

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

STATEMENT OF PAUL ALAN WAKEHAM

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

I declare that this statement consisting of 2 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

P A WAKEHAM

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER

SIGNATURE OF WITNESS

by whom statement was recorded or received

I am a Sergeant in 665 Squadron 5 Regiment Army Air Corps at present stationed at RAF Aldergrove. On Sunday 14th March 1999 I was pilot in Gazelle 04 which was commanded by Sgt **A657***. We were operating from Bessbrook. Our helicopter was fitted with a Day/Thermal Imaging Airborne Surveillance Camera with recording facilities. It has a night sun which has an infra-red capability and at the time we were wearing night vision goggles. During the early evening, I can't remember the exact time, we received a tasking from Capt [REDACTED] who is designated Zero Charlie for the area, to proceed to Portadown to collect a Liaison Officer and operate in the Kilwilke area. We flew to Portadown and collected the LO and went to the Aldergrove side of the Kilwilke estate. There appears to be a large graveyard in that area. It is our normal practice to fly at approximately 1500 feet and observe from a point nearby. To check blind spots we normally do slow orbits around the area. We were in the area for over an hour maintaining our hover. We were upwind of Kilwilke estate which meant that all our rotor noise would have gone directly over the estate. Our Liaison Officer needed to check out the activity in the estate to decide if ground forces should be introduced to deal with the problem.