



THE BELFAST TELEGRAPH WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU.

AGE For travel insurance...

- News Sport Business Opinion Life & Style Entertainment Jobs Cars Homes Classified

- Local & National World Politics Property Health Education Business Environment Technology Video Family Notices Crime Map Sunday Life The CT

The digital gateway to Northern Ireland news, sport, business, entertainment and opinion

Home > News > Local & National

# Top officer denies being told to keep evidence from Wright probe

By Lisa Smyth  
Saturday, 7 February 2009

One of Ulster's highest ranking PSNI officers has denied he was ordered to withhold evidence from the Billy Wright Inquiry.

Assistant Chief Constable Alistair Finlay was giving evidence at the public investigation yesterday into the murder of the notorious LVF killer in the Maze prison in 1997.

He also revealed that Chief Constable Sir Hugh Orde ordered a review of the PSNI's contribution to the inquiry after suspicions were raised that some people were deliberately withholding evidence.

Speaking at Banbridge Court yesterday, ACC Finlay refuted the suggestion that he deliberately failed to provide all the intelligence in his possession surrounding the killing.

Counsel for the Wright family asked: "Were you directed by anyone that there were certain pieces of information, protected for security reasons, national security reasons, or for the protection of agents, that should not be handed over?"

"Absolutely not," he replied.

ACC Finlay was asked whether he thought there may have been people within the PSNI who suppressed information that should have been made available to the inquiry after the panel complained in 2007 that it believed there was missing information.

He replied: "That was considered. I reported this to the Chief Constable and he ordered Kincaid to order a review to quality assure to the searches that had been undertaken."

ACC Finlay added that if police officers had been aware of a threat against the life of Wright, they would have passed this information onto him.

He said: "You will find many detective officers are fully frustrated by the fact that they were not given information by Special Branch which may have assisted them in their enquiries over a particular crime."

He added that while there was intelligence available regarding the fact that at least five senior ranking INLA members met at a house in Belfast, the incident in itself would not necessarily have been considered significant enough to merit any further investigation.

Print Email Search Go Bookmark & Share Digg It del.icio.us Facebook Stumbleupon What are these? Change font size: A A A

## In Pictures: All Our Yesterdays



Ulster under snow

MORTGAGE RATES ARE CHANGING COMPARE RATES NOW! CLICK YOUR LOAN REMORTGAGE FIRST TIME BUYER PURCHASE BUY TO LET simplyfinance.co.uk

### Post a comment

Limit: 500 characters, left: 1000

View all comments that have been posted about this article

\* Name (only this field displayed) \* Email \* Town/City \* Country/State

orange pay monthly buy online for just £29.36 per month

Offensive or abusive comments will be removed and your IP address

\* Required field

Remember Me

Post

logged and may be used to prevent further submissions. In submitting a comment to the site, you agree to be bound by BelfastTelegraph.co.uk's [Terms of Use](#).

Posts submitted in UPPERCASE letters will be rejected.

### Also in this section

- [Trade unionists launch boycott of Israeli goods](#)
- [Belfast named one of UK's most romantic cities](#)
- [Queen's surging forward to develop wave power station](#)
- [Schools 'will ignore Ruane guidelines'](#)
- [Radar search starts for babies' graves](#)

Results by

[Martin Phillips Carpets](#)

Carpets, Wooden Floors  
And Laminate

[Carpets & Rugs - Retail  
& Repair](#)

[Classic Mineral Water](#)

Suppliers Of Water  
Coolers, Mineral Water To  
Commercial & Domestic  
Premises

[Water Coolers](#)

[C.I.T.B.](#)

Northern Ireland  
Construction Industry  
Training Provider, Health &  
Safety Training

[Training Services](#)

[Woodford Medical  
Services](#)

Microdermabrasion, Agera  
Medical Skin Care, Thread  
Veins & Mole Removal,  
Facial Line Softening.. ...

[Beauty Salons](#)

[Chambers Coach Hire  
Ltd](#)

Coach Hire, Covering All  
Ireland And Europe.

[Coach Hire](#)

### Northern Ireland Troubles Gallery



1988 - Corporals stripped, beaten and shot dead

### In Pictures: Northern Ireland Nightlife



Had a big night out? Click here to send us your pics

### In Pictures: Fashion & Showbiz



What's hot on the catwalks

### Most popular

1. [In Pictures: Australia's deadliest bushfires](#)

kill 171

2. Lucy Pinder's hot tips for lovers to save energy
3. In Pictures: Tough Guy Challenge 2009 - world's ultimate endurance test
4. Australian fires: 'He had skin hanging off him everywhere'
5. In Pictures: Baftas 2009 - Kate wins it again
6. Houses selling as property market picks up
7. Barefoot girl, 5, found walking alone in snow
8. In Pictures: Pussycat Dolls, Kings Hall, Belfast
9. Environment Minister Sammy Wilson bans adverts warning of the effects of climate change
10. Bible-reading strongman convicted of 17 sex charges

Call free: **0800 4402942**  
Visit: **www.Chooboo.com**



Results by

**[Dial-A-Bus](#)**

Corporate luxury coach hire company, chauffeur driven limousines, extensive luxury fleet

**[Coach Hire](#)**

**[Hot Limos](#)**

Hen / Stag Nights, Parties, Luxury Cruising, All Occasions.

**[Limousine Hire](#)**

**[C & J Flooring Contractors](#)**

Commercial Contractors for Nightclubs and Hotels

**[Flooring Services](#)**

**[CT Plastering](#)**

Interior & Exterior, Commercial & Domestic, Free Estimates & Advice


**[Plastering & Screeding](#)**

**[Britannia-Ryans Move International](#)**

Domestic, Office, Commercial, UK, Europe, Worldwide, Packing & Insurance, Secure Storage

**[Removals - Overseas](#)**

Starting a Business?



Search  **Advanced Search** ▶