



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

4th September, 1997.

*Dear Mr.*

**MR. COLIN DUFFY**

Thank you for your letter of 14th July, 1997. Please find enclosed a copy of a fax I have received from Mr. Duffy's solicitor, Rosemary Nelson, setting out the sequence of events.

As you will see there are a total of twelve alibi witnesses, and the RUC appear to be relying on a single witness of proven unreliability. In addition, enormous irregularities appear to surround the treatment of Mr. Duffy, his solicitor and his witnesses. This is as blatant a case of stupidity and malpractice as I have come across. It appears to indicate that those responsible for this investigation have little or no interest in discovering who is responsible for the murder of their colleagues, but are instead wholly pre-occupied with avenging themselves on Mr. Duffy for previously escaping their clutches.

In any ordinary jurisdiction a case so disgraceful as this would have been thrown out at first instance, but I understand that it has been before two Northern Ireland judges - Lord Justice Nicholson and Mr. Justice Higgins - and they have both declined to intervene.

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MR. COLIN DUFFY - CONT'D:

...declined to intervene./

It appears to be a classic illustration of a deep sickness within the police and judicial system of Northern Ireland. When this case collapses - as I have no doubt it will - it will provide you with the opportunity for a root and branch shake-up of a system which, despite the scandals of the past, resolutely declines to learn any lessons, and appears to a large extent to be rotten.

I would be grateful for an early opportunity to discuss the matter.



CHRIS MULLIN MP

The Rt. Hon. Dr. Marjorie Mowlam MP,  
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Northern Ireland Office,  
11, Millbank,  
LONDON SW1P 4QE

Enc.

c.c. The Lord Chief Justice Carswell, Royal Courts of Justice, PO Box 410,

Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 3JF

- \* Mr. R. Flannagan, Chief Constable, RUC, Police Headquarters, Knock, Belfast.
- \* Mr. Seamus Mallon MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
- \* Mr. David Trimble MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
- Ms. Rosemary Nelson, Solicitor, 8, William Street, Lurgan, Craigavon BT66 6JA
- \* (with enc.)

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