

PRIME MINISTER

NORTHERN IRELAND: SITREP

Now looking rather worse, mostly as a result of intimidation, some of it rather nasty.

Roads

Frequent attempts to block roads, with the police and army efficient in reopening them.

Buses

Good service.

Trains

Mostly not running,

Airport

Now closed after operating for some hours this morning.

Schools

Mostly closed.

Industry

Patchy, with large-scale absenteeism in Protestant-dominated areas, usually as a result of intimidation.

Civil servants

Some difficulties but generally at work.

Intimidation

Quite bad in some areas with attacks on cars and threats. RUC being told to be more active in stopping it.

Media tendency to reporting the strike as a qualified success. Northern Ireland Ministers emphasising the scale of intimidation, for which the Unionist leaders cannot absolve themselves of responsibility.

CDP

3 March, 1986.

1300 hours

JD3AJZ

As expected

blowing — patchy large-scale absorption

Schools — largely closed

Winds — road both gates worse. Debris

Windy had cars. need to map all on — not drops

Airport was ~~also~~ closed.

Beach — rough

Beach — big well

Beach — many that

Beach — see all

analyzed more covered through

Winds

lot of still in the water

water.

Jim

A bit better

Local radio reports many

people were

depressed.

Barren now many really

People walking

Problem in schools & best.

dit. ut in an bed. ~~Agencies.~~

75% of death.

People to change. Are doing quickly

Wanted side — new slots
Airport — for over in other ^{to} ~~interference~~

1. Electricity - sporadic cut
2. happens mark into central
room Ballylinnyard. 2/3 of
province.
3. Warrants - photos.
4. Transport patchy
5. Road blocks / road bombs.
Manning - oil e low tank
6. Police very short
7. One aircraft left.
8. Air ops - effective: not so
bad
9. Green no hope.
10. Few helicopters

Northern Ireland

SITUATION REPORT - 0001 TO 0300 HOURS MONDAY 3 MARCH 1986

1. Public Opinion - no early comment.

2. Public Order

a. Roads (Blockages)

While prior to midnight and in the early hours of the morning several barricades were built or attempts made to build Police were quickly on the scene to remove the obstructions where circumstances permitted. In the west of the province the locations where such actions commenced were Donemana, Strabane and Omagh. Action to build barricades was also taken in Belfast (2), Lisburn (1) and Bangor (1).

b. Damage to Property

A fire of unknown source occurred in a pub in Omagh. A signal box was set on fire on the main Belfast/Bangor line (near to Bangor).

c. Intimidation

Six pickets appeared early at Kilroot Power Station. Night shift workers at Glen Mouldings Factory, Bangor, were intimidated and left. At McCleerys Factory, Ballygowan, night shift workers received threatening phone calls and left work. The IDB security man at the Cutts, Dunmurry, received a threatening call and was advised workers would not be turning up for work.

Shots were fired allegedly at East Bridge Street, Belfast, and two houses belonging to Police Officers in Lurgan were petrol bombed. There was slight damage and no casualties.

3. Electricity

At 0130 hours DED reported no apparent problems on the electricity front.

4. Departmental Response

DOE taking action on roads blocked by trees at Upperlands, County Londonderry and Hightown Road, Horseshoe Bend, Belfast.

3/8/11

SITUATION REPORT - 0301 HOURS TO 0615 HOURS

1. Public Opinion

Downtown Radio at 6.00 am reported closure of M1, closed with oil and nails. Other minor roads had been closed during the night but these had been cleared by Police and firemen. Belfast Harbour Airport had closed down for the day but Aldergrove intended to keep going as long as possible. The Larne-Scottish services had closed down for at least 12 hours.

There had been one confirmed case of intimidation at Glen Moulding in Bangor where about 20 men had forced the night shift to leave. Brian Feeney (SDLP) said 20 NIES workers had been told they would also be forced to cease work; the Orange Order in Belfast said a number of workers had been warned by their employers of the consequences of stopping work. At Harland and Wolff, Dr Paisley and Mr Robinson had been at the shipyard gates where 60 pickets had gathered. There was also going to be a large picket at Stormont, the station reported.

2. Public Ordera. Roads

Since 0301 hours there has been an increase in the number of roads blocked. The major incidents both occurred on the M1 where oil spillages between Lisburn and Stockman's Lane and 2 miles beyond Lisburn towards Moira have closed the motorway.

b. Damage to Property

Nothing reported..

c. Intimidation

Nothing reported.

d. Electricity

Output reduced from 570 MW to 500 from 0200 hours. Nothing expected to happen until after 0600 hours when power needs to be increased and at 0700 hours shifts change.

