

# **An Chartlann Náisiúnta** National Archives

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#### SECURE FAX

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8 November, 1994

To:	Belfast	
For:	S. Farrell	

From: H.Q. From: D. Kelleher

#### Monitoring the ceasefire: Orange Parades

As mentioned in my SF of 4 November, we have received complaints about the Orange Parade which went down the Lower Ormeau on 30 October, and at the treatment of local protestors, particularly on the return leg of the parade at 5 p.m. In particular, it has been asserted that one of the marchers carried a video camera (we are told that a complaint was made to the RUC about the camera) - a potentially sinister development given the history of Loyalist attacks on the area. It seems that a protestor tried to get hold of the camera, a fracas ensued with the RUC and he was arrested. It is then claimed that the RUC refused to say where they were taking this individual and two other men were then arrested. It is also claimed that a child was struck by the RUC. A numbaer of details and statements are available to us and I will send them to you if you wish.

2. For your own information, the group in question (LORAG/LOCCG) is Sinn-Féin orientated and has in the past tended to be confrontationalist in attitude. On the specifics of parades down the Lower Ormeau, however, it should be recalled that we have consistently sought rerouting of Orange/Loyalist parades away from the Lower Ormeau. There has been some progress viz. the Mini-Twelfth no longer comes across the river into the Lower Ormeau and the feeder parade on the 12th returns by a different route. It is regrettable therefore that the RUC did not find a way of rerouting the parade of 30

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October, which does not fall into the pattern of the Marching Season.

- 3. We also raised on Friday last, 4 November, upon receipt of representations, the question of rerouting a feeder parade scheduled for 5 November. (This was to feed into the Orange Convention). It consisted of one band plus the Ballynafeigh Lodge. I attach a letter from the RUC, dated 4 November, which confirms the route of the parade. We regret the failure of the RUC to deploy a more flexible approach in this instance also. Rerouting of this parade would not create automatic precedents for the RUC, as the parade itself was a non-traditional one-off.
- 4. Protestors gathered peacefully on 5 November. A large RUC presence (many landrovers and unmarked cars cruising the side streets) assembled and the clear scenario was one of a large number of RUC officers outnumbering a small number of protestors.
- 5. We would be grateful if the other side could inform us whether any further parades are scheduled for the Lower Ormeau before next year's Marching Season and, if so, when. We would wish to put down a marker to consider this matter in detail before the next marching season. It would be helpful if you could once again restate to the other side the principles which underpin our approach in the matter of Orange parades.

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Your reference. Our reference:

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Please reply to Sub Divisional Commander

Date:

4 November 1994

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and the set

Dear Sir

RE: YOUR CLIENT MICHAEL GOODMAN, REPRESENTATIVE OF LORAG, 156 ORMEAU ROAD BELFAST

refer to your request of 3 November 1994 relative to the above and have to inform you that police have received notice from Ballynafeigh LOL No. 10 of a proposed procession which will pass through the Lower Ormeau Road area on Saturday. 5 November 1994 at 1045 hours.

Poline are keeping the situation under review and taking account of all relevant factors. At present police have no plans to re-route the procession.

Yours factofully.

ip

V G HAW Superintendent Sub-Divisional Commander

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