



The Burning Bush - Online article archive

The wounds and madness that Ecumenism inflicts

The following three articles from the 'Belfast Newsletter' website (Nov 7) highlights the terrible deceitfulness of Sinn Fein/IRA and its ungoing and unchanged murderous attitude toward the innocent whom it deems is worthy of slaughter.

It was engaged in a campaign of 'genocide' against the Protestant people in the border areas and elsewhere and honours still all those who engaged in that campaign of terror. The man guilty of the 'Shankill Road Bombing', in which ten people were killed, two of whom were children and one was an IRA bomber, was Sean Kelly. He will be canvassing for the Sinn Fein candidate in the forthcoming Westminster election. The SDLP will be supporting Sinn Fein's candidate.

The second of these articles underlines the deceitfulness and gullibility of the ecumenical clerics who preached the lies that blinded the members of their flock into embracing the wickedness of the ecumenical lie that Rome is a Christian 'church'!

'Rev' David Latimer of course was not the only victim of Rome's deceit and chicanery. Power-sharing at Stormont was based upon the notion that Martin McGuinness and his ilk had changed and should be embraced as those worthy of trust!!!

Only recently a video was shown of McGuinness actively engaged in the arming of a car bomb which later was filmed exploding in the centre of Londonderry, causing £millions worth of damage!

That film was concealed by MI5 or another branch of the secret service, in order to facilitate McGuinness's entrance to a position of power at Stormont as Joint First minister alongside Dr Ian Paisley.

What fools were those who embraced and promoted 'power-sharing' with IRA murderers!

Despite the continued unfolding of the criminal activities of Sinn Fein/IRA, the DUP is still striving to relaunch power-sharing with them at Stormont.

The effects of 'Ecumenical Toxins' are long lasting indeed!

Former RUC man: Men who killed my colleagues laughed at me in the street



The funeral of an RUC officer in 1988

Published in the Belfast Newsletter : 07:11 Thursday 07 November 2019

A former RUC man has described how the men he believes killed his colleagues during the Troubles sneered and laughed as he passed them in the street.

The following excerpt comes from 'Considering Grace', a new book on how the Presbyterian Church in Ireland dealt with the Troubles:

Craig grew up on a farm near the border. His mother's family were farmers in what became the Irish Republic after partition. Craig's father was in the B-Specials. "I used to clean his gun for him, being the eldest in the house. It was almost as tall as me. When their weapons were inspected, his was always commended. This is what he told me, which was perhaps an incentive for me, because I was saving him a job."

As a child, Craig watched as family friends were killed in the Troubles. He felt "a great sense of injustice. In my mind, people who were brave enough to put on a uniform were going out against this force of evil".



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He joined the RUC. Early in his career, a colleague was murdered by a car bomb. "At the very impressionable age of twenty, I had the dubious job of carrying a comrade's coffin, hearing his two little daughters walking behind crying, 'Daddy, daddy'. I knew that more than half of their daddy's body mass was not in the coffin and that sand had been used to replicate the weight that wasn't there."

A few years later, Craig was travelling in an armoured car that struck a landmine.

"Later I became aware of the names of the people who were alleged to have been involved in the attempted murder of myself and my colleague. They have never answered on earth for what they have done. But with my Christian belief, I know that unless they fully repent, there is a day of judgement coming. That is the only solace I can draw."

Craig knows the identities of others who murdered his colleagues but have not faced prosecution. In one incident, colleagues were killed and maimed for life. Years later, Craig was walking down the street in his hometown when he passed the men he believed were responsible. "When they passed me, they sneered and looked me straight in the eyes and laughed. It was the defining moment in my life where I realised that there was no real justice in this world. Those men had been allowed to come back across the border without the fear of being lifted and put before a court."

Craig also believes that some Catholics tried to save the lives of police. He described receiving anonymous phone calls that warned them not to travel on certain roads at certain times. "On a human level, they were people who recognised we were not as bad as we were being portrayed. That helps me to be reassured that the milk of human kindness is within everyone."

