

I, [REDACTED] C say the following to the Inquiry into Historical Institutional Abuse 1922 to 1995 (the HIA Inquiry):

1. I retired voluntarily from the Army in 1990. 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.

Background

2. Between September 1973 and September 1975 I worked in the Intelligence Branch within HQNI based in Lisburn, in Northern Ireland. It was known as "G Int". At that time my rank was Major.
3. During my time in HQNI, and in G Int, there were also 3 Army brigades in Northern Ireland: 39 Brigade, which was based in Lisburn and covered Belfast; 3 Brigade, which was based in Lurgan; and 8 Brigade, which was based in Londonderry.
4. In G Int I was responsible for looking at terrorist/extremist Protestant and Loyalist organisations and had staff who assisted me in that. An officer of equivalent rank to me was responsible for looking at Republican groups.
5. My role was to collate, assess and disseminate intelligence and other information regarding these groups. That involved me providing information to brigades that I considered they should be aware of. It also involved me referring to the Assistant Secretary Political ('ASP') and his colleagues material or matters that I felt they should be aware of.
6. I was a desk officer, not a field officer, which meant that only in exceptional circumstances would I have been expected or required to meet sources in the field. I feel that it is important to understand the wide definition of a 'source'. Reference to a 'source' would encompass a wide range of individuals: from an

agent to an unwitting member of the public, who had made a comment to a member of the security forces, which that individual thought may have some relevance. Information gleaned from sources would have been passed to HQNI in reports from Field Intelligence Officers and NCOs working with the brigades. The reports would generally have been called MISR's (Military Intelligence Source Reports), although the information would not necessarily have been drafted on a pro forma document. As a desk officer the identity of a source who was providing information to a field operative writing the report was never disclosed to me.

7. I have been asked by the HIA Inquiry to examine a series of documents, some of which I authored.
8. I should make clear at the outset that TARA was an organisation of limited interest to the Army. My main focus was the terrorist and extremist groups on the Loyalist side.
9. Relevant information on organisations of interest, including TARA, was recorded on a card system. Each card would have recorded what G Int knew about that organisation and those involved in it. There may well have also been a file on the organisation that included the underlying reporting material.

6 July 1974 - KIN 30322

10. This is a 2 page report, prepared by me on the subject of TARA dated 6 July 1974 that I sent to 8 Brigade, and copied in 3 Brigade. It is likely, though this is an assumption by me, that I decided it was not necessary to copy in 39 Brigade as most (if not all) of the information came from material already held by 39 Brigade. The document can be found at Exhibit 1 to this statement.
11. I cannot now recall why I produced this document but I can speculate that it was probably in response to a request from 8 Brigade for general information on TARA, an organisation about which they may have had scant knowledge.

Given my general practice at that time, I would probably have asked my section staff to put together what we knew about TARA from our file before producing this document.

12. Paragraph 5 reflects that very little was known in HQNI G Int about TARA. I was not aware of the existence of a source in TARA. If anything my report suggests to me now that if there had been a source in TARA then we should have known much more about the organisation and its membership.

13. I note that I refer to William McGrath at paragraph 5(a) in the following terms:

*William McGrath, 5 Greenwood Ave, Upper Newtonards Rd, Belfast.
CO of TARA; has Communist leanings and a reputed homosexual.*

14. I have been shown a 2 page document entitled "TARA" (KIN 30310) which can be found at Exhibit 2 to this statement. When I was shown this document I confirmed that I recognised it. I believe this document was written by Collin Wallace, an Information Officer in the Army's press office in HQNI, and that he gave me a copy of this document at my request. I wrote the word "Section" on this document so that my staff would retain it on file.

15. Colin Wallace and his colleagues did not work on my floor. The HQNI intelligence branch was situated in a particular corridor in the HQNI building. The intelligence branch was safeguarded by enhanced security, including grilled restricted access. The ASP, Ian Cameron, and his colleagues were also located within the intelligence corridor. Colin Wallace and his colleagues in the press office did not have access to this corridor. If I required specific, unclassified information about an organisation, individual or an event I would, on occasion, go to the press office and ask what information they held on the subject.

16. I recall Colin Wallace having a large stack of A4 sheets appertaining to various Northern Irish organisations including a single sheet relating to TARA. I am

fairly certain that I would have asked him for a copy of this single sheet and that he provided it to me. (A copy of this document is now at Exhibit 2).

17. The last paragraph on the first page of the "TARA" document (KIN 30310) contains the suggestions that William McGrath was a homosexual and that he had communist leanings. It appears to me now to be highly likely that it is this information that is reflected in my comments about William McGrath at paragraph 5(a) (KIN 30322).

18. For me, the HQNI Press Office was merely another source of background information to be accessed from time to time. I did not work closely with the HQNI Press Office. I considered information gleaned from the HQNI Press Office in the context of all the information available to me when drafting reports.

10 July 1974 - KIN 30341

19. I have been shown a 1 page document authored by me of 10 July 1974. This can be found at Exhibit 3 to this statement.

