

Allegations against some members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary in connection with alleged misbehaviour in Londonderry are, at my instructions, being investigated. ?

It should be pointed out, however, that the police have an extremely difficult job to do in preserving law and order in such circumstances. I believe that in general they have discharged their duties fairly and efficiently and that all sections of the community owe them a considerable debt of gratitude for their courage and their restraint.

It is often forgotten that the police have suffered many casualties since the commencement of the Civil Rights Campaign. In fact 166 policemen have been injured and treated in hospital for their wounds.

In the difficult tasks they have to perform, the police have the <sup>general</sup> ~~full~~ support and confidence of the people and the Government of Northern Ireland.

23rd January, 1969.