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## LOCAL NEWS



Murder scene

Friday 05 December 2008 16:15

## **UVF** carried out internal inquiry into murders of teenagers

The UVF conducted an internal investigation into the murders of two Portadown teenagers, a court has heard.

Details of the alleged investigation emerged during Crown witness Mark Burcombe`s fifth day in the witness box at Belfast Crown Court.

The 28-year-old is giving evidence against former friend Steven Leslie Brown, also known as Steven Leslie Revels, who has been charged with but denies murdering Andrew Robb and David McIlwaine.

Andrew (19) and 18-year-old David were lured from a house in Tandragee to an isolated country road on the outskirts of the Co Armagh town were they were stabbed to death in the early hours of February 19, 2000.

Mr Burcombe has already told the trial he was present on the country road when Andrew and David were murdered but denies

involvement.

He told Friday's hearing that prior to talking to the PSNI about the murders in November 2005, he sought advice from a community worker and 'Christian man' from Portadown who had contact with loyalist paramilitaries.

Mr Burcombe told the court "I wanted to know if I gave information to the police would my family be attacked."

The witness said he learned through this community worker that the UVF - who were accused at the time of committing the murders in retaliation for the recent killing of Richard Jameson - had launched an internal investigation and named a senior UVF man based on Belfast`s Shankill Road as heading the investigation.



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