

ESTA Conference 2005

Major Cash Robberies

**THE NORTHERN IRELAND EXPERIENCE
- A POLICE PERSPECTIVE**

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Organised Crime Branch**





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Crime in Northern Ireland

140,000 2002/3

128,000 2003/4

112,000 2004/5



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Robberies in Northern Ireland

2500 **2002/3**

2000 **2003/4**

1500 **2004/5**



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Cash in transit armed robberies





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Crime in Northern Ireland

Not unique

But different



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Crime in Northern Ireland

- Terrorist based groups
- Skills honed in terrorism
- Intimidation
- Use of violence
- Networks



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Tiger Kidnaps

The abduction or holding of a hostage with the intention of forcing an employee to assist in the immediate theft of money or other valuables from any institution, or secure the immediate payment of a ransom by a relative or another



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The Northern Bank Robbery

37,000,000 euros



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The Northern Bank Robbery Implications

Primary Objectives

Prevent kidnap

Prosecute offenders

Encourage investment



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Preventing Attacks – police

- Intelligence led operations
 - Disruption
 - Arrests
- Prosecution



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Preventing Attacks - staff

- Vetting
- Confidential reporting
- Selection
- Kidnap reporting procedures
- Training



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Preventing Attacks - systems

- Joint police / CIT control room
- Time lapse safes
- Better cash boxes
- Quality CCTV
- Remote monitoring
- Tracking



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Preventing Attacks – Management

- Executive awareness
- Mystery shoppers
- Security culture
- Security investment



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Prosecuting offenders

- **Audit trail for notes**
- **Dyed notes**
- **Average sentence NI 4 ½ years**
- **Average sentence UK 9 years**
- **Partnership approach**



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Northern Ireland Organised Crime Task Force



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OCTF Strategic Priorities for 2004 - 2005

POLICE SERVICE of NORTHERN IRELAND



Financial Crime

Extortion

Drugs

Counterfeit Goods

Armed Robbery

ORGANISED CRIME TASK FORCE

Sub-Groups

Strategy & Co-ordination

Public Sector

Publicity

Analysis & Assessment

Legal

Strategic Priorities Setting & Delivery

Annual Threat
Assessment

Priorities Set

ARA

P.S.N.I.

Lead Agency
Established

H.M.C. & E.

Operational Strategy
Developed

Drugs

Extortion

Counterfeit Products

Expert Groups

Financial Crime

Armed Robbery

Fuel Oils

Tobacco

Alcohol



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EXPERT GROUPS

- **Share information**
- **Accurately assess the scale of the organised crime problem**
- **Identify barriers to combating the crime type successfully and**
- **Devise strategies/action plans to tackle the problem holistically**



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ROBBERY EXPERT GROUP

- Securicor / Brinks /Post Office
- Banks
- Gallaghers
- PSNI Robbery Squad
- PSNI Crime Prevention
- Uniform police



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ROBBERY EXPERT GROUP

- Robbery problem profile
- High risk DCUs identified
- Single points of contact in DCUs established
- Joint police / CIT company operations room established
- Initiatives funded – cash box etc



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Questions ?