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Hundreds attend vigil to mark Finucane anniversary

Thursday, 12 February 2009

Hundreds of people attended a candle-lit vigil in Belfast last night to mark the 20th anniversary of the murder of Belfast solicitor Pat Finucane.

The 39-year-old, who represented a number of alleged IRA members in court, was shot dead in front of his wife and three children on February 12th, 1989.

Police inquiries have already discovered that the UDA man who pulled the trigger was an informer for the RUC Special Branch, as was the man who provided him with the murder weapon.

A British Army agent also scouted the house to prepare for the killing.

The British Government has offered to hold a public inquiry into the murder, but the Finucane family are refusing to co-operate with the process because it would allow crucial evidence to be kept secret.

They say they will accept nothing short of a fully independent inquiry with no restrictions.

A series of debates and protests is taking place in the today to mark the anniversary, while a conference will also be held this weekend at Trinity College Dublin, where Mr Finucane studied law.

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