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DFA/5

Points raised by Opposition Members in Stormont re U.D.R.

- 6,000 not 4,000 figure for size of force as recommended by Hunt Report.
- 2. Why B Special force, proven guilty by an impartial commission, should be given preference in the setting up of the new force.
- 3. Commandments of B Specials initially in control.
- "Ulster" unfortunate choice of title.
- 5. Possibility that UDR could be another Unionist private army as B Specials were but with a new name.
- 6. Advertisements, application forms, were attempts to mislead community and create conditions where Catholics would be unlikely to join.
- Unionist members suggesting Catholics disloyal and, therefore, would not get through vetting screens - this was being said at constituency level.
- 8. Some did not feel that the force was really necessary as, if they were a part of the UK, the Army should be able to defend their borders.
- 9. J. Hume's motion: "that this house, expressing its gratitude to Lord Hunt and the members of his Committee, welcomes their report and supports <u>the full</u> <u>implementation</u> of its recommendations."

(Hansard, Vol. 74, No. 20, Col. 1386, 12/149)

Difference between White Paper on UDR (CMND 4188) and Hunt Report

1. 6,000 rather than 4,000 men as size of force.

Differences between UDR and USC

1. UDR will be an integral part of the British Army, controlled by the Secretary of State for Defence and under the command of the GOC, NI.

(Roy Hattersley, Vol.791, No.12, Col.417,8,12/169)

2. The immediate commanding officer of the UDR will be a brigadier of the regular Army. The regular Army will also supply administration and training staff.

(Hattersley, ibid, Col. 418)

Officers of Regular Army will hold key positions in the force right down to batalion level. There will be about 200 regular officers and senior N.C.O's of the Army interspersed at various levels in the new force.

(D. Healey, Vol. 791, No. 17, Col. 1324, 19/11/69)

1..

3.

-2-

The power to call force out for local emergency will be vested by the Secretary of State for Defence (Healey) in an officer of the Regular Armed forces who may, in turn, delegate that power to other officers of the Regular Forces not below the rank of major.

(Hattersley, Vol. 791, No.12, Col. 418, 12/11"69)

- 4. Officers of the new force will be subject to military law at all times, others will be so subject when on training or on duty.
- Members will be required to do one week's consecutive training, four other full days' training and 12 drills.
 - Note: The Special Constabulary Branch of the RUC was responsible for the organisation, training and general administration of the USC.
- 6. On 1 August, 1969, the strength of the USC was 8,481 men (<u>Hunt Report</u>, Appendix C, P.49). The strength of the new force will not exceed 6,000 officers and men.
- The name Ulster Special Constabulary has gone.
- 8. The uniform of the USC has gone. The uniform of the UDR will be combat dress with a parade dress for formal wear.