20. This document was addressed to G Int 3 and 8 Brigades. I did not include G Int at 39 Brigade. This strongly suggests to me now that the information in that document would have originated from 39 Brigade.

21. I do not know the name of the source of the information contained in Exhibit 3, nor would I have known the identity of the source at the time of writing.

26 February 1975 - KIN 30308

22. I have been shown a 1 page document authored by me of 26th February 1975. It can be found at Exhibit 4 to this statement.

23. This document is written to R02. I am not sure now who that individual is, but he would have been working for Ian Cameron.
24. Having considered the document, the reason it is likely to have been written to a member of the ASP's team is because the information includes references to a political party, fundraising, and has an international dimension to it. It is this type of information that would have led me to communicate with the ASP's team.
25. I cannot say whether I drafted this proactively or whether I produced this document in a response to a request for information held on William McGrath.
26. Before producing this note I (or my section) would have considered the material held on file about William McGrath. Exhibit 4 makes specific mention of reports dated April 1973, October 1973, November 1973, and September 1974.
27. I have been referred to paragraph 4 of the document. I can understand why the language it uses may suggest that I met William McGrath. I can say for certain that I have never met William McGrath. I have no recollection of anyone known to me meeting him.
28. Paragraph 4 is my "pen picture" intelligence assessment of William McGrath, which was derived from the information I had access to. I cannot say at this remove if I was asked by someone to provide this assessment. I do not know whether anyone else was considering recruiting William McGrath as a source and there is no reason why I would have known. However I can categorically say that I was not considering recruiting him as a source.
29. At this remove I cannot remember the events of 1975 when the document was written. All I can say is, looking at the document, that I appear to have recognised that William McGrath had links to TARA, connections in the DUP, was engaged in propaganda, was fundraising, was receiving visitors from

abroad including journalists, and was intending to go abroad. He clearly had fingers in lots of pies, and therefore may have had useful information but also appeared to be devious.

28 January 1976 – KIN 30297-30302

30. I have been shown a document dated 28th January 1976 (Exhibit 6). This document post-dates my tour of Northern Ireland and I have not seen it before it was shown to me the course of drafting this statement.

31. I would think that Major Halford-MacLeod, being a conscientious and industrious officer, is endeavouring in this document to add to the overall picture of one of the many organisations of interest operating in Northern Ireland at the time.

32. This document would have been read and stored on file for future reference.

8 November, 1974 – KIN 35081 to 35084

33. In light of the dates of the documents I did author, which are referred to above, I was asked by the HIA Inquiry to look at a document dated the 8 November 1974, which can be found at Exhibit 5 to this statement.

34. I have read the document. I can say with complete certainty that until the HIA Inquiry showed it to me I had never seen the document before.

35. I have been asked what I would have done had I seen such a document in 1974. I hesitate to deal with a hypothetical question at 40 years remove, but I think that had this document been given to me then I would have shown it to Colonel **M** and, if asked for advice, would have recommended that a copy be sent (i) to 39 Brigade and (ii) to the Army Liaison Officer with the RUC in order that he could pass it to the RUC for action.

Police statement of 11 January, 1983 – KIN 30160/1

36. I have been shown a copy of the police statement I made to the RUC on the 11th January, 1983. A copy can be found at Exhibit 7 to this statement.

37. RUC Detective Superintendent Caskey came to the Headquarters in Germany where I was working in order to interview me.

38. I recall being given no notice of his visit and no instructions as to what I was permitted to say or not to say about my work in Northern Ireland to an RUC police officer. I was concerned that, as an Army Intelligence Officer, I was subject to the Official Secrets Act. I am informed by the HIA Inquiry that it has seen a note authored by me, post the date of the interview, wherein I raised these concerns. At this remove I cannot recollect writing such a note or its contents.

39. The HIA Inquiry has given me the opportunity to consider the contents of my police statement and I confirm it is accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Conclusion

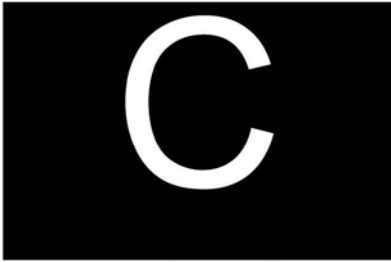
40. I, as an army intelligence officer in Northern Ireland in the 1970s, was engaged in dealing with terrorist activity and was not in the province to investigate anyone's sexuality.

41. However, if I had been made aware that an individual was sexually abusing children then that would have been a different matter. It is not something I could or would have ignored.

42. While I was in HQNI and serving in Northern Ireland I was not aware of allegations of child abuse at Kincora (or Kincora Boys Hostel as I am told is its correct title).

43. I was not involved in, I was not aware of, and I did not hear any discussion about any army or intelligence agency operation using a children's home, or sexual activity with minors, in order to blackmail individuals for information or for any other purpose.

