



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Why should Martin McGuinness as First Minister alarm those who told us all that Sinn Fein had radically changed and was ready for Government?

Ed Curran of The 'Belfast Telegraph' penned an article dated 25th January, 2010, and entitled: "The spectre of Martin McGuinness as First Minister and Sinn Fein as the strongest party is surely starting to focus minds at Stormont." Just why should McGuinness in the office of First Minister be such a terrifying prospect?

Since the election campaign in 2007, which preceded the setting up of the powersharing executive between the DUP and Sinn Fein/IRA, unionists have been told that such has been the change in the heart and the mind of the republicans who had mounted a 30-year war of terror and murder and rapine, that they were now ready for government and indeed that as the partners of those who but months before were telling us all in Northern Ireland that they could come to such a position only over the dead body of Dr Ian Paisley, the leader of the DUP! Indeed, Dr Paisley welcomed Martin McGuinness into the position of Deputy First Minister, an office of EQUAL POWER AND AUTHORITY to that of his own office as First Minister.

WHY THEN SHOULD UNIONISTS NOW BE ALARMED AT THE PROSPECT OF McGUINNESS HOLDING THE OFFICE OF FIRST MINISTER?

The truth of the matter is that even that "doyen" of newspaper liberality, Ed Curran, does not believe that McGuinness and Sinn Fein/IRA are truly fit for government. The political garments of Sinn Fein/IRA still bear the ineradicable stains of decades of crimes most terrible. It was a crime against truth, a crime against morality, a crime against justice, a crime against history when McGuinness and his party were presented by the DUP and the "liberal" press in Northern Ireland as being suitable for the high office into which he was placed with the connivance of both.

How hypocritical is the cry now being uttered by Curran, and doubtless, his howls are but a foreshadowing of the inevitable forthcoming election campaign slogans of the DUP. I earnestly pray that the eyes of Ulster Christians at least will be opened to the ongoing deceit that corrupts the heart of Ulster politics.

Rev Ivan Foster.
27th January, 2010.