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BEFORE HM SENIOR CORONER FOR SURREY, MR RICHARD TRAVERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE GUILDFORD PUB BOMBINGS 1974

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE INQUESTS TOUCHING AND CONCERNING THE DEATHS OF:

- (1) MR PAUL CRAIG (DECEASED)
- (2) GUARDSMAN WILLIAM FORSYTH (DECEASED)
- (3) PRIVATE ANN HAMILTON (DECEASED)
- (4) GUARDSMAN JOHN HUNTER (DECEASED)
- (5) PRIVATE CAROLINE SLATER (DECEASED)

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FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

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1. Introduction

1.1 I shall now set out the findings of fact and conclusions I have reached at the end of the resumed inquests into the deaths of the five young people killed by the Provisional IRA in the Guildford Pub Bombings on Saturday 5 October 1974. As is well known, two Guildford pubs were destroyed on that day, and 10 people were killed, including five young people.



organisations. In the event, Surrey Police made more than 10,000 documents available to the inquest, responded to countless questions and provided regular

unwilling to assist and could not be compelled to do so because she lives outside the jurisdiction.



*the* place to go for young recruits wishing to socialise with their counterparts, including those of the opposite sex, and help to explain why the town centre and some of its pubs were so popular with young soldiers

- 2.6 In order to establish the timings of various critical events, helpful to know that the following were a place to go for





Platoon". The second statement was provided by Ann's sister, Cassandra Hamilton, who was only two years old when Ann died. Despite ~~Ms~~ Hamilton has fond memories of being ~~rela~~to by Ann, and for years ~~af~~ter her death ~~he~~ heard

4. The Provisional IRA bombing campaign in England 1973-1975

4.1 As already mentioned, I have not investigated the identities of the individuals responsible for the Guildford Pub Bombings but there has never been any real doubt that the attacks were the work of the Provisional IRA.

4.2 In order to set the scene at the start of the inquest hearings, I admitted into evidence under rule 24 of the Coroners (Inquests) Rules 2013 the following finding of Sir John May's *Inquiry into the Circumstances Surrounding the Convictions Arising out of the Bomb Attacks in Guildford and Woolwich in 1974* (Final Report dated 30<sup>th</sup> June 1993 (HC44) paragraph 14.1)

*The Guildford Pub Bombings were the first in a new wave of Provisional IRA attacks in England.*

4.3 None of the interested persons objected to the admission of this finding I did not hear and have not seen any contradictory evidence and it was endorsed by the independent expert historian appointed by me to give live evidence at the hearings, Thomas Hennessey, Professor of Modern British and Irish History at Canterbury Christchurch University

4.4 Professor Hennessey prepared a report dated 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022 on the political and historical background to the Northern Ireland Troubles, and in particular, the Provisional IRA bombing campaign in England from August 1973 to January 1975. His report included a lengthy chronology of attacks in London and the South East together with more notable attacks elsewhere in England during this period (With one possible and minor exception, there were no attacks in Scotland or Wales although there were attacks against armed forces bases in Germany). In his oral evidence on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022 Professor Hennessey agreed that there was a lull in the mainland bombing campaign around September 1974 and that the Guildford Pub Bombings were the first in a new wave

4.5 Professor Hennessey surveyed the political and historical background to the Northern Ireland Troubles including the unification of the Kingdoms of England (subsequently Great Britain) and Ireland by the Acts of Union of 1800, the Easter Rising of 1916 and Irish War of Independence of 1919-1921; and the subsequent partition of the island of Ireland under the Government of Ireland Act 1920 and Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921.

4.6 Partition resulted in the creation of two constitutional entities in the south, a majority Catholic state in the form of the Irish Free State within the Commonwealth, and, from 1948, the independent Republic of Ireland, and in the north, the majority Protestant province of Northern Ireland within the United Kingdom. Professor Hennessey explained that Northern Ireland comprised six of the nine counties of Ulster (selected to ensure a permanent Protestant unionist majority), it was governed by the Ulster Unionist Party from 1921-1972 and was “inherently unstable” by reason of its significant Catholic nationalist minority who were mostly in favour of Irish independence.

4.7 This was the backdrop to the Northern Ireland Troubles whose early stages unfolded as follows: in 1968, Catholic nationalist demonstrations about discrimination and civil rights led to Protestant unionist counter-demonstrations which led to communal violence and a police crackdown; according to Professor Hennessey, the Troubles are generally considered to have begun on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1968 when the Royal Ulster Constabulary violently dispersed a largely Catholic Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association demonstration in Derry / Londonderry; in 1969, British troops were deployed to Northern

Kingdom. Professor Hennessey

paramilitary violence and Professor Hennessey explained that this evolved and escalated over time in the hope that it would eventually reach a point where it became effective.

