



## The Burning Bush—Online article archive

### Sinn Fein now rejects OTR bill!



150 people are wanted for crimes, including murder, committed before 1998.

Sinn Fein has changed its mind and now rejects the new legislation which gives so-called “on-the-run” republicans an amnesty. Party vice-president Pat Doherty said the legislation was “far removed” from what had been agreed, during 2001 talks with the government in the run-up to the IRA ceasefire, at Weston Park, in England. Sinn Fein now rejects the law because it would grant amnesty to security forces who committed murder during the Troubles.

Mr Doherty said Sinn Fein would also be advising republicans “on the run” not to seek registration under the legislation, should it go through. The plans cover up to 150 people wanted for crimes committed before 1998. They would have their cases heard by a special tribunal and, if found guilty, would be freed on licence without having to go to jail. Sinn Fein initially welcomed it, but now realise it will not only give an amnesty to IRA members but also to any soldiers or police officers who committed murder during 30 years of violence.

In truth, none should escape the penalty for murder, irrespective of the circumstances in which it was committed.

But only IRA/Sinn Fein would have the gall to demand that murderers who acted in its name be granted an amnesty while all other politically-motivated murderers be made to serve their sentences!

It should also be noted that the terms of the OTR bill were worked out in secret talks between Sinn Fein/IRA and the British Government. Every day brings revelations of treachery of Tony Blair and his government.