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FRIDAY, 1st OCTOBER, 1999

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BLOODY SUNDAY INQUIRY LATEST

PAGES 2 & 3

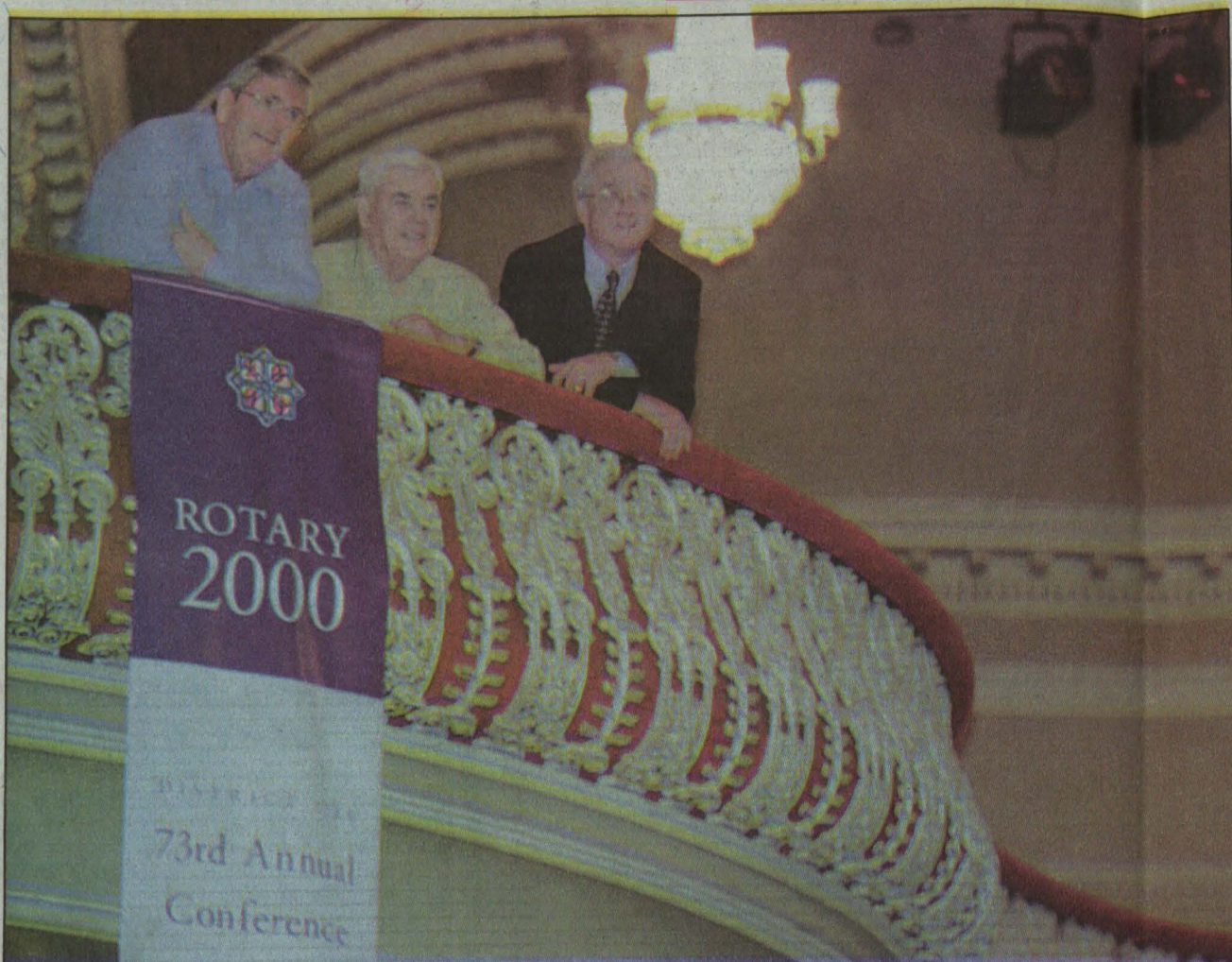


DERRY GROUP THREATEN TO SUE MO

PAGE 5

SOCCER COYLE GETS SIX MATCH BAN

BACK PAGE



ONE LAST LOOK . . . Rotary club members Eric McKinley, Conference Chariman, Ernest Lawson, District Governor, and John Doherty, Conference Chairman, overlook the final preparations for the Rotary 2000 International Conference which will take place at St. Columb's Hall in the forthcoming weekend. The conference, which began yesterday evening, will see over 750 international Rotary Club members attending the event. (1/10/A5)

Derry INLA victim shot six times - Inquest told

A BROTHER of one of the Greysteel killers had discussed his personal security with police only hours before he was shot dead outside his Derry home, an inquest has been told.

Trevor Deeney was shot six times with a handgun and once with a shotgun by two masked men outside his Waterside home in the early hours of April 8 last year.

He was the last victim of the INLA before it called its ceasefire and died two days before the announcement of the Good Friday Agreement, and was the last person to be shot dead in the city.

The republican paramilitary group claimed responsibility for the killing, alleging Mr. Deeney was a member of the LVF, a claim strenuously denied by his family.

The victim had served three years of a five year sentence on the UVF wings of Long Kesh prison for assault and firearms offences in the early 1990s.

The RUC detective in charge of the investigation told

in a statement read at Derry Coroner's Court yesterday, the dead man's wife, Hazel, a district nurse, told how he had become security conscious after being informed of paramilitary death threats against him.

Mrs. Deeney said she had collected her husband, a 34-year-old steplather of four, from his work at Transec in Campsie at midnight on April 8 and had just arrived outside their Hillhampton Park home in the Killynann area when the killers struck. Mrs. Deeney said her husband was still in the passenger seat of the car and taking off his working boots when he shouted, "I am going to die," after seeing two masked men approaching the car.

Mrs. Deeney said when one of the men began firing through the passenger window, her husband turned to her and grabbed her by the waist. She said she managed to get her injured husband out of the driver's seat of the vehicle but ran down the side of their

home and hid behind an oil tank in the garden when the gunmen came around from the other side of the car.

She said she returned almost immediately to see a man, standing with his back to her, hands extended, firing a handgun at her fatally wounded husband.