4.9 As a further step in this escalation, the Provisional IRA Army Council authorised paramilitary activity on the Great Britain mainland

- (5) so far as military targets it is notable that the Provisional IRA launched a “opportunistic” dynamite attack against a Royal Household Cavalry camp at Pirbright on 17<sup>th</sup> September 1983 (without causing any injuries) and was responsible for the much more serious attack against a coach carrying military personnel and their

asked about the possible significance of this, I have no reason to think this was relevant or made an attack more likely or foreseeable.

5. The Horse and Groom Public House

5.1 The Horse and Groom was a Courage Brewery pub located at the eastern end of North Street on its upper and northern side opposite the Old Cloth Hall and the public library. Viewing the front of the pub from the pavement with the road behind there was a covered passage or car port adjacent to its left side or western side wall - this had a sign above indicating that it led to a (Quaker) "Friends Meeting House" behind the pub. There were also two bus shelters outside the pub: one further west along North Street a few metres beyond the covered passage and another immediately in front of the pub to the right of its front entrance.

5.2 In keeping with its name the pub's interior décor had a loose equestrian theme with the ground floor public area subdivided by a number of floor-to-ceiling partitions resembling the sides of horse stalls in a traditional stable block. These partitions had tongue and groove lower halves and metal railings above.

5.3 On entering the pub through the front door there were two small lengths of partition on either side and, beyond these, the main saloon was set out as follows:

- (1) on the immediate right - there was a fruit machine and then a small above or annexe area leading to the gents lavatories and with windows looking out onto North Street. I shall ... sha fl & a

- (4) straight ahead and to the left beyond the first alcove and opposite the main length of the bar - there was a larger, windowless C shaped alcove formed of first, the reverse side of the partition already mentioned secondly, the left hand or western sidewall of the pub and thirdly, an internal wall running perpendicular from the side wall back into the saloon parallel with the front wall- I shall refer to this area as "the main alcove";
- (5) on the far left, beyond and behind the main alcove there were doors leading to the ladies' lavatories and some stairs which led down into the basement cellar.

5.4 The bomb exploded in the main alcove and it is important to understand the construction and layout of this area in a little more detail

- (1) the original pub building had been extended and reinforced with columns and beams at various points in its history the first alcove was a single storey front extension underneath a flat-roof and railed balcony, and the westernmost edge of the main alcove partly occupied a further brick extension to the left hand side wall of the pub adjacent to the covered passage already mentioned
- (2) although not much more than a metre deep, this extension encroached west into and so narrowed the covered passage and had a carpeted concrete floor incorporating two manhole covers allowing access to the pub's drains
- (3) save for the narrow strip of the main alcove housed within the side-extension, the remainder of its floor was constructed of carpeted wooden floor boards above the basement cellar
- (4) running from left to right and west to east, the upper internal wall of the main alcove comprised on the left a short strip (4)

walls of the first alcove; and a three-sided C shaped bench seat running counter-clockwise around the main alcove from the chimney breast towards and then down the left hand (or western) wall of the side-extension and then back along the stable style partition dividing the two alcoves.

5.6 I find that both alcove



- 6.2 According to written evidence heard, Ann and Caroline went shopping in Guildford during the day on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 1974 and bought train tickets for the following weekend when it appears that 3 Platoon were to be given an exeat allowing them to travel home to visit their families. That evening, Ann and Caroline went back into town by taxi together with Janet Oliver and Isabella Pritchard. They arrived at the Horse and Groom at about 8.00pm.
- 6.3 Ann had dark hair and was wearing a blue woollen dress, pink underwear, brown tights, and two rings. Caroline had fairer hair and was wearing a grey denim jacket, black woollen sweater, red skirt and brown check pants with brown tights.
- 6.4 At the pub, Ann, Caroline, Janet and Isabella joined a fellow 3 Platoon recruit, Carol Burns (later Wordsworth, now deceased), to celebrate her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday together with her parents Robert and Eileen and their family friend, Paul Craig. As I have already mentioned, it would have been Paul's 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday the following day and the evening was to be a joint celebration for him and Carol. Paul had driven Carol's parents from Borehamwood to QEB in his white Ford Cortina where they picked up Carol and another 3 Platoon recruit around 6.45pm. The other recruit was Sheila (or "Sammie") Parrotte (later Higham, now deceased). The group arrived at the Horse and Groom around 10.07pm and located themselves in the upper corner of the main alcove around a table to the left of the fireplace.
- 6.5 Paul

