

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Media Briefing

AI Index: EUR 45/007/2002 (Public)
News Service No: 103
19 June 2002

UK: Pat Finucane case

Since the early 1990s Amnesty International and other non-governmental organizations have called for a public judicial inquiry into the killing of Northern Ireland human rights lawyer Patrick Finucane who was shot dead in February 1989 by Loyalist paramilitaries.

Almost immediately after his killing, allegations began to emerge that there had been official collusion in his murder. Since then it has been alleged that MI5 (security services), the then Royal Ulster Constabulary Special Branch and a secret military intelligence unit, all played a role. Questions have also been raised about the extent of knowledge on the Northern Ireland Office or Cabinet members concerning the operations of the various intelligence units.

Sir John Stevens, who had previously conducted two investigations into alleged official collusion, was recalled to Northern Ireland for the third time in April 1999 to carry out an investigation into the murder of Patrick Finucane and other related matters of collusion (this investigation is known as the "Stevens 3" investigation).

Amnesty International understands that Sir John is about to submit his report. In this connection, the organization reiterates its call to the authorities for the report to be made public in its entirety.

Background information on Amnesty International's concerns in Northern Ireland are available on: <http://news.amnesty.org>

Public Document

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