

Asians 'feared attack on community by skinheads'

By Malcolm Pithers

Twelve Asian youths on trial for making explosive substances are alleged to have told the police that they manufactured 38 petrol bombs to defend their community.

Leeds Crown Court heard yesterday that the youths, all members of the United Black Movement, told police that they believed the Asian community in Bradford would be attacked by "coach-loads of skinheads" during last summer's riots.

The youths are charged with making an explosive substance with intent to endanger life or property and with conspiracy to make explosive substances.

All plead not guilty.

The accused are Tarlochan Gata-Aura, aged 26; Tariq Mahmood Ali and Jayesh

Amin, both 24; Ishaq Mohammed Kazi, 22; Pravin Patel, 21; Vasant Patel, Saeed Hussain, 20; Sabir Hussain, Bahram Noor Khan, 19; Masood Malik, Giovanni Singh, 18; and Ahmed Ebrahim Mansoor, 17.

Yesterday Mr Paul Kennedy, QC for the Crown, completed his opening of the case which is expected to last four weeks.

The petrol bombs, said Mr Kennedy, were made using milk bottles, on July 11 last year and had been discovered hidden in undergrowth by a gardener six days later.

The prosecution believed the petrol bombs were intended for use "in riots, against the police and shops" but the "ringleaders" had been arrested before "the bombs could be used." The trial continues today.