- 6.7 Billy had short army-style fair hair and was dressed in a sports jacket, a white sweater, a white open neck shirt, white trousers and platform shoes. John had short army-style dark hair and was wearing a red, black and white check sports jacket, a black cardigan with red piping, a shirt and black trousers. Underneath his clothing, John had a large surgical plaster or dressing around his chest apparently related to a back complaint.
- 6.8 By the time all five of the deceased and their companions were inside the Horse and Groom,

(1) Carol Burns was on the bench seat nearest the fireplace and Paul was next to her

confirming that Mr Rehill had

which varied as to matters of fine detail, but they all spoke of a loud bang and bright flash emanating from the main alcove followed by darkness, dust, panic, chaos and confusion. A number of witnesses in the main alcove also described a feeling of electrocution which could not have been caused by the blast and which I find was likely to have been the result

circuit was activated by a small electromechanical timer in other words, the device was a time bomb set to go off after a period of delay and it would have been relatively quiet and not ticking loudly

- (3) chemical tests for nitroglycerine, nitrobenzene and cyclotrimethylene trinitramine indicated the presence of a nitroglycerine-based high explosive likely to have been industrially-produced and the degree of damage caused indicated the quantity of this to have been approximately 10 lbs or 4½ kilograms- a significant quantity of high-powered explosives equivalent to about 18 sticks of dynamite
- (4) the absence of any shrapnel surviving fragments of container indicated that the bomb was not held in a metal container cranked with bolts, nails or other debris and was likely to have been carried in a small to medium-sized bag or day sack or as a parcel meaning it was likely to have been non-descript
- (5) upon detonation, the explosive substance within the bomb underwent an extremely rapid chemical reaction that instantaneously converted it from a compressed solid into a much larger volume of gas which blasted outwards in a 360 degree shockwave travelling in all directions faster than the speed of sound and very high heat and with immense, unstoppable force this would have been experienced as a very loud bang accompanied by a flash of flame and light and would have been extremely traumatic and disorienting
- (6)

wall and the fireplace was also blown into the ladies'

- (3) most of the wooden furniture in the pub was obliterated, the partition between the two alcoves was blown out, the front wall of the pub was badly cracked and displaced outwards, the front door and ground floor windows were blown out, several coping stones fell from the flat roof above the first alcove, the railings over the missing section were bent downwards, the flat roof itself was noted by Christopher Shaw (Senior Assistant Engineer with the Brough Council) to be “hanging on to the wall by its fingertips” and there was extensive damage throughout the saloon and the ladies’ lavatories and even to the chimneys stacks.
- 7.6 In fact, Lesley Doxie, Chief Building Control Officer for the Guildford Borough Council at the time, attended the scene and formed the impression that the pub was in imminent danger of collapse. This view was shared by one of his colleagues, Mr Shaw, who attended the scene shortly after the explosion and from whom I was fortunate to hear oral evidence.
- 7.7 Mr Shaw confirmed that the pub building itself was very old and I take judicial notice of the details published in connection with its later designation as a Grade II Listed Building which indicate that it was built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century and extended in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Mr Shaw told me there was nothing which he observed to suggest that the extent of the damage was due to any particular defect in the construction of the building. In fact, Mr Lidstone concluded that one of the past changes, the addition of pillars around and concealed strong steel joists above the alcove areas had greatly strengthened the structure of the building and may have saved it from total collapse and avoided the disastrous consequences this would have had for those inside and their rescuers.
- 7.8 At the same time, Mrs Hills explained that the displacement of the east and west side wall of the side extension, which resulted from the bomb’s position adjacent to that wall coupled with the relative strengths of the blast and the wall itself, allowed significant pressure from the shock wave to escape outside and thereby vented the interior and mitigated the extent of the damage within. Had the wall been stronger or the bomb been differently positioned, this might not have happened and the effects of the explosion inside might have been better contained but thereby amplified.
- 7.9 As already indicated, I find that the bomb was planted in the pub by Provisional IRA terrorists some time between 5.30pm when the pub reopened for the evening and 8.50pm



when the explosion occurred I am satisfied from the totality of the evidence that the bomb was probably planted by a young man and woman often referred to as a “courting couple”. This couple were seen in the main alcove on the bench seat above where the bomb was planted and were not identified and traced in the early part of the police investigation. Their identities fall outside the scope of these inquiries and it is unlikely ever to be known and I have not attempted to establish their descriptions or movements in any further detail.

