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Wednesday, September 10, 2008

## IRA mole lifts legal threat to movie

MICHAEL DWYER, Film Correspondent, in Toronto

IRA INFORMER Martin McGartland has withdrawn his threat of legal action against *Fifty Dead Men Walking*, the new feature film based on his experiences.

The film's world premiere will go ahead tonight at the Toronto International Film Festival.

In a statement yesterday, McGartland said: "I have today been given a copy of the film, which I have also viewed. As a result, I can now confirm that I am happy with the film. Furthermore I have today entered into a confidential agreement, with filmmakers, and I have also waived my moral rights." He added: "The matter is now concluded and no further statements will be made by me on the matter, nor will any of the parties disclose any further details concerning the agreement."

Mr McGartland had seen an earlier version of the film in May. He said that version misrepresented his life and showed him participating in bomb attacks and torture, both of which he denies.

*Fifty Dead Men Walking*, filmed in Belfast last year, shares its title with the book by Mr McGartland and Nicholas Davies.

Mr McGartland gave it that title because he believes his activities saved that many lives between 1987 and 1991.

The McGartland role is played by English actor Jim Sturgess, with Sir Ben Kingsley playing the RUC Special Branch agent who recruits him. Several film distributors have expressed interest in acquiring the distribution rights in Britain and Ireland.

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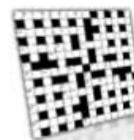
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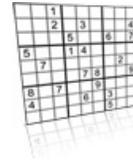
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