



An Chartlann Náisiúnta National Archives

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Mr. Gaffey
31/8/89

31/8

for plastic bullets

Mr. O'Donnovan (On Return)

P.S.M.
P.S.S.

Mr. Bussan (2/Barfice)
Mr. Nally (D/Too much)
Mr. Howill
Mr. Hayes (Run)
Amb. London

9/8/89

Q
0761C

TO: HQ FROM: BELFAST
DATE: 9TH AUGUST, 1989.

IMMEDIATE

9/8/89
11/10
Mr. Gaffey
Secretary to the Govt
On return
9.8.89

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FOR: B. MC MAHON

FROM: N RYAN

LAST NIGHT'S VIOLENCE IN BELFAST

FURTHER TO MR. GAFFEY'S 076DC OF THIS MORNING, WE HAVE NOW BEEN INFORMED BY THE ACTING JOINT SECRETARY ON THE BRITISH SIDE THAT THE 15 YEAR OLD YOUTH WHO DIED IN BELFAST IN THE SMALL HOURS WAS SEAMUS DUFFY FROM BALLYCARRY ST., ARDOYNE, NORTH BELFAST. HE WAS ADMITTED TO THE MATER HOSPITAL AND DIED AT 02.48 HRS. IT NOW SEEMS VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT HE WAS KILLED BY A PLASTIC BATON ROUND FIRED BY THE RUC THOUGH THIS HAS NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY CONFIRMED.

BRITISH SIDE SAY THAT A SERIOUS RIOT SITUATION DEVELOPED IN THE NEW LODGE AREA OF NORTH BELFAST INVOLVING 200-300 PEOPLE. THE RUC FIRED 96 PBRs AND THE ARMY FIRED 4 IN QUELLING THE RIOT.

I HAVE REGISTERED OUR SERIOUS CONCERN WITH THE BRITISH SIDE ABOUT THIS TRAGIC INCIDENT AND ASKED FOR FULL DETAILS OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE DEATH OF THE YOUTH. BRITISH SIDE THEMSELVES HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE INCIDENT AND ABOUT POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES AT THIS SENSITIVE TIME. APART FROM THIS INCIDENT, THEY HAVE DESCRIBED LAST NIGHT AS "COMPARATIVELY QUIET" - THAT IS COMPARED TO PREVIOUS EVE OF INTERNMENT ANNIVERSARIES. THERE IS CONFIRMATION OF ONLY ONE VEHICLE HIJACKING IN BELFAST.

OTHER INCIDENTS DURING THE NIGHT WERE:

21 PLASTIC BATON ROUNDS FIRED AT MOB WHO ATTACKED ARDOYNE BUS STATION IN NORTH BELFAST.

3 PLASTIC BATON ROUNDS FIRED AT MOB IN DOON ROAD, WEST BELFAST.

1 PLASTIC BATON ROUND FIRED AT MOB IN SHORT STRAND, EAST BELFAST.

1 PLASTIC BATON ROUND FIRED AT MOB WHO THREW 20 PETROL BOMBS AT RUC STATION IN COALISLAND, CO. TYRONE.

DROGUE BOMB THROWN AT SECURITY FORCES PATROL IN HERBERT ST., CRUMLIN ROAD, NORTH BELFAST FAILED TO EXPLODE.

ARMED MEN HIJACKED AND SET ON FIRE A CITYBUS AT SHAWS ROAD IN WEST BELFAST.

FOUR VEHICLES HIJACKED AND SET ON FIRE IN NEWRY, CO. DOWN.

ONE MAN ARMED WITH A SAWN-OFF SHOTGUN ARRESTED IN TWINBROOK IN SOUTH BELFAST.

ONE MAN ARRESTED DURING DISTURBANCE IN RATHENRAW ESTATE, ANTRIM FOLLOWING ANTI-INTERMENT PARADE.

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