

I, 9347, say as follows to the Inquiry into Institutional Abuse 1922 to 1995 (the HIA Inquiry).

### **Background**

1. I was an officer in the Security Service for 34 years.
2. During my service I was appointed between 1981 and 1983 to the role of Assistant Secretary Political (otherwise known as 'ASP') in Northern Ireland, where I served on secondment from the Security Service to the Northern Ireland Office.
3. I confirm that I was not involved in Northern Ireland in the mid 1970's, and did not know of anything to do with the Kincora Boys Hostel ('Kincora') until my role began in 1982.
4. The ASP was the Security Service representative who worked alongside the Army, based in Lisburn. That is where my office was located.
5. I reported to the Director and Coordinator of Intelligence (otherwise known as the 'DCI'), a Senior Security Service officer, seconded to the NIO, who was based at Stormont.
6. I have been asked to look at documents authored by me in my role as ASP in 1982. I have no personal recollection of the documents at this remove, save to confirm the contents of the documents were what I recorded at the time.

### **Note for File dated the 29<sup>th</sup> June 1982**

7. I refer to a Note for File dated the 29<sup>th</sup> June 1982 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Note for File') which can be found at Exhibit 1 to this statement. I confirm that I am the author of this Note for File. I am informed by the Security Service, and therefore believe, that the HIA Inquiry has seen the unredacted document.
8. This Note for File is based on discussions I had with **Captain L** of the Special Investigations Branch of the Army.
9. From my Note for File I can see that I had access to a number of documents. These included:
  - a. A record of Brian Gemmell's interview with Jim McCormack of the 25 March, 1975;

- b. The direction from Ian Cameron's assistant to Brian Gemmell of the 4<sup>th</sup> April 1975 as to the parameters of any interview he was due to have with Roy Garland; and
  - c. A record of Brian Gemmell's subsequent interview with Roy Garland.
10. I have been asked what I can remember about the content of the above documents. I cannot now remember the content of the documents. All I can say about their content is that which is recorded in my Note for File, and my subsequent telegram of the 19<sup>th</sup> July 1982.
  11. It is apparent to me that my Note for File indicates that the Security Service was concerned about the parameters of the RUC police investigation into Kincora and its potential to stray into matters concerning intelligence agents and intelligence generally, which were not related to Kincora, a possibility which the Security Service would have wished to avoid occurring.
  12. It is clear to me from current consideration of my Note for File that at that time I envisaged the possibility, subject to what Brian Gemmell said to the RUC, of RUC Superintendent Caskey asking me (as the then ASP) what Ian Cameron did with the results of Brian Gemmell's meeting with Roy Garland in 1975. In the Note for File I clearly stated that I could potentially show RUC Superintendent Caskey the 4<sup>th</sup> April 1975 direction from Ian Cameron's assistant, which laid out the parameters of the interview Brian Gemmell was permitted to conduct with Roy Garland. It is apparent from my consideration of this Note to File that I quoted from that direction in paragraph 8 of my telegram of 19<sup>th</sup> July 1982. It is apparent that, in quoting from that file, I did not refer to any intelligence that emerged from the meeting Brian Gemmell had with Roy Garland.
  13. It is clear that my Note for File was compiled with reference to, and direct reliance on documents that were contained in a Security Service file, which was held by the ASP locally at HQNI. I am advised by the Security Service that this file cannot now be located. I can confirm that it was not destroyed during my time serving as the ASP in Northern Ireland, as, to my knowledge, no files were destroyed during my time.

## **Captain L**'s memo of the 28<sup>th</sup> June 1982

14. I have been shown a 6 page memo signed by **Captain L** of the 28<sup>th</sup> June 1982 which can be found at Exhibit 2. I am informed by the Security Service and therefore believe that the HIA Inquiry has seen the unredacted document. I cannot recall the document at this remove.

**Telegram of 19<sup>th</sup> July 1982**

15. I have also been shown a telegram of the 19<sup>th</sup> July 1982 which can be found at Exhibit 3. I confirm I was the author of the telegram. I am informed by the Security Service and therefore believe that the HIA Inquiry has seen the unredacted document.
16. The telegram records my report back to London on what **Captain L** told me of the RUC interview with Brian Gemmell.
17. That telegram, amongst other things, at paragraph 8 demonstrates that I quoted directly from the direction of Ian Cameron's assistant to Brian Gemmell of the 4<sup>th</sup> April 1975 as to the parameters of any interview that was to be conducted with Roy Garland.