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



Date 16 June 2016



HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN IRELAND

British Forces Post Office 825

Army Network Lisburn Military } ext 2209
Post Office Lisburn 5111G Int
HQ 8 Inf Bde

Your reference

Our reference SF/704/INT

Date 6 Jul 74

EXTREMIST PROTESTANTSSECRET ORGANISATION - TARA

1. The existence of a loyalist organisation known as TARA has been known since 1972. It is believed that the organisation has close links with the Orange Order. The name TARA is taken from the "Kingdom of Tara" which was formed in Ireland in 500 BC, and is the "Seat of Irish Kings".
2. Little was heard of TARA until the appearance of posters in Belfast on 11 Apr 73. The posters were issued by TARA which called itself "The hard core of Protestant resistance". The TARA message was "Resistance with Responsibility".
3. "TARA is formed in Platoons of 20. Each platoon has one Sgt, a QM and an IO. Each member pays 50p dues per month; one half goes to a central fund and the other half to the platoon." This info dated 16 Apr 73.
4. James Hanna (deceased, Ex D of Ops UVF) stated that TARA was a network of cells throughout the Province composed of loyal Protestants each of whom possessed a legal weapon. These men were prepared to use their weapons in an emergency. TARA was not a Doomsday force.
5. Other than this, very little is known about TARA which has always been shrouded in mystery. (It claims to be a secret organisation). Some personalities known are:-
 - a. William McGrath, 5 Greenwood Ave, Upper Newtownards Rd, Belfast. CO of TARA; has Communist leanings and a reputed homosexual.
 - b. Frank Millar, Shore Road, Belfast. Adj't TARA. Connections with OV's. Used to live with McGrath...!
 - c. Clifford Smyth, possibly Carryduff, North Belfast. Former IO of TARA. Elected DUP member for North Antrim on 21 Jun 74.
 - d. David Brown, Bangor. Admin Officer TARA. Subject is a close associate of Paisley. He is also Deputy Editor of the Protestant Telegraph.
 - e. UDR Captain N, [REDACTED]: Ex member of TARA and a frequent speaker on DUP platforms.
6. A recent report stated that a TARA organisation has appeared in the Larne area, with the HQ approximately 10 miles outside Larne. Personalities are:-
 - a. [REDACTED] Frequents the HQ regularly to receive his instructions.
 - b. [REDACTED] Ex UDA Company Commander; is also regularly in touch with TARA groups.

OCD-221-(407pg) - Military Intelligence and John Colin Wallace - C64-5-83 Redacted

Statment of Major C to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry

7. A recent report by MIO P Div states that TARA groups are thought to three groups, each of nine men in Crebilly, Slatt and Broughshane areas.

C

Major
for Chief of Staff

Copy to:

G Int
HQ 3 Inf Bde

TARA

The name TARA is supposed to be derived from the place name where the ancient high kings of Ireland were crowned. The Guardian of April 12, 1973, said that the organisation was formed from a small but militant evangelical protestant movement devoted mainly to anti-catholicism and it described itself as 'the hard core of protestant resistance'. It claimed that protestantism in Northern Ireland was threatened with extinction and recommended a ten-point plan which included the proscription of the catholic church. It was imperative that all protestants were prepared to bear arms so that all resources were in a state of readiness.

TARA also recommended that 'responsible' protestants should gain a thorough knowledge of guns and military craft, that protestant areas should be physically cleaned, law and order should be restored, 'true' protestant ministers should be established in all churches and that there should be integrated education with all religious teaching done by evangelical protestants. The organization was said to be against intimidation, sectarian murders, hijacking and illegal drinking clubs.

The Sunday Independent of April 22, 1973 commented on the non-emergence of TARA as nothing had been heard since first reports in the press ten days previously.

Other information that has come to light includes the name of the OC - William McGrath. He is said to be a homosexual and has conned many people into membership by threatening them with revealing homosexual activities which he had initiated. He is also thought to owe more allegiance to the Red Flag than to either the Union Jack or the Tricolour.

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

[REDACTED]

The IO, Clifford Smith, lives with McGrath. The Admin officer is David Brown from Bangor; he is also deputy editor of the Protestant Telegraph. The CO's assistant is Frankie Miller, who lives off the Shore Road, Belfast; he has written a book called 'Dangers and Sinister Realities' and has appeared on television.

Militarily, the organisation was initially in platoons of 20 but is now probably in companies. Each platoon had a sergeant, a quartermaster and an IO. Contributions were 50p per man per month, of which half went to a central fund and half was kept at platoon level. Platoons were able to draw on a central fund if the opportunity to buy funds arose. Meetings were held in Clifton Street Orange Hall about every two weeks under the name of an Orange Discussion Group when there was training in radio, weapons and lectures in tactics.

The group has recently placed full page ads in Protestant orientated newspapers, which brings to light an access to substantial funds, as full page ads cost at least £800 a go.

UK EYES A

COPY No 3 of 3

16 452



HEADQUARTERS NORTHERN IRELAND

British Forces Post Office 825

Army Network Lisburn Military } ext 2209
Post Office Lisburn 5111

G Int
HQ 3 Inf Bde
HQ 8 Inf Bde

Your reference

Our reference SF/704/INT

Date 10 Jul 74

EXTREMIST PROTESTANTS SECRET ORGANISATION - TARA

Reference:

A. Our SF/704/INT dated 6 Jul 74

1. A reliable report states that the following are involved in an organisation called TARA which has homosexual connotations:-

Frank MILLAR	- See Ref 'A'
Clifford SMYTH	- See Ref 'A'
Fred MAGLA	- No trace

2. TARA is thought by the source to have connections with the UVF (for whom Desmond BOAL acts as 'advisor'), RHC and perhaps UFF and DUP.

