

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF **A645**

AGE OF WITNESS [if over 21 enter 'over 21'] : OVER 21

I declare that this statement consisting of 4 pages, each signed by me is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence at a preliminary enquiry or at the trial of any person, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated this 22 day of April 1999

[REDACTED]
 SIGNATURE OF MEMBER
 by whom statement was recorded or received

A645
 SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

I am a Corporal in F Company 3 Royal Irish Regiment based at Portadown. On Sunday 14th March 1999 I was on duty at Mahon Road base as a Section Commander in the ORF. At about 1730 hrs I was tasked to be Liaison Officer on a helicopter flight to be utilized in the Kilwilke area of Lurgan. I went to the Ops Room and was briefed by Captain **A660** who was the Operations Officer that evening. I was tasked to check a suspect device that had been reported at No [REDACTED] Lake Street, Lurgan. At 1758 hrs I arrived at the helipad and I then briefed the Commander of the Gazelle of my operation. At 1807 hrs we arrived over Lurgan. I had my map with me and I will now mark out what we did that night on the same map. I have marked **A645** on this map and signed it. We entered the area via the Castor Bay Road and took up a static position at St Colemans Cemetary which I have marked B on the map. I examined the area around No [REDACTED] Lake Street with binoculars. There was a gold coloured car parked outside the address given. We flew round a circular route observing the target from every angle. I have marked the target area 'A'. There was nothing suspicious at that point. I did however see a large white van pass No [REDACTED] Lake Street towards Antrim Road. Most Sunday night traffic