**General**

18. I can say to the HIA Inquiry, based on my recollections, that the Security Service in Northern Ireland did not concern itself with questions of investigating whether someone was a practising homosexual or not. Therefore, the guidance given to Brian Gemmell, that the army requirement was for information on TARA and that the army had no interest in the investigation of deviant sexual activities or religious aspects of the group, comes as no surprise to me.
19. I do not remember reading any document that would indicate that the Service had any knowledge of the abuse of children at Kincora, prior to the revelation in the media in 1980.
20. At this remove I cannot remember what I read in the files I had access to at the time, and after the period of over 30 years, it is difficult for me to speculate about what may be considered to be inferences or implications that arise from what I wrote. I accept the HIA Inquiry is entitled to do so.
21. I have provided this statement to the HIA on the understanding that my identity will be protected. I confirm that the pin number used to identify me above was unique to me and I am aware that the Director General of the Security Service will be confirming my true identity to the HIA Inquiry.

Signed: 9347 .

Dated: 8 June 2016

E - CLASSIFICATION  
[REDACTED]

Annex A

1. Personal DetailsBrian Smart GEMMEL  
[REDACTED]Subject of London's **E - FILE REFERENCES**  
1969-72 Undergraduate Strathclyde University reading  
Economics and Business Studies.2. Security History**B - SOURCE PROTECTION**  
[REDACTED]b. Met by **D - MI5 OFFICER** in Feb 1971 in **F - IRRELEVANT** who  
described him as "fascinated by agent work but is inclined  
to take risks, shrewd ... and would like to join the  
Security Service.c. 1972 interviewed by **D - MI5 OFFICER** as a possible office  
candidate and was advised to get job experience. GEMMEL  
took a SSC in the Int Corps.d. 1973 talent spotted **E -** [REDACTED]e. 1976 talent spotted. **D - MI5 OFFICER** [REDACTED]f. Nov 1976 interviewed and rejected as an office candidate.  
Seen by **D - MI5 OFFICER** [REDACTED]

g. There is no OSA Declaration signed by GEMMEL on HO files.

**B - SOURCE PROTECTION**  
[REDACTED][REDACTED]  
INCORRECT NFF - PLEASE SEE KIN-105282,  
KIN-105283 FOR CORRECT NFF DATED 29 JUNE  
1982  
[REDACTED]**E - CLASSIFICATION**  
[REDACTED]

E - CLASSIFICATION

we had no worries regarding criminal aspects. I accepted that there could be no question of a cover up, however, Caskey (the RUC investigating officer) was probably not PV'd and we did not wish him (if at all possible) to read any papers relating to the IJS's activities. A further complication was the likelihood that a number of these matters were subject to the OSA for this reason I needed to have the fullest details available for presentation to the DCI and that he would probably seek the views of Lk.

5. CLF gave the following orders:-

a. <sup>MOD OFFICER L</sup> was to provide GEMMEL's address in <sup>F-2</sup> <sup>IRRELEVANT</sup> if asked by Caskey.

b. He was to say that he had met GEMMEL but taken no statement. He was not to provide any details of this conversation.

c. <sup>MOD OFFICER L</sup> was to provide me with a full written report.

d. The matter was to be referred to the DCI for his advice.

e. Many of the papers relating to this case were <sup>E-CLASSIFICATION</sup> and in view of the possibility of this case affecting Police/Army/Security Service relations the matter was to be closely held.

6. I have kept <sup>D - MIS OFFICER</sup> fully briefed of developments in this case. He confirmed on the 29 June that <sup>B-1</sup> <sup>CODEWORD</sup> <sup>RD</sup> is not declared to the RUC.

