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# Irish Minister 'regrets' representations for Real IRA chief

Monday, 19 January 2009

The Republic's Justice Minister Dermot Ahern yesterday said he "regrets" his representations for a Real IRA chief if it upset relatives of the Omagh bomb victims.

Mr Ahern attempted to play down the substantial embarrassment over his letters on behalf of Michael McKevitt by claiming he was only passing on an email for a constituent.

But the opposition said Mr Ahern's actions were "ill-judged".

Mr Ahern made the inquiries to his predecessor in the Department of Justice on behalf of the head of the dissident group responsible for the Omagh bombing almost five years ago. At the time, Mr Ahern was the Communications Minister.

But representatives of the Omagh Victims Group are said to be angered.

The minister does not feel he has to apologise but does regret if he upset families of Real IRA victims, a spokesman said.

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Hey Collie, you need to widen your horizons.....I bet your the sort of person who lives i his little republican stronghold, wears a celtic top, has no protestant friends.....hey, you probably dont even have a passport! Grow up....it takes two to tango!

Posted by Gary | 19.01.09, 11:11 GMT

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Collie, always someone else's fault isn't it? Never Republicans or Republican terror groups. It's the Brits fault the IRA maimed and killed men, women & children of all religions and none.....

As for who governs "ireland". I couldn't be sure, but isn't there a Dublin government which presides over Southern Ireland? NI also has its own devolved Government (which isn't without its flaws-but then few Govts are).

I hope this placates you.

Posted by mickey | 19.01.09, 09:54 GMT

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Oh get over yourself C McDermott! Way to move on!! All that bitterness you feel must be ripping you apart!

Posted by HAM | 19.01.09, 09:49 GMT

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The British should be the ones to apologize. They caused all the problems by arrogantly dividing Ireland in two against the wishes of the majority of the people. By doing so they discarded their responsibilities and passed on the search for a solution to future generations. The solution is simple: Britain leaves Ireland to rule itself.

Posted by Collie McDermott | 19.01.09, 09:23 GMT

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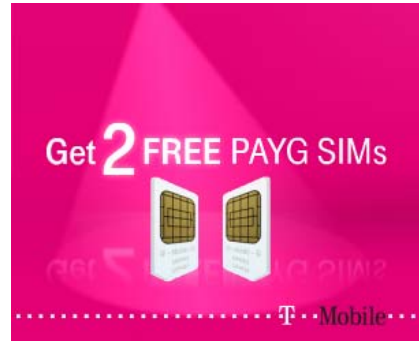
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