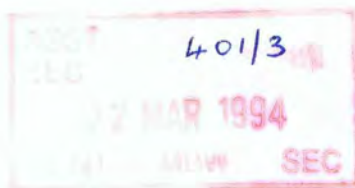


31/94

FROM: MRS C COLLINS
Police Division
21 March 1994



[Handwritten signature]

cc PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - B
PS/PUS (B&L) - B
PS/Mr Fell - B
Mr Legge - B
Mr Lyon - B
Mr Steele - B
Mr Bell - B
Mr Watkins - B
Mr Wood - B
Dr Rosborough
Mrs Treacy
Mr McCaffrey - B

877/3

PS/Sir John Wheeler (B&L) - B

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ARMING OF POLICEWOMEN

You will recollect that the Chief Constable has decided that women RUC officers should be armed, because of the requirements of Equal Opportunity Legislation. I understand that the necessary training programme is now completed, and the new policy will take effect from 1 April. The RUC will be arranging some press coverage this week, to highlight the change, and provide some reassurance.

2. It is something of an improvement that the RUC have warned us of this, although the issue is itself of relatively little importance.

Signed

C COLLINS

[Faint signature]
D. SANDERSON
Principal Private Secretary

[Faint signature]
William Rogers Esq
24/21, 2001 Sir Patrick Mayhew QC TD
Secretary of State for Northern
Ireland

JB POB 15951