8. The aftermath

8.1 By virtue of the close proximity to the Horse and Groom of the Guildford Ambulance and Fire Stations and various police patrols already being present in the area the emergency services were all on the scene very quickly

(1) WPCs

people were injured in the Guildford Pub Bombings (52 in the Horse and Groom and 10 at the Seven Stars) and the RSCH received 53 patients on the night (including Billy), admitted 16 as inpatients (also including Billy) and transferred 26 to military establishments

8.4 I recognise that, in such circumstances, it is unlikely that everyone involved will have entirely clear, let alone consistent, recollections at the time and even less likely that they will do so now. Bearing this in mind, I have made findings of fact where the evidence allows me to do so safely on the balance of probabilities

8.5 As I have already mentioned, the explosion caused the floor in the main alcove in front of the fireplace to collapse, leaving a large hole down into the basement cellar below

that

Davies recalled efforts to put a tourniquet on Billy's leg and that this was extremely difficult due to him thrashing around. Billy later lapsed into unconsciousness following administration of Omnopon but his leg tissue was so badly disrupted that it was still difficult to stop the bleeding. Together with Consultant Surgeon, Richard Notley, Dr Terreblanche, Mr Snell and possibly others, Mr Westmore attempted to treat Billy for more than an hour. A splint was applied to his leg, large quantities of fluid (dextrose saline, plasma and Dextran) were administered intravenously to increase his blood volume, an endotracheal tube was inserted and an electrocardiogram was set up. However, at some point Billy went into cardiac arrest. Unsuccessful efforts to resuscitate him ensued, including by way of cardiac massage, but he was eventually declared dead by Mr Notley at 10.50pm. Professor Mant's post mortem report confirmed the injuries just mentioned and also little oedema of the brain, bruised lungs, a ruptured spleen and internal bleeding. Professor Mant concluded that Billy's injuries were consistent with the bomb having exploded to his left.

(3) Ann

Professor Mant's report showed that Ann had deep lacerations across her right and left thighs, avulsion of the calf muscles in her right leg, serious fractures, bruising and haemorrhaging crush injuries to her chest and in her lungs, a ruptured spleen and internal bleeding. Her injuries were consistent with the bomb having exploded beneath where she was sitting to her left. PC Queen described seeing a apparently dead female with badly injured but intact legs and wearing pink underwear in the basement. This must have been Ann. However, Fireman Andrew Saunders said he helped a young lady in the basement who was wearing a blue jumper and pink underwear to sit up and that a nurse with a stethoscope almost certainly Jennifer Austin (now Ware) listened to her chest and indicated there were some signs of life. This must also have been Ann. Accordingly, and based on the time Mr Saunders and Ms Austin arrived and that Ann survived for 10-15 minutes after the explosion. However, it also appears from the evidence that PC Spindlove and ambulance driver / attendant Dennis Lyons helped lift or pass Ann out of the basement on a stretcher and that she had died by the time they did so. From their arrival times, coupled with the fact that Mr Lyons and his colleague

Michael Lawrence had arrived at RSCH with Ann's body in their ambulance before the incident officer, James Adams, arrived there around 9.17pm, it more likely than not that Ann died in the basement cell between 9pm and 9.15pm. Her body was placed in the hospital garage being used as a makeshift mortuary labelled "Number 1" and formally certified dead by Dr Stewart at 10.05pm.

(4) John

Professor Mant's post mortem report refers to John having suffered deep bruising, fractures, penetrating wounds, lacerations, haemorrhaging perforated left eardrum, a ruptured spleen and internal bleeding. These injuries were consistent with the explosive device having been detonated to John's left. Professor Mant also noted that John's right chest was strapped with Elastoplast type dressing. This was an identifying marker noted by several witnesses at the scene. Dr Stewart's written evidence describes him focusing his attention on a male in the basement with

White. This arrived between 9.20pm and 9.25pm and John's body was placed in

9. Were the bombings or the deaths foreseeable or preventable?

9.1 As I have already mentioned, Professor Hennessey gave evidence that the Provisional IRA considered “army pubs” to be military targets and had a policy of not giving advance warnings in connection with attacks against ~~the~~ targets. Consistently with this, I have seen a number of contemporaneous documents reporting that no warning was received prior to the bombing. I also heard no evidence to suggest that a warning was given or that the authorities had any advance intelligence of the attack. For the avoidance of doubt, I did not hear any evidence to suggest that any of the deceased, or indeed anyone else, was individually or personally targeted on the night in question and there is no reason to think they were or might have been.

