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Victims group to picket McGuinness home



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Victims campaigner Willie Frazer has told the 'Journal' he intends to travel to Derry to confront Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness on the doorstep of his Bogside home.

Mr.Frazer, spokesperson for Families Acting for Innocent Relatives (FAIR), says he hasn't ruled out staging a mass protest - involving families of those killed by the IRA during the Troubles - outside the Sinn Fein MP's home .

Mr Frazer says he has written to the Deputy First Minister on several occasions requesting a meeting but has yet to receive a reply.

He told the 'Journal': "We have written to him a number of times and waited for a reply but, as yet, we have not even received a response.

If we do not hear anything back by next week then we may have to go to Martin McGuinness' home and confront him on his doorstep," Mr Frazer said.

The south Armagh man, who unsuccessfully contested the last Assembly elections in the Foyle constituency, says the fact that his organisation is prepared to take such action is "evidence of our frustration."

"The relatives of the people who have been murdered by the republican movement are fed up being ignored," he said. "The people who murdered their loved ones are the very same people who are

responsible for looking after victims' needs and yet they won't speak to us," he said.

Mr Frazer, denying that his plan to stage a protest in the Bogside area is a provocative move, does acknowledge that it would be difficult to police.

Not Provocation

"This is not meant to be provocative. It is Sinn Féin that is being provocative by ignoring victims. We don't intend to go there to cause trouble or start a riot. It would not be a crowd of young people looking for Trouble. It would be widows of those murdered by the IRA - people in wheelchairs and others who have been injured.

"It would be up to the police to protect us. They would have to have as many people there as necessary. If anyone got injured, then it would not be our fault. We do not want to do this but we are running out of options. If Martin McGuinness wants to avoid this, he knows what to do; he can reply to our letters."

Willie Frazer has caused controversy in the past by suggesting loyalist paramilitaries should not have been sent to jail and by declaring he had "a lot of time" for notorious killer Billy Wright. He also had an application for a personal protection firearm turned down because of his alleged association with loyalist terrorist organisation.

At the time of going to press last night, Sinn Féin had not responded to Mr Frazer's claims.

Last Updated: 14 September 2007 9:50 AM

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,

14/09/2007 11:57:05

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derrymucker,

Glasgow 14/09/2007 15:00:38

willie frazer should wise up stop acting like a prat why doesn't he go to the loyalists and demand a meeting with them He also had an application for a personal protection firearm turned down because of his alleged association with loyalist terrorist organisation. any wonder why he was turned down, look at the uda who are still active, willie frazer catch yerself on if ye think you can go to martin mcguinness house and protest gone away and play with the buses

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boxingmad,

Derry 15/09/2007 14:08:29

Wee Ginga Wille went to a catholic school believe it or not, Frazer had said of loyalist paramilitary prisoners that "They should never have been locked up in the first place", and that he had "a lot of time for Billy Wright." Frazer, a member of the Orange Order and of the Apprentice Boys, has defended security force collusion with loyalist paramilitaries. "He applied for a weapon for his personal protection and was turned down in 2003 because, according to police, of "reliable intelligence" that he "associated with loyalist terrorist organisations". He denied it and sought a judicial review - it was refused in 2004." In January 2007 Frazer dismissed Police Ombudsman Nuala O'Loan's report into security force collusion with loyalist paramilitaries.

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dadeza,

port glasgow 16/09/2007 10:24:16

am sure vol wullie frazer of the uda/uff/uvf apologised brigade would get a warm welcome from the bogsiders, who would of course ignore the murders and attempted murders of innocent nationalists by these groups, and hand out tea and biscuits to frazer and his supporters, just like the ordinary people of dublin last year, wising up you clown the last thing that nationalist families want to see is loyalist supporters and families of their armed militia standing on their doorstep wanting sympathy.

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Tottenham Boy,

Londonderry 17/09/2007 11:51:53

To all of the above, victims of IRA violence have a right to be heard. Republicans are very vocal when it comes to Catholics who suffered. You remain silent/ ignore to the suffering inflicted on Protestants by the "Brave Masked Man of the IRA". Victims of Republican violence have every right to highlight their pain. Nationalists need to accept the IRA were/are no better than the Loyalists you rightly condemn. Willie Frazier had family murdered by the Provos, he is a victim. Vol McGuinness has a lot to answer for. The IRA were not saints, they were cold blooded killers. They even managed to murder more Catholics (while claiming to be their defenders) than all other parties involved in the troubles. Aye, Great bunch a lads they are!!!

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