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adopt the interrogation methods advocated by the JSIW, in preference to the RUC's own rather cruder traditional methods. Mr. Faulkner's recent statement denying the Sunday Times charges in toto had been unfortunate, in that it gave the impression that the RUC were not involved in whatever interrogation was going on; in fact they were of course very much involved, though certainly they were hoping that it would not become public knowledge that they had done the actual interrogating.

4. PUS said that we must nevertheless recognise that, once Compton had reported, not only would there be a substantial political rumpus but much of the criticism would be directed at British (as opposed to Northern Ireland) Ministers and at the Army (as opposed to the RUC). CDS and CGS agreed that this would be so; they considered that, inequitable as this would be, the Army should be prepared to allow the line between their and the RUC's areas of responsibility to be blurred in this way, as the preferable alternative to shrugging the onus of responsibility on to the RUC Special Branch and thus incurring the risk of shattering the latter's morale. CGS added, however, that if the RUC Special Branch wanted to pursue their plea not to be mentioned at all in connexion with interrogation, they should do so through their Chief Constable and the Northern Ireland Government rather than with the GOC.

(A.W. STEPHENS)
APS/SECRETARY OF STATE
Ext. 2111/3

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