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Local & National

IMC: 'associates' of IRA were behind Quinn murder

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Laird to name Quinn 'killers'

Monday, November 12, 2007

The body set up to monitor paramilitary ceasefires in Northern Ireland says it believes people associated with the IRA were involved in the murder of Paul Quinn in Co Monaghan last month.

However, the Independent Monitoring Commission says it believes the killing was the result of a local dispute.

The IMC issued the finding today because the murder of Mr Quinn took place after its last report on paramilitary activity was finalised.

UUP peer Lord Laird is to name the men he believes killed Mr Quinn. He will use parliamentary privilege to name the men in the House of Lords.

"The IRA Army Council did not sanction the killing, but IRA members did kill Paul," said Lord Laird.

"I will name names and lay-out all the information I have. We cannot allow this to be brushed under the carpet like Robert McCartney, the Northern Bank and Denis Donaldson.

"I am not just getting at Sinn Fein, but the security services, the government, the lot. I am deeply concerned at what appears to be a lack of progress by the security services on both sides of the border."

Mr Quinn, a 21-year-old lorry driver from south Armagh, was beaten to death by a gang of men near Oram in Co Monaghan last month.

His family has blamed IRA members for the killing, but most observers believe the attack was not sanctioned by the IRA leadership.

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