4. Departmental Response

- i. DOE informed of road blockages and are attending to these.
- ii. All quiet in Prisons.
- iii. DHSS report no problems.

E. R.

ADDENDUM

Electricity

Banbridge and Enniskillen are without electricity. Load shedding is now in operation.

Ports

Larne - will be closed from 7.00 am to 7.00 pm.

TT vessel will not sail at 8.00 am.

Belfast - no sailing to Holyhead, Garston, Ardrossan. 60 pickets at Dee Street entrance to harbour up to 1.00 am.

1 vessel at Richardson's Wharf being worked. If sufficient men turn up it is planned to resume work of loading tanker.

Warrenpoint - nothing happening.

INCIDENTS LOG - 2200 HOURS 2 MARCH 1986-0300 HOURS 3 MARCH 1986

0107 Hours 3 March 1986 2 Petrol bomb attacks on RUC houses in Lurgan at 0020. One in Gilford Road and one in Toberhenny Lane. Slight damage no casualties.

2353 Hours 2 March 1986 Barricade on fire at Sidney Street West/ Mill Street, Belfast - presumed to have been dealt with.

0010 Hours 3 March 1986 Tree cut down at Mackna Road, Upperland County Londonderry.

0135 Hours 2 Trees down, Upper Hightown Road, Horseshoe Bend - DMSU in attendance.

0040 Hours Report of 6 pickets near Kilroot Power Station.

2258 Hours 2 March 1986 25 youths lit fire at side of main Belfast/Hollywood Road near Tillysburn Roundabout. No damage.

0001 Hours 3 March 1986 Intimidation at Glen Mouldings Factory, Balloo Avenue, Bangor - Night shift threatened by 20 men and all left.

0016 Hours Small barricade at Primacy Park, Bangor removed by Police.

0030 Hours Small barricade - Prince William Rd.

Lisburn (wood and bricks) - 4 youths
ran away.

0043 Hours

Threatening call to security man at
IDB Plant, The Cutts.

0020 Hours

Attempt to block Ballyearl Drive,
Newtownabbey, using car - ran away when
Police arrived.

0056 Hours

Railway Signal Box, Brunswick Road,
Bangor, on fire - Fire Service
extinguished it.

0025 Hours

Station Road, Ballymagorry (Strabane).
Blocked - minor road - Police standing by

0026 Hours

Main Street, Donnemanna, blocked by
tractors etc - Police standing by.
Duncastle Road, Donnemana blocked by
tractor.

2330 Hours 2 March 1986

Fire in pub in 7 John Street, Omagh - 3
storey building with flats above - no
report of injuries.

0025 Hours 3 March 1986

Report of large boulders on main Omagh/
Drumquin Road, 3 miles out of Omagh -
Police cleared road.

2316 Hours 2 March 1986

McCleerys Factory, Ballygowan - work
force out after threatening phone calls.

0111 Hours 3 March 1986

2 shots heard East Bridge Street, Police
checked area negative results.

RUC STATISTICS

Date: 4/3/86

Time: 0430

XIV

SUBJECTS

	Intin	Roads		Petrol bombs	Hi-jacks	Attacks on Police
		Blocked	Cleared			
A	3	4	3	-	-	1
B	-					
D	1	7	5	-	-	-
E	2	9	9	-	-	-
G	2	5	2	-	-	-
H	-					
J	2	5	3	2	-	2
K	-	3	-	-	-	-
L	1	4	1	-	-	-
N	-	6	-	2	-	-
O	-					
P	-	5	3	-	-	-
Totals	11	48	26	4	-	3

SITUATION REPORT - 0616 HOURS TO 0800 HOURS

1. Public Opinion

7.30 am

BBC news: not significantly different from earlier sitrep.

Downtown: reports that Newtownards, Comber and Millisle closed by vehicles. Also says there are unconfirmed reports that on Portadown-Armagh road men were stopping cars and letting down their tyres.

2. Public Ordera. Roads

Since 6.15 there has been no significant increase in the number of the roads blocked. Blockages at the A6 and the West Link have been declared hoaxes and cleared but the Craigtlet route is now blocked at Clandeboye Estate. Fairly remot that roads service will be able to assist quickly at M1.

b. Damage to Property

Nothing reported.

c. Personal Injuries

Nothing reported.

d. Intimidation

Nothing reported.

e. Transport

Rail - crews have not reported for duty at York Road Station, the first crew has not reported at Lisburn. It is unlikely that a rail service will operate north of Ballymena. Only service operating Belfast to Bangor. Suspect device at Lisburn - Army dealing.