There were Troubles-related bereavements in his congregation. Craig thought his minister "did an absolutely outstanding job, listening to people and making himself available. He conveyed the Biblical precepts by which we need to align ourselves".

For Craig, those Biblical precepts have translated into an openness to former enemies. "Someone asked me not that many years ago, if the then Deputy First Minister [Martin McGuinness] were to extend the hand of welcome to me, would I be able to shake it? I had to think about that for some time, knowing a little more information on the inside about his activities than the ordinary average person in the street. That is a moral question that did cause me some doubt initially. But if Her Majesty the Queen can shake him by the hand, well I would be a very poor person if I couldn't do likewise."

Minister to tell story of friendship with Martin McGuinness despite congregation opposition

Published in the Belfast Newsletter: 07:00 Thursday 07 November 2019



First Derry Presbyterian Minister Rev David Latimer with the late Martin McGuinness

Presbyterian cleric has said he remains determined to tell the story of his friendship with Martin McGuinness despite "resistance" from his own congregation.

Rev David Latimer, of First Derry Presbyterian Church, is heading to the USA next week to promote his book 'A Leap of Faith' about his unlikely friendship with the late former IRA commander and deputy first minister.

Rev Latimer, who struck up his friendship with the late Sinn Fein figure after an appeal for help in bringing attacks against the church to an end more than 10 years ago, also spoke of his support for a 'peace foundation' in memory of Mr McGuinness in an



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interview with the News Letter.

The former Army chaplain is soon going to tour New York and Boston to share his story.

Talking to the News Letter, the clergyman was frank about the resistance he has faced since striking up his relationship with the former IRA leader.

Asked how his kind words about Martin McGuinness might affect those who were victims of IRA violence, Rev Latimer said: "I am very conscious that there are hurting people throughout the country who view me with a wee bit of suspicion, and I have to accept that."

"There are people who hold different views of Martin than myself. I could never have believed I could have gotten to know the man I did if it were not for paint splashing on my church."

"Because I got to know him the way I did — we talked about everything, the painful things and the joyful things — if people could hear this story it could help them to see that regardless of where we start, stray or stumble in life, it's how we finish in life that counts. That's how it is with God as well."

He continued: "I would point people to Saint Paul, who was no angel in his early life — probably the OC of the stoning party that was responsible for the martyrdom of Stephen. We read that the cloaks of that stoning party were placed at the feet of Saint Paul. But Saint Paul had an encounter in his life and I'll tell you something — I got to know a man who also had an encounter."

"Yes, he was radicalised as a young fellow growing up in the Bogside and he never concealed the fact that he was in the IRA. But then his life continued and he took a movement away from guns to government and allowed Arlene Foster, the leader of the largest unionist party, to say at his death that Northern Ireland may never see another politician like Martin McGuinness. He was exceptional."

He added: "There is both support and resistance from both below and above in the church. Many clergy, I suppose, are cautious and they are cautious because they are wary of how their congregations might respond if they got too close to me. But that's okay. You can't have everybody with you. I have discovered, in the words of Barack Obama, that those who are for you outnumber those who are against you. I think we have to accept there is a range of views and hope that in the fullness of time there will be a softening."

Rev Latimer will visit the USA from November 13 to 21 to speak about his book.

IRA Army Council still oversees Sinn Fein strategy - PSNI says 2015 assessment unchanged



Mairtin O Muilleoir was quizzed at a public inquiry on his communications with unelected senior IRA figures at a key time in the RHI saga

Published in the Belfast Newsletter: 06:30 Thursday 07 November 2019

The PSNI says there has been "no change" since a 2015 assessment that the PIRA Army Council was still overseeing both Sinn Fein and the remaining structures of the terror organisation with an "over arching strategy".

A government report, published in 2015, concluded that the second largest political party in Northern Ireland continues to be overseen by the deadliest terror group of the Troubles, which although much reduced in scale and "committed to the peace process", still has "specific" departments and "regional command structures", gathers intelligence, retains weapons and may engage in "isolated violence" including murder.

