



5. Mr Chesney said he understood the difficulties but was not disposed for various reasons to providing a permanent police guard within the hospital. However, he and Mr Henry could see no objection to increasing mobile patrols on the hospital site and this would be considered as would any necessary improvement in communications. He suggested that Mr Ecott, (Chief Security Officer), Mr Jackson and Chief Superintendent Henry should meet urgently to discuss the problems/ and to seek solutions, and should continue such liaison in the future.
  
6. There was general agreement with Mr Chesney's proposal, and the following measures should be considered:-
  - (a) the establishment of a more obvious police presence on the site;
  
  - (b) methods of increasing the speed of access to, and communication with, the RUC from within the hospital; and
  
  - (c) Any possible improvements in protection for policemen guarding patients.
  
7. As the RUC representatives quoted a few instances where patients requiring protection appeared to be suitable for hospital treatment elsewhere than the RVH, Mr Copeland stressed the importance of ensuring that, where possible, such cases were referred in the first instance to other hospitals. Medical decisions were involved but he would arrange that relevant parties would be reminded of the guidance in this matter.

cc H. Dawson (NZO)

2.

Security.  
CMO.