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Call to make report on the legacy of Troubles available to every household

Irish News: NEWS: Call to make report on the legacy of Troubles available to every household

By Barry McCaffrey

31/01/09



DEMANDS: The Earnes/Bradley report into the legacy of the Troubles

A victims' group yesterday called for every household in the north to receive the Eames/Bradley legacy report into the Troubles after it emerged there was a shortage of copies.

On Wednesday former Church Of Ireland Archbishop Robin Eames urged the public to read his group's report into how Northern Ireland should deal with the aftermath of the Troubles before making any knee-jerk reaction to controversial aspects of the report.

It later emerged that public demand for the report had led to the Eames/Bradley group being left with only a

handful of copies.

However, it is understood that a

dispute then occurred between Eames/Bradley and the Northern Ireland Office over demands for more copies of the report to be made available to the public.

Eames/Bradley and the NIO initially both denied yesterday that either had responsibility to publish the report.

Hours later the NIO released a statement saying that Eames/Bradley would publish more copies of the report

to meet public demand.

"Additional copies of the Consultative Group on the Past (CGOP) report were ordered by the group and will

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arrive today," the NIO said.									
"These should be sufficient to									
meet demands.									
"A further print run will be arranged if required."									
However, victims' group campaigner Paul O'Connor last night called for every household in Northern Ireland									
to receive a copy of the 'legacy' report.									
"When the Good Friday Agreement was published in 1998 it was deemed important enough for every									
household to receive a copy of the report," the Pat Finucane Centre spokesman said.									
"If we are being told that this legacy report is so important for people to									
understand, then I think it would make sense that everyone should have the opportunity to read it in full.									
"I certainly don't think that the NIO should be penny pinching on this issue."									
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