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Bereaved urge Adams — reveal truth on agents

(Allison Morris, <u>Irish News</u>)

The children of a Co Tyrone couple murdered by loyalists have challenged Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams to call on the IRA to reveal publicly what it knows about British agents working in its ranks.

Charlie Fox (63) and his wife Tess (53) were shot at their home in Moy, Co Tyrone, in September 1992 by the UVF.

Mrs Fox was hit in the back. Her husband was shot in the head.

Their children spoke out yesterday (Tuesday) after a Sinn Féin 'march for truth' on Sunday which called for collusion between the British state and loyalists to be exposed and at which Mr Adams said: "Yes, the British recruited, blackmailed, tricked, intimidated and bribed individual republicans into working for them and I think it would be only right to have this dimension of British strategy investigated also."

Leading loyalist Laurence George Maguire was convicted in 1994 of directing the UVF gang responsible for murdering Mr and Mrs Fox.

A week before the couple's deaths their son Patrick Fox was jailed for 12 years for possession of explosives.

He said yesterday that while he welcomed Mr Adams's call for disclosure on British collusion with loyalists, the truth about republican agents must be revealed.

"We know now that there were moves towards a ceasefire being made as far back as 1986," he said.

"At that time east Tyrone was an area the Crown forces were unable to penetrate.

"We can only assume that republican agents working for the Crown would have been providing analysis as how best to break these areas. This article appears thanks to the *Irish News*. Subscribe to the <u>Irish News</u>



"The attacks by loyalist paramilitaries, including the murder of our parents, were just one in a long line of incidents that ensured people in places like east Tyrone were left paralysed with fear.

"When the ceasefire did come it was welcomed with open arms as a result – now who advised this policy?

"As well as agents like Denis Donaldson and Stakeknife there have been other people who have been since taken away and debriefed by the Provisional movement.

"The information gleaned from these people is as much a key to unlocking the truth as disclosure on the role of loyalist collusion.

"Like hundreds of others my family are seeking answers.

"We believe the answer lies not just in the murderous role of the state in colluding with loyalists but also the role senior republican spies played in directing British intelligence.

"The Provisional movement should now disclose whatever information it has on the role senior members had working for the Crown directing loyalist murder squads."

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