

**NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE
WITNESS STATEMENT**

(CJ Act 1967, s.9; MC Act 1980, ss.5A(3) (a) and 5B; MC Rules 1981, r.70)

URN

Statement of: **Andrew John BLAIN**

Age if under 18: (if over 18 insert "OVER 18")

Occupation Local Government Officer

This statement (consisting of 2 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature: A BLAIN

Date: 10th May 2007

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded (supply witness details on rear)

I am the above named person and I was until July 2007 a member of the North Yorkshire Police attached to the Special Branch.

On Friday 9th July 2004 I was on duty at York Police office, Fulford Road, York when D.S Harland spoke to me. He informed me that he and colleagues had arrested a male called Paul BLANCHARD. He had asked via DS HARLAND to speak to a Special Branch Officer with a view to passing on some information.

At 8.43am I went to the cell area of the Police station and saw Mr. Blanchard in one of the interview rooms next to the charge desk. I identified myself to him and enquired as to what he wanted to pass on. I told him during the time that I was with him that I would not and could not talk to him in relation to the matter for which he had been arrested. This was a fact he appeared happy with.

He wanted to talk to me about a case he was involved in Spain and a male called DERBAH. He informed me that he was a witness in this case and that he had been working with the Spanish intelligence service and could not say too much. He told me he had information that he wanted to pass on about Irish Republican matters. I took some details down of some names he gave to me with a view to having them checked to see if they had any relevance to Irish Terrorism. I do not have a copy of those notes and they may well have been destroyed subsequently.

At 8.58am the discussion was concluded.

Signature: A BLAIN

Signature
witnessed by.

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Continuation of statement of: Andrew John BLAIN

I notified the Security Services of my meeting and from the names given they asked me to speak again to Mr. Blanchard. At 5.24pm I spoke to him at Fulford Road Police station and took some notes as to what he wanted to discuss. From memory I think that the matters discussed involved the case he was giving evidence in and Irish matters. I do not have a copy of those notes and they may well have been destroyed subsequently. This discussion was finished by 5.58pm

The only time I recollect speaking to Mr Blanchard again was on or about the 21st July when he rang me in the office and wanted to fax me some details to pass on to the Security Service. He did this and I passed the details on.

Signature: **A BLAIN**Signature
witnessed by

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