Bus - Ulsterbus report a patchy turn up of drivers. Patchy service throughout Northern Ireland still too early.

Aldergrove - 1st flight delayed - inadequate fire cover.

f. IEDs

An IED at Ballynahinch was declared a hoax and cleared by the ATO. No new incidents reported.

g. Electricity

The Chief Executive of the NIES reported that output up to now has been better than expected but demand is beginning to slightly outstrip supply. However Ballylumford is now threatening to close as workers are occupying the control room and attempting to force engineers to reduce output. The workers are expected to join dockers for a parade through Larne this morning. The shift change at 8.00 am will be critical and if Ballylumford closes it will involve an 8 hour shutdown affecting approximately two thirds of the Province.

RUC STATISTICS

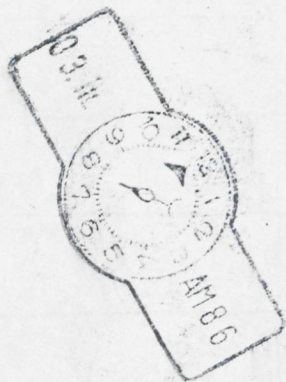
Date: 3 March 1986

Time: 0600 Hours

DIV

SUBJECTS

	Roads		Petrol bombs	Hi-jacks	Attacks on Police
	Intim	Blocked			
A	3	4	3	-	1 (NAT?)
B	-	-	-	-	-
D	2	9	6	-	-
E	2	9	9	-	-
G	2	20	6	-	-
H	-	1	1	-	-
J	2	5	3	2	2 (refer to petrol bc)
K	-	12	7	-	-
L	1	14	6	-	-
N	-	7	1	2 (NAT?)	1
O	-	-	-	-	-
P	-	7	5	-	1
Totals	12	88	47	4	1



E.R.

Northern Ireland Situation Report

REPORT AS AT 9am

(Others to follow regularly)

1. Public Opinion

Both local radio and national TV reporting that although some roads remain blocked many have been cleared by the RUC. Downtown reported at 8am that buses were moving fairly normally in the City Centre and a number of people were walking to work. At 8.30am, the station said that Belfast remains relatively quiet.

A number of schools have been forced to close because of lack of heat, Electricity cutbacks in some areas were reported as were the cancellation of sailings from Larne to Scotland. At 8.30 Downtown reported that a policeman had been shot in the leg at the RFD Factory in Seymour Hill in Dunmurry which is being picketed.

2. Public Order

a) Roads:

Following blockages reported - Dual Carriageway between Newtownards and Belfast, M2 at Sandyknowles, Raven Hill Road. Some cars burned in Tennent Street. Cavalcade at Carryduff has left one lane open. Report of road block on main Banbridge/Portadown Road at Guilford close to RUC Station. 6 roads blocked in the Waterside area of Londonderry. Reports of a large number of Road Blocks in the Galgorm Area of Ballymena one car damaged. Blockage at Rathgael has been cleared and elsewhere is reported all clear. Difficulties have been reported in getting out of Bangor where all roads have heavy traffic which does not seem to be moving. There is no obvious sign of reason for delay.

b) Damage to Property

Nothing Reported

c) Personal Injuries

There was an accidental discharge at Seymour Hill following which a police officer was taken to hospital his condition is not serious. The incident involved a tussle with a crowd of youths who were attempting to prevent him going on duty.

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d) Intimidation

Nothing Reported

e) Transport

i) Rail

Suspect device at Lisburn now cleared.

ii) Buses

No change.

iii) Airports

First flight to London has taken off and a number of flights have landed. Fire Service is sufficient but traffic is limited.

f) IED's

Suspect Device reported at Ballykinler in two beer kegs, bomb disposal have been alerted.

g) Electricity

Supplies have been cut off, in the following areas. ARDS Peninsular, East Down, Western Half of Co Down, Co Armagh, (but not North Armagh or Craigavon), South of Londonderry City and 4 pockets in Co Antrim, Rasharkin, South of Antrim Town, Port Glenone, and East of Ballymena.

(487 MW local shedding, 104 MW).





NORTHERN
IRELAND

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Ops Room - M

613

SITUATION REPORT - 0901 HOURS TO 1030 HOURS

1. Public Opinion

Downtown reported at 9.30 am that about 200 masked youths were petrol bombing Police in North Belfast. The Policeman shot at the RFD factory in Dunmurry (reported on 9.00 am sitrep) had been injured by his own gun during an incident with pickets.