3. Source does not think there is a connection between TARA and the UDA.

4. This information is NOT to be passed to the Police or disseminated without reference to GSO 3 A - HQNI.

Major
for Chief of Staff

UK EYES A

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

KIN-2518

Statement of Major C to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry
OCD-221-(407pg) - Military Intelligence and John Colin Wallace - C64-5-83 Redacted

Copy No 2 of 2

To: RO2

From: GS03 A

Date: 26 Feb 75

100	100
13	1104
18	18

William McGrath (TARA) - 188 Upper Newtonards Rd

1. Subject first came to notice in April 1973 when Jean COULTER said he was leading TARA and that his son was also involved. Enquiries with PR HQNI indicated that McGrath was homosexual and had Communist tendencies. Clifford SMYTH (TARA and DUE) was reported to be living at McGrath's house at that time.
2. By Oct 73, further reports confirmed that McGrath was homosexual and was using the Puritan Printing Co for propaganda purposes. During October and November 73, police reports indicated that McGrath received a visitor from England, [REDACTED], and 2 Dutch journalists, one of them called [REDACTED]. We do not know the purpose of these visits but on 6 Nov 73 an A2 report stated that McGrath intended to visit one [REDACTED] of Amsterdam.
3. McGrath again came to light in September 1974 when a TARA/ULA propaganda cassette tape was transcribed which exhorted the listener to send funds to McGrath, giving his previous address, 5 Greenwood Avenue, Belfast.
4. An intelligent though devious man, who needs extremely careful "handling". I do not at present fully trust him but he is undoubtedly a mine of useful information on past incidents, organisation and personalities.

C

Major
GS03 A

Page 1 of 1

1 of 1

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE-PERSONAL

SECRET

Page 1 of 4

Handwritten C: 4561 (Inf Pol) - some initials.
in preparation report from Guy R. Geringham (not at all like the other reports).

8th November 1974

'TARA' - REPORTS REGARDING CRIMINAL OFFENCES ASSOCIATED WITH THE HOMOSEXUAL COMMUNITY IN BELFAST

- Reference A: Attached RUC background paper on 'TARA'.
Reference B: Attached RUC report on the death of BRIAN McDERMOTT.
Reference C: Your request for a press investigation into the matters referred to above.

1. Reference 1 adds nothing of real significance to what we already know of the background to 'TARA'. Furthermore, it contains a number of inaccuracies and there are various items of important information missing from it. It is difficult to say whether these flaws are the result of poor intelligence or whether they are disinformation provided for our consumption.
2. If we are to interest the press in this matter with a view to exposing what has been taking place and thereby stopping further assaults on the youngsters in these hostels, then I would strongly advise that we make use of our own background information and exclude the rather contentious and, indeed, politically suspect material contained in the above. As you know I did try to develop press interest in this matter last year but without any success. I also feel that it is difficult to justify our involvement in what is purely a police and political matter because, in my opinion, 'TARA' is no longer of any security interest.
3. In theory, 'TARA' was basically a credible concept from a Loyalist paramilitary point of view, but it never progressed beyond the planning stage. Such a body could, no doubt, have made good use of the Orange Order's normal selection and 'vetting' system for screening potential recruits, and it would have had ready made facilities for clandestine training by making use of the Orange Halls throughout the Province. The idea failed for a number of reasons, mainly because of WILLIAM McGRATH's rather strange political views which are more akin to Irish Nationalism or Republicanism than Unionism and the fact that other organisations which appeared to be more in keeping with the needs of the Loyalist community at that time, sprang up during the period.
4. Reference 1 deals with McGRATH's background in considerable detail but it is inaccurate in a number of respects. The Kincora hostel in Hertsmere Road where he works was opened in 1959 under the control and administration of Belfast Corporation Welfare Department. He does not, as the paper claims, "run the hostel" - he is employed as a 'housefather'. The Warden of Kincora is JOSEPH MAINS and the Deputy Warden is RAYMOND SEMPLER. MAINS was appointed in 1959 and SEMPLER in 1964. Both men are known homosexuals. Indeed, various allegations of homosexual activity in the hostel were investigated.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
 SECRET

