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# Huge turnout for Bloody Sunday march



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By Staff reporter

The Saville Report must be given to the Bloody Sunday families at the same time it is received by the British Government, the large crowd at this year's commemoration march was told.

Joe McKinney, whose brother, Willie, was one of those murdered on Bloody Sunday, told the crowd of more than 8,000 people at Free Derry Corner the report must be delivered to everyone at the same time.

His demand was echoed by the Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness who said that anything less than the truth about Bloody Sunday would not be accepted by the people of Derry.

Foyle MP Mark Durkan and Roisin Donnelly, from the Ballymurphy Research Group, also addressed the crowd.

Mr McKinney called on Lord Saville not to allow the British Government time to digest the findings of his inquiry before the families have seen it.

“When the Bloody Sunday Inquiry completes its report, it will be presented to Shaun Woodward, the British Secretary of State for the North. This may become one more part of our long struggle. Shaun Woodward is a representative of the British Government, and we ask why the British Government, or anyone else, should get to see this report before we do?”

“If the British Government have this report, we do not believe that the Ministry of Defence, which represent the soldiers and officers involved in murder here on Bloody Sunday, will not have it also.”

“Why should they get to see this report before us, and get time to prepare their spin and lies for their tame journalists, while we may only have a few hours to see the report before we have to respond?”, he asked.

The families also revealed they have written to Shaun Woodward asking for a meeting to discuss how the Saville Report will be delivered.

~A big year™

Sinn Fins Martin McGuinness paid tribute to the local people who gave evidence to the Saville Inquiry. ~This is a big year for the families. In the course of the Inquiry the people of Derry were put to the test. Thousands of people went through what was a daily interrogation and did so with truth and honesty. Now the British Government are being tested. If they are serious about truth and justice the report must be given to the families at the exact same time that the British government gets it, he said.

SDLP leader Mark Durkan said he hoped this would be the year the families get the truth from the British Government. ~We gather here at a time of great anticipation. This could be the year of the families. We hope that 2008 will be the year that the memories of their loved ones will be vindicated.

~Hopefully it will be the year that the critics of the Saville Inquiry are silenced. Those who questioned the cost are the same people who made the Saville Inquiry necessary. For a long time the families have had to listen to those people peddling the lies of Widgery as truth. The families endured this and continued.

The full article contains 518 words and appears in Journal Tuesday Derry Edit newspaper.

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