Mrs. Deeney told the court the previous morning, her husband, a brother of Greysteel killer, Jeffrey Deeney, had discussed his personal security with police. She also revealed that on the night in question he had turned down to a request to work a "double shift" at Transec, where he worked as a process operator.

Referring to a pathologist's report, the Coroner, Ronnie O'Doherty, said Mr. Deeney had been shot five times with a handgun and once with a shotgun and died as a result of gunshot wounds to the chest and limbs.

Expressing condolences with the family, Mr. O'Doherty said he hoped it was the last of such killings.

JOBS LOST AS "FAG" SMUGGLING SOARS

JOBS ARE being lost in Derry as a result of the millions of cigarettes being smuggled into the city each week, the Journal can reveal.

Shop-owners and wholesalers yesterday warned that further job cuts were inevitable unless more action was taken to stub out the money-spinning racket.

by CIARAN O'NEILL

One Derry-based wholesaler claimed he had lost 50% of his business in the past year.

"I have already had to lay off two of my staff and it seems that more redundancies will be unavoidable," he said.

The Far East is believed to be the most popular destination for the smugglers who purchase vast amounts of cigarettes and

then sell them in Ireland for a huge profit.

However, the illegal cigarettes are also being brought in from a number of European countries.

A Derry couple were last week convicted of smuggling almost 40,000 cigarettes from the Canary Islands earlier this year.

James Sewell (33), from Carnhill, was fined £1,500 at Antrim Magistrates Court while his wife, Donna (32), was fined £1,000.

The couple were stopped by customs officers at Belfast International Airport on February 16 attempting to smuggle 39,200 cigarettes into the north.

In a separate case, a Belfast man was recently jailed for two years for fraudulently evading excise duty of approximately £70,000 on smuggled cigarettes and alcohol.

Last week the RUC in Derry seized \$5,000 worth of contraband cigarettes from an unlicensed dealer in the city centre.

However, the local wholesaler claimed

the seizure was only the "tip of a massive iceberg".

"A lot of people are making a lot of money from smuggled cigarettes," he said.

"Millions of cigarettes are being brought into the city each week from various countries and then sold through a variety of networks.

"People may think they are simply getting cheap cigarettes but each time they buy a packet of smuggled cigarettes they are helping to put people's livelihoods at risk," he claimed.

However, the Derry man hit out at the efforts to tackle the cigarette smuggling.

"The RUC are reluctant to get involved because the goods are not stolen and the customs don't seem to be doing enough to stamp out the problem.

"This could be due to a fear that if cigarette smuggling is stamped out, the smugglers will move on to more sinister rackets, such as drugs, to maintain their lucrative incomes," he said.

Another Derry businessman claimed he was losing close to \$8,000 per week due to the smuggling scam.

Eamon Gee, who owns a number of shops in the city, claimed that many small shops

could be forced to close.

"For most small local shops, cigarettes account for approximately 30% of their business.

"Therefore, it is not difficult to see the massive effect this racket is having on small shop-owners who also have to compete with the multi-nationals and the increase in cross-border trading.

"If these smugglers are not stopped, many shop-owners will have no option but to lay off staff and some could even be forced to close," said Mr. Gee.

The Derry shop-owner added that children had been targeted by the cigarette smugglers.

"Legitimate businesses do not sell cigarettes to children under 16 but these guys will basically sell to anyone with money.

"I have even heard of children under the age of 16 being used to sell the cigarettes," he added.

Higher taxes

A spokesperson for the Customs & Excise department insisted that efforts were being made to halt the smuggling operations.

"We are satisfied that our new

prosecution policy will have an impact on those involved in the illicit sale of alcohol and tobacco and we are pleased that the judiciary are supporting our efforts."

The Customs & Excise spokesperson appealed for the public's help in stamping out the problem.

"There is a general misconception that the only ones who suffer as a result of bootleg alcohol and cigarettes are the government and big businesses.

"However, along with the impact on small shops, the ordinary man in the street will also suffer.

"The taxes lost as a result of smuggled goods have to be made up elsewhere to ensure that services such as health and education are properly funded.

"So in the long run, we will all end up paying," he said.

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FESTIVAL OF FLOWERS - Maura McMacken putting the finishing touches to the "Logo of the Great Jubilee of the Year 2000" flower display, designed by Bridget O'Kane, florist, Ballykelly. The flower arrangement is one of 12 principal flower themes which will decorate St. Patrick's Church, Pennyburn, during the "Festival of Flowers" which ends at 5 p.m. on Sunday with a concert performance by Derry Calgach Choir. (1/10/B20)

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PAGE 7

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Woman
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for 2002

SEE PAGES 9-12



BLOODY SUNDAY A PAIN-FILLED MASTERPIECE



David McKittrick
on the Bloody
Sunday film **PAGE 15**
PLUS SEE PAGES 3 AND 6

INSIDE YOUR NORTHWEST EDITION: ● News **PAGES 2, 3, 6 AND 8** ● City beat **PAGE 8** ● Sport **PAGE 27** ● Advertising **PAGE 8**

BLOODY SUNDAY 'A GREAT WRONG'

By Suzanne Rodgers

THE star of the film *Bloody Sunday* today made an emotional appeal for British audiences to see the movie and open their hearts to a greater understanding of the tragedy.

James Nesbitt was speaking after screenings of *Bloody Sunday* for relatives of the dead and injured and members of the public at the Millennium Forum Theatre in Londonderry yesterday.

The Cold Feet star, who was six at the time of Bloody Sunday — January 30, 1972 — said it was not something talked about in his community.

A native of Coleraine, he said: "The British need to understand about Bloody Sunday. The problem with the Protestants and the British is that no one ever wanted to own Bloody Sun-

Nesbitt in plea as film is premiered

day and it's as much a British tragedy as an Irish tragedy.

"I think there's a collective guilt and silence among the Protestant population that a great wrong was done. My mother and father never really talked about it."

And afterwards as he stood with Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness, who has admitted being a senior IRA man in the 70s, he said: "If my Dad could see this."

Almost moved to tears by the warmth of his reception, he said: "This is a film which

changed my life, about a town which changed my life.

"These people have lived with it for 30 years. I only lived with it for a year."

The actor was struck by the parallels between himself and the character he played.

"Here was a middle-class Protestant called Ivan Cooper, co-founder of the civil rights movement and an MP with a Catholic electorate."