Page 2 of 4

5. It is untrue to say that allegations of assaults on the inmates of Kincora "began shortly after his appointment". As I have pointed out in para 4 above, allegations were made as early as 1967 and there is also evidence that assaults may have taken place as early as 1959, soon after MAHNS was appointed.
6. Reference A claims that McGRATH "is a known homosexual" but it avoids any mention of his links with various other key figures in the local homosexual community, other than to insinuate that a number of well known political personalities with whom he came into contact were also homosexuals. For example, in para 6 of reference A, it is claimed that McGRATH left his previous employment "as a result of a lovers' quarrel" with his employer, whereas our information would tend to indicate that he left following a row over an outstanding debt. His former employer, ⁽²⁾ ROY GARLAND, is well known in Unionist Party circles (see also CLIFFORD ⁽¹⁾ SMITH) and was for sometime 2i/c of 'TARA'. Admittedly, some of the personal correspondence between the two men during this period cannot be regarded as normal between employer and employee (see flag 'M'). Whatever the real reason for the row between GARLAND and McGRATH, there is certainly considerable animosity between them at present, and GARLAND has been actively engaged in trying to have McGRATH removed from his post at Kincora. GARLAND's own version of events (see flag 'O') is, of course, very enlightening, but I would suggest that it should be treated with caution until it can be substantiated because of the antagonism between them. It would also appear that many of the RUC source reports on this matter after 1974 originated from GARLAND.
7. McGRATH was himself the subject of an internal investigation by the Belfast Corporation Welfare Department in 1972/73, following allegations of more homosexual assaults on the inmates of Kincora. One of our own sources confirmed in 1972 that a number of complaints has been received about his behaviour and that, although the complaints had been passed to senior welfare staff and to the RUC, no action had been taken against him. This would appear to be confirmed, to some extent, by Mr ORR (see flag 'E') in 1973. There were, of course, similar allegations relating to other hostels during this period (see Bannboro, Westwinds, Earnside etc.) and this conflicts with reference A's assertion that the allegations were confined to Kincora.
8. It should be remembered that the 1967 Sexual Offences Act does NOT apply to Northern Ireland and homosexual intercourse between adults or with minors is a criminal offence. The apparent lack of interest, therefore, by the Welfare Authorities and the RUC is quite remarkable. Furthermore, the claim made by ~~Reference A~~ (see flag 'Q') that key individuals in the Welfare Department were themselves homosexuals and thus, not only appointed homosexuals to such posts but also covered up the offences that took place and protected the offenders, requires very serious examination. In particular, I view her allegations about ~~Reference A~~ with great concern because it illustrates the political difficulties we are likely to face if we become involved.
9. Reference B which deals with the circumstances surrounding the murder of BRIAN McDERMOTT last year puts forward the theory that the killing had both sexual and witchcraft overtones. The only link that can be identified between the

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9. continued..

his boast that he will not be prosecuted because "he knows too much about some people" merits serious investigation, but I suspect that he will not be prepared to talk until he is released. It is also rather remarkable that no charges have been preferred against him, at least during the past 3-4 years. Our own investigations of instances of alleged witchcraft or other satanic rites in the Province would tend to disprove the RUC's theory that BRIAN McDERMOTT's murder could be part of these activities. In the past, 'Black Magic' practices etc have been mainly confined to groups operating from Republican areas, with the possible exception of three cases in Co Antrim. I think, however, that from a press point of view, we would be very foolish to give any credence to such claims without the most convincing evidence. The forensic reports on the McDERMOTT murder (see flag 'I') would tend to indicate that someone tried to dispose of the body by cutting it into pieces and burning them. It would also appear that when this failed, the pieces were dumped in the river. The innuendo made in the document regarding the boy's disappearance and the proximity of the Rev PAISLEY's church is dangerous nonsense.

10. Reference A claims that a number of key personalities in the political arena "are aware of" the Kinvara situation and, in particular, of McGRATH's background. It does not, however, explain the extent of their awareness nor of each individual's involvement with McGRATH. In summary, it would appear that the document is claiming that:-

(a) Senior members of the Grand Orange Lodge are aware of the situation because of the discussions and correspondence relating to McGRATH within the Orange Order (see flag 'C'). It is further alleged that THOMAS PASSMORE and the Rev MARTIN SMYTH have blocked any action against McGRATH.

(b) The Rev PAISLEY is aware of the situation but has failed to take any action because of possible blackmail pressure owing to his connection with McGRATH, DAVID BROWN and JOHN McKEAGUE. On the face of it, the statements made by VALERIE SHAW and TOM McNEILLY (see flag 'F') would tend to support the only part of such a claim. There are also a number of inconsistencies: McGRATH would appear to be strongly anti-communist and anti-U.V.F and this conflicts with the document's views on links with TOMMY HERRON, ERNIE 'DUKE' ELLIOTT, 'The Ulster Citizens Army' etc.

(c) Various public and political figures who hold positions of power and who are also homosexual protect each other from prosecution. The claims of a prostitution ring involving juveniles and centered on Bangor is not really substantiated, other than by GARLAND's own personal account. It would be interesting to check, however, the number of charges brought against people involved in homosexual activities in the greater Belfast area in the last 5 years. I also think that the RUC report on drug abuse in this connection merits

+ Sir Kenneth Compton

o Suft Vennor

Page 4 of 4

10 (c) continued.

close examination because this is a natural area of fund raising for terrorists. There is, of course, the obvious problem of security with the possible blackmailing of civil servants, politicians etc.

Conclusions and recommendations.

