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## Families intensify campaign for justice

By Marie Louise McCrory West Belfast Correspondent

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CAMPAIGN: Briedge Voyle, left and Carmel Quinn with Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams at yesterday's leaflet launch

PICTURE: Declan Roughan

The families of 11 people killed on the streets of west Belfast in the aftermath of internment have intensified their campaign for justice by publishing a booklet about the killings.

The Ballymurphy Massacre Group, supported by Relatives for Justice, launched the leaflet yesterday in the hope it will publicise their cause and help them take their campaign to Downing Street.


The group want an independent inquiry into the killing of their relatives and a public apology from the British government. Eleven people were shot and killed by the British Army in the days following the introduction of internment on Monday August 9 1971 when widespread violence ensued. A Catholic priest and a mother-of-eight were among those who lost their lives. Carmel Quinn, who lost her brother John Laverty (20), said the families wanted "truth and justice".

"We are the families of 11 innocent people and we want the British government to know we will not be silenced," she said.

Sinn Féin MP Gerry Adams, who is supporting the relatives, said the Ballymurphy families "deserve public acknowledgement of the terrible events which took so many lives and traumatised so many others.

"Their demand for an independent, international investigation is entirely justified."

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