



An Chartlann Náisiúnta
National Archives

Reference Code: 2021/48/75

Creator(s): Department of Foreign Affairs

Accession Conditions: Open

Copyright: National Archives, Ireland.
May only be reproduced with
the written permission of the
Director of the National
Archives.

SECURE FAX NO 349

349(1)

11 May, 1994

PAGES : 4

TO : HQ

FROM : BELFAST

FOR : Pat Hennessy

FROM : Sean Farrell

Letter to Minister for Justice

Herewith text of letter from Sir John Wheeler to Minister for Justice for onward transmission please. The letter deals with the RUC actions in the aftermath of the murder of Roseanne Mallon as well as giving details of the numbers of Loyalists and Republicans charged with terrorist offences this year. Original will be sent in next day.

PA-Collusion file

~~Security Situation~~

- WRT

AK

cc. 7. Dalton A/I

+

PST

PSS, 12 Enley

A/Sec 5 Lligan

F. Murray, 21

12 Mansel

Δ Kollera

And, Lander

And, W. Tom

349(2)

NORTHERN IRELAND OFFICE
STORMONT CASTLE
BELFAST BT4 3ST

Tel. Belfast (0232) 763255
Facsimile 761660



Minister of State

Mrs Maire Geoghegan-Quinn TD
Minister of Justice
Department of Justice
St Stephen's Green
DUBLIN

10th May 1994

Maire

The appalling murder by so called loyalist terrorists of Roseanne Mallon near Dungannon last Sunday night has caused a wave of revulsion and has, rightly, been condemned out of hand by representatives from both sides of the community. It is all the more disappointing, though not surprising, that, in the face of this condemnation, Sinn Fein's only contribution has been a thinly disguised attempt to make political capital out of the tragedy by alleging security force 'collusion' in the killing. The RUC have acted quickly and robustly to rebut these allegations, and I thought it would be helpful to let you have a copy of the RUC press release which sets out the background to the events leading up to this sickening murder: this is attached.

The RUC are vigorously investigating this murder and other recent terrorist crimes. Three men arrested shortly after the attack are still being questioned and further arrests and finds of terrorist equipment have been made elsewhere. This quick response, and other RUC operations in the area, will, I hope, help to reduce fear and tension amongst local people.

These arrests follow hard on the heels of other recent security force successes, including the arrest of four men and the recovery of weapons in a loyalist area of Belfast on 5 May, and the charging

IN-13



of two men in connection with a pipe-bomb attack on the home of a Roman Catholic man in West Belfast on 6 May. Since the start of this year, 98 Loyalists have been charged with a wide range of serious terrorist crimes, including 17 for murder and attempted murder, compared with a total of 56 charges against Republicans.

I felt that in this instance, given the efforts by some to increase local concern and tensions in the wake of Miss Mallon's murder, you might find it useful to have available the RUC's account of the events preceding this murder. There will of course be no relaxation in the efforts of the police and their Army colleagues to protect the entire community from terrorist attack.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Wheeler', with a stylized flourish below it.

THE RT HON SIR JOHN WHEELER DL MP
Minister of State for Northern Ireland

Telephone
BELFAST 050222



BROOKLYN
KNOCK ROAD
BELFAST
NORTHERN IRELAND BT8 0LE

PRERELEASE

MURDER OF ROSEANNE MALLON

Arising from reports of gunmen in the area prior to the murder and allegations of collusion, the RUC has established the facts of the incident involving two youths which occurred at a shed at the Old Mill.

As a result of these reports, a man has come forward voluntarily and made a statement to the Police. He says that he was the person who encountered the boys at the shed. He was in the area at the Old Mill buildings intending to stay out for a few days shooting rabbits and wood pigeons. He was carrying a hunting rifle with a telescopic sight and had camouflage dress. The man said he decided to come forward to clear the matter up after hearing radio reports.

The Police are satisfied that this man's account explains the report of apparently suspicious activity prior to the murder and that the facts refute the allegations of collusion.

RUC HEADQUARTERS

9 MAY 1994