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Lurgan and)
Newcastle:.) Effectively stopped. Necessary to use some CS gas.

Notwithstanding some provocative reporting which laid emphasis on whatever limited marching there was rather than on the fact that all the Marches had been effectively stopped there was general satisfaction with the security action and the Chairman congratulated Army and Police on successful operations.

3. BAN ON PROCESSIONS

The Senior Assistant Secretary Ministry of Home Affairs wondered if the terms of the ban on processions should be extended to embrace Magilligan Strand, but it was felt this would carry complicated enforcement difficulties. It was agreed also that the ban should be absolute and without exceptions.

4. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Proposed Marches on Saturday (Dungannon to Coalisland) and Sunday (in Londonderry) posed considerable problems. Tactics will be as for last week-end. The Marches will be stopped at points selected on tactical grounds.

It was agreed that SPA Regulation 38 should be used to prevent assembly in Dungannon Square. The Londonderry Marches presented more serious difficulties and security action will be primarily an Army operation. It is planned to stifle the Shantallow March at source but it would be pointless to attempt the same tactics in the Creggan area. The basic plan here will be to block all routes into William Street and stop the March there. The operation might well develop into rioting and even a shooting war. Depending on the amount of road transport into Londonderry for the occasion road blocks may be set up and vehicles searched. This would have useful delaying effect.

Prosecution for breaches of the ban on processions was disappointingly slow. The Minister of State at the Ministry of Home Affairs undertook to look into this.

5. TRANSPORT INFORMATION UNIT

The Committee noted with satisfaction progress in the setting up of this Unit as per Paper tabled. The Unit will operate from 31 January.

6. GENERAL

A PUBLICATION OF CITATIONS: The Committee accepted a recommendation submitted by the GOC that in the best interests of recipients citations for operational Honours and Awards in Northern Ireland to members of the Security Forces, including the Royal Navy, Regular Army, Royal Air Force, RUC, UDR and Civilians (as appropriate) should not be published. Recipients would of course receive copies of full citation.

The Secretary to the Cabinet pointed out that although citations were not published in the case of the normal New Year and Birthday Honours Awards to Police it was possible that some of those concerned could be connected in press comment with particular operations against the IRA. Steps had already been

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taken to prevent publication of private addresses of police recipients but further precautions might now have to be considered.

B INTERMENT:

- i. Accommodation: The next 4 weeks until the 4 additional compounds at Long Kesh (capacity 350) are available (end of February) will be difficult. Present spare accommodation is 98.
- ii. Segregation: Not possible until the additional accommodation is available.
- iii. Staff Recruiting: Progressing satisfactorily. Contrary to press reports only 9 GB recruits had returned home.
- iv. Searching: Proposals for tightening up search procedure was being considered.

C INCREASE IN BOMBING: It wasn't clear whether the recent increase in bombing incidents indicated a fresh supply of gelignite or increasing use of agricultural explosives. The Chief Constable reported general intelligence about increased ASU cross-border activity and a supply of arms from the continent.

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