The "meals on wheels" service in Craigavon was suspended today, station reported. Belfast city centre was quiet, with many people walking to work.

2. Public Order

a. Roads

Roads in central Belfast are open. Main Belfast/Newtownards road blocked. Back roads open.

b. Damage to Property

Petrol bombing of residents cars in North Belfast confirmed. Minimal damage. Situation under control.

c. Personal Injuries

Nothing reported.

d. Intimidation

Number of youths boarding buses in Ballymena area with baseball bats. 14 masked men on Newcastle/Clough Road with car and digger stopping traffic. Some disruption of postal services.

e. Transport

Rail - Service available on Belfast, Bangor, Lisburn, Portadown lines. Normal service on Dublin line. No service Londonderry or Larne.

Bus - Citybus operating throughout city.

Adergrove - Dan-Air flight to Gatwick has left. British Midland flight cancelled due to lack of passengers. British Airways flight delayed as a result of problems with tarmac crew.

f. Ports

Belfast - 6 ships in Port, only one being worked. All ITGWU dockers arrived for work as normal but very few ATGWU.

Larne - No sailings expected until after 7.00 pm.

Not to be
disclosed

Warrenpoint and Newry - Both ports working normally.

g. Electricity

About 25% load shedding. Demand not as high as expected. Ballylumford enough staff to run one unit out of 5 units. Belfast West new shift has reported for duty. Coolkeeragh - shift in. New areas cut off:- West of Lough Neagh - Cookstown and Stewartstown. Outskirts of Belfast - Knock, Malone. Areas which have been cut off - no indication when service will be resumed.

Plant details:	Kilroot	280 Megawatts
	Ballylumford	240 Megawatts
	Belfast	82 Megawatts
	Coolkeeragh	290 Megawatts
		<u>892 Megawatts</u>

145 Megawatts load sharing.

3. Industry

Shorts virtually closed down. Senior management and senior admin staff in place. Numbers get progressively smaller down the system. 20% of technical design team present but no supervisors and shop floor workers except one rivetter. Peaceful picket no intimidation.

4. Health Services

Strabane Hospital - generator not working properly. Electrician held up by pickets and road blocks.

Eastern Board - patchy turnout by laundry staff and porters. Staff turnout at all Board HQs not high at the moment. Problems not great at present.

ADDENDUM

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Public Opinion

BBC at 10.00 am reported that workers have taken over the control room at Ballylumford. BBC say they have received many reports of intimidation and also allegations that the RUC were standing by and taking no action. Women going into Gallagher's plant in Ballymena were spat upon and attacked with sticks. Mr Robinson (DUP) said there was massive support for the strike and denied that loyalists had been responsible for any intimidation or violence.

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SITUATION REPORT - 1031 HOURS TO 1200 HOURS

NORTHERN IRELAND

1. Public Opinion

Downtown at 11.00 am reported that a loyalist picket in Londonderry was injured after a van smashed into a picket line. Dr Paisley has complained to the RUC that a Policeman pointed a gun at a picket line. Many roads were blocked and strikers claimed that many towns in Tyrone, Armagh and Down were blocked off.

NIO has dismissed claims that strikers had taken over the Ballylumford control room. The station said there had been numerous complaints of intimidation and Police inactivity in clearing road blocks. Harland and Wolff said 10 to 15% of their workers had turned up.

BBC at 11.00 am reported that reports of widespread intimidation were increasing and callers to the BBC were also complaining of RUC inactivity. A Presbyterian minister, in an interview, told of intimidation on the Newtownards Road while RUC stood by.

Industry: Most industrial firms have some workers in but "in some case the effect of picketing has been devastating". NIO denied Ballylumford workers takeover in control room.

2. Public Order

a. Roads

Cookstown is reported cut off whilst Comber isolated earlier is now clear. It is reported that Armagh and Tandragee are ^{Controlled} virtually sealed off by demonstrators. Traffic is being ~~Blocked~~ in both directions on the Dromore by-pass. Traffic in Belfast City centre is only about one fifth of what could normally be expected. The Army is dealing with 2 oil slicks on the M1 motorway, one at Ballyskeagh Bridge and one west of Lisburn - it is hoped to ~~clear~~ the motorway AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

Generally, although there are a lot of traffic blocks, people are getting through with perseverance.

b. Damage to Property

Nothing reported.

