



Independent Commission for Police Complaints for Northern Ireland
 Chamber of Commerce House – 22 Great Victoria Street – Belfast BT2 7LP
 Phone (01232) 244821 – Fax (01232) 248563

Chairman: Paul A. Donnelly, BA, MSc

Chief Executive: Brian G. McClelland, BA

Mr R Flanagan O.B.E. M.A.
 Chief Constable
 Royal Ulster Constabulary
 Brooklyn
 Knock Road
 Belfast BT5 6LE

19th June 1998

IN CONFIDENCE

Dear Ronnie

**Re: Complaints against officers of the RUC in respect of alleged threats to
 Rosemary Nelson, Solicitor**

I am writing to bring to your attention concerns that I have been made aware of by the member of the Commission who supervised the above investigation.

The matters in question are grave: alleged death threats and sinister innuendoes have been made towards Rosemary Nelson, a solicitor. It is claimed that these were communicated to Mr Duffy, while under arrest as a suspect in the murder of two police officers in Lurgan in June 1997, and to other persons while they were in police custody.

The circumstances of this investigation are exceptional. Firstly, there is a high degree of interest expressed from external bodies, in particular, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, Lawyers Alliance for Justice in Ireland and Human Rights Watch/Helsinki. Secondly, for the first time in the history of the Commission, we are unable to confirm that the police investigation has been conducted to our satisfaction. The demeanour, behaviour and investigative approach of the interviewing police officer, together with the responses of those officers under question, combined to fundamentally undermine the investigative process. In spite of numerous efforts on the part of the Commission representatives to challenge and redress the situation, the investigation has been

Commission Members

Brian Reid (Deputy Chairman), Suzanne Bryson, Robin Davidson,
 Tom Gillen, Bob Moore, Geraldyn McNally, David Shillington