

An Chartlann Náisiúnta
National Archives

Reference Code:	2023/154/13
Creator(s):	Department of the Taoiseach
Accession Conditions:	Open
Copyright:	National Archives, Ireland. May only be reproduced with the written permission of the Director of the National Archives.

/08 '00 FRI 12:10 FAX SECURE-FX TRANSMISSION +++ DFA SECURITY SEC 001

55 faxed + filed

pl post to D/Taoiseach

cc See B Callaghan DoJELR
M Bassett
CI / Secretariat
+ PA

15 AUG 2000

RÚNAÍOCHT IDIR-RIALTASACH
NA BREATAINE-NA hÉIREANN
BÉAL FEIRSTE

BRITISH-IRISH
INTERGOVERNMENTAL SECRETARIAT
BELFAST

26.33

Secure Fax No: 859

DATE : 11 August 2000

NO. OF PAGES (including this one): 1

TO : Gary Ansbro/Fergal Mythen
Anglo Irish Division

FROM: Val O'Donnell

M. Griffin
29-8-00

Copied directly to B Callaghan, DoJELR

SUBJECT :UFF show of strength and reinstatement of UFF 's threat against Catholics.

There is wide reportage in the media this morning of a UFF show of strength last night in the Shankhill area in Belfast which ended in disarray when police (who appear to have been aware of the UFF planned incident) stormed the area . A number of reporters had been taken to witness paramilitary display The police came under attack after gunmen fled and a shot was fired at them by a gunman in Boundary Way. Also, a breeze block was thrown at a police landrover.

In comments this morning John White, UDP, has confirmed that the statement issued by the UFF in June this year ,threatening anyone who attacked loyalist homes , has been reinstated. He indicated that the threat had the full backing of the UFF (unlike the June threat) and said he was not hopeful of having it lifted. He denied that this development constituted a breach of the UFF's ceasefire as it related only to "defensive action " on their part.

White appears to link these developments to incidents on Wednesday night (9 August) when a number of houses in the Shankill area (including in Denmark St.) were attacked by stones fired from a number of cars which travelled through the area. Loyalists are blaming these attacks on republicans . The attacks were condemned by Sinn Fein (Gerry Kelly to-day and ? Brown yesterday). There were similar attacks on a number of houses in the Ardoyne area last night , in what appears to have been retaliatory action by loyalists.

White said this morning that the Shankill community was " under fear and they're turning to the UDA in that area to give them protection".

©TSCH/2023/154/13