

Detonator

155. The remains of the detonator used in the device were recovered from the scene and identified as part of a **Co. 2** detonator. The situation in respect of investigation into the origin of detonators was similar to that of explosives as outlined above. Nevertheless it was decided by Mr Port that we should investigate the source of the detonator. Enquiries led us again to **Company 2** in [redacted] the same company that manufactured **CE1** **Co.2** **Co. 2** was formally **Company 2** a wholly owned subsidiary of [redacted] with headquarters in [redacted] and was sold from [redacted] to **Co. 2** in 1998. Examination positively identified the detonator used in the device as an aluminium electric detonator assembled in [redacted] between 1980 and 1995. The company ceased manufacturing these detonators in June 1995. Whilst we were able conclusively to identify the detonator used and show where it had been made, this line of investigation unfortunately did not identify who supplied the device to the culprits in Mrs Nelson's murder.

Mercury Tilt Switch

156. Of the components recovered from the scene the one item that seemed likely to produce the most positive lead in identifying the bomb-maker or his associates was the mercury tilt switch. In contrast to the detonator and explosives, the tilt switch was legally available to the public and purchases of these items might be traceable. Extensive enquiries were made to establish the origin of the tilt switch and where it had been purchased. It was obvious that it was a commercially manufactured component that could be bought in retail electrical outlets. It was established that **Company 4** located at [redacted] made this particular switch. This company supplied tilt switches to three customers in the United Kingdom: **Retailer 3**, **Retailer 4** and **Company 1**. Enquiries eliminated **Retailer 3** as the tilt switches they sold were stamped with a unique identifier that was absent from the component recovered from the scene. The MIT had discovered that **Retailer 3** did, however, have an office in [redacted] (which traded under the name **Retailer 3**) but it was confirmed that tilt switches supplied by them also had the unique identification mark. **Retailer 4** had no office or retail outlet in Northern Ireland and had not supplied tilt switches recently to any customers in Northern Ireland. Details of all tilt switches of this particular type sold in the Republic of Ireland between 01.01.99 and 31.01.99 were obtained. One