E - SIGNATURE

D - MIS OFFICER

ASP

29 June 1982

INCORRECT NFF - PLEASE SEE  
KIN-105282, KIN-105283 FOR CORRECT  
NFF DATED 29 JUNE 1982

E - CLASSIFICATION

E - Classification

INCORRECT NFF - PLEASE SEE KIN-105282.  
KIN-105283 FOR CORRECT NFF DATED 29  
JUNE 1982

NOTE FOR FILE

E - File  
Reference/Staff

cc 931

Brian Swartz GEMMEL

DOE: [REDACTED]

1. ACOS [REDACTED] told me on the evening of the 28 June that GEMMEL had been interviewed [REDACTED] by Capt [REDACTED] (SIB). [REDACTED] report had been given directly to the CLF and was believed to contain information provided by GEMMEL about:-

- a. His activities as the case officer of [REDACTED] B - PROTECTION OF SOURCE
- b. That these activities were directed by the ASP (Cameron).

c. That he had been an [REDACTED] B - SOURCE PROTECTION

2. I passed this information to DCI who asked me:-

- a. To trace GEMMEL with London.
- b. To obtain a written account of GEMMEL's conversation with [REDACTED]

3. I phoned the NDO who fortuitously was [REDACTED] D - MI5 OFFICER. He was subsequently able to provide me with details of GEMMEL which are attached at Annex A.

4. On the morning of the 29 June I was called to a meeting with the CLF, COS [REDACTED], ACOS [REDACTED] and ACOS [REDACTED]. I summarised the [REDACTED] case emphasising that he was a current undeclared asset of the [REDACTED]. I confirmed that GEMMEL had been involved with Security Service activities in the early 1970s and that his role as controller of [REDACTED] had been co-ordinated by the ASP (Cameron). I explained that this was not a Security Service operation but because of the sensitive and unusual aspects of it the ASP had taken a close interest in the way it was conducted. ASP and the source advisers played a leading role in facilitating the transfer of this case from the Army to the [REDACTED]. I assured the CLF that our papers showed that the case was run in a proper fashion that as far as I could see

E - CLASSIFICATION

/...

Captain B

Received by hand from

(SI8) 29.6.82

E - CLASSIFICATION

Ej 02907/2

Copy No 1 of 2

Brief re Mr B Gemmell ex Capt Int Corps

Attended Strathclyde University where he became actively engaged in student politics. He was elected Chairman of the University Conservatives and

B - SOURCE PROTECTION

B - SOURCE PROTECTION

B - SOURCE PROTECTION

Gemmell became interested in security service work but on leaving University he applied for and was granted a regular commission in the Intelligence Corps.

B - SOURCE PROTECTION

B - SOURCE PROTECTION

His course at Sandhurst was DE/1 subsequent to which he commanded a Pl from 1 PWO (Inf att) on the streets of Belfast.

Gemmell was posted to 123 Int Sec, 39 Bde, in Nov 74. He initially worked gathering intelligence on Protestant Organisations and in this connection requested permission from HQNI to

B - SOURCE PROTECTION

(This source is now referred to as

B - CODEWORD

Gemmell was investigating the 'TARA' organisation and he deduced through general conversation with <sup>B - CODE</sup> that Clifford Smyth was the Intelligence Officer for TARA.

E - CLASSIFICATION



**E - CLASSIFICATION**

This organisation involved a man called William McGrath (believed to be the leader) and the accepted aims of the unit were to take over NI in the event of total civil war.

Soon after Gemmell requested permission **B - SOURCE PROTECTION** and submitted information as a result of meetings, he was summoned to HQNI for a meeting with Asst Sec (Pol) Cameron (now retired). He was encouraged to continue the relationship and to involve his family. Gemmell at this time used a PR cover, He gained considerable information from **B - CODEWORD** on

1. TARA
2. Political Opponents of **B - CODEWORD**
3. IRA (TARA had an intelligence net).

Reports were usually typed, some verbal and some taped. **B - CODEWORD** also provided intelligence on Paisley which in the main was only passed to Cameron and NOT copies to 39 Bde files. Nearly all information of a political nature was given ONLY to Cameron. Gemmell believed (because of the info that **B - CODEWORD** had) that **B - CODEWORD** had a source in HQNI, or the Army. **B - CODEWORD** had possession of sectarian maps, a copy of Visor and details of unit moves **B - SOURCE PROTECTION**

**B - SOURCE PROTECTION**

NB This may have been WALLACE!

