

NOTE OF A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH THE CHIEF
CONSTABLE ON TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER 2001 AT 7.45 AM

The Chief Constable phoned me at home. He said he had been reflecting on our conversation last night and he was wondering whether there was any possibility that I might wait because the work which he was doing would take only to the weekend. I said to him that he had told me on Friday that he was not bringing anything to me, that he had left me in a position in which I had gone forward and I was not going to inflict further pain on the relatives. I thought I owed it to them to go forward.

The Chief Constable told me that Paul Priestly had said to him that Michael Gallagher had said to the Secretary of State last night that he had questioned the Secretary of State last night as to whether the Ombudsman was definitely going to go ahead on Wednesday. The Chief Constable said it seemed as if it might be that the relatives would have been happy for me to wait. I said that really wasn't my understanding of Mr Gallagher's position, that I had spoken to him last night and he certainly seemed keen to get the results. I said that in all the circumstances I really thought that we now needed to go ahead.

The Chief Constable told me he was going off to Dublin until 10 o'clock tonight to the funeral of the guard who was shot dead in a recent robbery in the South.

NUALA O'LOAN

POLICE OMBUDSMAN FOR NORTHERN IRELAND