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devices at Hilden Bridge Lisburn and Springfield Road, Belfast

c. Personal Injuries

Nothing reported.

d. Intimidation

Several incidents have been reported in the Portadown and Lisburn areas and some intimidation has been directed towards Du Pont workers in Londonderry. Some schools have had to close due to intimidation of bus drivers and school meals personnel.

e. Transport

Trains - Correction to previous report - service is operational Bangor to Lisburn only. North bound trains are running as far as Portadown.

Buses - Service is reasonably good in greater Belfast area. Situation in rest of Province is unclear.

Airports - Fully operational although some delays caused by problems with turn-out of tarmac crews who deal with loading and re-fuelling.

f. Ports

Nothing reported.

g. Electricity

NOT FOR PUBLICATION [Load shedding is now 160 Megawatts.] All stations are contributing to the capacity. Some areas are now back on around Strabane, Enniskillen and Omagh while Carrick and Kilroot areas are now off. NIES reports that manual workers have walked out at Ballylumford because they refused to obey a management order that they should increase power on the one steam turbine working. Management forced to run turbine down but will compensate with gas turbines. This will even up the situation. Management unsure what effect this will have on the work force in other stations.

h. IEDs

Suspect IEDs at Ballykinner and Rostrevor/Kilkeel road have been declared hoaxes and cleared. Bomb disposal are dealing with confirmed IED on Crumlin Road, and will go on to suspect devices at Hilden Bridge Lisburn and Springfield Road, Belfast

2. Industry

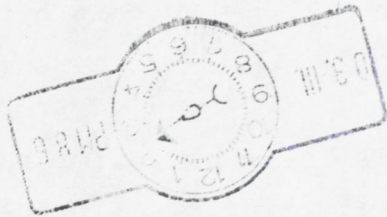
Industrial attendance, in broad terms, shows high absenteeism in loyalist areas and good attendance in Nationalist areas. Only senior management in attendance at Harland and Wolff. Virtually nil attendance of other staff.

4. Public Service

Courts Service - RMS and most Judges have been able to get to their appropriate Courts today.

Schools - Widespread closure of schools is reported for various reasons - lack of heating and electricity, intimidation of bus drivers, road blocks. The central meals kitchen at Saintfield was opened but closed due to intimidation.

Social Security Offices - Two SSOS are reported closed whilst at others staff have reported trouble nearby. The general impression however is that most staff have reported for duty to their own or nearest office.



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INTERIM REPORT ON ONE-DAY STRIKE - MIDDAY 3 MARCH



General

The overall tone of the day so far has been restrained with perhaps predictably patchy responses to the strike call. There are a number of reports of various forms of intimidation but so far they appear to be individual actions although evidence is emerging of massive organised campaigns to close roads and take other more violent action. The reduction in power supplies is producing the electricity cuts expected but these are being moved around to spread the load.

Belfast and District

2. In the city centre the main shops are open but some smaller ones have remained closed. However the large stores report very little business and the manager of Marks and Spencers (75% of his staff reported for work) has said that no one is shopping and he anticipates there may be difficulties later in the day when the various marches converge on the City Hall.

3. Many of the more localised shopping areas (such as the Lisburn Road) have stayed closed and there are reports that no filling stations are open. In the traditional loyalist strongholds there are allegations of road blocks, burning cars and groups of men with their faces masked stopping people going to work.

4. One of the expected main targets, the Stormont estate, and in particular Stormont Castle and area, has so far been relatively untroubled. At 11 am two of the main entrances, those at Massey Avenue and on the Newtownards Road at the foot of the processional route, were completely unpicketed. (See footnote)

North West

5. In Londonderry on the City side of the river business appears to be normal but in the unionist Waterside district most shops are closed and some of those that opened were 'advised' in explicit terms to shut. The Altnagelvin Hospital appears to be working normally but there are difficulties reported in the New Buildings area. ^{One of} the most disturbing incidents coming from the area concern car windows being broken in the Dales Corner area - this is likely to have been associated with attempts to prevent workers from going into Dupont. Considerable fears are being expressed that the proposed afternoon marches to the

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Guildhall will end up in violence.

The West

6. Enniskillen, like Belfast, has most of the main shops open but many of the small ones have stayed closed. The main problem in the areas seems to be associated with roadblocks and the way that they are being dealt with seems to vary considerably. Therefore Armagh is very difficult to negotiate but on the other hand blocks on the main roads into Omagh are negotiable the police maintaining access. All the shops in Omagh are closed.

Other Areas

7. Response to the strike call is very patchy with support coming in those areas where it might be expected. Thus small towns like Ballynahinch, Banbridge and Dromore are completely closed down but on the other hand other major shopping areas like Newry appear to be unaffected.

