

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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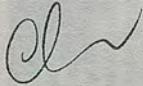
Confidential

Murder of Mr. Seamus McEvoy

This murder was mentioned to us by D/Justice yesterday afternoon. At the time, although the question of subversive involvement was raised, neither the Gardai nor RUC had any such indication and thought it unlikely. Subsequently, information came to light which is reflected in news items in this morning's press and radio.

Mr. McEvoy's main place of residence was Tyrone. His flat in Eglinton Rd. was used occasionally. Mr. McEvoy had assisted in the building of the RUC station at Carrickmore and had supplied Portakabins to it. He had been the victim of several attempts to intimidate since at least October 1977 when shots were fired through his front door (in Tyrone). The other incidents involved attempts to set fire to his timber yard. A member of the IRA had admitted involvement in one of these attempts.

Enquiries are continuing. IRA involvement is not yet regarded as certain. The attached 'warning' to builders in the current issue of An Phoblacht is, however, noteworthy.



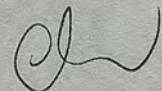
Declan O'Donovan

21 August 1985

c.c. PSM
PSS
Mr. Lillis
Mr. Sharkey

PS.

The Provo statement claiming responsibility became available about noon and is attached. Press enquiries have been referred to Justice.



An photoblast,
25/4/85
WJ/B

Reports denied

THREE WEEKS ago, *Sunday Times* hack reporter Chris Ryder had a story published alleging that there was a serious rift in the IRA over disagreements with Sinn Fein's electoral intervention. Due to Ryder's track record of being a press agent for the British army's black propaganda machine, no serious journalists took up the inflated story.

Keen to attempt to create confusion before the May elections, the *Sunday Times* again printed the same Ryder story last Sunday with some embellishments on names, details and photographs of republicans (which were actually RUC photographs taken in interrogation centres). The story, which named as dissident breakaway republican veterans such as Billy McKee, Seamus Twomey,

Daithi O Conaill, Jimmy Drumm and Joe Cahill, has since been reprinted by some other papers.

Repudiating the allegation that there was a split, the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau, Dublin, said in a statement:

"The stories emanating from British and RUC sources that there is a split in the IRA are totally untrue, although an incident in Belfast is being used as the main hook to support the allegations.

"The fact of the matter is that in Belfast two Volunteers have been dismissed for disciplinary offences and three others are having their cases considered. Our enemies will be disappointed to hear that their propaganda attempts to sow confusion have failed."

While most informed republicans are totally aware of what is going on, other republicans who are not so well-informed are the main target of the black propaganda. H-Block escapee, Brendan McFarlane (one of those named as being disenchanted with republican strategy) and all of the senior republicans named have totally dismissed the reports as rubbish.

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by Hennessy, London

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