I am far from happy with the quality of the information available on this matter, and I am even more unhappy because of the, as yet unexplained, failure of the RUC or the NIO to take on this task.

- I find it very difficult to accept that the RUC consistently failed to take action on such serious allegations unless they had specifically received some form of policy direction. Such direction could only have come from a very high political or police level. If that is the case then we should be even more wary about getting involved.

On the other hand, if the allegations are true then we should do everything possible to ensure that this situation is not allowed to continue. The youngsters in these hostels almost certainly come from problem families, and it is clear that no one will fight their case unless we do. Those responsible for the murder of BRIAN McDERMOTT must be brought to trial before another child is killed, and if it can be proved there is a connection with this homosexual group, then the RUC must be forced to take action irrespective of who is involved.

I would recommend therefore that:-

- (a) We make one final attempt to get the RUC to investigate the matter or at least discuss the matter with RUCLO. (SMIC) SHAN, Lacy or John Burgess. Inf
- (b) We obtain very clear and unambiguous authority from London to proceed with a press disclosure.
- (c) We approach a responsible journalist whom we are confident will make a thorough investigation of the matter and not simply write a sensational type story purely on the information he is given.
- (d) We continue to look for additional information on this matter to ensure that we are not just being used as part of some political disinformation scheme.

Truly amazing that Sir George Terry and his independent investigation could state that the Army, RUC and NIO had no knowledge of the KINER activities. Then their official analysis by police and the Republic's intelligence staff were wrong!!

J.C. Wallace

Senior Information Officer

OCD-221-(407) - Military Intelligence and John Colin Wallace - C64-5-83 R

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See Distribution

28 January 1976

EXTREMIST PROTESTANTS
SECRET ORGANISATION - TARA

Reference:

- A. Your letter SF/704/INT dated 6 Jul 74.
B. Your letter SF/712/INT dated 5 Jun 75.

GENERAL

1. Very little is known about TARA, but some useful information has come through which may be of value to you. The following points will be covered:

- a. Personality of William McGrath.
- b. TARA.
- c. "Ireland's Heritage LOL 1303."
- d. Involvement of PAISLEY.

2. This information comes from three contacts. Our assessment is that it might be graded F3 and in parts F2.

WILLIAM McGRATH

3. William McGrath, 118 Upper Newtownards Rd, BELFAST, is the leader of TARA. He used to live at 5 Greenwood Ave, Upper Newtownards Rd, BELFAST and prior to that, at 75 Wellington Pk, BELFAST. He originally came from Earl St where his father had a Barber Shop. He had little formal education and worked as a young man in his uncle Joe's Barber Shop.

4. In 1941 when McGrath was still in his mid-twenties, he formed a group called the Christian Fellowship Centre and Irish Emancipation Crusade. He then embarked on an evangelical preaching career around churches and mission halls. He operated from a large mansion at 25 Orpen Pk, BELFAST, but this is now Faith House, a Brethren Old Peoples Home. He had an office in DUBLIN thought to be connected with the organisation. Mention has been made of two politico/religious visitors whom it is believed had contact with McGrath prior to 1969:

- a. Edmund PARIS.
- b. Arno MANHATTAN, who has written a book called "Religious Tension in Ireland," came to Northern Ireland, became involved with the Protestant Telegraph and Free Presbyterianism, but eventually left when his socialist views were disliked.

5. McGRATH joined the Orange Order around 1964 and widened his audiences by preaching at numerous Orange Lodge meetings. The tone of McGRATH's addresses was always concerned with the preparation of Northern Ireland Protestants for a coming conflict which would determine their future and that of countless millions of others. Roman Catholicism was allied with communism and Protestant ULSTER was the main stumbling block in the path of these twin evils.

6. McGRATH is a homosexual and makes a practice of seducing promising young men. They include David BROWNE, Deputy Editor of the Protestant Telegraph and Clifford SMYTHE, who at one time lived in McGRATH's house and is now secretary of the UUUC and DUP Convention Member for North ANTRIM.

7. Two of the contacts gave distinct impressions that McGRATH was somehow associated with Communism. McGRATH is said to have attended a Revolutionaries Conference in DUBLIN in the mid-sixties at which 3 representatives from Eastern Bloc countries were present. This association may account for his financial position. Details are very obscure, but he managed to live in sizeable mansions in BELFAST even though his only visible means of support was the sale of second-hand carpets from his house! McGRATH is currently described from the 1975 BELFAST Street Directory as a Welfare Officer. He is thought to be running some form of boys' home.

TARA

8. [REDACTED] 1964, TARA first began to be mentioned in the context of a "ginger group" within the Orange Order, but it never really got off the ground until 1969 (presumably with the advent of the troubles), when a room in Clifton St Orange Hall was obtained. This was ostensibly for meetings of an "Orange Discussion Group," but was in reality to organise and train TARA.

9. One of the contacts felt that TARA might have had some weapons but it only ever saw one. McGRATH's policy was that officers did not handle weapons and should remain "clean." At one stage it talked about men having been in action.

