

Friday 20 March 2009

**NORTHERN IRELANDS LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY**

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**DUP NEWS****Latest News:****Murderer apologists protest slammed**

South Antrim DUP Member of Parliament William McCrea has slammed dissident Republicans for the protest they held today outside Antrim PSNI station. The dissident republicans were also protesting against the length of pre-trial detention for terrorist suspects. Dr. McCrea said,

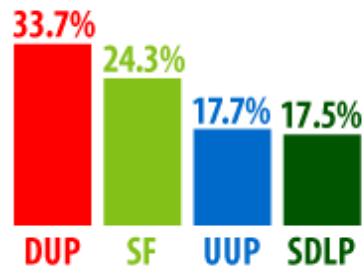


*"These vile people have clearly no shame whatsoever. One of the innocent soldiers who was cut down in cold blood by the terrorist criminals they seek to defend hasn't even been afforded a funeral service and burial yet and here we have these callous individuals protesting on the streets of Antrim. Why pick Antrim for a protest? Why single this town out? People know the answer to these questions. They single out Antrim because of the double murder that happened at Masserene Barracks.*

*This despicable protest event was designed to cause maximum offence to people throughout the community. Those responsible for it have no support whatsoever within the Antrim area and are held in contempt by the community in Antrim, as is the case throughout Northern Ireland. Our area has suffered enough recently without them trying to rub salt in the wounds with their disgusting behaviour.*

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*One of the issues these apologists for murderers claimed to be protesting against was the length of pre-trial detention for terrorist suspects. I was proud to support measures extending that period and I hope they are used as a valuable and useful weapon to help break the back of the dissident republican groups.*

*The police have the full support of the community in Antrim. Protests by these apologists for murder are not reflective of what local people think. These people should stay away from Antrim in future. They and their poisonous sectarian politics aren't wanted here. We will not allow them to drag us back into the tragedy of the past, but rather they must be defeated to allow Northern Ireland to live in peace."*

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