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**Nuala O'Loan**

WEDNESDAY  
19/09/2007  
18:28:52

**Police Ombudsman releases findings in Nelson case**

The Police Ombudsman in Northern Ireland has criticised the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) for its handling of a death threat against murdered Lurgan solicitor Rosemary Nelson.

Rosemary Nelson was murdered when a loyalist car bomb exploded as she left her Lurgan home in County Armagh in March 1999.

The Red Hand Defenders, a cover name used by the Loyalist Volunteer Force (LVF), later said it had carried out the killing.

Today the Police Ombudsman Nuala O'Loan has published the findings of her investigation into specific allegations against the then RUC by the Committee for the Administration of Justice (CAJ).

The most damning finding is that the police did not properly handle threatening documents concerning the solicitor.

The first was a leaflet circulated in the Portadown area during the summer of 1998.

Described by the Ombudsman as abusive and inherently dangerous, it gave details of Mrs Nelson's address and telephone number.

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The other was an anonymous letter containing a death threat.

Mrs O` Loan found that the RUC`s handling of Mrs Nelson`s situation was inadequate.

She said more strenuous efforts should have been made to get a clearer picture of the level of risk against Mrs Nelson.

However the Police Ombudsman rejected the CAJ`s other complaints.

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**DIRECTOR:** Quentin Tarantino.

**STARRING:** Kurt Russell, Rosario Dawson, Rose McGowan, Sydney Tamiia Poitier.

**DETAILS:** US / 113mins (18)

**RATING:** ★★★★★

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