



At one point in the discussion the Home Secretary touched upon the need to satisfy minority opinion that the change at the top of the RUC - which would undoubtedly be associated with the recent departure from the Government of Mr Robert Porter - did not imply a move to the right and a return to traditional attitudes towards the minority on the part of the Government and the Police. Major Chichester-Clark said he was conscious of this difficulty and said he had in mind, as a possible way of meeting this, that there should be appointed two Deputies under the new Chief Constable, one of whom would be an import from a British Police Force; such an arrangement, if the Police Authority were prepared to adopt it, should go far to reassure the minority.

2. AUSTIN CURRIE'S TELEGRAM TO THE HOME SECRETARY SEEKING AN INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO THE DEATH OF MR HAUGHEY IN COALISLAND FOLLOWING HIS ALLEGED INJURY IN THE COURSE OF A POLICE BATON CHARGE

Major Chichester-Clark showed the Home Secretary a note he had received from the Police on the circumstances of this case and which clearly suggested that the injury suffered by Mr Haughey -

- (a) had not been caused by a baton, and
- (b) had not contributed to his death subsequently from a heart condition.

3. UDR ARMS

Major Chichester-Clark said that in his recent tour of Police and UDR units he had been unfavourably impressed by the length of time it took to arm many of the UDR members. This had been particularly apparent in areas where the UDR arms had to be collected from a distant armoury; in Clogher, for example, there was a 2-hour gap because the weapons had to be collected from Omagh. He asked that consideration should be given urgently to an increase in the proportion of UDR weapons which could be kept at the homes of members.

4. POLITICAL HONOURS

Major Chichester-Clark asked whether any indication was yet available as to the Prime Minister's intention on the re-introduction of

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political honours. The Home Secretary said he would seek the views of the Prime Minister.

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