

[CLICK HERE](#)

to find out more



BELFAST TELEGRAPH

tv



ADVERTISEMENT

Belfast Telegraph - IPR Website of the Year

[Search Site](#)

[Advanced Search](#)

- [Loadzajobs.co.uk](#)
- [Propertynews.com](#)
- [Belfast Telegraph TV](#)

Belfast Telegraph

- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- **Breaking News**
- [World](#)
- [Ireland](#)
 - [Business](#)
 - [Entertainment](#)
 - **Politics**
- [Sport](#)
- [Northwest Edition](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Business Telegraph](#)
- [Sport](#)
- [Features](#)
- [Columnists](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Homefinder](#)
- [Family Notices](#)
- [Weather](#)

[Home](#) > [Breaking News](#) > [Ireland](#) > [Politics](#)

Politics

Victims commission would demonise security forces, claims DUP

Tuesday, February 20, 2007

A victims' commission investigating Northern Ireland's conflict would demonise members of the security forces and gloss over paramilitary atrocities, it was claimed today.

Sammy Wilson from Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party was responding to Sinn Fein's call for soldiers and police to be brought to book for troubles atrocities.

The chairman of the Northern Ireland Policing Board, Desmond Rea, today urged the Northern Ireland Office to install a commission investigating past atrocities.

Mr Wilson said: "I don't believe we can keep on going down the road of public inquiry after public inquiry or of Police Ombudsman Nuala O'Loan hounding the police.






"At the same time, after republicans engaged in murderous activities they don't even get touched.

"We need a more balanced way of looking at the past and I am not so sure that what Des Rea is suggesting is likely to produce that because it would be voluntary and there would be pressure on the state and the police to explain what they did in the past and no pressure on the Provos (IRA)."

Rea, who is in charge of scrutinising police performance along with other board members, said there needed to be an inclusive commission for dealing with the 25 year-long troubles.

Discussion in the past has centred on a South African-style truth commission allowing perpetrators to meet with their victims as well as addressing the legacy of violence and trauma.

Foyle Sinn Fein Assembly candidate Raymond McCartney said that the British Government should be treated as a combatant.

-  Email Article
-  Print Version
-  Search
-  +Most Emailed
-  +Most Read

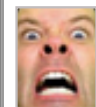
Don't miss . . .

New JFK video



President happy 90 seconds before assassination

Top tips to beat stress



Simple ways to stay calm and improve working life

Crocker clash



Emotions high as England return to scene of massacre

Meet Mr Happy



Neuroscientists say he is the happiest man ever tested

ADVERTISEMENTS

[Archive](#)

[Calendar 2007](#)

Inside Belfast

[Jobs](#)

[Training](#)

[Dating](#)

[Gaming](#)

[Reader Offers](#)

[Diners' Club](#)

Services

[RSS](#)

[Media Kit](#)

Other Titles

[Sunday Life](#)

[Ireland's Saturday Night](#)

"We believe that any process must be victim-centred. It must not be controlled or directed by the British Government who are one of the combatant groups."

Mr McCartney added that the commission must be independent and should include international members.

Nationalist SDLP justice spokesman Alban Maginnis said any truth recovery process should be victim-centred and involve prosecutions.

"All victims must have the right to record what happened to them - and how it impacted upon their lives," he said.

More articles in Politics

- [Rabbitte accuses McDowell of deceit following Bill's defeat](#)
- [Ahern to meet with Bush twice on US visit](#)
- [Emergency legislation to close risk equalisation loophole](#)
- [Transport minister urges speedy solution to Shannon dispute](#)
- [Paisley: DUP hold veto on power-sharing with SF](#)



Letters to the Editor
[Click Here](#)



Belfast Telegraph

Online Cinema Listings
[Click here](#)

ADVERTISEMENTS



NEW



tv

BELFAST TELEGRAPH

ADVERTISEMENTS

