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AN RÚNAÍOCHT ANGLA-ÉIREANNACH

BÉAL FEIRSTE

ANGLO-IRISH SECRETARIAT

BELFAST

*Mr Mc Carthy
you might let
Mr. Mansergh
see a copy
copy of the memo
etc*

S19629.

20 February 1987

cc: Tanaité

Secretary

A-1

Mr Ward

Mr Nally

Box

Charlie Louden

Mr. Eamonn O Tuathail
Assistant Secretary
Department of Foreign Affairs

19629

*Rec'd
23/3/87*

Dear Eamonn

Apprentice Boys March; Easter Monday

The Annual Apprentice Boys Easter Monday March is held in different venues each year. Last year, to highlight their dissatisfaction with the Anglo-Irish Agreement, they decided to march in Portadown with the intention of forcing their way into the nationalist areas of Obins Street, Garvaghy Road and the Tunnel area. In the event the police banned the march and tried to prevent people converging on Portadown. They confined those who succeeded in getting to Portadown to the commercial centre of the town. In the ensuing riot a loyalist supporter called White was killed by a plastic bullet fired by the RUC.

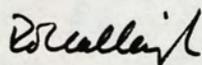
This year the Apprentice Boys have declared their intention to hold their annual Easter Monday march in Portadown. In line with unionist tactics they have stated that they will not comply with the conditions of the Public Order (N.I.) Order which obliges the organisers of marches to give seven days prior notice to the police, including details of the route.

Though this is their public position the Apprentice Boys have in fact entered into discussions with the local police about the route for this year's march. The NIO, in confidence, have given us a copy of the route which the Apprentice Boys say they intend to take. A coloured copy is attached from which it can

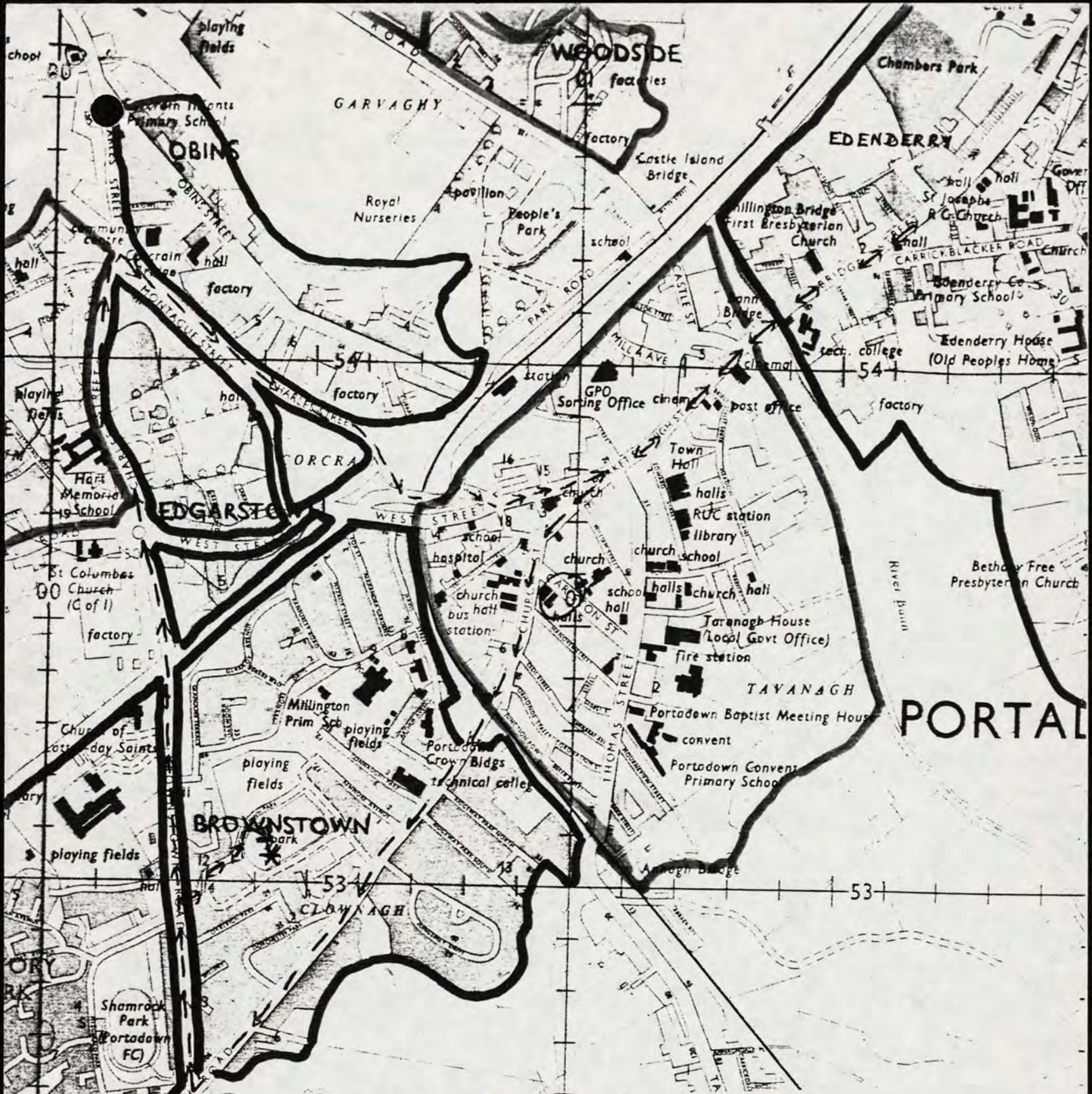
be seen that they will avoid Obins Street, Garvaghy Road and the Tunnel area. The march will be confined to loyalist estates and to the central commercial area. You will note that there is what appears to be an interface between nationalist and loyalist areas at Montague and Charles Street. In fact there is a high "peace line" there protecting the nationalist area.

The police would see these consultations with the Apprentice Boys which have been taking place over the last six weeks as complying with the Public Order (Northern Ireland) Order and they are inclined to the view that the march be let go ahead along the agreed route, subject to any unforeseen developments between now and Easter Monday.

Yours sincerely



Daithi O Ceallaigh



Apprentice Boys March
PORTADOWN - EASTER MONDAY 1987

- Route (↔)
- Outward :- Bridge St., High St., Market St.,
 Church St., Armagh Rd,
 Brownstown Road.
- Demonstration(*) at BROWNSTOWN PARK
- Homeward :- Brownstown Rd, Charles St,
 Northway, West St, Market St, High St,
 Bridge Street.