

DOP III call after Donegar murder

The Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) is demanding to know why a high profile police operation against dissident republicans failed to

prevent the murder of Strabane man Andrew Burns.

Sir Hugh Orde

The party says it intends to raise the matter with the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) Chief Constable, Sir Hugh Orde.

It is two days since Mr Burns was shot and killed and unionist politicians are asking how did the killers evade the police.

In recent days, the PSNI had warned of an increased threat from dissident republican paramilitaries.

High visibility check-points were put in place. Mobile patrols increased.

But despite the heightened security, Mr Burns was abducted from Strabane town centre, driven across the border and murdered in the grounds of a Donegal church.

At Doneyloop church, the scene of the murder, searches have been continuing.

Gardai have brought in a mobile incident room to help the investigation.

A crime scene tent still covers the spot where Mr Burns died.

This is very much a cross-border inquiry, and to emphasise the co-

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operation that is taking place, senior Garda officers crossed the border yesterday into Strabane, County Tyrone, to discuss this murder case with their counterparts in the PSNI.

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