



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

LEST WE REMEMBER!!! A Further shameful betrayal of RUC



There is deep anger amongst policemen over proposals to ban tributes to murdered Royal Ulster Constabulary colleagues, which are currently on display in police stations.

The Police Federation's central committee was given details in mid-August of the new regulations banning montages and rolls of honour from individual offices. The plan is another sop to the Sinn Fein/IRA demands for a "neutral workplace" for the new Police Service of Northern Ireland. It also means that many items of memorabilia relating to Army units will also

have to go.

The man behind the order is "Sir" Ronnie Flanagan, the RUC Chief Constable. He has once more shown himself ready to betray, not just his own officers, but the public who loyally supported the RUC throughout the years of IRA terrorism. He bought knighthood at a despicable price.

Sam Kincaid, the Assistant Chief Constable, has been given the task of explaining the decision to serving officers. The move to create a "neutral workplace" means that the British Legion poppy symbol will also have to be removed, along with any British Army insignia or photographic record of camaraderie captured during the 30-year fight against terrorism. The new regulations are difficult for officers to accept — given the still vivid memories of colleagues who died as they went about their duties. In the west of Ulster in particular, the Army, the police and the Ulster Defence Regiment lived virtually side by side, and numerous keepsakes are retained in posts in border areas where many men died. In the Irish Republic, the flag of the country and memorabilia collected by the Garda are frequently displayed in stations.

When will the unionist worm turn?

Just how much of this madness will be permitted by the Protestant and unionist people, especially in the face of the intransigence of Irish Republicanism?