"This clearly wasn't a sectarian people. Life imitated art 30 years later when a middle-class Protestant actor swans into town and they embraced me and helped me."

The former Bishop of Derry Edward Daly, who was a young priest on Bloody Sunday, said the film had provided a powerful anti-war statement.

"I found it a deeply emotional experience. The memories of that day live with me all the time."

Michael McKinney, chairman of the Bloody Sunday Trust, whose brother William was one of the victims, said he hoped the people of Britain would watch in their millions when the film is broadcast on ITV on January 20.

"I hope they will make up their own mind about what happened. We always said that our people were all totally innocent of the allegations made against them by the lawyers, the Army and the British Government."

■ See pages 3, 6 and 15



Actor James Nesbitt with John Kelly — who lost his brother Michael on Bloody Sunday — beside the security gates on the Walls of Derry. The star was in the city for the launch of the film *Bloody Sunday*

Police probe city centre 'bite' attack

POLICE were today trying to find a Good Samaritan who came to the aid of a man who was bitten during an attack in Londonderry.

The 21-year-old man was bitten in the face during the attack near the junction of Abercorn Road and Wapping Lane at 1am yesterday.

Three men are believed to have been involved in

the attack during which the victim was also knocked to the ground and kicked about the body.

He was treated in hospital for bruising and a cut above the eye.

The PSNI today appealed for a man called John, believed to be a taxi driver, who helped the victim after the attack, to get in contact with them on 7136 7337.

Teenager shot in chip van raid

A 15-YEAR-OLD boy was shot with a pellet gun during a weekend robbery at a mobile chip van in Londonderry.

The teenager, who was working in the chip van when the robbery took place at Lincoln Courts shortly after 8pm on Saturday, was uninjured in the incident.

A youth wearing a benny hat and with a scarf covering his

face made off with a sum of cash after attacking the male worker.

During a follow-up operation, police arrested two juveniles and recovered an air pistol, money and items of clothing from a house in the area.

The juveniles were later released pending the preparation of a police report for the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Laura upbeat despite Idol axe

By Sarah Brett

ULSTER Pop Idol finalist Laura Doherty was today confident of a glittering career in entertainment, despite being axed from the smash hit TV show at the weekend.

"Now I'm ready for a new challenge, other doors may open and I've already been offered some work in children's TV," the Londonderry teenager said today.

"It's too early to tell yet but I'm confident that something will happen and hope that the phone will be ring-

ing when I get back to Derry."

The Maiden City's singing sensation performed to record viewing figures on Saturday night after reaching the final seven from 10,000 wannabes across the UK.

Laura gave her all in a rendition of Licence to Kill, the theme song from the James Bond film.

But it wasn't enough to win over the three judges who were united in their criticism of her performance.

Ever cheerful, the 100-1

outsider held her own on the night, responding to the comment "your vocals weren't up to it" with the reply "I thought they were grand".

Proud mum Annis today said she couldn't understand some of the harsher comments made by judges Pete Waterman, Simon Cowell and Nicki Chapman.

"She's done so well and I thought her performance on Saturday night was fantastic — it certainly didn't warrant some of the judges' comments," she said.

"It's a huge achievement for any young person, but particularly coming from Northern Ireland, where opportunities to enter the music and entertainment business don't come around as often."

"People are calling Laura an ambassador for Northern Ireland, we're very proud."

As well as unprecedented exposure on national television, and winning the adoration of hundreds of fans, Laura said she has made life long friends with other Pop Idol contestants.

Wards challenge to Health Minister

By Nigel Gould
Health Correspondent

ONE of Northern Ireland's best-known doctors today challenged Health Minister Bairbre de Brun to join him on duty at one of the province's top hospitals — after it emerged that more patients than ever have spent an overnight there on trolleys.

Dr Peter Maguire (pictured), chairman of the BMA's Northern Ireland Junior Doctors' Committee, urged Ms de Brun to visit Craigavon Area Hospital this week — and work shadow him.

He laid down the challenge as a record 30 patients waited on trolleys in hospital corri-

dors because there were no spare beds.

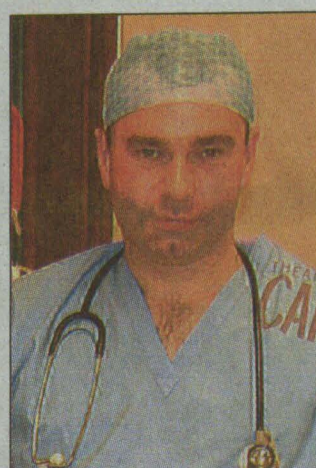
Dr Maguire said the health service was facing "meltdown" and branded unrelenting pressures across the province "horrific."

"Things have deteriorated even over the weekend," he said. "Some of the patients waiting on trolleys have cardiac conditions. Others require surgery."

"This is nothing short of a disgrace."

"The Department of Health needs to get a handle on what is wrong."

"Basically, they need to deal with beds, and manpower. I would like Bairbre de



Brun to join me at work and see at first hand the problems doctors like myself face."

And he urged health chiefs to sort out the problems before they got any worse.

"Our health service requires well-planned, constructive change," he added.

North West Deaths

CARLIN, PATRICK — January 6, 2002 peacefully at Altnagelvin Hospital, (formerly of 18, Margaret Street), beloved husband of the late Jennie, loving father of Tommy, Charlie and Ria. Funeral leaving his daughter and son-in-law Gerry's home, 95, Irish Street, tomorrow (Tuesday) at 9.30 a.m. to the Church of the Immaculate Conception for Requiem Mass at 10.00 a.m. Interment immediately afterwards in St. Mary's Cemetery, Ardmore. Sacred heart of Jesus have mercy on his soul. Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for him.

NORTH WEST FAMILY NOTICES
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DAVIS, JACKIE — January 6, 2002 suddenly at his home, Killy Lashin, Letterkenny, beloved husband of Tillie, loving father of Gareth, Alan, Brian and James and dear brother of Albert, Norman, Evelyn and the late Tommy. Funeral leaving his late home on Wednesday (8th inst) at 12.45 p.m. for Service in Trinity Presbyterian Church, Letterkenny at 1.30 p.m. followed by burial in Gortee Cemetery, Letterkenny. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers to Templemoyle Nursing Home or Friends of Altnagelvin, (Ward 20) c/o W.J. Davis, 79 Ard-O'Donnell, Letterkenny. — Deeply regretted by his sister Evelyn, brother-in-law Stanley and family, Gortemallan Road, Cullin, Londonderry.

