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TO IMMEDIATE CERTAIN MISSIONS AND DEPENDENT TERRITORIES
GUIDANCE TELEGRAM NUMBER 240 OF 31 DECEMBER 1982

NORTHERN IRELAND: SHOOTINGS INVOLVING THE SECURITY FORCES

1. AFTER FIVE RECENT SHOOTINGS BY POLICE AND ARMY IN NORTHERN IRELAND IT HAS BEEN ALLEGED THAT THE SECURITY FORCES HAVE ADOPTED A 'SHOOT TO KILL' POLICY.

2. LINE TO TAKE

THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN RUC AND ARMY POLICY OR OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS. THE SECURITY FORCES IN NORTHERN IRELAND REMAIN AT ALL TIMES SUBJECT TO THE LAW. THESE SHOOTINGS WILL BE FULLY

INVESTIGATED AND REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE NORTHERN IRELAND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS WHO WILL DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT PROSECUTIONS SHOULD BE INSTITUTED. CORONERS' INQUESTS WILL IN DUE COURSE BE HELD, TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE OF DEATH. IT WOULD BE WRONG TO COMMENT FURTHER WHILE INQUIRIES ARE PROCEEDING.

YOU MAY DRAW ON PARAS 3-11 WITH TRUSTED CONTACTS AND POINT OUT THAT IN AT LEAST TWO OF THESE CASES THE DEAD WERE MEMBERS OF TERRORIST ORGANISATIONS.

BACKGROUND

3. INCIDENT ON 11 NOVEMBER 1982

ON 11 NOVEMBER UNIFORMED POLICE WERE OPERATING A ROAD CHECKPOINT OUTSIDE LURGAN, CO ARMAGH. A CAR SIGNALLED TO STOP DID SO BUT, AS A POLICE OFFICER APPROACHED, IT DROVE AT THE OFFICER, INJURING HIM. OTHER POLICE OPENED FIRE ON THE ESCAPING VEHICLE WHICH CAREERED OFF THE ROAD: SUBSEQUENTLY IT WAS FOUND THAT THE THREE OCCUPANTS HAD SUSTAINED GUNSHOT WOUNDS AND WERE DEAD.

4. THE THREE MEN WHO DIED WERE:

JAMES JERVAISE MCKERR, AGED 31, OF LURGAN, SUSPECTED OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE PROVISIONAL IRA:

EUGENE TOMAN, AGED 21, OF LURGAN, WANTED FOR QUESTIONING FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER AND POSSESSION OF FIREARMS. IN MARCH 1982 HE WAS CONVICTED OF HI-JACKING AND RECEIVED TWO YEARS' SUSPENDED SENTENCE:

SEAN FREDERICK BURNS, AGED 21, OF LURGAN, WANTED BY POLICE FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER AND POSSESSION OF FIREARMS. IN MARCH 1982 HE WAS CONVICTED OF MAKING PETROL BOMBS AND RECEIVED TWO YEARS' SUSPENDED SENTENCE.

5. INCIDENT ON 24 NOVEMBER 1982

ON 24 NOVEMBER A POLICE MOBILE PATROL OUTSIDE LURGAN NOTICED SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY NEAR A SHED. THE POLICE WERE CONFRONTED BY TWO MEN ARMED WITH RIFLES. THEY OPENED FIRE AND THE TWO GUNMEN WERE HIT. MICHAEL TIGHE, AGED 20, DIED AT ONCE: MARTIN MCCAULEY WAS SERIOUSLY INJURED AND WAS TAKEN TO HOSPITAL. THREE RIFLES

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WERE RECOVERED AT THE SCENE. MCCAULEY WAS SUBSEQUENTLY CHARGED WITH CONSPIRACY TO MURDER AND POSSESSION OF FIREARMS. LATER THE SECURITY FORCES FOUND EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER BOMB-MAKING EQUIPMENT NEARBY.

6. INCIDENT ON 12 DECEMBER 1982

ON 12 DECEMBER, ON THE ARMAGH-KEADY ROAD, A CAR IGNORED A SIGNAL TO STOP BY UNIFORMED POLICE AT A ROADCHECK. IT KNOCKED DOWN AND INJURED A POLICE OFFICER. A POLICE VEHICLE CHASED THE ESCAPING CAR, BY THEM IDENTIFIED AS BELONGING TO A KNOWN TERRORIST, BUT WHEN FORCED TO STOP IT REVERSED AT SPEED FROM THE UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICERS WHO HAD DISMOUNTED FROM THEIR VEHICLE: THE DRIVER JUMPED OUT AND THE POLICE BELIEVING THEY WERE ABOUT TO BE FIRED ON, THEMSELVES OPENED FIRE, KILLING THE TWO OCCUPANTS.

7. THE TWO MEN WHO DIED WERE:

PETER JAMES MARTIN (SEAMUS) GREW, AGED 31, OF ARMAGH, KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN A TERRORIST FOR ELEVEN YEARS AS A MEMBER OF THE IRA, THE PROVISIONALS AND LATTERLY INLA. IN 1975 HE WAS SENTENCED TO 14 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A POLICE CONSTABLE AND RELEASED FROM PRISON IN APRIL 1982. GREW WAS KNOWN BY POLICE TO HAVE BEEN A LEADING INLA GUNMAN IN THE ARMAGH AREA AND WAS SUSPECTED OF HAVING COMMITTED A NUMBER OF MURDERS:

RODERICK MARTIN CARROLL, AGED 22, OF ARMAGH. KNOWN BY POLICE TO HAVE BEEN A LEADING MEMBER OF THE INLA IN THE ARMAGH AREA AND TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN SEVERAL MURDERS AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.

8. INCIDENT ON 27 DECEMBER 1982

ON 27 DECEMBER AN ARMY PATROL SURPRISED 2 MASKED MEN, ONE OF WHOM APPEARED TO BE ARMED, LEAVING A SHOP IN WEST BELFAST, THE MEN, WHO HAD JUST CARRIED OUT A ROBBERY IGNORED THE PATROLS CHALLENGE AND RAN TOWARDS A CAR (HIJACKED EARLIER) LEFT OUTSIDE THE SHOP WITH ITS ENGINE RUNNING. THE PATROL OPENED FIRE AND ONE MAN WAS KILLED. THE OTHER MAN ESCAPED.

9. THE MAN WHO DIES WAS:

PATRICK ELLIOTT, WHO HAD A LONG CRIMINAL RECORD AND WAS ONLY RECENTLY RELEASED FROM PRISON. HE WAS WANTED FOR ROBBERY AND THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A POLICEMAN IN WEST BELFAST ON 3 DECEMBER.

10. INCIDENT ON 29 DECEMBER 1982

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ON 29 DECEMBER AN ARMY PATROL FOUND A COMMAND WIRE BY THE DONAGH-BALLAGH MAIN ROAD. A MAN SEEN ACTING SUSPICIOUSLY WAS CHALLENGED: HE RAN OFF, AND AFTER A FURTHER CHALLENGE, THE PATROL OPENED FIRE AND WOUNDED HIM. IT WAS LATER FOUND THE WIRE HAD BEEN CONNECTED TO EXPLOSIVES AND THE MAN'S KNAPSACK CONTAINED BINOCULARS, A BELL AND A BATTERY.

11. THE MAN INJURED WAS:

KIERAN FERGAL LEONARD, AGED 25, OF MAGHERAVEELY, WHO IS BELIEVED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE PROVISIONAL IRA.

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