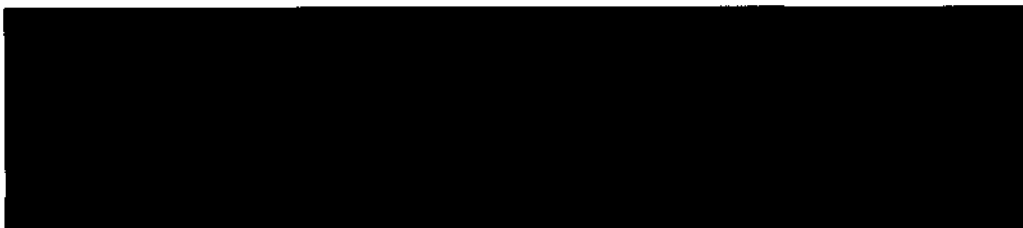


269.



## CONCLUSIONS

270. When investigating any crime there are restrictions placed upon an investigator or investigation team if the perpetrator of the crime is not apprehended at the scene of the incident. This was the situation we faced in respect of the murder of Mrs Nelson, the consequence being that the MIT had recourse to a limited number of methods available that might lead to the apprehension and prosecution of those responsible. The available principal lines of investigation are set out in brief below:

- **Eye Witness Evidence**

In some crimes eye witnesses do present themselves to the police and give an account of what they saw providing details of the culprit, either because they know the individual personally or can identify them through means of an identification parade or other identification method. No eye witnesses identified themselves to the investigation Team in the immediate aftermath of Mrs Nelson's murder. The SIO made an early press appeal for witnesses to come forward to help the MIT. At the earliest opportunity a House to House Enquiries Team was deployed with the objective of identifying witnesses or seeking any information that would identify the culprits. Later unsuccessful enquiries were made in a nearby industrial estate in search of witnesses who may have witnessed anything suspicious in the period leading up to or just before the murder.

- **Other Visual Identification Evidence**

Video evidence is a useful source that can quite often assist in identifying an offender. In 1999 there were no CCTV facilities in Lurgan town centre or the nearby towns as there are today. A decision was made to seize any videos in premises, such as petrol filling stations, for a radius of five miles from the murder scene in the event that those involved may have been captured while called to make a purchase. The military were approached