

31/94

FROM: MRS C COLLINS  
Police Division  
21 March 1994

REC'D  
401/3  
27 MAR 1994  
SEC

*[Handwritten signature]*

- cc PS/Secretary of State (B&L) - B
- PS/PUS (B&L) - B
- PS/Mr Fell - B
- Mr Legge - B
- Mr Lyon - B
- Mr Steele - B
- Mr Bell - B
- Mr Watkins - B
- Mr Wood - B
- Dr Rosborough
- Mrs Treacy
- Mr McCaffrey - B

877/3

PS/Sir John Wheeler (B&L) - B

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**ARMING OF POLICEWOMEN**

You will recollect that the Chief Constable has decided that women RUC officers should be armed, because of the requirements of Equal Opportunity Legislation. I understand that the necessary training programme is now completed, and the new policy will take effect from 1 April. The RUC will be arranging some press coverage this week, to highlight the change, and provide some reassurance.

2. It is something of an improvement that the RUC have warned us of this, although the issue is itself of relatively little importance.

Signed  
C COLLINS

*[Faint handwritten signature]*

N. SAUNDERS  
RESIDENTIAL PRIVATE SECRETARY

William Rogers Esq  
19/21, Bon Sir Patrick Mayhew QC TD  
Secretary of State for Northern  
Ireland

JB POB 15951