10. The following have been named as TARA members:

a. Clifford SMYTHE, 65 Martinez Ave, BELFAST (mentioned in Ref A as a former IO) DUP Convention Member for North ANTRIM, described as a schoolmaster in the BELFAST Street Directory. X

b. David BROWNE, 7 Maryville Rd, BANGOR (mentioned in Ref A as Admin Officer) Deputy Editor of the Protestant Telegraph.

c. Frank MILLAR Jnr, 50 Northwood Dve, BELFAST (mentioned in Ref A as Adjutant). He is to, or may already have, married McGRATH's daughter. Initially DUP, he became Independent Unionist member for North BELFAST. Described as a caulker in the BELFAST Street Directory.

d. David LYLE, 1 Blair Pk, BANGOR.

e. Robert J NEWMAN, 49 Ballygowan Rd, BELFAST, on the committee of the Martyr's Memorial Church. He is said to be a contact for TARA arms.

f. Worthington McGRATH, confirmed as living at 182 Upper Newtownards Rd, BELFAST, the son of William McGRATH. He is a member of the RUC (R) stationed at RUC STRANDTOWN. He works in Frank REA's, 26 - 28 Chichester St, BELFAST, from where he obtains electronic bugs.

g. FNU PATTON, a policeman in Donegal Pass RUC Station. This is probably James PATTON of 115 Benview Ave, BELFAST, who was paid off in Dec 75. He served as an auxiliary constabla, an ex-B Special.

h. Reg EMPEY, UUUM Convention Member for East BELFAST and of BELFAST. He was an early member of TARA and is rumoured to be [REDACTED].

j. James HIGHEURN (HYBURN?), ANK. He was a member but resigned when TARA went semi-public. He is the Treasurer of PAISLEY's Martyr's Memorial Church.

k. Robert McFARLAND, previously of Premier Drive but now living in MONKSTOWN.

11. At Annex A is an article by David PARKER (a pseudonym for McKITTRICK) which makes mention of TARA.

IRELAND'S HERITAGE LOL 1303

12. McGRATH has been instrumental in the formation of a new Orange Lodge, "Ireland's Heritage LOL 1303," the members of which number 39 and are currently learning Gaelic. The Lodge's banner depicts a Celtic cross and its title in Gaelic, "Oidhunacht na hEireann."

13. Clifford SMYTHE and Frank MILLAR Jnr are members and there is clearly a number of cases of dual membership with TARA. When at Queen's University, BELFAST around 1970, Clifford SMYTHE, David LYLE and Frank MILLAR Jnr were instrumental in forming the "Ulster Protestant Information Bureau" which was to counter IRA propaganda. They also formed the "Williamites and Glorious Revolution Society" which, for example, brought Orange flute bands to perform in the Students Union.

14. At Annex B is an article on the "Ireland's Heritage LOL 1303."

INVOLVEMENT OF IAN PAISLEY

15. PAISLEY appears to fear McGRATH, who is a member of his Martyr's Memorial Church and has on occasion used threats to make PAISLEY give him permission to speak in his halls. One of the contacts made the interesting point that William CRAIG had stated that PAISLEY did an about turn on the voluntary coalition issue after a meeting in the Martyr's Memorial Church. It hazarded a guess that pressure had been brought to bear on PAISLEY by McGRATH. Contacts view certainly has an element of truth in it. For example, in JOURNEY's END MLR DOI 18 Oct 75, it is independantly reported that PAISLEY was pressured in this way.

16. It would appear that PAISLEY himself is not a member of TARA but he is clearly surrounded by many men who are. It would seem that the following credentials are useful, if not mandatory, for membership:

- a. Membership of the Orange Order.
- b. Membership of DUP.
- c. Membership of PAISLEY's Martyr's Memorial Church.

CONCLUSION

17. The picture is confused. You are in a better position to assess the information than we are. Perhaps the most interesting aspect is the many contradictions around the central figure, McGRATH.

Statement of Major C to the Historical Institutional Abuse Inquiry
 OCD-221-(407pg) - Military Intelligence and John Colin Wallace - C64-5-83 Redacted

a. McGRATH would appear to have had little formal education and yet his views, though militant, are sophisticated enough to interest bright young men.

b. McGRATH's message is designed to appeal to staunch Protestantism. Roman Catholicism, its enemy, is closely linked with leftish ideas and Communism and yet 2 of the contacts were left with this lingering impression of McGRATH's involvement with Communism. It might be fair to ask whether McGRATH is a "sleeper" with the brief to keep the pot boiling whilst others organise. He certainly uses the classic communist tactics of the cell system, infiltration of an organisation, ie the Orange Order, and the introduction of divisive elements.

c. There is no obvious indication of where McGRATH's income stems from, but he appears to be comfortable financially.

d. One might ask why the apparently all powerful PAISLEY can be influenced by a McGRATH-sponsored pressure group from within his own church. PAISLEY himself is probably not a member, but many of his supporters are.

e. There is an apparent contradiction between the aspirations of the "Ireland's Heritage LOL 1303," eg learning Gaelic, and its opposition to Roman Catholicism. This may be reconciled by the view held by many members of the Church of Ireland that certain churches, as direct descendants of the ancient Celtic Church predate their Roman Catholic rivals in Ireland and are therefore more authentic.

