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Robin Eames

MONDAY
 10/03/2008
 13:54:30

Troubles group 'divided'

The panel set up to deal with Northern Ireland's troubled past is hopelessly divided, the DUP claimed today.

Granting an amnesty to perpetrators, and reclassifying the conflict as a war, split the Consultative Group on the Past, MLA David Simpson told the Assembly.

Headed by former Policing Board vice-chairman Denis Bradley and ex-Church of Ireland Primate Lord Robin Eames, the body was appointed by the British Government to advise on dealing with over 3,000 unsolved deaths.

Mr Simpson said: "One part of the group was briefing against another part of the group.

"In effect one part of the Eames/Bradley group sought to use the press to get its view of the Troubles and any potential amnesty into the public domain as a means of spiking internal opposition to the suggestion.

"As such there are serious question marks over the ability of this group to actually deliver because it is divided and because those divisions are being played out in the press over the issue of victims."

During a consultation period, which ended in January, the group met with over 100 organisations from across Northern Ireland. Members have discussed a South African-style truth commission and possibly defining the Troubles as a war.

Stormont MLAs are debating a motion from David Burnside calling on outgoing First Minister Ian Paisley and Deputy First Minister Martin

- Building collapses in Belfast
- School bus crashes in Tyrone
- 10,000 Maze jobs under threat
- School targeted in arson attack
- 13:54 Troubles group 'divided'
- 13:02 Stormont blackout averted
- 12:29 Paper wins food review appeal
- 10:44 Security alert at Belfast school
- 09:41 Ahern meets Sinn Fein leadership
- 08:18 Man held after Kilkenny death
- 08:05 Post mortem on murder victim

- Adams slams inter-party bickering
- Obama takes Wyoming
- Police probe Co Down assault claim
- Weather warning ahead of storm
- Post mortem on Kilkenny woman
- Man faces robbery charges
- Toddler killed in Cork accident
- Woman bitten in Derry attack
- Bus driver set alight in NI
- Two killed in separate crashes
- Ex-newsreader Carol Barnes dies
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- Thatcher hospitalised in London

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ADTECH

McGuinness (Sinn Fein, Mid Ulster) to lend full support and co-operation to Eames/Bradley.

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FILM: 27 DRESSES

DIRECTOR: Anne Fletcher

STARRING: Katherine Heigl, James Marsden, Ed Burns

DETAILS: US / 107mins (12A)

RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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