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Fulton found guilty of Portadown murder

A leading Loyalist Volunteer Force (LVF) terrorist has been found guilty of murdering Portadown grandmother, Elizabeth O'Neill, who was killed in a pipe bomb attack on her home.

By: Susan Millar

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Jim Fulton, 38, from Queens Walk in the town was convicted of a string of terrorist offences after Northern Ireland`s longest terrorist trial.

Fulton faces a possible three life sentences for murdering Mrs O`Neill and conspiracy to murder.

He directed LVF terrorism in the Portadown area when his brother Mark `Swinger` Fulton who is now dead, was in jail.

Fulton faced more than 60 charges and it has taken the judge six months to come to his verdict.

Fulton was found guilty of Mrs O`Neill`s murder and seven counts of attempted murder. As Mr Justice Hart was telling him that he would face a mandatory life sentence, a member of the public shouted that it was a farce and a disgrace to law and order. He had to be led out of the courtroom.

Mrs O`Neill died when she picked up a pipe bomb which was thrown into her Corcraun home in June 1999.

Fulton was also found guilty of possession of the pistol which was used to shoot Catholic father of two Michael McGoldrick.

He was also convicted of seven firearms charges, two charges of false imprisonment and hijacking.

With him in the dock was 56-year-old Muriel Gibson, with an address at Clos Trevithick in Cornwall.

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She was acquitted of murdering Catholic council worker, Adrian Lamph in April 1998 but convicted of withholding information leading to the apprehension of his killers.

She was also found guilty of LVF membership, two counts of firearms possession and two of explosives possession. She will be sentenced in the New Year.

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