



## The Burning Bush—Online article archive

### Murderers will never be charged!!



**Dave Cox and Phillip James of the HET**

A specialist team set up to review unsolved murders committed during the Northern Ireland Troubles say their task may be almost impossible.

The "Historical Enquiries Team", which has a budget of £34m, is re-examining 3,268 killings between 1969 and the 1998 peace accord.

The team has another five years to complete its work, with a target of 40 cases a month.

However, investigators now say they will need more time for their work.

The Police Ombudsman, Nuala O'Loan, says she agrees. The ombudsman's office investigates cases where there is evidence or allegations of police involvement.

To date, 78 such cases have emerged, including some of the Troubles' most controversial incidents, such as the murder of Belfast solicitor Pat Finucane.

It is strange that any special investigations always seem to commence with the Finucane murder while the scenes of massacre of innocent Protestants seem to be overlooked!

The Northern Ireland Office, which funds the initiative, would not be drawn on whether more resources would be made available.

The review team, led by retired Metropolitan Police Commander David Cox, uses the latest forensic science and intelligence analysing technology. The team is comprised of about 100 detectives and support staff.