ROYAN, ELIZABETH (LILY) (nee DAVIS) — January 6, 2002 at Altnagelvin Hospital, (in her 90th year), beloved wife of the late Jack Royan, dear mother of Ella and Tommy and mother-in-law of Ken (formerly of Davis Piano Shop). Funeral arrangements later from her home, 99 The Fountain, Ardara, Londonderry. At Peace.



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VICTIMS' RELATIVES RELIVE EVENTS OF 1972 SHOOTING TRAGEDY

Bloody Sunday movie gets the nod of approval

By Suzanne Rodgers

THE audience rose to its feet in a spontaneous mark of approval as the final credits rolled last night for *Bloody Sunday* — the film of the tragedy, which stars James Nesbitt.

Earlier, the Coleraine-born star told them: "This is a film that changed my life about a town that changed my life. It was very shattering but extraordinarily rewarding."

And he paid tribute to the

people of Derry for welcoming him and opening their hearts to him.

Earlier he attended a special screening for 450 relatives and friends of the dead and injured and said their warm response was something he would treasure.

Liam Wray, whose 22-year-old brother Jim was shot dead as he lay injured on the ground, said: "Obviously it was like reliving a nightmare. It brought many people back to 30 years ago — the despair, the fear."

Kay Duddy, sister of Jackie, added: "I wasn't actually on the march but I felt today as if I was. The hospital scene was very poignant. Apparently I was at the hospital but I was so traumatised I don't remember."

Members of the public were given a chance to see the film at a screening in the Millennium Forum theatre in Derry. Hundreds queued for scarce tickets even after a second screening was organised due to public demand.

Among them were Martin McGuinness, who is ex-

pected to tell the Saville Inquiry he was second in command of the IRA at the time, the retired Bishop of Derry Dr Edward Daly, whose crouching figure waving a blood-stained hankie became a defining image of *Bloody Sunday*, and civil rights leader Ivan Cooper, through whose eyes much of the film is shown.

Afterwards, he said: "The emotions of the day were very accurately captured. It was as true a representation of what happened on that day as it would be possible to make. I believe they made it with very great integrity."

The documentary-style film merges the experiences of four main characters over the 24 hours of January 30, 1972.

The central character is Ivan Cooper, played by

James Nesbitt; Gerry Donaghey, a 17-year-old rioter who was among the dead and who was played by Gerry Duddy, a nephew of Jackie Duddy who was also shot dead; OC Brigadier Pat McLellan and a young radio operator with the Paras who watched in horror as the day unfolded but eventually chose to back the version of events told by his colleagues.

It captures the noise, fear and confusion as marchers realised the soldiers were firing live rounds and the absolute despair as the number of dead and injured reached 27.

Bloody Sunday, a Granada production in co-operation with Jim Sheridan's Hells Kitchen production company, will be screened on UTV on January 20. ■ See page 6 and 15



Actor James Nesbitt with Ivan Cooper (above) at the premiere of the *Bloody Sunday* film and (left) a scene from the drama

Main picture by Maurice Thompson



"The emotions of the day were very accurately captured. It was as true a representation of what happened on that day as it would be possible to make. I believe they made it with very great integrity"

Ivan Cooper

Bentley unveils its new model

BENTLEY today gave a world debut to its most powerful car to date — the 168mph Arnage T.

The new £166,500 model, built at Crewe, Cheshire, was being displayed at the Detroit Motor Show.

It is designed to appeal to a slightly younger-than-normal Bentley driver.

Bentley executives hope that the new car will particularly attract Porsche, Ferrari and Aston Martin drivers.

The new model is powered by a 6.75 litre V8 engine and can go from 0-60mph in just 5.5 seconds.

By the end of the year, the Arnage T will have been joined by two other new models — the Arnage R and the Arnage RL.

Next year will see major changes at Crewe, where Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars have been produced for more than 50 years.

While Volkswagen carries on turning out Bentleys, Rolls-Royce production is being taken over by German rival BMW, which is building a new plant to make the cars at Goodwood, West Sussex.

Bentley production at Crewe is expected to rise from about 1,500 models a year to about 9,000 within a few years.

Loyalist set to appeal NIO security ruling

By Mary Fitzgerald

LOYALIST activist Barrie Bradbury was today due to appeal a Northern Ireland Office decision refusing him personal security protection.

The Lurgan-based loyalist will challenge the NIO ruling that its Key Persons Protection Scheme (KPPS) should not automatically include journalists or journalist sources. Currently, each application to the scheme is considered individually at the Secretary of State's discretion.

Mr Bradbury, a key contact of murdered journalist Martin O'Hagan, was refused inclusion in the scheme last year by Secretary of State John Reid despite a number of attacks on his home.

Last month shots were fired at his home just days after lodging a legal challenge to the NIO decision, while in February a pipe bomb exploded outside his house. Mr Bradbury claims he has recorded more than 12 incidents of intimidation

and violence since 1997.

He has blamed the LVF for the attacks after he publicly accused it of being involved in the drugs trade.

Referring to the murder of Martin O'Hagan, Mr Bradbury said the scheme could have provided vital information about his killers.

Mr O'Hagan's murder was claimed by the Red Hand Defenders — believed to be a cover name for the LVF.

"Whilst the KPPS scheme may not have saved his valuable life from the state-sponsored LVF killers, the facilities provided would have been able to offer more information as to the movements of these people and the vehicles used, with possible early arrests," Mr Bradbury said.

He added: "The late Martin O'Hagan was murdered because of his journalistic views and investigations. Others will follow unless the NIO are brought to their senses."

The case was due to be heard at Belfast High Court today.

Flights row to cost public £2bn

TAXPAYERS could be forced to pay £2 billion in compensation to people affected by night flights out of Heathrow airport, it was reported today.

The Government could be forced to pay up if it loses its appeal against a European Court of Human Rights judgement that night flights from the world's busiest international airport violated the human rights of people living nearby.

The Government has calculated it could have to compensate up to 500,000 people whose sleep may have been disturbed, according to the contents of confidential documents reported in the Financial Times.

The eight residents who won the legal action in October last year were each awarded £4,000 in compensation after the Strasbourg court ruled the Department of Transport unfairly breached the right to respect for private and family life.