**B - SOURCE PROTECTION****B - SOURCE PROTECTION**

McGrath was known

to be a homosexual.

At this point Gemmell experienced a spiritual change which resulted in him becoming a 'Committed Christian' and in furtherance of this through his family he became friendly with two men of similar persuasion in NI.

**E - CLASSIFICATION**

E - CLASSIFICATION

In general conversation Gemmell mentioned TARA and in the conversation which followed he was directed towards a man named McCormick who allegedly had info. Gemmell interviewed McCormick and it was obvious that McCormick wanted to expose McGrath because he was practising deviant sexual acts under the guise of christianity. McCormick also mentioned that McGrath had seduced a young missionary girl and committed some sexual act on a negro.

cont.....

E - CLASSIFICATION

McCormick suggested that Gremmell should interview a man called Roy Garland who was subsequently seen by Gremmell and SGT <sup>MOD</sup> OFFICER Q Int Corps (Believed <sup>MOD</sup> OFFICER Q had other meetings with Garland) (McCormick has given info to RUC and Garland has been interviewed by RUC he related this interview as being with a "Christian soldier".) The interview was under covert circumstances in Thiepval Bks and on one occasion in McCormick's home.

Garland outlined the following:-

For many years McGrath had been involved with children. When Garland was a boy McGrath had collected a number of young boys around him under a "Christian banner" Garland was one of these boys. His (McGrath's) method was to counsel the boys on sexual problems which he persuaded them to discuss with him (usually masturbation and Christian attitudes towards it) Garland related that McGrath was running a Boys' Home (not named) in Newtownards Rd, Belfast, and had recruited other known homosexuals to assist him. "A man like that doesn't run a Boys' home and not seduce boys" was a particular comment made by Garland. NB Wallace may have been involved in this boys circle as a youth. Gemmell summarises that this boys circle formed the nucleus of TARA and also believes that Garland was in the UDR.

Gemmell reported this information (McGrath and boys home) to Asst Sec (Pol) and he was summoned by Cameron who appeared angry and told him that homosexuality was dangerous and that he was to sever his connection with <sup>B - CODEWORD</sup>

Sometime later (weeks) <sup>B - CODEWORD</sup> rang Gemmell one lunchtime and insisted on a meeting. He passed information that <sup>B - SOURCE PROTECTION</sup> This was relayed to Cameron or <sup>B - IDENTITY</sup> (also Asst Sec (Pol)) who then in direct contradiction to previous orders encouraged continued contact with <sup>B - CODEWORD</sup> <sup>B - CODEWORD</sup> said that McGrath had hinted that he had connections with the SS. This was generally believed to be true and thought that he was being handled by RUC SB. According to Gemmell this would account for Cameron's instruction to forget the homosexual allegations against McGrath and to drop his connection with <sup>B - CODEWORD</sup>

however when it was apparent that [B-CODEWORD] was producing better information than their man (McGrath?) then it was expedient to continue working [B-CODEWORD] Gemmell can offer no other solution for the dramatic turn around by Cameron.

Gemmell understood that Paisley and a female secretary of DUP were aware of the homosexual activities but Paisley did not act because McGrath was politically useful to him. Also he held office in Paisley's church from which he should have been suspended. Gemmell was prevented from interviewing the Secretary by [B-IDENTITY]

Gemmell was sent to London by Cameron and interviewed at the [F-RELEVANCE GROUNDS] [B-IDENTITY] who spoke about the possibility of [B-CODEWORD] being handled from -- London. Also told Gemmell that they (SS) had film of John McKeague involved in homosexual activities (no detail) and how susceptible would McKeague be to blackmail? Gemmell was aware of McKeague having already being convicted for offences and therefore thought that he would not be that good a subject.

[B-CODEWORD] also related to Gemmell that he had a close friend in the RUC. PC or DC who in 75 was [B-PROTECTION OF IDENTITY] [B-SOURCE PROTECTION] Gemmell thinks he must have known something of the homosexual activities.

