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CCTV 'captures murder suspect buying hammer'

Friday, 13 March 2009

Detectives have obtained CCTV images which allegedly show a murder suspect buying the sledgehammer used by a gang who killed loyalist paramilitary leader Tommy English, the High Court has been told.

Prosecutors revealed that the Anti-Terrorist Branch at Scotland Yard has supplied five still photographs to the investigation team.

They claimed the man in the intelligence clips is David 'Reggie' Miller — one of 11 men accused in connection with Mr English's murder in October 2000.

Details were disclosed as Miller (37) and John Bond (42), both from Mount Vernon, north Belfast, were refused bail.

Both men have been charged with murdering Mr English and with membership of the UVF. They deny the alleged offences and claim to have alibis.

During their bail application it emerged that photographs have been sent to the Historical Enquiries Team (HET).

Crown counsel Sheena Mahaffey confirmed they showed the purchase of a sledgehammer from a shop in the New Mossley estate on the outskirts of Belfast.

She said: "The prosecution case is that the person in the five photographs is believed to be the applicant Miller."

Mrs Mahaffey also revealed that HET detectives will be meeting experts in England next week to analyse the images.

Mr English (40) was gunned down in front of his wife at their home on the Ballyduff estate just outside north Belfast during a bloody UDA-UVF feud which claimed seven lives.

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