The Financial Times said the Department of Transport has now calculated that between 100,000 and 500,000 people living near the west London airport could have a case for compensation if the government fails to have the ruling overturned.

This could result in a compensation bill of between £400 million and £2 billion. The bill could be even higher if people living near other airports, such as Gatwick and Stansted, took legal action, the newspaper said.

Aviation minister David Jamieson announced last month that the Government is to appeal against the European Court of Human Rights' judgement, passed on October 2, last year.

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GRESHAM BREAKS RYAN HOLIDAYS

FA expected to probe cup clash violence

THE Football Association was today expected to launch an inquiry after Cardiff City's 2-1 FA Cup win over Leeds was marred by violence.

Riot police armed with batons were drafted in after Cardiff fans surged on to the pitch at the climax of their team's surprise victory at Ninian Park yesterday afternoon.

Throughout the game, Leeds players were struck by objects thrown from the stands and referee Andy D'Urso required treatment after he was hit on the head.

At the final whistle, after Scott Young's late strike snatched victory for Cardiff City in the third round tie, more than 1,000 supporters

stormed the pitch. Police arrested four people for public disorder offences.

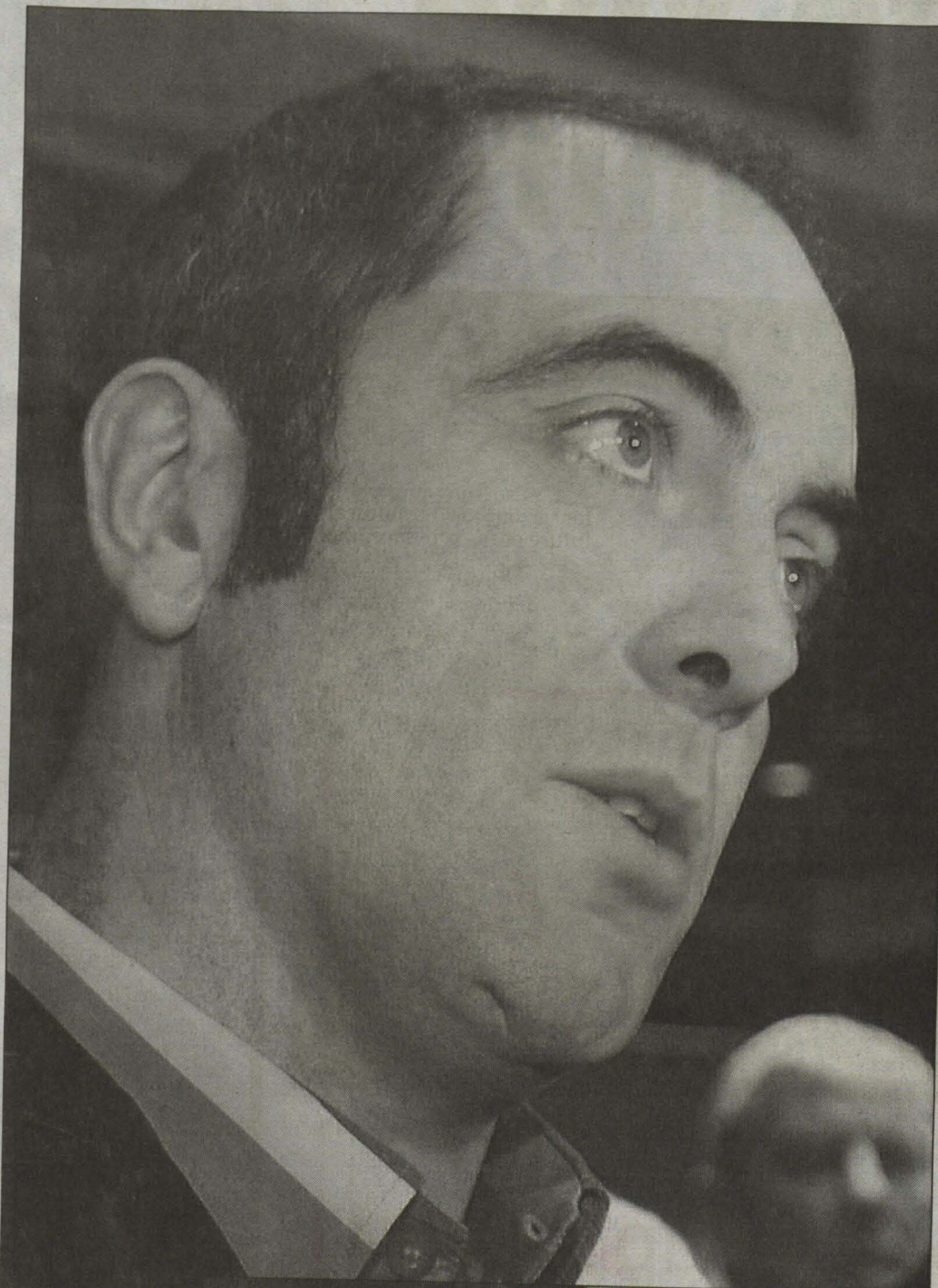
Leeds manager David O'Leary was also involved in angry scenes with Cardiff owner Sam Hammam.

And the BBC said it was to make a formal complaint to the FA after one of its reporters was ejected from the ground and his property confiscated.

A South Wales Police spokesman said the referee and linesman had both complained after the tie at being hit by objects.

"We said we would not tolerate violence or disorder beforehand and we acted as soon as there was any sign of it," he said.

BLOODY SUNDAY FILM PREMIERE



Jimmy's star turn for new Troubles movie

RIGHT: Minister of Education Martin McGuinness chats in the Millennium Forum prior to the film's showing with (centre) Richard Taylor of the Northern Ireland Film Commission and Rod Stoneman from the Irish Film Board

Pictures by Maurice Thompson

ABOVE: Actor James Nesbitt who plays Civil Rights leader Ivan Cooper in the Bloody Sunday film arrives at last night's premiere



John Hume MP in conversation with Bloody Sunday film adviser Don Mullan

RIGHT: Former Bishop of Derry Dr Edward Daly with former Civil Rights activist Ivan Cooper at the premiere

RIGHT: Councillor Mary Nelis (left) sorts out tickets for friends Angela Semple and Florie Cierand as they arrive for the screening



RIGHT: Publicist Peter Daly (right) talking with John Kelly, brother of Michael Kelly, (left) and Mick Bradley who was wounded on Bloody Sunday



Arriving for the premiere are Patrick Durkin (left) and Garvin O'Doherty

The Belfast Telegraph Travel

Today's Telegraph Travel Selection

ROME 3 nights departing 28 February £419 or 12 March £435

A host of imposing monuments spanning 2,500 years are just part of the Eternal city's long list of attractions. Price includes: return flights between Belfast and Italy via London and transfers; 3 nights 3-star B&B in Rome and 4 nights 3-star HB in the Sorrento area. Optional tours will be available of Rome and to Pompeii, Capri and the Amalfi Drive. ATOL No. 2448.