Road Blocks

8. As the morning has progressed reports have started coming in that road blocks are springing up and that the atmosphere at them is becoming increasingly tense. There are reports of cars being damaged at a major road block on the Belfast-Newry road near Dromore. Reliable sources commented that both the Army and the Police have been aware of this activity for some time but as yet no action has been taken to clear the road or to prevent the interference and damage to cars.

Summary

9. The strike has been patchy and at its most effective in the expected unionist strongholds. There appears to be a worrying trend towards road blocks with the increased likelihood of confrontation and violence. Concern has been expressed in more than one area about what may develop during the afternoon when the various unionist marches are underway. At this stage it appears that the emergence of the road block tactic is proving effective and reports suggest the balance of advantage is swinging towards the strikers.

Political Affairs Division

RCB is the only NIO Dept to be seriously affected. Apparently the police did not know Quarry House is a Government building and had not provided any support and the staff arrived to be turned away by a 50 strong picket.

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19/4

DESK BY 2.45 PM!

NORTHERN IRELAND

SITUATION REPORT - 1201 HOURS TO 1330 HOURS

1. Public Opinion

BBC and Downtown continued to report widespread intimidation and allegations of police inactivity. Mr McCusker (OUP) said "tens of thousands" of workers had responded to the strike although there had been intimidation by employers. Belfast Chamber of Trade said two-thirds of shops were open today. (BBC national TV and ITN both showed pictures of road blocks with, in some cases, apparent RUC inactivity.

2. Public Order

a. Roads

Action being taken to clear spilt oil on M1. Reports from public of roads closed by barricades, etc, which have been passed to RUC HQ for action.

b. Damage to Property

Nothing reported.

c. Personal Injuries

Nothing reported.

d. Intimidation

There have been a number of reports from the public of intimidation throughout the Province which have been passed to RUC HQ for action.

e. Transport

Trains - No change.

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Airport - Airlines have indicated that they are withdrawing services due to lack of demand. They will be issuing a statement to be agreed with NIA early this afternoon which therefore should not be pre-empted.

Buses - Citybus services remain reasonably good. Ulsterbus cannot provide a service in Omagh, Armagh, Portadown, Lurgan, Lisburn, Coleraine, Carrick and Ballymena.

f. Ports

Nothing reported.

g. Electricity

Nothing reported.

3. Industry

MAFF - most food stores closed except in nationalist areas. Baking trade baked yesterday for today. Plant bakeries in Newry and Derry in production. Wholesale transport off the road. Grain silos 90% staffed but no vehicles.

Fisheries: (a) Kilkeel and Portavogie closed also processing plant; (b) Ardglass with fleet of 12 operating plus processing plant.

Slaughterhouses: 3 out of 20 open.

Eggs: all packing factories closed (lack of workforce).

Bacon processing open but no industrial staff

{ Milk: all milk collected yesterday. Today's can be held at farms until tomorrow.

{ Moira Poultry: direct intimidation of workforce, also Newtownards.

{ Aldergrove inspectors have been advised by Airport Security to go home to avoid trouble. This was denied by Aldergrove Airport security manager.

Not for
general
release

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IDB contacted 30 firms - Belfast, Ballymena, Carrick, Larne 80%/90% absenteeism. West of Province 5%-10% absenteeism. Du Pont very few absentees. Killyleagh Flax sent workers home due to power cuts. Others have started production on reinstatement of electricity.

4. Health Services

No major problems except in Southern Board Area. Emergency service operating but non-emergency services are disrupted. Report of consultant being turned away from Craigavon Hospital. There is a situation in Kilkeel as yet unidentified. There is a report that senior administrator took exception to pickets at one road-block and had his tyres damaged. Northern Board - a few day centres closed. All other services normal.

Social Security Offices - Portadown closed earlier; Newtownards closed 11.30 am, Lurgan and Larne closed. Ballymena and Lisburn - staff in but no public service. Number of sub-offices not opened.

5. Communications

BT report little inconvenience - only 16% of staff have not been able to get to work. On service side, traffic to operators is very heavy.

Postal - Normal service for letters deliveries Belfast City Centre, Holywood and Downpatrick. Rest of Province - many staff came in but went home due to intimidation and pickets. Some postmen at Ballymoney photographed by pickets. Parts of Newry, Londonderry (less Waterside) and Enniskillen normal.

