Disturbances in Londonderry on Saturday/Sunday, 5th/6th October, 1968

Dear John,

I am forwarding you a photostat copy of a report dated 7th October prepared by Mr. Watson, Senior Administrative Officer, Altnagelvin Hospital, Londonderry, in relation to persons (civilian and police) who received treatment at the hospital following the disturbances.

The analysis of the figures given will, I think, set at naught the allegations of brutality on the part of the police.

Mr. Watson has been extremely helpful in letting us have this report. He has referred to the provisions of section 78 of the Health Services Act 1948. I have requested District Inspector McGimpsey, Londonderry, to assure Mr. Watson that his confidence will be respected.

Yours sincerely,

Bill linen

J. G. Hill, Esq.,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
Stormont,
BELFAST.
BT4 3SU
Dear Mr. McGimpsey,

I refer to our recent conversations regarding patients treated at Altnagelvin Hospital following the disturbances in the City on Saturday 5th October and Sunday 6th October, 1968.

I have analysed the attendance records in the manner suggested and the data given hereunder has been produced, relating to the position as at 5.00p.m. today.

1. PATIENTS TREATED IN ACCIDENT DEPARTMENT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Under 14 years</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults Male</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults Female</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children under 14 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand Total: 85.

2. PATIENTS SUBSEQUENTLY ADMITTED (Included in Table 1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Adults</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Under 14 years</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults Male</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults Female</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Nil.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children under 14 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand Total Admissions: 4.

I have already given details of injuries of those admitted, in our telephone conversation. The child is no longer in hospital, having been kept overnight only.

3. RESIDENTIAL LOCALITY OF PATIENTS, AS STATED ON OUR RECORDS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Adults Male:</th>
<th>Local</th>
<th>Limavady</th>
<th>Belfast</th>
<th>Police</th>
<th>Fireman</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>56</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 70.

/continued.
4. CAUSATIVE FACTORS AND NATURE OF INJURIES:

(a) Children

- Struck by glass - laceration of back 1.
- Fell whilst running - " " knee 1.
- Struck by stones - " " head 3.
- Pushed down steps by crowd - dislocation of shoulder 1.
- Unspecified cause - laceration of head 2.

* Admitted for reduction of dislocation and discharged next day.

(b) Adults - Female

- Hit with baton - bruised elbow 1.
- Shock 2.
- Glass in foot 1.
- Fell down steps - painful foot 1.
- Struck by stone - laceration of ear 1.
- Unspecified - laceration of head (small) 1.

(c) NATURE OF INJURIES - ADULTS MALE

(1) Civilians

- Lacerations various sites (mainly head) 39.
- Fractures - (1 ankle, 1 arm) 2.
- Shock (No injuries) 1.
- Bruises 10.
- Falls (Minor lacerations and bruises) 4.
- Struck by missiles - lacerations 5.

/continued.
(ii) POLICE

Leg injuries (including 2 admissions) 4.
Struck by missiles - lacerations 4.

(iii) FIREMAN.

Struck by missile. 1.

I hope the foregoing will prove helpful. Should there be any other way in which I can be of assistance, please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

E.T. WATSON
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER.

P.S. It might possibly be held that certain aspects of this communication should be regarded as privileged information, (Vide Section 78 of the Health Services Act (N.I.) 1948). I know I can rely on your discretion to check with me before publication of any part of this letter, so that I may obtain legal approval from the Northern Ireland Hospitals Authority. (ETW).