



Making Northern Ireland Safer For Everyone Through Professional, Progressive Policing

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2009-03247

Keyword: Operational Policing

Subject: OPERATION BANNER

Request and Answer:

Question

How many civilian deaths occurred as a result of incidents involving military vehicles/installations (i.e. VCPs) during Operation Banner? If such data is available please could you provide me with monthly or annual breakdown of the figures? It is names, dates and places that I'm seeking.

Answer

Please see the attached table below. Although this is the only information which PSNI currently hold in relation to this request, this does not mean that we have not, in the past, held additional information. However, due to the length of time that has passed since some of these incidents occurred, if additional information was held, it is likely to have now been destroyed.

For your information, the book "Lost Lives" by David McKittrick, Seamus Kelters, Brian Fenney and Chris Thornton details deaths which occurred as a result of the conflicts in Northern Ireland including those listed below. This book was first published by the Mainstream Publishing Company in 1999.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If, following an internal review carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House,

Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however, the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psnipolice.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

Deaths¹ due to the Security Situation during Operation Banner

Persons killed (Civilian) as a result of a road traffic collision involving a military vehicle

| Name | Date of Death ¹ | Area |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Charles O'Neill | 03-Jul-70 | Grosvenor Rd, Belfast |
| John Clarke | 16-Oct-72 | Mountpottinger, Belfast |
| William Warnock | 16-Oct-72 | Mountpottinger, Belfast |
| James Brown | 19-Apr-81 | Strand Rd, Londonderry |
| James Gary English | 19-Apr-81 | Strand Rd, Londonderry |
| Dermott William McShane | 13-Jul-96 | Strand Rd, Londonderry |

Persons killed (Civilian) as a result of incidents involving Army/UDR Vehicle Check Points²

We are aware that the following deaths occurred as a result of an incident that took place at an Army Vehicle Check Point (VCP), however, this list is by no means comprehensive as our database contains no mechanism for capturing this information.

| Name | Date of Death ¹ | Area |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Hugh Heron | 16-Oct-72 | Cookstown |
| Patrick J Mullan | 16-Oct-72 | Cookstown |
| Stanislaus Carberry | 13-Nov-72 | Grosvenor Rd, Belfast |
| Kevin Kilpatrick | 14-May-73 | Cookstown |
| Charles Irvine | 13-Jul-75 | Grosvenor Rd, Belfast |
| Daniel Lennon | 10-Aug-76 | Woodbourne, Belfast |
| John J Savage | 18-Dec-76 | Grosvenor Rd, Belfast |
| John Collins | 07-May-78 | Grosvenor Rd, Belfast |
| Paul Moan | 31-Mar-80 | Woodbourne, Belfast |
| Martin Kyles | 07-Feb-82 | Grosvenor Rd, Belfast |
| Paul Kelly | 15-Jan-85 | Woodbourne, Belfast |
| Aiden McAnespie | 21-Feb-88 | Dungannon |
| James McPhilemy | 10-Aug-88 | Strabane |
| Martin Peake | 30-Sep-90 | Woodbourne, Belfast |
| Karen Reilly | 30-Sep-90 | Woodbourne, Belfast |
| Fergal Caraher | 30-Dec-90 | Newry |
| Arthur McDonnell ³ | 06-Feb-94 | Grosvenor Rd, Belfast |

¹ Includes all deaths which were considered at the time of the incident, to be directly attributed to terrorism, where the cause has a direct or proximate link to subversive/sectarian strife or where the death is attributable to security force activity.

² Where the death can be linked to an incident occurring at a VCP – i.e. the death may not have occurred at the VCP itself. This list also includes persons killed at Permanent VCPs.

³ Died as a result of his injuries from an incident which occurred on the 13th July 1975.