

October to December 1971 41 persons, 17 of them being members of the security forces and 34 being civilians (1).

The introduction of internment and the riots which followed it led to a rise in support for the IRA within the Catholic community and further alienation of the Catholic community from the authorities and security forces (2). On the Protestant side the serious violence at this time led to the formation of further local defence associations or vigilant groups in Protestant areas. These eventually amalgamated to become the Ulster Defence Association. The precise date when this occurred is not clear but it appears to have been in about September 1971, although this organisation did not become openly active until about the spring of 1972 (3). The police apparently looked on the various associations primarily as defensive organisations which patrolled their areas. They were aware that there was a dangerous element within them but apparently did not have sufficient intelligence to identify the violent element in 1971 (4).

There appears to have been relatively little serious violence by Protestants, apart from rioting, between August 1971 and the end of the year. Nevertheless a minor bombing campaign, in particular of public houses, continued throughout 1971. The "Schedule" produced by the applicant Government lists a total of eight bombings attributed to Protestants during that period. One of those referred to was an explosion at a Catholic public house on 4 December 1971, in which 15 people were killed. Responsibility for this explosion was claimed by a group calling themselves the "Empire Loyalists". No such group had been heard of, however, and the police subsequently received information to the effect that the explosion had been caused by an IRA bomb which had exploded prematurely whilst in transit to its intended target which was a hotel nearby (5). One death only, between August and the end of the year, was attributed by the police to Loyalists. This was an assassination of a Protestant in September 1971 (6).

Intimidation appears to have become more serious after the disturbances following the introduction of internment. Much intimidation appears to have taken place on both sides

- 
- (1) VR 10 I pp. 180-181.
  - (2) See e.g. VR 7 p. 31.
  - (3) VR 10 I pp. 180-181; VR 9 p. 14; VR 7 pp. 147-148.
  - (4) VR 10 I pp. 377-378.
  - (5) Schedule of Loyalist Acts of Terrorism; VR 10 I pp. 368-369.
  - (6) VR 10 I p. 181, Annex p. 6; VR 10 I, Annex p. 89.