



## The Burning Bush—Online article archive

### “Priest, Alec Reid voices official Roman Catholic view of Protestantism”



**Priest Alec Reid**

A Dublin-based newspaper had an article on the outburst of Alec Reid, a member of the Redemptorist order of monks, in which he claimed that the Roman Catholic people in Northern Ireland had been treated by their Protestant neighbours the way the Nazis had treated the Jews. They were “treated like animals,” he said. In that article the following statement was written: “Just as wine loosens the brain and the tongue sufficiently to say what you are really thinking, so does anger.” The clear implication is that it views Reid’s outburst as not the stating of something alien to him, but rather a slipping of the mask and a revealing of what truly lay within his heart and mind. With that assessment we are in full agreement. The proper context in which to examine Reid’s evil statements is that of an earlier statement, made by the President of the Irish Republic, Mary McAleese. The Belfast-born president said, in January 2005 at the time of the commemorating of the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz concentration camp, that the Nazis had been taught to despise Jews much as some Protestants passed on their hatred of Catholics to their children. “They gave to their children an irrational hatred of Jews in the same way that people in Northern Ireland transmitted to their children an irrational hatred, for example, of Catholics, in the same way that people give to their children an outrageous and irrational hatred of those who are of different colour and all of those things.” She made the comments in an interview for RTE’s ‘Morning Ireland’ programme.

It is not possible that both these highly placed and skilled communicators could have inadvertently made the same “slip of the tongue”! Rather, it is part of that philosophy, “transmitted” to Roman Catholic children” by their parents, who in turn were imbued with such views by their priest-dominated chapels and schools. The remarks were so outrageous that the Jewish community in Northern Ireland, normally noted for their shunning of any political statements, protested. They made it clear that to draw a parallel between the treatment of their fellow Jews at the hands of the Nazis with that of the treatment of Roman Catholics in Ulster belittled the true horror of the Holocaust.



**Mary McAleese**  
President of the  
Irish Republic

### **IRA Not Criminals**

Further evidence of the twisted and biased views of this priest, so beloved, we are told, for his saintliness in pursuing the interests of peace in Ireland, was seen a few days after his “Nazi” outburst. During a television interview he said he believed IRA denials that it carried out the Northern Bank robbery in Belfast last year. It was later disclosed by the Dublin government that Reid continues to believe the IRA even though it had given him an extensive briefing on the evidence which clearly showed the IRA’s involvement. Reid, who has described the views of Irish Justice Minister, Michael McDowell on the IRA as “immoral”, received two top-level briefings on the IRA’s involvement in criminality, including one from the Minister himself. The priest, who is a close confidante and spiritual adviser of Sinn Fein



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leader Gerry Adams, had “demanded” the meetings, which took place earlier this year, when the Minister attacked Sinn Fein/IRA after the Northern Bank robbery and the murder of Robert McCartney.

### **Briefing**

Despite being briefed by the Minister and the Department of Justice Secretary General Sean Aylward, Reid came away unconvinced and instead accused the British and Irish governments of “black propaganda” against Sinn Fein/IRA. Reid went even further in his support for the IRA. He made the outrageous claim that the IRA was not a criminal organisation! What does such a statement about an organisation which has made countless millions out of smuggling, drug-dealing, extortion, and bank robberies, and which has murdered hundreds within its own community in order to maintain its power base, and waged a terrorist war upon innocent men, women and children for more than 30 years, say about the man who made it? The views of Alec Reid form the basis of a full justifying of the IRA’s murder campaign. It is the core of the thesis for terror in Ulster.

### **Methodist Shame**

Reid’s fellow IRA-sponsored witness to decommissioning, Methodist minister, Harold Good, true to his ecumenical delusion, stood up for Reid following his “Nazi” outburst. He accepted the Catholic priest’s apology over the comments and sought to defend him. Methodists should hang their head in shame at such a deceiver in their ranks.