



5 comments  
 THURSDAY  
 05/04/2007  
 13:05:08

**Justice Minister and SF clash over Birmingham Six inquiry**

Sinn Fein could be withholding information on who planted 1974 bombs for which the Birmingham Six were wrongfully jailed, Michael McDowell has told the Dail parliament.

A total of 21 people were killed and 182 were injured in the two pub blasts, which were blamed on the IRA.

Six Belfast men were later jailed for life but had their convictions overturned in 1991 after the original forensic evidence was found to be unsafe.

The Tanaiste today pointed his finger at Sinn Fein as he responded to calls for a public inquiry into the Dublin Monaghan bombings in 1974, by Sinn Fein's Dail leader Caoimhghin O Caolain.

A two-year Government-commissioned report into the atrocities - in which 33 people were killed - found no evidence that the winding down of the garda investigation was linked to security force collusion.

Mr McDowell told the Dail parliament: "I believe the report deserves time and consideration and it is something we have to come back to consider in this House in whatever we agree to do so."

But he added: "When the deputy is calling for a public inquiry into that particular atrocity, we must remember that on the November 21, 1974,

- ▲ One dead after Co Tyrone crash
- ▲ Sinn Fein meeting Policing Board
- ▲ DUP announce Executive posts
- ▲ 'Suspicious' death in Thurles
- 11:21 Thompson 'threatened by loyalists'
- 11:05 Gardai quiz man over Cork death
- 10:49 Man to face 'misconduct' charge
- 10:47 Nurses' industrial action widened
- 10:42 Gardai appeal over arson attack
- 10:00 Couple rescued from lough
- 09:48 Irish smoking ban is effective
- 09:43 Appeal over abducted journalist
- 09:32 Nurses call for re-investment
- 09:25 Ryanair opposes airport expansion
- 09:01 Bank predicts jobs growth for NI
- 08:32 Men assaulted in Ballyclare
- ▼ BBC concern at Johnston reports
- ▼ County Kerry death 'suspicious'
- ▼ Device found at Co Clare home
- ▼ Titanic tragedy is remembered
- ▼ Two die in Newry RTC
- ▼ Police investigate Antrim shooting
- ▼ Two die in County Clare crash
- ▼ Five rescued at Galway Bay
- ▼ Two die in Iraq helicopter crash

**YOUR COMMENTS**

- N SF frustrated over language delay  
49 comments
- N Tragic death of teenage cousins  
22 comments
- N Paisley and Ahern shake hands  
13 comments

21 people were killed in Birmingham and there was a massive miscarriage of justice.

"We have never had an inquiry and people much closer to him (Mr O Caolain) know the truth of all of that."

The IRA has never admitted responsibility for the bombings. Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams expressed his regret at the atrocities at a 30th anniversary memorial service in 2004.

 **E-mail this story to a friend**

**Post your comment**



**COMMENT TRACKER:**  
**LOGIN** to track comments on this story

 5 comment(s)

 [post your comment](#)

On 6 Apr at 23:26 - ciaran from newry said:

desperate tactics from a desperate man. Hopefully he will get the boot after the elections.He has done absoutly nothing for the country since he came to office.

On 7 Apr at 19:42 - sean from dublin said:

and you would know how exactly ciaran since your not from this country ?

On 8 Apr at 10:06 - Pdraig O Braonain from Oran Mo,r Co. Galway said:

Mc Dowell is a desperate man indeed. He knows Sinn Fein will wipe the floor with his Party in the upcoming election and he is desperately trying to prevent this.

On 8 Apr at 15:35 - Leon from Limerick/Belfast said:

Have to laugh at the armchair chuckys. Devious tactics to hide the terror inflicted by their political partys illegal, so-called, Irish Army.

On 9 Apr at 00:46 - Ciaran from newry said:

Well sean from dublin I am able to read and understand information that comes from the media and other sources.The border does not stop mcdowells stupidity from shining through.Or yours for that matter.I am from this country .

# ENTERTAINMENT LISTINGS

Content provided by entertainment.ie

## FILM: HALF NELSON

**DIRECTOR:** Ryan Fleck.

**STARRING:** Ryan Gosling, Shareeka Epps, Anthony Mackie, Karen Chilton.

**DETAILS:** US / 106mins (15A)

**RATING:** ★★☆☆☆

[ALL REVIEWS](#)

## NOW SHOWING AT...

Select from the following:

[FIND](#)

**GIGS**  
Sangre Latino...

**THEATRE**  
The Canterbury Tales...

**COMEDY**  
Roy Chubby Brown...

**CLUBBING**  
Monday Madness...

**FESTIVAL**  
Roscommon Fleadh...

## VOTING POLL

The ban on smoking in public places begins, in Northern Ireland, on 30 April. Will it help people to kick the habit?



Yes



No

[VOTE NOW!](#)

[Post a comment](#) [ 22 comments so far ]

## SEARCH ARCHIVES

Browse through the online news, sport and entertainment archives.

[BROWSE](#)

Enter a keyword above and select the newsroom section to search.

## UTV NEWS ON AIR

Watch the latest on-air news bulletins.

Select the quality of your version depending on your internet connection

[LOW](#)

[HIGH](#)

Click below to browse through the archives of online streaming news.

[BROWSE HERE](#)