



FOOTIE CHANTS
The funniest, cleverest and downright insulting

Big Walk Week.
Starts Sat 28th March - Sat 4th April 2009. [Click for details.](#)

News	Sport	Business	Opinion	Life & Style	Entertainment	Jobs	Cars	Homes	Classified				
Local & National	World	Politics	Property	Health	Education	Business	Environment	Technology	Video	Family Notices	Crime Map	Sunday Life	The CT

The digital gateway to Northern Ireland news, sport, business, entertainment and opinion

[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Local & National](#)

Dissident republican suspects win legal challenge

By David Gordon
Wednesday, 25 March 2009

Six people arrested over the dissident republican murders of two soldiers and a police officer today won a legal challenge against their continuing detention.

Four suspects in the soldier murders — including prominent republican Colin Duffy — were released.

A PSNI spokeswoman said: "This remains a live and active major investigation and detectives are following a number of definite lines of inquiry."

The released men were among those who successfully contested a seven-day extension to their detention period, granted to police by a County Court judge. In a ruling that may have implications for UK anti-terror laws which provide for 28-day detention, that decision was quashed today in a High Court ruling delivered by Lord Chief Justice Sir Brian Kerr.

It concluded that the County Court judge had been wrong in not examining the lawfulness of the original arrests.

The High Court hearing had been told that the police were holding suspects while awaiting the outcome of forensic tests.

Four of those in custody, including Duffy, had been questioned about the Real IRA murders of Sappers Mark Quinsey (23) from Birmingham and 21-year-old Londoner Patrick Azimkar outside Massereene Army Barracks in Antrim on March 7.

The other two have been held in connection with the murder of PSNI Constable Stephen Carroll by the Continuity IRA in Craigavon two days later.

None of the suspects were in court today for the ruling. All of them, aside from Duffy have been granted anonymity in the case.

The decision to quash the County Court's detention extension order was made by a three-judge panel, headed by the Lord Chief Justice.

Sir Brian today stated that while the lawfulness of the arrests had to be examined, this did not have to include detailed analysis of the police's grounds. It was accepted that disclosure of the full information would not be necessary, "for reasons of public safety".

A solicitor representing one of those being questioned over the murder of Constable Carroll said today he now expected his client to be released from custody.

Joe McVeigh, of Kevin R Winters solicitors, was in the court to hear today's ruling.

Mr Mc Veigh said: "The decision of the court has backed the position that the defence lawyers have taken from the very start of the arrests," he said after the ruling.

"We have always taken the view that not to examine the conduct of arresting officers when considering to detain people under the Terrorism Act has always been a breach of human rights."

Mr McVeigh said today's ruling should allow his client to return home.

He added that none of today's events could take away from the grief suffered by Pc Carroll's widow and family.

Head of the Human Rights Commission Monica McWilliams sparked controversy yesterday by criticising the conditions that the suspects were being held in in the serious crime suite of Antrim police station.

Search

Bookmark & Share

[Digg It](#) [del.icio.us](#)

[Facebook](#) [Stumbleupon](#)

What are these?

Change font size: [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)

In Pictures: Fashion & Showbiz



Tesco unveils new lingerie range

**Buying? Selling? Renting?
Or Just Looking?**

You'll find what you're looking for at: **propertynews.com**
NORTHERN IRELAND'S PROPERTY FINDER

[CLICK HERE NOW TO DO A PROPERTY SEARCH...](#)

Book in advance for our cheapest fares. Book now >>

Professor McWilliams said the holding centre had been designed for detaining suspects for shorter periods than the current 28 days allowed under current legislation.

Chief Constable Sir Hugh Orde said yesterday he had visited the station and declared that he believed it was fit for purpose.

Meanwhile, a former Sinn Fein councillor appeared in court today charged with murdering Constable Carroll.

Brendan McConville (37) also denies possession of a firearm with intent to endanger life.

Also in this section

- Belfast Telegraph compact revolution: a message from the Editor
- Daft, Smeille, Cocks - UK names facing extinction
- Decision time for IFA
- Blanchflower Stadium: plan for airport train station
- Complex will be major boost for homeowners

Results by

[nibc Ltd.](#)
Northern Ireland Business
Communications Corporate
Mobile Solutions, Fleet
Management Solutions
[Mobile Phones &
Accessories](#)

[A1 UNBLOCKER
CONSTRUCTION](#)
All Construction & Building
Work, Insurance Work,
Drains & Sewage Cleaning
[Builders](#)

[Bikedock](#)
Bikedock is a bike shop
and cycling specialist
based in the UK, extensive
range of ...
[Cycle Shops & Repairs](#)

[CT Plastering](#)
Interior & Exterior,
Commercial & Domestic,
Free Estimates & Advice
[Plastering & Screeding](#)

[Kearney Consulting Ltd](#)
EPC's And Building
Surveys
[Surveyors - Building](#)

VIOLENCE RETURNS

BOOK OF CONDOLENCE: Victims of terror
Two guns found near murder scene
Plans for military parade in Belfast halted
PSNI quiz nine over dissident murders
Hundreds attend vigils to show support for families
Only 300 dissidents but they are a danger: Orde
Rioters pelt police after murder suspect arrests
Republicans and unionists side by side at funeral
Police hunt for bomb in bid to stop Real IRA attack
Bodies of murdered soldiers flown home
Loyalist praises McGuinness but warns of 'Real UDA'
Thousands attend peace vigils
PSNI widow: They've taken my life
Patrick Azimkar: A fun-loving friend to all
Mark Quinsey : A charismatic young soldier

[You know you're from Belfast when . .](#)



-isms: 'Yous should click here - it's class like'

Northern Ireland Troubles Gallery



Holy Cross Primary School protests

[In Pictures: Northern Ireland](#)

Nightlife



Had a big night out? Click here to send us your pics

In Pictures: Fashion & Showbiz



Tesco unveils new lingerie range

In Pictures: All Our Yesterdays



Most popular

1. The 50 Best Computers and Gadgets
2. In Pictures: You know you're from Belfast when . . .
3. Google Maps Street View 'may be a security threat'
4. In Pictures: Funny football chants
5. Teen in court on officer Carroll murder charge
6. Plans for £128m city stadium unveiled **NEW**
7. Stars out for Boat That Rocked premiere
8. Jade Goody and Natasha Richardson - dying in the spotlight
9. Stormont's grand idea: Victory party for Ireland's rugby heroes
10. Dad's shock over NHS rubber penis

Compare
0%
Credit Cards

0% on bal transfers for 15 months
0% on purchases for 6 months
16.6% APR
Typical(Variable) [Apply](#)

0% on bal transfers for 13 months
0% on purchases for 3 months
15.9% APR
Typical(Variable) [Apply](#)

Best card to rebuild your credit rating
34.9% APR
Typical(Variable) [Apply](#)

[View all cards](#)

TotallyMoney.com

Results by

[Happy Days Day Nursery](#)

Family Run Day Care
Nursery Where Children
Feel At Home & Look
Forward To Going To Each
Day.

[Day Nurseries](#)

[Rite Price](#)

Beds & Bedding, Carpet &
Rugs, Sofas, Suites,
Carpet Fitters,

[Furniture - Retail](#)

[ALLEN GAMBLE](#)

[WINDOWS](#)

Windows, Gutters,
Conservatories

[Windows - Accessories](#)

[Stanley Woods & Co](#)

Certified Accountants &
Registered Auditors
Specialising In Small To
Medium Businesses &
Tax ...

[Accountants](#)

[Valu Van Hire](#)

Van Hire Short & Long
Term Hire

[Van & Truck Hire](#)

[Go](#) [Advanced Search](#)

