



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

NEWS RELEASE

29 January 1997

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

25th ANNIVERSARY OF BLOODY SUNDAY

30th JANUARY 1972 - 30th JANUARY 1997

Today John Hume MP, Leader of the SDLP, and his colleagues, supported by about 50 Members of Parliament put down a motion to appear on the House of Commons Order Paper on Thursday 30th January - the 25th anniversary of Bloody Sunday - calling for a re-examination of the events leading to the deaths of 13 people in Derry on 30th January 1972.

Mr Hume drew particular attention to both the memo from the then Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Heath MP to the Lord Chief Justice at the time Lord Widgery, in which he stated that *"it had to be remembered that we were in Northern Ireland fighting not only a military war but a propaganda war"*, and to the Lord Chief Justice's reply.

Prompted by this together with recent revelations that some of the demonstrators were killed by shots from the walls of Derry and not from ground level, as well as recordings of radio traffic from the British Army, Mr Hume said today:

"There is now an overwhelming case for the circumstances surrounding the whole tragedy of Bloody Sunday to be re-examined."

(ENDS)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT MARK DURKIN C/O JOHN HUME MP ON 01504 265340 (OR KEVIN McNAMARA MP ON 0171 2195194).