ROME & SORRENTO 14-21 March £579

Enjoy this 2-centre holiday at a more leisurely time of the year. Price includes: return flights between Belfast and Italy via London and transfers; 3 nights 3-star B&B in Rome and 4 nights 3-star HB in the Sorrento area. Optional tours will be available of Rome and to Pompeii, Capri and the Amalfi Drive. ATOL No. 2448.

SOUTH OF FRANCE WINTER SUNSHINE CRUISE 1-9 February from £239

Experience the delights of the South of France from the comfort of your own floating hotel. Price includes: return coach and ferry; return overnight sailings on the DFDS from Newcastle to Amsterdam; 2 nights B&B hotel en-route; 4 nights B&B and lunch aboard the MS Viking Burgundy; walking tours of Arles and Avignon.

SICILY & CALABRIA 14 nights departing 30 April £919 or 12 May £949, 4, 11, 18, 25 June £969

Steeped in culture, Sicily boasts a splendour and diversity that is unashamedly stunning. Unspoilt Calabria, the 'toe' of Italy is still relatively unknown to the English speaking traveller. Price includes: return flights from Belfast to Italy via London and transfers; 7 nights 3-star HB in Giardini-Naxos at the foot of Mount Etna and 7 nights 4-star HB in Cetraro on the Calabrian coast; visits to Mount Etna and to Altomonte. ATOL No. 133.

TUSCANY & ROME 10 nights departing

11, 18, 25 April £845, 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 May £865, 6, 13, 20, 27 June £915, 4, 11, 18 July £885, 22, 29 August, 5, 12, 19, 26 Sept £915, 3 or 10 October £865. Spend a week amid the timeless landscapes and magical cities of Tuscany before immersing yourself in the splendours of ancient and modern Rome. Price includes: return flights from Belfast to Italy via London and transfers; 7 nights 3-star HB in Reggello in the heart of Tuscany and 3 nights 4-star B&B in Rome; excursions to Florence, Siena & San Gimignano, Chianti and a walking tour of Rome. ATOL No. 133.

SICILY 8 nights departing 16, 23 March £539

6, 13, 20 April £549, 27 April £559, 4, 11, 18 May £569, 25 May 1, 8 June £579, 15 June £589, 22, 29 June, 6, 13 July, 31 August £609, 7 September £589, 21 September £589, 28 September £579, 5, 12 October £569, 19 October £559 or 26 October £549.

The largest island in the Mediterranean, Sicily offers a blend of heritage, culture and stunning scenery. The island has a fascinating past, having been influenced by many cultures who have each left their mark. Price includes: return flights from Belfast to Sicily via London and transfers; 7 nights 3-star HB on the outskirts of Cefalu, Sicily; overnight in the London area. Hotel upgrade available. ATOL No. 235.

TREASURES OF TUSCANY 7 nights departing 13 June, 11 July or 10 October £549

The landscape of rich red soil and green rolling hills, capped with medieval stone villages reflects the peaceful Tuscan way of life. Price includes: return flights from Belfast to Italy via London and transfers; 7 nights 3-star HB based in the Tuscan spa town of Chianciano. ATOL No. 2448.

TUSCANY, UMBRIA & FLORENCE 9 nights departing

15, 22, 29 April £759, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 27 May £779, 3, 10, 17, 24 June, 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 July, 19, 26 August £799, 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 23, 30 Sept £809, 7, 14 or 21 October £749.

Discover the enchanting landscapes of Tuscany and Umbria and encounter the Renaissance treasures of Florence. Price includes: return flights from Belfast to Italy via London and transfers; 7 nights 3-star HB in Bolsena, Tuscany; 2 night 3-star B&B in Florence; tours of Assisi and Siena. ATOL No. 133.

TUSCANY, ELBA & ROME 14 nights departing

23, 30 April, 7, 14, 21, 28 May, 4, 11, 18, 25 June £875, 20, 27 August, 3, 10, 17, 24 September £905 or 1 October £865.

Anchored in the Mediterranean, the colourful harbour towns and sandy beaches of Elba provide a wonderful contrast to the countryside of Tuscany, and the fabulous Italian capital, Rome. Price includes: return flights from Belfast to Italy via London and transfers; 5 nights 3-star HB in Chianciano Terme; 7 night 3-star B&B on Elba and 2 nights 4-star B&B in Rome; tours of Florence, Pienza and Montepulciano; walking tour of Rome. ATOL No. 133.

SEVEN CITIES OF ITALY

Verona, Venice, Florence, Siena, Assisi, San Gimignano & Rome 7 nights departing 12 May £589, 19 May £599, 26 May £609, 9 June £659, 16, 23 June £639, 30 June, 7 July £629, 1, 8 September £639, 15, 22 Sept £629, 29 Sept £619, 6, 13 October £599 or 20 October £589.

There is no other country that has so many well preserved cities bursting with architectural treasures and this is the perfect opportunity to visit seven of Italy's finest. Price includes: return flights from Belfast to Milan via London and transfers; 3 nights 3-star HB in Lake Garda; 4 nights 3-star HB in the spa resort of Chianciano Terme; visits to Verona, Venice, San Gimignano, Assisi, Florence, Rome and Siena. ATOL No. 235.

TUSCANY & LAKE GARDA 9 nights departing

31 May, 11 July £669, 6 or 20 September £699.

Enjoy the timeless landscapes of Tuscany followed by a stay on the relaxing shores of Lake Garda. Price includes: return flights from Belfast to Italy via London and transfers; 4 nights 3-star HB in Montecatini, Tuscany and 5 nights 4-star HB in Torbole on the north shore of Lake Garda; visit to Verona. ATOL No. 2448.