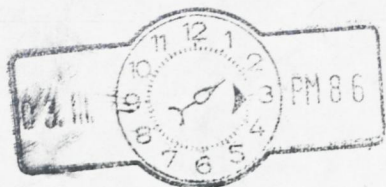
Counters - a number of main post offices open, eg, Belfast, Londonderry and Enniskillen. Bangor open but under intimidation. Newry is alright. Some East and South Belfast offices opened but subsequently closed by intimidation. Many provincial offices not opened (a) due to inability to get through; (b) inability to get money to them.

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6. Miscellaneous

Member of public reports UDR men in plain clothes amongst pickets in Main Street, Dungannon, asking questions about Anglo-Irish Agreement.

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E.R. Desk Immediate

24/3

PAB/1499/BN

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PS/Secretary of State (L&B) -m

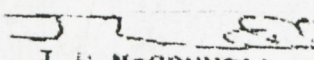
cc: PS/Ministers (L&B) -m
PS/PUS (L&B) -m
PS/Mr Bloomfield
Mr Stephens
Mr Brennan -w
Mr Chesterton -m
Mr Innes
Mr Elliott
Mr Spence
Mr Gilliland
Mr Bell -m
Miss Elliott -m
Mr Blackwell
Mr S Hewitt
Mr G Hewitt
Mr Ehrman -m

1. cc. Mr ~~Lowell~~ N^o 10.
2. Back to me.

now
3/3.

FURTHER REPORT ON ONE-DAY STRIKE MID AFTERNOON 3 MARCH

I attach a further report on today's activities as promised.


J E McCONNELL

Political Affairs Division

3 March 1986

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FURTHER REPORT ON ONE-DAY STRIKE - MID AFTERNOON 3 MARCH

A clearer picture is emerging of the day's events and developments. In many places there was a very high initial turnout - for example 95% of the staff in Downpatrick Town Hall was a typical figure for employment within the public service. In addition many shops and businesses opened early in the day. However as matters have developed there is growing concern about the safety of workers on their way home. This is largely as a result of rumour based on anecdotal and some verified accounts of police inactivity in dealing with road blocks and other forms of intimidation. The following examples are typical.

- (i) Reliable sources reported an incident in the Newcastle area in which a female employee of the District Council ^{who} was journeying to work, was stopped at an unofficial road block. The block was not at her work nor associated with any other workplace. When she complained to police in the vicinity she was told they could not interfere with 'an official picket'. This incident has been reported as a complaint to the Newcastle police.
- (ii) Another very reliable source in Londonderry reports the closure of businesses following intimidation from a group of 50-60 'yobs'. No police were in evidence. The same source personally reported seeing a number of youths attacking a derelict house but when he reported this no police arrived. The widespread belief in Londonderry (he says) is people will have trouble getting home and businesses are closing to allow them to get home early. There are also unconfirmed reports of brake pipes being cut on school buses.
- (iii) One of the trouble spots now seems to be Kilkeel where it is reported that the town is sealed off. There are stories of cars being burnt and allegations (by a local councillor and as yet unconfirmed) that known members of the UDR have taken part in these activities.

Summary

It seems likely that in the aftermath of the day's actions that one of the central issues that will attract political comment is the role

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of the police. Their observed inactivity has created the impression that they have been unable or unwilling to offer adequate protection to the public.



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SITUATION REPORT - 1331 HOURS TO 1500 HOURS1. Public Opinion

BBC reported that loyalists were gathering at Belfast City Hall for a "mock funeral". Widespread intimidation had been reported and six towns were still sealed off by protesters. The RUC said a "fair number" of arrests had been made. Although Belfast city centre shops were still open, traders said the strike had been disastrous for business.

2. Public Ordera. Roads

M1 motorway has been cleared.

b. Damage to Property

Nothing reported.

c. Personal Injuries

Nothing reported.

d. Intimidation

There have been further reports from the public of intimidation throughout the Province which have been passed to RUC HQ for action.

e. Transport

Trains - No change.

Buses - Citybus reasonably good. Ulsterbus experiencing operating difficulties because of road blocks.

Airports - No change.

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f. Ports

Nothing reported.

g. Electricity

Same amount of electricity available. Ards and Bangor back on stream but Belfast East and Central now affected.

h. IEDs

Nothing reported.

i. Arrests

At 1200 hours 16 arrests had been reported Province-wide and 31 people noted for future action.

3. Industry

No further reports.

4. Public Service

90% of non-industrial civil servants have attended work. Fire Authority working normally.

A Division of NIO (RCB) is not working today - on arrival staff were met by about 50 pickets who had chained and tied shut the main gate, and staff were not allowed to pass. There was no RUC presence during the incident - police did not know that Quarry House is a Government building.