18. There is very little indication of TARA in the 3 Inf Bde Area, although it has been reported to exist in LURGAN, PORTADOWN and BANBRIDGE. It clearly also has sympathisers in North DOWN. The most interesting figure is Douglas HUTCHINSON, DUP Convention Member and President of the PORTADOWN and District Branch of the USCA, a strongly Paisleyite organisation. HUTCHINSON is of particular interest as he lacks the apparently necessary qualification of being a member of the Orange Order. He was expelled from it.

19. There is only one recorded occasion when the SF came into contact with TARA in the 3 Inf Bde Area. This occurred on 12 Mar 75, when Samuel SIMPSON, 4 Shandon Pk, BELFAST and John SAXTON, 37 Deramore Ave, BELFAST were stopped at the K7 border crossing. They had been in the Republic collecting information on the Irish Army and Garda. More recently, propaganda leaflets from TARA were received by 1BS and ODG. They had been posted in BELFAST.

RETASKING

20. Contacts are retaskable. We would be grateful for any direction that addressee might be able to give. It is hoped that this short paper will be the basis upon which future MISRs will be written.

Distribution:

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SEND TO

A P L HALFORD-MACLEOD
 Major
 for Commander

Page 4 of 6

Statement of Major C to the Historical Institutions

STATEMENT OF:

C

AGE OF WITNESS (if over 21 enter "over 21"):

OVER 21

KIN-30160

OCCUPATION OF WITNESS:

LT COLONEL

ADDRESS:

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST BRITISH CORP, BIELEFELD, BFPO39

TO BE COMPLETED
WHEN THE
STATEMENT HAS
BEEN WRITTEN

I declare that this statement consisting of two pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 11th day of January 19 83

(Sgd) G Caskey, D/Superintendent

(Sgd) C

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER by whom
statement was recorded or received.

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I was stationed with the British Army in Northern Ireland from September 1973 until September 1975. I was employed as a GS03 Intelligence Officer in Army Headquarters, Lisburn, for that period. GS03 means that I was General Staff Officer Grade 3 and my duty involved collecting, assessing and disseminating intelligence on terrorist organisations in Ulster. I now see produced a document which has been marked exhibit SWJS4. It is a short report of 4 paragraphs signed by me and dated 26 February 1975. That is a short assessment based on the then available information on William McGrath but without personal knowledge of the individual. It concludes paragraph 4 with my own pen picture assessment of this man. I also see produced a document which has been marked SWJS11. This is an assessment by me on TARA, an extremist protestant organisation, written on request of 8 Brigade by me as a general information brief on an organisation about which they had heard but knew little. It is based on miscellaneous reports available to me at the time. This report dated 6 July 1974 bears my signature. The one-page report marked SWJS9 is a trace on 3 individuals thought by the source to be TARA members. This ungraded report is taken from information available. It is signed by me and dated 10 July 1974. Among the documents produced to me marked SWJS1 to SWJS11, it is possible that I saw some of them whilst I was employed at HQNI, of these I can remember seeing exhibits SWJS2 and SWJS5. I recognise my handwriting of the word 'Section' on the top of the first page of

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS: (Sgd) C

STATEMENT

C

KIN-30161

STATEMENT OF:

C

CONTINUATION PAGE NO:

2

SWJS5. This document SWJS5 is, in my opinion, the work of Colin Wallace, Information Officer at HQNI. During my tour of duty in Northern Ireland I had on occasions to talk with Wallace for background information principally on terrorist organisations and on occasions what I regarded as interesting newspaper articles. Wallace might have discussed with me, William McGrath, then head of TARA but I am certain never in connection with Kincora Boys' Hostel. I don't recall even the question of McGrath being a homosexual discussed with Wallace. I am absolutely certain that Wallace never discussed with me that a cover up of the Kincora Vice Ring was preventing the killers of ten-year-old Brian McDermott from being apprehended. I have no knowledge of the misuse of any intelligence relating to TARA and William McGrath. Whilst it was reported that McGrath was reported to be a homosexual there was never any intelligence that he was engaged in homosexual acts with young boys or with anyone. I was not aware that McGrath was employed in Kincora Boys' Home until it was reported in newspapers several years after I left Ulster. I now see produced, the document SWJS10. This document is dated 5.1.77, therefore was produced after I left Ulster. I don't recall ever seeing a four-page MISR produced by Captain Gemmell which contained information that McGrath was employed in a boys' home. Captain Gemmell was employed at 39 Infantry Brigade during the latter part of my time there. Mr Ian Cameron who had an office next door to mine in HQNI had access to all intelligence received at HQNI but he usually relied on the Intelligence Staff to bring to his attention anything which would have been relevant to his work. I also note that my initials are on the foot of page one of the document marked SWJS8. My definition of the term "UK Eyes 'A'" is for use as a caveat, restricting the information to British Army circles only excluding the Ulster Defence Regiment.

SIGNATURE of STATEMENT MAKER: (Sgd)

C