HOW TO BOOK For a Brochure giving a full itinerary and booking form: phone 028 9026 4003 Monday - Saturday 9.00am - 5.00pm; Thursday late night 8.00pm or call in person to the Telegraph Travel shop at 108 Royal Avenue, Belfast BT1 1DL. E-mail us at: travelshop@belfasttelegraph.co.uk or visit our website at www.telegraphtravel.net

Holidays with an air element are protected by ATOL No's.



The new Bloody Sunday film won the heartfelt acclaim of the victims' relatives at a special screening in Londonderry yesterday. **David McKittrick** of The Independent hails it as a 'pain-filled masterpiece'



Difficult to watch ... The TV recreation of the events of Bloody Sunday, which will be screened by ITV on January 20

The most authentic Troubles film ever

THE strength of the film Bloody Sunday, which received a standing ovation yesterday from the families of those killed 20 years ago in Londonderry, is its almost disturbing success in blending facts and drama.

The combination of Paul Greengrass's superb writing and direction with half a dozen outstanding performances makes this probably the strongest of all fiction on film about the Irish Troubles.

Yet the word fiction is almost a slur on this film, which will be shown on ITV later this month while simultaneously going on general release in cinemas. Yesterday, many of the 450 relatives of Bloody Sunday victims who attended a screening of the

film in Londonderry were reduced to tears.

Its authority is based not just on a convincing dialogue, but because it mirrors, in just about all important particulars, the wealth of detail amassed by the current Saville inquiry into Bloody Sunday.

Although the inquiry has years to run it has already built up a picture of a tragedy brought about by an interplay of events, personalities and simple confusion.

The achievement of the film is to use this material to underlie its structure while seamlessly grafting on the elements of drama.

While it blames the Army for the incident in which 27 youths and men were shot, 14 of them

fatally, soldiers are not portrayed as caricatures or stereotypes.

It differentiates between the over-aggressive Brigadier Ford, the struggling Colonel Wilford, and the insightful junior officer listening helplessly back at base as the killings begin. Both Ford and Wilford are real characters.

Its thesis, which is in line with the Saville inquiry's work, is that the Army was at fault but that no central conspiracy existed. Ford, beautifully played by Tim Pigott-Smith, is the villain of the piece, who wants to teach the IRA a lesson. Meanwhile Wilford tries to arrest hooligans, but when the Paras, the psyched-up shock troops, are eventually unleashed they

open up no on the IRA but on civilians.

The film is extraordinarily effective in portraying Derry Catholics, catching their twanging lilt and showing what it would be like to grow up on streets frequented by troops and the IRA.

It features James Nesbitt as a likeable civil rights activist. He is optimistic and upbeat at the outset, the barely able to take in what happens around him, then finally in shock as he realises how many more deaths are bound to follow.

The cradle of military radios, the clatter of Paras jumping from their armoured vehicles, the jangling of 1970s telephones provides flavour. The fact that some of the dialogue is

overheard and some of it is half-heard builds the sense of confusion and movement.

The killing-field sequences are shocking and so too are the depictions of bloody corpses amid the rubble.

But much more distressing is the subsequent hospital scene where relatives and the injured are crowded in with the Paras. Bodies lie piled in a corridor as a priest scrambles to give the Last Rites to so many; parents sob as they are told their sons are dead.

It is difficult to watch, and difficult at that moment to be grateful to the film makers for recreating such pain with such accuracy. None the less, they have created a pain-filled masterpiece.



A New Year's Eve fireworks display seen from the beach at Sandymount Strand, Dublin

Beating the New Year blues ...

FOR many, the first weeks of January are marked not by a sense of new beginning, but by a depression known as the New Year blues.

The festive parties are over, the overdraft is probably bigger than a few weeks ago and the next holiday could be a distant four months away. It's not surprising that in January we're prone to prolonged, bleak moods.

For some, symptoms of depression — anxiety, sudden tears, disturbed sleep patterns, and loss of appetite — may have surfaced at Christmas. Others start to feel everything is going downhill just after January 1, when we're meant to be enjoying a fresh start with recharged batteries.

Psychologists say we can be hit by depression if expectations about the festive season have not lived up to reality. The condition can be aggravated by the tendency at New Year to put ourselves under the microscope.

"New Year makes us re-assess the past year," says Ron Bracey, clinical psychologist with psychologyonline.co.uk.

"Reminiscent TV shows look back and encourage us to reflect on what's happened. Many people feel their year has been terrible or they haven't achieved what they wanted," he says.

The festive season means

lots of parties for many of us from office dos to family get-togethers, reunions with distant friends and, of course, the New Year bash. It is meant to be fun but for those who are disappointed with their professional or personal achievements, socialising can be debilitating.

"If we're competitive and our success doesn't match those of our peers we can feel much worse for that," says Dr George Fieldman, a senior lecturer in applied social sciences at Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College.

Linda Blair of Bath University, who is a practising psychologist, suggests replacing "unrealistic" New Year resolutions with short-term goals.

"It takes over three weeks to change a habit but frequently people give up before that. Make goals which are achievable in three days. Small achievable goals will inspire confidence to achieve the big one," she recommends.

Blair suggests taking short breaks throughout the year instead of saving all the days off for Christmas or summer.

Lack of light and tiredness are major contributors to depression at this time of year. The obvious solution is to get more sleep. Exercise is also a good way to beat the blues as it stimulates the brain and gives a natural 'high'.

OPINION

By Gerald T Griffin

Adams' true colours revealed in Cuba visit

ALLY and spokesman for the IRA, Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams, on his recent political pilgrimage to Cuba, stressed that he had no right to interfere in the affairs of other countries.

Nevertheless, his gratuitous advice to Americans was to end the embargo on Cuba and open a "dialogue" with the ageing Fidel Castro, last of the diehard Communist dictators.

Gulled by Communist propaganda, Adams neglected to call upon Cuba to initiate this dialogue by stopping its jamming of US Radio.

Doesn't Adams know that the US has had a "Cuban interests" section operating in Havana for years and that Castro, reciprocally, has an office representing his own unelected government in Washington?

There have been unlimited conversations over the years between the US and Cuban governments, using this channel, with limited results due to Castro's intransigence.