The following were aware of Gemmell's work for Cameron and of the details of his reports re McGrath and TARA:

- 1. Lt Col [MOD OFFICER M] Int Corps
- 2. Maj [B-Identity] (Int 39 Bde)
- 3. G3 HQNI (Prot) 1975-6
- 4. SGT [MOD OFFICER Q] Int Corps

A check of 123 Int Sec 102's for reports.

Q Was this information deliberately kept from RUC.

E - CLASSIFICATION

A Yes. On instruction all this was classified Sec UK Eyes 'A' ONLY

*The RVC were not to be informed neither was the Br on the ground*

Gemmell is actively engaged in furthering his interest in the work of the "Committed Christians" - He left Int work because he could not relate his new found Christian morals with the type of work with which he had been involved in NI.

MOD OFFICER L

28 JUNE 1982 - DISTINCTIVE SCRIPT

Capt  
RMP

E - CLASSIFICATION

E - TRANSMISSION METHOD

FROM [E - SECTION REFERENCE]

E - ADMIN ANNOTATION

DATED AND RECEIVED 19/20.7.82

*Notable you will draw in A's  
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to be put in the*

IMMEDIATE DESKBY 200800

E - SIGNATURE

E - CLASSIFICATION

ADDRESSEE ONLY

E - ADMIN ANNOTATION

E - DOCUMENT REFERENCE

FOR DIR [E - SECTION REF] AND [E - SECTION REF]

BT

TO SNUFFBOX [E - DOC REF] IMMEDIATE DESK BY 0800

E - ADDRESSEES

E - ADDRESSEES

FILE:

E - CLASSIFICATION

E - ADMIN ANNOTATION

IN SNUFFBOX FOR DIRECTOR [E - SECTION REFERENCE]

IN [E - SECTION REF] FOR A/DCI AND DCI REP KNOCK

FM [E - SECTION REFERENCE]

RUC INVESTIGATION INTO KINCORA

1. SIB/[MOD OFFICER L] VISITED [E - STAFF DESIGNATION] ON 19 JULY. HE REPORTED IN CONFIDENCE THAT HE AND RUC/SUPT CASKEY INTERVIEWED (AND TOOK A STATEMENT FROM) GEMMEL ON 16 JULY. [MOD OFFICER L] HAD PREVIOUSLY SET THIS MEETING UP BY TELEPHONE. DURING THEIR CONVERSATION HE HAD ADVISED GEMMEL THAT HE SHOULD RESTRICT HIS COMMENTS/ANSWERS TO CASKEY'S CURRENT INVESTIGATION. HE HAD ALSO ADDED THAT QUOTE [B - SOURCE PROTECTION] WAS STILL OF USE UNQUOTE THUS INFERRING IT WAS A SUBJECT BEST AVOIDED.

2. AT THE START OF THE INTERVIEW CASKEY HAD EXPLAINED TO GEMMEL THAT HE WAS PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN GEMMEL'S INTERVIEW WITH ROY GARLAND IN 1975, WHAT HE HAD LEARNED AND WHAT HE DID WITH THIS INFORMATION.

/3...

E - ADMIN ANNOTATION

3. GEMMEL EXPLAINED THAT AS OC 123 INT SECT HQ 39 BDE HE HAD CARRE OUT NUMEROUS INTERVIEWS IN 1975 WITH INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE MEMBERS OF VARIOUS LOYALIST GROUPS IN BELFAST. ONE ORGANISATION OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST HAD BEEN TARA. HE HAD BEEN ACCOMPANIED ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS BY CPL [REDACTED] MOD OFFICER O INT CORPS WHO WAS A MEMBER OF HIS INT SECT. THROUGH HIS OWN QUOTE EVANGELICAL CONTACTS IN BELFAST UNQUOTE GEMMEL HAD INTERVIEWED TWO PROMINENT LOYALISTS: FIRST W J MCCORMICK AND THEN THROUGH HIM, ROY GARLAND (NOTE BOTH OF THESE MEN HAVE RECENTLY GIVEN STATEMENTS TO CASKEY AND CONFIRMED THAT THESE INTERVIEWS TOOK PLACE.) GARLAND HAD TOLD GEMMEL THE FOLLOWING:

A. THAT WILLIAM MCGRATH WAS AN EVIL MAN, A SEXUAL DEVIANT WHO UNDOUBTEDLY CORRUPTED THE BOYS IN HIS CARE.

B. MCGRATH OWED GARLAND £2000.

C. GARLAND HAD MARRIED IN APPROX 1974 AND HIS PREVIOUS HOMOSEXUAL EXPERIENCES AS A JUVENILE WITH MCGRATH WERE CAUSING HIM EMBARRASSMENT GEMMEL COULD NOT ELABORATE ON THIS.

