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MAGINNESS - FULL TRUTH OF FINUCANE MURDER MUST COME OUT

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SDLP Justice Spokesperson and North Belfast MLA Alban Maginness has criticised the British Government after it was revealed that they have been secretly blocking attempts to hold an inquiry into the murder of Pat Finucane for almost two years. Mr Maginness stated:

“The underhand manner in which the British Government has acted with regard to this matter and their blatant disregard for the principles of truth and justice has caused great anger.

The news that they have secretly blocked preparations for any inquiry for almost two years only further highlights the fact that there is a case to answer, there is a need for transparency and that unilateral attempts to silence the truth cannot be tolerated. Light must be shone into the darkest corners. The Government should not be allowed to use the flawed inquiries act to police any of this information coming out. Half an inquiry will not satisfy. A censored inquiry will not be tolerated.

This news also brings into question the wisdom and motivation of those who claimed back in 2004 that they had negotiated a full independent inquiry with the British Government into the murder of Pat Finucane. Their damaging naivety should also be questioned today.

For too long now the British Government have hesitated, side stepped, and attempted to pull the wool over people's eyes about their intentions towards an inquiry. The international community, Judge Peter Cory, the Irish Government, the SDLP, and most importantly the family, are clear that only a full, independent, and public inquiry will suffice. That is the only standard of justice that can be accepted.”

ENDS

24-04-08

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