For example, our "interests" section in Havana is holding a half million visa applications from Cubans who cannot get a passport.

The only reason Elisabet Gonzales and her son, Elian, fled by sea was because they were refused passports.

There is no freedom to travel for Cubans and all Cuban major league baseball stars in America had had to escape the island.

Adams wants the American embargo on Cuba lifted but he fails to state why it was initiated by President John F Kennedy and retained by every one of his successors — the reason being the theft of 6,000 American businesses in Cuba.

Castro neither wants to return them nor pay compensation. If he did, the embargo could end tomorrow.

I drive a Japanese automobile and buy doughnuts from a British-owned company, yet no American President advocates confiscating Japanese or UK property in the US.

Adams seems impressed by the size of the UN vote urging the US to end the embargo. Americans are not. Many of the UN members are states that are minuscule in size.

How many of them have had the property of their nationals confiscated by Castro?

How many are Third World dictatorships that are ingrates after receiving US foreign aid?

The US State Department continues to classify Cuba as a sponsor of terrorism, which has lost its trendiness since the September 11 attacks on

Does Sinn Féin leader believe in democracy?

New York and Washington.

Adams trumpets Communist agitprop about the quality of the Cuban health care system. He should ask himself, why then did Castro himself go to Cairo for a major operation?

Under Castro's brand of Marxism there is no free medical care. It is done through income transfers.

There is not an economy in this world where things are "free". One way that Castro could bring his medical technology up to US standards is to stop beggaring his people with the largest military establishment in Latin America, not to mention his huge governmental bureaucratic apparatus.

Gerry Adams praised Cuba, a police state. Ulbricht's Stal-

inist East German set up Castro's intelligence service, the DGI, for him and the operation of the oppressive Cuban secret police makes the former Gestapo and KGB look like amateurs.

Castro has even copied Hitler's block shop committees, naming them Committees for Defense of the Revolution.

There is no thriving litigation and court system in Cuba, nor is there freedom of speech, nor of assembly, nor of the press and radio-TV.

There is no freedom for political parties, nor are there free elections. There is no intellectual freedom and no academic freedom.

Castro confiscated the Diario de la Marina, a newspaper published under Catholic auspices, the Cuban equivalent of the New York Times, and replaced it with Granma, which follows Castro's party line the way Volkischer Beobachter followed Hitler's and Pravda followed Stalin's.

In his newspeak panegyric about Cuban education, Adams recognized no difference between education and

indoctrination.

Dictatorships can have high rates of literacy without educational freedom.

Now, Mr Adams bills himself as a Roman Catholic, but is he sincere?

Does he truly believe in the same freedom of religion that he and other Catholics have in Northern Ireland?

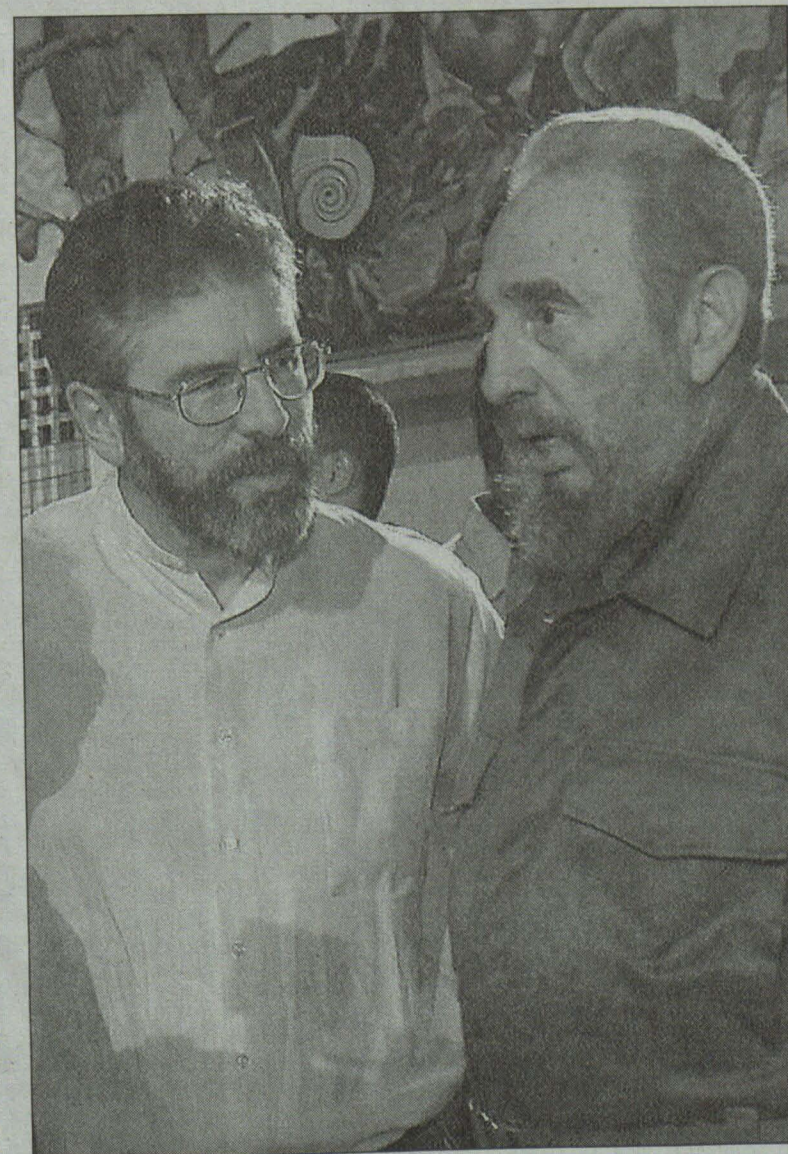
In Cuba, Castro confiscated all 341 Catholic elementary and secondary schools.

He also stole the University of St Thomas of Villanova from the Catholic Church. Despite the plea of Pope John Paul II during his January 1998 visit to Cuba, Castro has yet to return a single one of these institutions to the Catholic Church.

Does Adams believe in democracy? The answer is no.

Does Adams believe in dictators like Fidel Castro? The answer is emphatically yes.

■ Irish American Gerald T Griffin, a retired library director, lives in Maine, New England. He is an US Army infantry veteran who served in the Second World War, the Korean War and Vietnam.



Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams with Cuban President Fidel Castro in Havana last month