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TO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON

TELEGRAM NUMBER 1733 OF 4 NOVEMBER

AND TO IMMEDIATE BIS NEW YORK

NORTHERN IRELAND: UDA

YOUR TELNO. 4445 OF 31 OCTOBER

1. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE OF A CLAIM BY THE UDA THAT THEY WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDERS OF RONALD BUNTING, NOEL LITTLE, MIRIAM DALY OR JOHN TURNLY. ON PAST FORM IT WOULD NOT BE IN CHARACTER FOR THEM TO MAKE ANY SUCH CLAIM, WHICH WOULD INVITE PROSCRIPTION.

2. HOWEVER, THE UDA ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON 29 OCTOBER IN RESPONSE TO THE HUNGER STRIKE CAMPAIGN:

'THE UDA WILL NOT BE DRAWN INTO A SECTARIAN WAR BUT WILL USE EVERY MEANS AT ITS DISPOSAL TO ELIMINATE THOSE WHO POSE A THREAT TO THE STATE OF ULSTER AND ALL ITS PEOPLE. THE UDA IS NOT TO BE SEEN AS A THREAT TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE H-BLOCK CAMPAIGN BUT IS ONLY INTERESTED IN ELIMINATING ACTIVE PROVISIONALS IN THE MOVEMENT'.

3. IT IS CONFIRMED THAT ANDY TYRIE HAS NEVER BEEN HELD FOR QUESTIONING BY THE RUC. IT IS KNOWN THAT HE ATTENDED A SEMINAR IN BOSTON, USA IN 1975.

4. THREE 'LOYALIST' ORGANISATIONS ARE PROSCRIBED UNDER THE NORTHERN IRELAND (EMERGENCY PROVISIONS) ACT 1978:

THE RED HAND COMMANDO

THE ULSTER FREEDOM FIGHTERS

THE ULSTER VOLUNTEER FORCE

5. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO STATE HOW MANY 'LOYALIST' PRISONERS HAVE BEEN CONVICTED OF TERRORIST-TYPE OFFENCES AS PRISONERS CONVICTED OF SUCH OFFENCES ARE NOT CLASSIFIED SEPARATELY. HOWEVER THE NUMBER CURRENTLY IN PRISON IS WELL OVER 200.
LINE TO TAKE.

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