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LOCAL NEWS



D. Bradley & R. Eames

Tuesday 21 October 2008 11:25

## Lord Eames hits out at media leaks

The group considering how to deal with the legacy of the Troubles urged families of victims to wait for its final conclusions.

Media leaks have suggested that a proposed five-year "truth commission" may offer limited immunity to perpetrators if they give information on their crimes to victims` families.

The Consultative Group on the Past's chairmen, Lord Eames and Denis Bradley, met British and Irish politicians attending an interparliamentary assembly in England on Tuesday.

Lord Eames condemned the leaks as one-sided and urged victims` families to wait until their full report is published, probably before Christmas.

Speaking before the private briefing with MLAs and MPs, he said: "If you listen to leaks, you only get one snippet of the entire story and you`re bound to end up perhaps with the wrong impressions."

"It is only part of the story and I beg people to wait to see our full report published, we hope before Christmas."

Lord Eames said the leaks did not originate from the Group, which he said had always been extremely sensitive about its work.

"We can understand that the emotion is raw and it hurts," he added.

"Nobody needs to tell me in my career about the hurt of families with lost loved ones during the Troubles."

"We are very sensitive, we have been from the start, towards the hurt and the memories of all those people."

Members of the UUP and the DUP took up their seats at the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly, meeting in Newcastle, for the first time on Monday after an 18-year boycott.

The body was formally established in 1990 as a link between Westminster and Dublin, with 25 British and 25 Irish members drawn from the upper and lower houses of both parliaments.

In recent years the body has been extended to include representatives from the Welsh Assembly, the Scottish Parliament, the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

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On 20 Oct at 13:45 - colin from monkstown said:

more wasted money, what for this time? its about time these people did the decent thing at their own expense and hand over all the information they know!!

On 20 Oct at 15:11 - Mark from Londondoire said:

Won't work. Will end up as a 1 sided witch hunt against security force personal.

On 20 Oct at 15:23 - M. Stewart from Downpatrick said:

Yes it is about time all those murdered during the troubles were given full inquiries, not just for families who shout the loudest, and this includes RUC Officers like my brother.

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