

Monday 9 February 2009

NORTHERN IRELANDS LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY

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DUP NEWS**Latest News:****Police Federation out of touch with membership on Eames-Bradley**

South Belfast DUP MLA and NI Policing Board member Jimmy Spratt has expressed disappointment at the Northern Ireland Police Federation after they stated their satisfaction that the Eames Bradley Report does not equate murdered RUC officers and terrorists. Commenting, Mr Spratt, a former Chairman of the NI Police Federation, said:

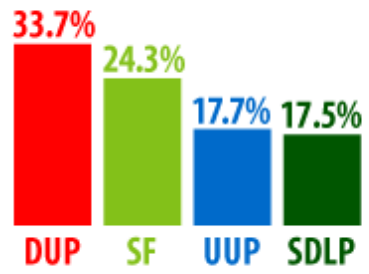


"The statement by the Police Federation, stating a belief that no moral equivalent has been drawn between murdered RUC officers and terrorists, is not reflective of the belief held, and subsequent hurt and anger, amongst members of the Federation caused by the Eames Bradley proposals.

It is clear that what Eames Bradley have done, by offering a payment of £12000 to all relatives of everyone killed regardless of circumstances and status, is to remove any distinction between terrorists and the victims of terrorism. I know, from speaking to the families of murdered colleagues, that they find this proposal deeply offensive and immoral. There can never be any equivalence between those who donned a uniform and paid the ultimate sacrifice in upholding law and order, and those who set out with murder and mayhem in mind as paramilitaries.

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I would call on the Police Federation to actually listen to what their membership is saying and take on board the palatable anger amongst membership at these proposals."

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