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JOINT STATEMENT BY THE CHIEF CONSTABLE OF THE RUC,
MR. HUGH ANNESLEY AND MR. JOHN STEVENS

Issued at 21.20 Hours
9 February 1990

There has been conjecture by various public figures and some people concerned about the state of relations between the RUC and the Inquiry Team and on the fire at Seapark Offices.

From the outset the Chief Constable made it clear that the Inquiry Team would be facilitated in every way and at every level. This has been the case from the beginning, and that high level of cooperation continues and will continue through to the conclusion of the inquiry.

As to the fire, we reiterate that there is no evidence whatsoever, either forensic or investigative, to suggest the fire was anything but accidental. No-one should be surprised that there are those who will seek to exploit every opportunity to embarrass or discredit and are quite prepared to manufacture divisions where none exist. Let us state categorically there are no divisions, there is and will continue to be the fullest cooperation and both of us are determined not to be distracted from ensuring that this inquiry is brought to a professional and satisfactory conclusion.