9.2

England and West Germany. If there had been grounds to “lock down” the military bases around Guildford, the same would have been true nationwide and neither seen nor heard any evidence that would have justified such a draconian and restrictive action. More generally, military personnel are entitled to have time off to socialise away from work in the same way as anyone else and it is important that they are treated like responsible adults and not segregated from their local communities.

- 9.5 Furthermore, I have found that the bomb in the Horse and Groom was planted after it opened at 5.30pm on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1974. The terrorists who did this would have been able to confirm for themselves that a large number of youngsters recognisable as soldiers were in the pub before planting their bomb. Had local military personnel been banned from or advised against frequenting the Horse and Groom or doing Saturday nights, the terrorists would have observed that there were none present and would have planted their bomb at another time or at another place instead.
- 9.6 Finally under this heading, I heard some relatively limited evidence about the security systems, precautions and training in place to help protect military personnel from security threats posed by, amongst others, the Provisional IRA.
- 9.7 Lieutenant Colonel Scott Innes, Staff Officer Grade 1 for Security at Headquarters Regional Command gave helpful evidence. He explained the (understandable) dearth of surviving documentary MOD materials about these matters (more than 95% of the department’s records from the early 1970s have since been destroyed) and outlined the “BIKINI” security alert system and the provisions of the Manual of Army Security which were in place in 1974.
- 9.8 Colonel Innes candidly emphasised that he could attest to the theoretical existence of these measures, but not their practical application by any particu





Fleming, who was badly injured in the bombing and left the army after completing her recovery, and Mrs Wood, who left the army after completing her basic training, were both clear that they did not have any such training.

- 9.12 A similar picture emerged from the evidence of the male military witnesses. I was unable to trace any senior officers serving at Pirbright at the time to give evidence about the general training and security regime at the Guards Depot, but I did hear from more junior personnel serving with a variety of units and based at Pirbright, Brunel, Ewmsley and Bordon. Most of those who went on to serve with the army for any length of time tended to be confident that they had been trained in protective security and the threat posed by the Provisional IRA. For example, Brian Calvert was a Private in the Royal Hampshire Regiment who had been in the army for four years by the time of the bombing, including two tours in Northern Ireland, and he clearly remembered regular training that I find.
- 9.13 By contrast, Stephen Cooper, a new recruit to the Scots Guards in the same intake as Billy and John, who left the army shortly after the bombing, did not recall and did not think there had been any security-related elements to their training. Mr Cooper gave careful and considered evidence and made the compelling point that if he had been given training about the threat from terrorists he would have recalled and made a “mental connection” with it after being blown up by the IRA. Others in that same intake gave similar evidence. Brian Scanlan, another Scots Guard recruit based at Pirbright, who was further into his basic training at the time and who also left the army shortly after the bombing, said much the same. Robert Noddle, then a recruit to the Royal Household Cavalry, who stayed in the army for another five and a half years, also could not recall any security-related training or instructions while he was at Pirbright and said this came later when he got to the Combermere Barracks in Windsor.
- 9.14 On balance, I find it likely that most recruits at QEB and Pirbright were given some training about security threats and awareness during the course of their basic training, but unlikely that this was always done within the first month of their arrival or, therefore, before they were first allowed to leave their camps and socialise with other military personnel in civilian social settings in Combermere Barracks in Windsor.



Paragraph 8(5) of Schedule 1 to the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 provides that a determination in an inquest resumed following a homicide trial may not be inconsistent with its outcome. However, the acquittal of the Guildford Four on appeal does not detract from the uncontested fact that each of the deceased was murdered by one or more members or supporters of the Provisional IRA.

10.3 That said, I do not think short-form conclusions of unlawful killing would properly reflect or do justice to the importance of the facts of this case. Accordingly, I shall incorporate Box 3 into Box 4 of each Record of Inquest, which will consist of a narrative (adapted as appropriate) that refers to unlawful killing, but better encapsulates the facts of what happened.

10.4 I shall refer to “terrorists” in the plural because I have found it likely that the bomb was planted by a “courting couple” as referred to by a number of witnesses. Even that two bombs were planted in two pubs in tandem it is, of course, likely that the conspiracy involved more than just two individuals.

