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Nuala O'Loan

MONDAY
 05/02/2007
 18:06:20

Loyalist victim's father meets Police Ombudsman officials

The father of a teenager murdered by loyalists outside Tandragee, County Armagh, seven years ago, has met Police Ombudsman officials to question them about reports that they have linked Belfast Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF) man Mark Haddock to the killings.

Paul McIlwaine also claimed that - in a striking similarity to the treatment of Haddock - another informant involved in the murders has been protected by Special Branch.

Mr McIlwaine spent nearly two hours with Police Ombudsman investigators in Belfast this morning discussing the killing of his 18-year-old son David and another youth Andrew Robb who was 19.

Mr McIlwaine was accompanied by SDLP councillor Dolores Kelly and representatives of Relatives for Justice and the British Irish rights watch.

The two teenagers who were both from Portadown were brutally murdered outside Tandragee in February 2000...innocent victims killed against the background of a bloody feud between loyalists.

At today`s meeting Mr McIlwaine probed the Police Ombudsman`s officials about claims that Belfast UVF informer Mark Haddock was linked to the killings, and that Special Branch also protected another loyalist informant working for them

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- 11:36 Petition for European disability law
- 11:32 Report due on du Plantier murder
- 11:22 Armed robberies in south Belfast
- 10:40 Bird Flu cull completed in Suffolk
- 10:34 Dublin pair get Freedom of the City
- 09:47 Man dies in Co Louth RTC
- 09:42 US Republicans block Iraq debate
- 09:07 Presbyterians to elect Moderator
-  Man dies in Co Kerry accident
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Two weeks ago, Nuala O'Loan's report into the UVF murder of Raymond McCard junior said Haddock had been linked to 10 murders. She also said there was less reliable information to link him to five other killings but she did not name the victims.

It is understood however that the McIlwaine and Robb murders are among those five.

As for the family of Andrew Robb, his mother Anne is to have her own meeting at the Ombudsman's office in nine days time.

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