4. GEMMEL SAID THAT HE SAW GARLAND ON TWO OCCASIONS ALTHOUGH IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT CPL [REDACTED] MOD OFFICER O MIGHT HAVE SEEN HIM ONCE MORE.

5. FOLLOWING HIS INTERVIEW WITH GARLAND, GEMMEL HAD PRODUCED A FOUR PAGE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SOURCE REPORT (MISR) WHICH HAD A RESTRICTED CIRCULATION OF 3 COPIES. HE WAS SURE THAT ONE COPY HAD GONE TO ASP (IAN CAMERON).

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PAGE THREE  
E - DOCUMENT  
REFERENCE

E - CLASSIFICATION

6.  
B - Source  
Protection

MOD OFFICER L [REDACTED] CONFIRMED THAT NO REPEAT NO MENTION WAS MADE OF DURING THE INTERVIEW WITH GEMMEL.

7. MOD OFFICER L [REDACTED] COMMENTED THAT THROUGHOUT THE INTERVIEW GEMMEL HAD APPEARED RELAXED AND CO-OPERATIVE. HE MADE NO ATTEMPT TO WIDEN THE DISCUSSION BUT REMAINED CONTENT TO CONFINE HIS ANSWERS TO CASKEY'S QUESTIONS WHICH WERE CENTRED ON GARLAND. AFTER THE INTERVIEW CASKEY TOLD MOD OFFICER L [REDACTED] THAT HIS NEXT STEP WAS TO TRACE AND INTERVIEW IAN CAMERON AND CPL MOD OFFICER O [REDACTED] (NOW SSGT MOD OFFICER O [REDACTED]). CASKEY SAID THAT BEFORE DOING THIS HE PROPOSED DISCUSSING THE MATTER AT HQ RUC (MOD OFFICER O [REDACTED] HAS CONFIRMED THAT HE SAW CASKEY WITH H/SB ON THE MORNING OF 19 JULY). HE ALSO WISHED TO FIND THE MISR PRODUCED FROM THE GARLAND INTERVIEW AND WHAT ACTION WAS TAKEN ON IT.

8. GEMMEL'S INTERVIEW WITH MCCORMICK ON 25 MARCH 1975 (WHICH INCLUDES A REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY TO APPROACH GARLAND) IS FILED ON MOD OFFICER O [REDACTED] B - CODEWORD [REDACTED]. RESPONDING TO THIS REQUEST MOD OFFICER D [REDACTED] D - MIS OFFICER [REDACTED] WROTE A NOTE FOR FILE RECORDING THAT GEMMEL AND MOD OFFICER O [REDACTED] WERE TOLD ON 4 APRIL 1975 BY ASP AND MOD OFFICER E [REDACTED] E - STAFF DES [REDACTED] THAT QUOTE IT WAS IN ORDER FOR GARLAND TO BE INTERVIEWED ON THE STRICT UNDERSTANDING THAT THE OVERT AND CLEARLY EXPRESSED REASON WAS A REQUIREMENT FOR INFORMATION ON TARA. IT WAS EMPHASISED THAT THE ARMY HAD NO INTEREST IN INVESTIGATION OF DEVIANT SEXUAL ACTIVITIES OR RELIGIOUS ASPECTS OF THE GROUP WHICH WAS SOLELY THE FUNCTION OF A SPECIALIST SECTION OF THE RUC. THEREFORE THIS DISCUSSION SHOULD BE STEERED AWAY FROM THIS TYPE OF ISSUE. ANYTHING GARLAND MIGHT SAY ABOUT PERSONALITIES INVOLVING PARTICULARLY MOD OFFICER B [REDACTED] B - CODEWORD [REDACTED].

PAGE FOUR

E - CLASSIFICATION

For page 4 of the document please  
see KIN-105047