have attended a meeting had they known this man was going to to turn up.

- It is not the policy of the police to meet with representatives of paramilitary organisations.

SCOTTISH REFORMS - SCOTLAND

This is to provide advice on the Secretary of State for Scotland's letter to the Home Secretary dated 2 July outlining a range of reforms to be made in the police service in Scotland.

Background

2. The Secretary of State for Scotland has written to the Home Secretary and other Cabinet colleagues enclosing the text of a draft Parliamentary Question to be used to announce changes in the police service in Scotland. This announcement will be timed to coincide with a White Paper on Local Government Reorganisation in Scotland. It is now planned to publish the White Paper tomorrow (11 July) and to release the PQ on Friday 9 July.

The Scottish reforms

3. The Scottish Secretary's proposals replicate some, but by no means all, of the changes outlined in the recent Police Reform White Paper for England and Wales. In a number of respects the Secretary of State will be following a different tactical line.

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