5. Demonstrations

During a parade at Belfast City Centre a group of 50 broke away and set fire to a car at Charles Hurst's garage, Adelaide Street. A crowd of about 200 is reported near

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Bryson Street, heading up Newtownards Road. A crowd is reported outside Rosepark and the road is blocked - there are adequate police to deal with the situation. The city centre parade, comprising 5,000 people, has dispersed in various directions with some minor damage reported.

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CONFIDENTIALSITUATION REPORT - 1501 HOURS TO 1630 HOURS1. Public Opinion

Local radio stations are reporting on a series of rallies being held in provincial towns. The main one in Lisburn has blocked the town with a tractor cavalcade. OUP Leader, James Molyneaux, said at the Lisburn demonstration that rumours of widespread intimidation were highly exaggerated.

The earlier demonstration by a small group of 50 youths, in Bedford Street, has passed with minor damage and the news reports that the city centre is quiet. However, a mob of about 300 youths overturned a lorry at the junction of Alberthridge and Newtownards Road. Claims that police used baton rounds to disperse the crowds have been checked and are unfounded. Meanwhile, many civil servants have, on their own initiative, left work early. Reports of walkouts in considerable numbers include Dundonald House, Castle Buildings and Works Service.

A group of Catholic factory workers were attacked leaving the Lurgan firm Saracen this afternoon. It is generally understood that the factory was being picketed by Loyalists. During the fracas, policemen were injured, one seriously and one baton round was used to quell the antagonists.

Loyalist leaders, according to Downtown News at 3.30 pm, are claiming that the day of action has been a great success from their point of view.

2. Public Ordera. Roads

Further complaints from the public about barricades, etc, passed to RUC HQ for action.

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b. Damage to Property

Hyster Plant, Craigavon - approximately 200 people entered complex causing damage to 2 cars and minor damage to factory. All quiet now.

c. Personal Injuries

No further reports.

d. Intimidation

Further reports from public of intimidation passed to RUC for action. Saracen Clothing Factory, Lurgan, with mixed workforce has had some trouble. Police involved - 1 baton round fired, 3 police injured. Riots moved to Mourneview Estate and smaller groups continue to break windows in housing belonging to RUC personnel.

e. Transport

No further reports.

f. Ports

No further reports.

g. Electricity

No further reports.

h. IEDs

Suspicious device at Killowen, near Rilkeel, now cleared by ATO. Devices at Washing Bay Bridge and Aughnacloy permanent UCP have been declared hoaxes. Suspect device seen at Gransha Hospital, Londonderry, 1407 ATO tasked.

i. Arrests

No further reports.

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3.

3. Industry

No further reports.

4. Public Services

Heavy picketing at Rosepark House. Operations staff were given permission to leave after advice from RUC.

5. Demonstrations

300 approximately roaming Templemore Avenue/Dee Street area. One lorry overturned. No confrontation and no noticeable direction of travel. Vehicle burnt out in Kilkeel. Parade with coffin. 200 Vehicles/300 persons in cavalcade in town at present.

5. Health Services

Castle Buildings, Dundonald House, Works Unit have been told to go home. Various out-offices in Belfast, Antrim and Ballymoney have closed at the discretion of local managers. Their Operations Room (Benefits) will be closing now (1444).

Admin staff in the four Area Boards have maintained services. Starting to close down now (1530). Presence will be maintained at DHSS until told to close by NIO Branch.

7. Communications

Since this morning the service has worsened. No service at all in the East. Slight service in the West of the Province. Post Offices in the centre of Belfast now all closed due to trouble and lack of customers. Some offices in West still operating. No collections today except in some small areas in West. As airport is closed, no outgoing mail. If situation eases tonight to allow staff in and if airport re-opens for incoming mail, services can resume.

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R. Desk - Immediate

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FAB/1497/BN

PS/Secretary of State (L&B) - m

cc: PS/Ministers (L&B) - m

PS/PUS (L&B) - m

PS/Mr Bloomfield

Mr Stephens

Mr Brennan - m

Mr Chesterton - m

Mr Innes

Mr Elliott

Mr Spence

Mr Gilliland

Mr Bell - m

Miss Elliott - m

Mr Blackwell

Mr S Hewitt

Mr G Hewitt

Mr Ehrman - m

1. cc C. Powell
N^o 10.

2. Back to me

NDW
3/3.

INTERIM REPORT ON ONE-DAY STRIKE - MIDDAY 3 MARCH

I attach an interim report on today's activities and I will issue a further report as the day progresses.

J E McCONNELL

Political Affairs Division

3 March 1986

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