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**Paul Quinn**

10  
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THURSDAY  
01/05/2008  
18:21:43

**Quinn family welcome report on IRA murder**

The murder of a south Armagh man by people linked to the Provisional IRA cannot be pinned on the organisation, a report by the IMC claimed today.

The Independent Monitoring Commission said 21-year-old Paul Quinn was lured over the border and beaten to death by a gang in County Monaghan last year after a fallout with people associated with the Provisional IRA in his area.

But the report has said the IRA was NOT responsible because the killing was not authorised by the leadership.





















The IMC, which expressed its sympathy to the Quinn family and paid tribute to their courage and appeals for no retaliation, said the murder flew in the face of PIRA policy of abandoning violence and embracing purely political activity.

The leadership of the organisation had, the commission said, had some difficulties exercising authority in south Armagh in the past but there was no evidence to suggest this rejection of instructions was a general problem throughout Ireland.

Senior DUP figures had warned republicans there will be political consequences if it was found the IRA was involved in the killing.

But speaking on U105, Junior Minister Jeffrey Donaldson said his party welcomed the clarity the report gave: *"I don't think there are any major surprises in the IMC report. It confirms that the IRA continues to be on its ceasefire and continues to hold to its previous commitments."*

*However, I think there is unfinished business in the form of the Army council and the sooner that is dealt with the better for the political*

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*process.*

*It is essential that the IRA deals with the remaining aspects of its organisation.*

*That will do more than anything to build the kind of confidence necessary to enable us to move on in Northern Ireland."*

Meanwhile, the Quinn family have also welcomed the report.

Former Sinn Fein councillor and family spokesman, Jim McAllister told U105 the report confirmed much of what they had said from the start:

*"We actually made it clear from the very start that we didn't believe that the murder was sanctioned by the IRA Army Council, or the IRA leadership.*

*From day one we said it was local south Armagh business. We also stressed it was due to lack of respect to leading figures in area who think they are entitled to respect for past glories, if you like.*

*The report actually goes into that in some detail. It clears the leadership. We expected that anyway."*

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On 1 May at 08:23 - concerned from portadown said:

The rank and file of the I.R.A. were involved in this murder therefore the I. R.A. did it. To say it was not authorised by the army council therefore it was not the I.R.A. is nothing short of hypocrisy.

On 1 May at 09:44 - colin from newtownabbey said:

Yet again the powers that be have again took the side of the pro-agreement stance that anything goes so as long as it does not bring down Stormont, the IRA created these monsters, they are solely to blame for gun totting thugs etc. who still plague our communities as they wont let go of the strangle hold that they have on there local areas. Do we expect to see mass expulsion from the IRA for the men involved in this brutal attack on a young man who dared to stand up to the local provo leadership from what the press and his family tell us was the reason for his unjustified murder ? No, but the most important thing is for these men to face court proceedings, but being a realist they will never see a courtroom as all that IRA training they had has enabled them to destroy any shred of evidence from the murder scene, getting back to responsibility the IRA must accept some blame as their men with their training carried out this heinous crime which unfortunately will never be solved.

On 1 May at 10:02 - satisfied from Formally of South Belfast said:

I am glad that sense has prevailed. The IRA had nothing to do with this young man's brutal murder and it has now come to light. Just because the murderers are linked to the IRA doesn't mean that it was sanctioned by the IRA. The people from the markets should have made sure that they were put out long ago.

On 1 May at 13:23 - marc from Dublin said:

Amazing, we have it in black and white from the IMC, IRA not involved, yet by some comments on this site several people are over-ruling this finding. I would love to know how they are more qualified than the IMC to come to this conclusion, what steps did they take to be able to say that they know better than the IMC? Please tell me.

On 1 May at 13:51 - John from Strabane said:

If the IMC are claiming that Paul Quinn was murdered by local Provos; then they obviously know who did it. Why have these people not been arrested and charged by the PSNI?

On 1 May at 13:52 - Aidy Dev from Newcastle said:

The IRA has been found to be innocent of any crime and yet they are still brandished killers by uneducated bigots. The UDA & UVF continue to drug deal, extort money of their communities & carry guns. And if I'm not mistaken was there a shooting in Carrickfergus the other week? No one cares about this as it's far more important to get rid of the army council... We should be prioritizing our problems!

On 1 May at 15:06 - colin from belfast said:

aidy and john ; what does the imc really know about the murder to make them experts in saying who done what ? local people and i am to believe that 200 residents have come out and supported the family in their grief have more knowledge of the murder than any member of the imc and they have always stated that local ira volunteers where involved in this young boys murder , the people who have been questioned by the police are all local provos , what is alarming is that people seem glad it was not the provos while not once condemning this henious crime. All paramilitary crime is wrong , sure the border area has always been a haven for ira thugs to hand out justice the way they wanted to ! Who other than the ira would have the forensic knowledge to remove dna from the scene by spraying bleach ?

On 1 May at 15:13 - Michael from Belfast said:

John from Strabane In answer to your question, why has the PSNI not arrested and charged those involved in the murder? Perhaps if you could grasp the murder happened in the South of Ireland and the Gardia are responsible for that jurisdiction we could move forward and appeal for those with info either side of the border to come forward to put murderers away behind bars, instead of lets blame the PSNI for what terrorists / ex terrorist did.

On 2 May at 11:09 - John from Strabane said:

Thanks for geography lesson Michael from Belfast. If you have the time check out the IMC report, it said the murders came from South Armagh. Is that not in the North?

On 2 May at 12:12 - Peter from London said:

If the IRA is not going to kill or threaten anyone anymore why doesn't it disband? There are plenty of Irish in London who are all very welcome here and we don't have an army threatening you guys. So why not leave British people in Ireland alone too! We're all swallowed up in the European Union now so might as well drop the pretence of fighting for our independence, whether British, English or Irish.

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