



• Newsletter Sign up for email alerts and WIN a helicopter flight

Hotels.com wake up happy

Click here

• News

- Jobs
- Cars
- Property
- Other Titles
- Services

- Local & National
- World News
- Politics
- Property
- Health
- Education
- Business
- Environment
- Technology
- Belfast Telegraph Television
- Family Notices

By Chris Thornton
Friday, 8 August 2008

Brothers from Newtownabbey appeared in court yesterday accused of murdering UDA boss Tommy English during a bloody loyalist feud eight years ago.

Social worker Ian David Stewart (38) and Robert John Stewart (34) are charged with gunning down the UDA man in front of his wife on Hallowe'en night in 2000.

They are also accused of being UVF members for more than a decade.

The hearing at Belfast Magistrates Court signalled a potential breakthrough for the special police squad set up to pursue a notorious North Belfast UVF gang.

The murder charges were the first brought by the unit within the Historical Enquiries Team, which is reviewing unsolved Troubles murders.

Print Email

Search



Bookmark & Share

Digg It

del.icio.us

Facebook

Stumbleupon

nibusinessinfo.co.uk is provided by Invest NI and part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund.

NIBUSINESS INFO.CO.UK

Practical Advice for Business

The unit was set up last year to look into a series of murders by the UVF's Mount Vernon gang. In her scathing report on the activities of police informer Mark Haddock, former Police Ombudsman Nuala O'Loan had called for further investigation of 17 murders — including the murder of English — and 14 attempted murders.

What are these?

The Stewart brothers were remanded in custody at yesterday's hearing.

If convicted of the English murder, they would not be entitled to early release under the Good Friday Agreement, since the killing took place after that agreement was reached.

The court heard that Ian David Stewart, from Ballyearl Crescent, is accused of being a UVF member since 1996.

Younger brother Robert John Stewart, from Carntall Rise, is alleged to have been a UVF member since 1994, the year the outlawed group declared its ceasefire.

The brothers spoke during the hearing only to confirm that they understood the charges.

HET Detective Inspector Mary Mooney told the court she could connect the accused with the charges.

English's death came during a bloody feud between the UVF and UDA which left seven people dead.

English was a former member of the Ulster Democratic Party's delegation to the Agreement talks and was reputed to be the UDA's North Belfast brigadier, although he had been ousted from that position at the time of his death.

The Stewart brothers are due for a second court hearing via video link on September 4.

Post a comment

Limit: 500 characters

[View all comments](#) that have been posted about this article

* Name (only this field displayed)

* Email

* Town/City

* Country/State

Offensive or abusive comments will be removed and your IP address 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](#)

* Required field

Remember Me

Also in this section

- [How you could star in a Snow Patrol video](#)
- [McGuinness and Paisley avoid court over victims post](#)
- [Ulster hopefuls aiming for the biggest prize in sport](#)
- [Belfast demo sends a message to China](#)
- [Belsonic is this year's biggest outdoor music festival in Belfast](#)

