

Thursday 6 December 2007

NORTHERN IRELANDS LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY



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DUP NEWS

Latest News:

DONALDSON WELCOMES SOLDIERS' £2MILLION PACKAGE

The DUP's Lagan Valley MP Jeffrey Donaldson has welcomed the Government commitment to fund a £2 million per year care package for former Ulster Defence Regiment and Royal Irish Regiment soldiers. Commenting the DUP Defence spokesman said,

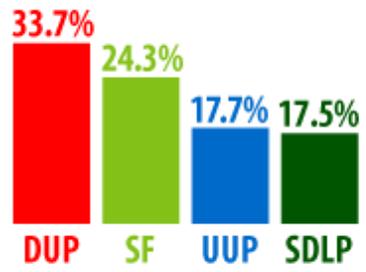


"Today's announcement is a welcome commitment from Government to the soldiers who served this country throughout the Troubles. The DUP has long argued that the soldiers must be given a suitable care package. While the £2 million per year will be welcomed by ex-UDR/RIR soldiers across the country, we need a long-term commitment that this type of funding will continue.

The Government has not been slow in loosening its purse-strings in the past so there can be no arguments about cost on this issue. £170 million has gone to the Saville enquiry, a process which is likely to satisfy no-one and millions of pounds were

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pumped into ex-prisoners groups.

These soldiers served on the front line, indeed most of the soldiers lived with a constant threat over their lives. We must recognise the long-term effects of such a lifestyle and ensure these men and women are given the assistance which they need and deserve.”

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