

E.R.

Handwritten notes:
20 May 1981
Mr. Topham
Mr. Pabell
ATT
etc

PS/Secretary of State (I&B) M .

cc: PS/PUS (I&B) M
Mr Blelloch
Mr Wyatt
Mr Palmer
Mr Gilliland
Mr Jackson

STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF McCREESH FAMILY

Mr Noel Finucane, solicitor for the McCreesh family, telephoned the Duty Officer last night at 2020 hrs with the text of a public statement he wished the Government to be aware of. The full text of the statement is as follows:

"The family of Raymond McCreesh demand an independent inquiry by experienced legal and medical personnel into all aspects of Raymond's care and condition in the Maze Prison hospital between 4.00pm and 9.00pm on Saturday 16 May 1981, to include:

- (1) his medical condition with special reference to his sudden and marked deterioration to his mental state within that period;
- (2) the alleged dialogues which were carried on with him;
- (3) why certain questions were put to him;
- (4) why certain interpretations were put upon his alleged answers;
- (5) why the family was summoned in the way they were;
- (6) why certain statements were issued to the news media after Saturday;
- (7) why certain leaks were conveyed to the news media before Saturday to expect a certain event.

The inquiry must ask whether this whole affair was deliberately contrived to meet political expectations".

2. Mr Finucane did not wish to elaborate upon any particular point, and I did not comment other than to agree to pass on the text to the appropriate people.

3. This text was read by me over the telephone to Mr Wyatt (Senior Duty Officer), Mr Blelloch, Mr Jackson and yourself shortly after receipt last night.

4. The statement received no radio or T.V. publicity last night.

N D WARD
N D WARD
Duty Officer

20 May 1981