ASSESSMENT

THREAT AT A SEMINAR HELD BY RUC SECURITY BRANCH IN THE NEWFORGE SPORTS COMPLEX ON TUESDAY 10 FEBRUARY 1988

Superintendent Curral outlined the threat, posed by the terrorist and paramilitary organisations, in the Province at this time.

UDA - UVF

These 2 organisations have had setbacks recently with the seizure of arms and ammunition including 2 RPG7 rocket launchers. What their target was for these rocket launchers is not known. These 2 organisations are both short of funds and it is thought they would continue to shoot the odd member of the Nationalist population who will probably be an innocent victim, with no affiliations to any paramilitary organisations. It is thought armed robberies will take place mostly in business premises to boost funds.

PIRA

Although this organisation has lost substantial quanitities of arms, ammunition, including heavy calibre machine guns and military type explosives, they are thought still quite capable of carrying out numerous attrocities with no regard for any member of the public who may be in the target area. The military explosive they are using is much more powerful than the made up commercial explosive. Recently they attacked a small unmanned water pumping station near the border in the Crossmaglen area. They damaged it in the first attack but came back a few nights later and completely destroyed it. This pumping station was of no significance as regards damaging the local water supply but could be important as an exercise to find out the strength of this military explosive. It is thought however commercial explosives will still be used in car bombs except in special circumstances where members of the security forces could be involved.

Information has been received from a reliable source that this organisation is prepared once again to mount a bombing campaign against "industrial targets" which would damage the economy. This it is thought could also include prestige buildings.

This organisation is short of funds and are likely to organise bank raids and attack other places where ready money is thought to be available including cash carrying vehicles.

INLA

This organisation is not thought to be really organised yet after their internal feud but is still considered capable of carrying out attrocities probably infrequently.

They are short of funds and could start a robbery campaign.

VIP

There is nothing known which would suggest another kidnapping campaign or a specified threat against any group of business executives.

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