11. Entries on each Record of Inquest

11.1 Paul Caig:

*Box 1: Mr Paul John Craig.*

*Box 2: Ia. Blast injuries.*

*Box 3: See Box 4.*

*Box 4: Paul Craig was unlawfully killed in the Horse and Groom Public House, North Street, Guildford on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 1974 after being struck by the blast from a powerful time-bomb planted by Provisional Irish Republican Army terrorists. The bomb contained approximately 4½ kilograms of nitroglycerine-based high explosive and had been planted under a bench seat in the public house sometime after it opened at 5.30pm that evening. Mr Craig was sitting with friends on the bench seat when the bomb exploded, without warning, at approximately 8.50pm. As a result, he suffered very serious blast injuries from which he died almost immediately. Mr Craig was one of five young people killed by the bomb: none of them was targeted personally, rather the public house and the area in which they were sitting were targeted because they were popular, and crowded, with military personnel.*

*Box 5: (a) 6<sup>th</sup> October 1952, Borehamwood, Hertfordshire.*

*(b) Paul Craig.*

*(c) Male.*

*(d) .*

*(e) 5<sup>th</sup>*

*Box 1: Private Ann Ray Higgins Murray Hamilton.*

*Box 2: Ia Blast injuries.*

*Box 3: See Box 4.*

*Box 4: Ann Hamilton was unlawfully killed in the Horse and Groom Public House, North Street, Guildford on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 1974 after being struck by the blast from a powerful time-bomb planted by Provisional Irish Republican Army terrorists. The bomb contained approximately 4½ kilograms of nitroglycerine-based high explosive and had been planted under a bench seat in the public house sometime after it opened at 5.30pm that evening. Private Hamilton was sitting with friends on the bench seat when the bomb exploded, without warning, at approximately 8.50pm. As a result, she suffered very serious blast injuries from which she died sometime between 9pm and 9.15pm. She fell into the basement cellar of the public house after the floor collapsed and died there before she could be lifted out. Private Hamilton was one of five young people killed by the bomb: none of them was targeted personally, rather the public house and the area in which they were sitting were targeted because they were popular, and crowded, with military personnel.*

*Box 5: (a) 18<sup>th</sup> March 1955, Crewe, Cheshire.*

*(b) Ann Hamilton.*

*(c) Female.*

*(d) .*

*(e) 5<sup>th</sup> October 1974, Horse and Groom Public House, North Street, Guildford, Surrey.*

*(f)*

*sometime between 9pm and 9.15pm. He fell into the basement cellar of the public house after the floor collapsed and was lifted out and placed by the roadside where he died while attempts were made to save him. Guardsman Hunter was one of five young people killed by the bomb: none of them was targeted personally, rather the public house and the area in which they were sitting were targeted because they were popular, and crowded, with military personnel.*

- Box 5:*
- (a) 1<sup>st</sup> April 1957, Barrhead, East Renfrewshire.*
  - (b) John Hunter.*
  - (c) Male.*
  - (d) .*
  - (e) 5<sup>th</sup> October 1974, Horse and Groom Public House, North Street, Guildford, Surrey.*
  - (f) Guardsman in the Scots Guards, 11 Kerr Street, Barrhead, Renfrewshire, Scotland.*

#### 11.5 Caroline Slater:

*Box 1: Private Caroline Jean Slater.*

*Box 2: Ia Blast injuries.*

*Box 3: See Box 4.*

*Box 4: Caroline Slater was unlawfully killed in the Horse and Groom Public House, North Street, Guildford on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 1974 after being struck by the blast from a powerful time-bomb planted by Provisional Irish Republican Army terrorists. The bomb contained approximately 4½ kilograms of nitroglycerine-based high explosive and had been planted under a bench seat in the public house sometime after it opened at 5.30pm that evening. Private Slater was sitting with friends on the bench seat when the bomb exploded, without warning, at approximately 8.50pm. As a result, she suffered very serious blast injuries from which she died sometime between 8.55pm and 9.15pm. She fell into the basement cellar of the public house after the floor collapsed and died there before she could be lifted out.*

*(e) 5<sup>th</sup> October 1974, Horse and Groom Public House, North Street,  
Guildford, Surrey.*

*(f) Army Corps, 35 Princess Street,  
West Chadsmoor, Cannock, Staffordshire.*

Before closing the inquiry I would