



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

IRA death threats forcing resignations amongst members of new police body



Mrs. Marian Quinn - victim of IRA terror

It started with bullets being sent to the Londonderry home of Denis Bradley, the deputy chairman of Northern Ireland's Policing Board. Police believe dissident republicans are behind the death threat, and are linking it with a similar package sent to the home of Marian Quinn, a member of the District Policing Partnership in Londonderry.

Most people read the politically correct designation, "dissident republicans" to mean Provisional IRA personnel operating under another name!

In August, a hoax device was placed under the car of the daughter of Mrs, Quinn.

However, Mrs Quinn said then that she was determined to stand up for what she believes in. "For over 30 years my community cried out for decent, accountable policing. This is the first chance we have had to deliver that." "The people who carry out acts like this aren't interested in law and order."

She remained defiant even after republicans burned her car in mid-September. She said she was especially vexed as it was a family car used by her husband, who is disabled and cannot walk long distances. A family car was again attacked when republicans threw a breeze block through its back window at Coshoven, Galliagh. Fire officers later found a petrol container on the back seat. It was the third incident involving Mrs Quinn and her family inside the past two months.

Cathal O'Dolan, Teresa Rooney, a member of Cookstown DPP and Moya Burns have all resigned from District Policing Partnerships.

SDLP

Following these attacks, the Social Democratic and Labour Party leader, Mark Durkan aimed his criticisms against the IRA, calling on them to issue a statement to say they are not involved in the campaign.

Chief Constable Hugh Orde has said that he will track down the republicans involved in the growing campaign of intimidation against Roman Catholic members of policing boards. Detectives have questioned four men and a woman in Strabane about the death threats. Mr Orde said that there would be no let-up in the investigation. He said: "We are determined to get to the bottom of this and identify the people who are breaking the law and terrifying people who are determined to work with us."

Given the backlog of other republican crimes, the perpetrators of which Mr. Orde has promised to track down, he and his officers are really going to be working overtime to make good his promises. In truth, no one in Northern Ireland is holding their breath in expectation of any results, though given the particular political flavour of these crimes, there is more hope of someone being prosecuted than there is of anyone being apprehended for



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the murder of 12 Protestants in the Enniskillen bombing of 1987 by republicans!