



# The Burning Bush - Online article archive

## The Retirement of Martin McGuinness

***A chance to re-write history and white-wash a villain!***



**The real Martin McGuinness**

It has long been the ambition and the goal of Sinn Fein/IRA to rewrite the history of Northern Ireland as far as the activities of the IRA are concerned.

They have ever tried to exonerate themselves by seeking to justify their terrorist war by alleging that such was the treatment of Roman Catholics in the years between 1921 and the beginning of their terrorism in 1968, that Irish Republicans had no option but to engage in the war of terror that they inflicted on the people of Northern Ireland, Protestant and Roman Catholic.

1. Unfortunately for them, the majority of Roman Catholics did not see things their way. It was only after they ceased their overt terrorism that political support for Sinn Fein grew and they nudged out the more democratic Nationalist party that is the Social Democratic and Labour Party, from being the biggest nationalist party.

2. Furthermore, the Roman Catholic Church denounced the terrorism of the IRA. Without their Church's endorsement it was always going to be difficult for Sinn Fein/IRA to justify its activities.

Protestants always were inclined to take with a pinch of salt the denunciations of the IRA by Roman Catholic leaders. That was because too many priests were openly linked with Sinn Fein/IRA and also there were occasions when providence exposed the active participation of priests in IRA terrorism, and that despite the efforts of Police chiefs, Cardinals and Westminster politicians to keep such activists secret!

See the following articles about Roman Catholic Priests' involvement in IRA terrorism:

- **'Three more IRA priests in Claudy link'**
- **Wikipedia article on 'Fr.' Patrick Ryan**
- **'Roman Catholic priests involvement in Terrorism'**

3. The Republic of Ireland, into which Republic the IRA wished to force Northern Ireland, never endorsed the IRA campaign. Again, there often was a great difference between the official and public stance of the Irish Republic's spokesmen and the suppressed and concealed sympathy of Irish politicians for McGuinness and his henchmen.

Nevertheless, the police force of the Republic of Ireland engaged in a fairly sustained effort, in tandem with the Royal Ulster Constabulary and later its replacement, the Police Service of Northern Ireland, in combatting the IRA. Their efforts were not without fault for there were in their ranks those who approved of the IRA's campaign.

Despite this, there has been a copious misting of many eyes at the announcement of Martin McGuinness's retirement because of illness. Distortion of the memory of all too many has taken place. The abhorrence so often expressed by many at the callous and bloodthirsty actions of McGuinness and his fellow Sinn Feiners seems to have been erased.

Suddenly, to Roman Catholics and all too many Protestants, he is a wonderful statesman whose actions in his latter years were most commendable because of the lives saved by his change of public political stance and the future that his changed role secured!



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To me, and I am sure to many others, I felt a retort rise in my throat as I heard and read the fulsome praise. "Have you taken leave of your senses? It was he and his ilk who caused the terror, the deaths, the mayhem in our Province for over 30 years. What praise is due to the man who ceases to promote murder, who ceases to terrorise, who ceases to lie (to the degree he had) and ceases to steal!"

Because after decades of IRA terrorism - in which he still takes pride - he moved to an imperfect ceasefire are we, in hysterical gratitude, to forget the 1800 his IRA slaughtered?

Should the Jews rejoice and honour as a wonderful act of humanity Adolf Hitler committing suicide when he shot himself and effectively brought an end to the regime that did to death 6 million of their nation?

I think not. Nor is it right to hold up in honour Martin McGuinness because he ceased to be openly involved in murder and became active in field of political activity that his time as a terrorist made possible. Without his terrorism McGuinness would never have been heard of!

### RHI

Of late McGuinness and his party have been complaining about the shameful waste of money involved in the the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) scheme. It is a shameful affair and the fulness of its corruptions have yet to be seen, but the money wasted on it fades into nothingness when put alongside the expenditure in lives, grief and heartache, property, employment and financial cost that 30 years of IRA terror have cost Ulster!

That is all forgotten, ignored, buried by the crowd now lining up to cheer good old terrorist Martin!

### UNREPENTANT

Please remember he remains an utterly unrepentant IRA terrorist. As such he will ever remain as long as he retains his proud reckoning of his life's achievements!

Never once has McGuinness, or his fellow Sinn Feiners, said that what they did during the years of terror was wrong. Rather, McGuinness has voiced his pride in his actions over the last 50 years and that no longer than a few days ago. Here is part of the statement he issued when announcing his retirement.

*"I have been privileged to be part of the generation that broke that apartheid state apart and to have been part of a Sinn Féin leadership that delivered peace and radical change. There are more republicans today than at any time in my generation."*

Naturally, he carefully picks his words but none can deny that he is here saying that he is proud of the part he played as an IRA terrorist during his career.

Below is an extract from an interview published in the **Daily Mail**:

*Asked whether he regretted his role during the Troubles, when more than 3,500 people were killed, he told the BBC: 'People have to consider the circumstances in this city when I did join the IRA.*

*'We had a city where people were being murdered by the RUC, where they were being murdered wholesale, as they were on Bloody Sunday, by the Parachute Regiment.*

*'And the fact that many young people like myself, supported by many thousands of people – I'm not saying it was a majority – decided to fight back, I don't regret any of that.'*

And yet some Protestants have most foolishly chosen to join him in his self-congratulations. They own and echo them with their own fawning endorsements of which **this is an example**.

All I can say of such sentiments and the like is SHAME!



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It is a case of that of which the prophet foretold.

“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!” Isaiah 5:20-21.

Praising the likes of McGuinness may get a person a headline in the ecumenical press but it will also bring down God’s WOE upon one’s head!

Ivan Foster.

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