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Thursday, March 19, 2009

Man remanded on bail over Nairac abduction

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A MAN charged in connection with the IRA abduction and disappearance of undercover British army officer Capt Robert Nairac more than 30 years ago was remanded on continuing bail when he appeared in court yesterday.

Kevin Crilly (58), from Lower Foughill Road, Jonesborough, Co Armagh, appeared briefly at Newry Magistrates Court on charges of assaulting and kidnapping Capt Nairac in 1977. He denies the charges.

Capt Nairac (29), from Gloucestershire, was abducted from Dromintee, Co Armagh on May 14th, 1977. His body was never found.

The charges against Mr Crilly were made after he was secretly filmed by the BBC for a Spotlight investigative programme which re-examined the murder in 2007.

Police told an earlier hearing that the programme had prompted the reopening of the case and much of the evidence would come from it.

Yesterday a prosecution lawyer told Judge Paul Copeland that the Crown was not yet in a position to proceed to a committal hearing because some of the evidence was not yet in a form acceptable to the court. The judge adjourned the case until April 15th.Mr Crilly was remanded on continuing bail of £120,000. – (PA)

This article appears in the print edition of the Irish Times

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