The PSNI affirmed the 2015 report which said the IRA oversees Sinn



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Fein strategy, retains weapons and members are still engaged in 'isolated' violence

The PSNI affirmed the 2015 report which said the IRA oversees Sinn Fein strategy, retains weapons and members are still engaged in 'isolated' violence

The PSNI confirmed its current assessment to the News Letter after the latest paramilitary monitoring panel, the Independent Review Commission (IRC), in its latest report, detailed ongoing criminality by the UVF and UDA, but failed to even mention the IRA or the INLA.

Unionists and terror victims queried how the largest terror group of the Troubles - responsible for 1,800 murders - could have disappeared off the authorities' radar since the 2015 government assessment.

However, the PSNI apparently distanced itself from the IRC report in a statement issued to the News Letter last night.

"The IRC report is published independently by the Independent Review Commission and the PSNI does not determine the contents of the report," the PSNI said. "With regards to PIRA, there has been no change since the Paramilitary Assessment in 2015."

The fact that the PSNI has said that the 2015 assessment of PIRA is still relevant today, makes it all the more incomprehensible that the IRC failed to mention that organisation in its report.

UUP justice spokesman MLA Doug Beattie responded: "The fact that the PSNI has said that the 2015 assessment of PIRA is still relevant today, makes it all the more incomprehensible that the IRC failed to mention that organisation in its report."

Mr Beattie added: "Given the murderous history of the Provisional IRA, and the fact that the recent funerals of former members have been attended by firing parties, one would have expected it to be the subject of some scrutiny in any report. Its omission could be due to a number of factors, ranging from an oversight, to a deliberate and conscious decision to keep it out of the report due to the political sensitivities, given the IRA's links with Sinn Fein."

The government's Paramilitary Assessment in 2015 - prompted by the murder of Kevin McGuigan by members of the IRA - found that "PIRA members believe that the PAC [Provisional IRA Army Council] oversees both PIRA and Sinn Fein with an overarching strategy".

TUV leader Jim Allister asked why the IRC didn't raise questions about PIRA and why police didn't brief about it. He noted that Sam McBride's RHI book 'Burned' details "how at a key point in the saga then Sinn Fein Finance Minister Mairtín O Muilleoir was in contact with a former IRA 'Officer Commanding' and a man regarded as one of the most influential figures in the Provisionals."

The IRC responded that its role is to measure progress towards ending paramilitary activity and on related measures being implemented by the Executive, London and Dublin. "The IRC has no role in making assessments around security, and indeed has no expertise to make such assessments. Paramilitary assessment is a matter for the security authorities," it added.

But Sinn Fein firmly rejected the PSNI assessment. The party's MP Mickey Brady said: "The IRA is gone and not coming back. The focus of unionist politicians should be on bringing an end to the extortion, prostitution, drug-dealing, widespread intimidation and murders carried out by active loyalist paramilitary groups.

"Instead of cosying up to these group for electoral pacts, they should unequivocally condemn these threats and call for these groups to disband immediately."

Loyalist Jamie Bryson has joined unionist politicians in querying why the IRA was not mentioned in the report by paramilitary reporting panel, the Independent Reporting Commission, this week.



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He said that a paper in the name of the Unionist Voice Policy Studies was recently submitted to the NI Affairs Committee at Westminster, "expressing a feeling within the loyalist community that there was a two-tier policing system designed to 'normalise' the IRA whilst criminalising loyalism".

He added: "The issue appears to be that low-level crime in loyalist areas is more visible, whilst IRA activity is high level white collar crime and therefore not as easily discernible."

PSNI ACC Barbara Gray said the Paramilitary Crime Task Force, National Crime Agency and HM Revenue and Customs have to date carried out 523 searches and 245 arrests against paramilitary groups "assessed as not presenting a threat to National Security". She added: "So far, we have secured 183 disposals, meaning that people have either been charged or reported to the Public Prosecution Service."