



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Body of Alan McCullough found



Alan McCullough

UDA man, Alan McCullough's body was found on Thursday 5th June in a shallow grave on the outskirts of north Belfast. The loyalist paramilitary Ulster Freedom Fighters has admitted killing the 21-year-old from the Shankill area of the city. Two men have been arrested in connection with the murder. Mr McCullough's brother, Kenny, said he did not want anyone else to suffer in the way his family were suffering. "Anybody else getting killed is not going to bring my brother back," he said. "My brother is gone. I don't want another family to go

through what we've been through. My mother went through this 22 years ago when my father was killed and it's just coming back to her two-fold. It's just not a nice thing to happen and I just hope it doesn't happen to anyone else."

The loyalist paramilitary terrorist group, the Ulster Freedom Fighters, has admitted the killing in a call to the BBC, using a recognised codeword. It linked Mr McCullough to the feud killing of Ulster Defence Association leader John Gregg and to the killing of Jonathan Stewart in north Belfast shortly after Christmas.

Protest

A group of about 60 women and children protested against the murder on Friday evening, walking along the Shankill Road carrying a banner and placards. Mr McCullough had been missing since he left his home in the Shankill area of Belfast on 28 May. Last weekend, police said they feared he had been murdered. A body was discovered on Thursday 5th June at the Aughnabrack Road, near north Belfast. On Friday, police confirmed the body was that of Mr McCullough. It was removed from the scene that evening. Mr McCullough had recently returned to Northern Ireland after fleeing his home following a feud within the loyalist UDA earlier this year.

Bloody feud

He left his mother's home in Denmark Street, in the lower Shankill, the previous Wednesday night in the company of two senior UDA men and went with them voluntarily after reassurances that he would be safe. A bloody feud within the UDA led to the deaths of four men at the beginning of the year. Johnny Adair and his associate John White were expelled from the UDA leadership last September, causing a split in the organisation. In February, family and associates of Adair fled their homes for Scotland. Adair remains in prison after the Northern Ireland Secretary, Paul Murphy, revoked his early release licence in January for his involvement in "a litany of terrorist crimes".