

Statement of Corporal D to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry

I, **D** say the following to the Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse 1922 to 1995 (the HIA Inquiry).

1. I have been asked to assist the HIA Inquiry and have endeavoured to do so to the best of my ability. I have been asked to look back at events from just over 40 years ago and I have limited recall of those events at this remove.
2. I was stationed in East Belfast between December 1974 and October 1975, and living in Castlereagh Police Station. I was moved to Belfast City in October 1975 following the car bombing of the police station, during which I lost all my possessions. Between December 1974 and October 1975 I worked as a Continuity Non-Commissioned Officer (CONCO) in East Belfast. I do not think I was replaced when my posting came to an end but I cannot be sure about this.
3. My role as CONCO was to act as a link between military units in and around specific Tactical Areas of Operational Responsibility (TAORs) – ensuring there was continuity between unit postings.
4. I have been asked by the Inquiry to answer questions relating to a document that was produced by me and Sgt **R** – the LINCO, dated 22 March 1975 (Exhibit 1 KIN-105011).
 - a. I cannot now recall details of a Tara “project” as described in paragraph 2 to Exhibit 1.
 - b. As far as I recall I was not specifically tasked to gather information on Tara.
 - c. I probably researched Tara to confirm relevant details, as this is what my job entailed.
 - d. I can, however, recall that Tara was not of particular interest to us. (We were more concerned with organisations such as the UVF.)
 - e. I cannot recall if I followed up the report at Exhibit 1, if it was a “one-off”, or if any further reports on Tara were produced.
 - f. I do not recall who drafted Exhibit 1. I do, however, recall receiving the information contained in that report from the RUC.
 - g. I am surprised that Exhibit 1 is not in the form of a MISR.
5. I had no knowledge of rumours or intelligence to suggest that abuse was taking place in Kincora Boys’ Home by William McGrath (or indeed anyone else). I have no knowledge of Mr McGrath being under surveillance by any agency during my period in post. I was never involved in any tasks related to him (save for forwarding information on Mr McGrath that was reported at the time).

Statement of Corporal D to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry

6. I do not recall where information relating to Tara would have been stored. I presume that file copies of relevant information would have been kept in the 2RMP unit office (though not as part of the general 2 RMP record system and possibly titled 'Eyes Only' LINCO/CONCO). Any reports would also have been forwarded to HQ 39 Brigade, Intelligence Section.

7. I did not meet or speak to Chris Moore (author of *The Kincora Scandal: Political Cover-up and Intrigue in Northern Ireland*). As to the identity of the "Dennis" character mentioned in the pages from Moore's book, I was not aware of this character, and cannot speculate on who this person may have been. I did occasionally drive people around Belfast but I never took people on general tours and I was always properly briefed prior to doing so.

8. I am not aware of any Army or MI5 individuals (or indeed anyone else) being taken to the Kincora Boys' Home.

I confirm that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name D

Date 9th August 2016

E - CLASSIFICATION

H/2

One of two Copies

LINCO/CONGO East Belfast
2 RMP Tac
BFPO 801

Belfast Civil **E - SECTION REFERENCE**

Personal for :

22 March 75

B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY (2 copies)

HQ 39 Inf Bde

INT SPOTTING - Democratic Unionist Party (DUP)

1. Over the past six months Sgt **MOD OFFICER R** (LINCO) and Cpl **MOD OFFICER D** (CONCO) have developed a good personal relationship with Cons **B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY** (RUC SPG Int). As a result of this relationship **B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY** has passed over useful information.

2. Since November 1974 Cpl **MOD OFFICER D** has been working on a project concerning the organisation known as TARA **B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY** has given **MOD OFFICER D** background information on TARA. **B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY** source for this information is one Miss V SHAW, who is employed as P/A to the Rev Ian PAISLEY.

3. The following is a summary of information passed to **B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY** by Miss SHAW on Tara and personalities so far :

William McGrath : 188 Upper Newtonards Road - Warden of Kincora Boys Hostel **EX 1070**
He used to live in 'Faith House', 25, Orpen Park, Finaghy. This was the house he lived in before the "scandal broke". He then moved to 5, Greenwood Park, where Clifford SMYTH stayed with him until SMYTH got married. **E - FILE REFERENCE**

There was a Scottish matron type that worked in Faith House, who became disenchanted with McGrath's habits and packed up and went home. Source said she would know a lot about his early activities.

He is the Master of the Ireland Heritage Lodge, which meets in the John Knox Memorial Hall, 150, Cliftonpark Avenue, of which there is a suggestion that PAISLEY has some sort of control of.

It was over the use of this hall that McGrath and PAISLEY had a disagreement. McGrath wanted to use the hall for a meeting, to which PAISLEY agreed. Source, on hearing this, went to PAISLEY with a set of letters and papers, written to one Roy GARLAND

PTO

by McGRATH when they were having an affair, to show PAISLEY what sort of man he was dealing with. PAISLEY then tried to prevent McGRATH using the hall, to which McGRATH replied by threatening to publicise PAISLEY's 'unnemocratic usage of Orange Halls', and to organise a protest march, using the members of his Lodge, outside PAISLEY's church. Extra TO

In the late '60's early '70's, McGRATH was collecting funds, reason not known. GARLAND had donated £4000 in good heart. Somewhere along the line McGRATH went crooked, used the money for his own ends, and GARLAND found out and demanded his money back. When McGRATH refused GARLAND sued him, the outcome of which McGRATH had to sell Faith House to pay off the debt. E-FILE REFERENCE

Roy GARLAND : E - PERSONAL CONFIDENTIAL INFO He owns his own business, something to do with chemicals. He is the man who was, in source's words, influenced by McGRATH, and who kept the letters and papers exchanged between themselves whilst the affair lasted.

B - SOURCE PROTECTION

Clifford Smyth

For the last Convention the DUP party machinery was geared to support SMYTH as one of its candidates. when PAISLEY read the letters and saw that SMYTH was involved it was too late to prevent SMYTH standing without drawing publicity that would have destroyed the DUP. So he was allowed to stand. Sometime after SMYTH was elected he was confronted by a DUP party committee and asked if he was a homosexual and in any way connected with McGRATH. he denied this, and as nobody gave evidence against him, he was given the benefit of the doubt. B - SOURCE PROTECTION

B - SOURCE PROTECTION

Rev Martin SMITH : Head of the Orange Order

He was trying to do 'something about SMYTH'. He was involved in some action in Scotland to discredit SMYTH politically. He also knows about McGRATH.

B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY

B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY

Miss SHAW has a grievance to settle with McGRATH, whom she dislikes intently for moral reasons. To this end she is prepared to pass information **B - SOURCE PROTECTION** and hopefully TARA, to Cons **B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY**

Cons **B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY** for his part is prepared to pass on this information to the military through Sgt **MOD OFFICER R** and Cpl **MOD OFFICER D**. It is doubtful if **B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY** will object to passing information direct to HQNI providing a suitable handler is found. **B - PROTECTION OF IDENTITY** is adamant however, that he does not want the RUC or SB involved.

At present the following background is known on Miss SHAW :

She is a deeply religious person, a member of the Barbican Mission for the Jews, and generally involved with missionary work. She is a spinster and employed as PA to the Rev Ian PAISLEY.