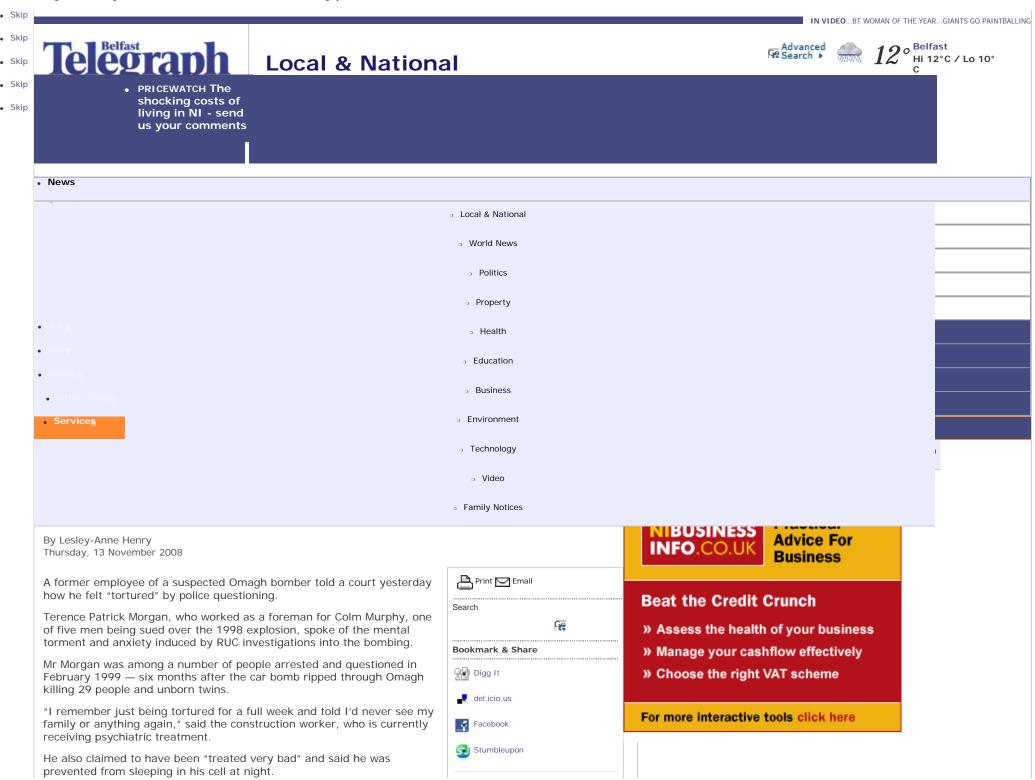
Trembling witness in Omagh civil trial recalls little - Local & National, News - Belfasttelegraph.co.uk



http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/trembling-witness-in-omagh-civil-trial-recalls-little-14059447.html (1 of 3)13/11/2008 16:05:44

Trembling witness in Omagh civil trial recalls little - Local & National, News - Belfasttelegraph.co.uk

What are these?

"Every five minutes they put the light on so I was awake," he told the High Court sitting.

Dressed in a green overcoat, cream jumper, shirt and khaki-coloured trousers, Mr Morgan was visibly trembling as he addressed the court.

He said he has never been able to read or write. Throughout the morning he sat in the witness box rubbing his temples, shaking his head, biting his fingernails and at times letting out deep sighs of exasperation. At one point he also took out a handkerchief and mopped his forehead.

The court heard how Mr Morgan has no memory of events before or after the 1998 bombing due to the antidepressant medication and sleeping tablets he has to take for his anxiety.

A psychiatric report on his ability to take the stand concluded that giving evidence would be "extremely anxiety provoking" but not impossible.

At one point a recording of a police interview was played to the court because Mr Morgan was unable to follow the printed transcript. And even after listening to the five minute extract he claimed not to recognise his own voice and had no recollection of the interview.

Earlier the civil trial heard that Mr Morgan had admitted to unwittingly lending his mobile phone to Colm Murphy.

However yesterday he said: "I can't remember anything about my phone. I didn't give my phone to Mr Murphy."

He also denied falsely clocking Seamus McKenna into work on August 15,1998.

Under questioning from Mr McKenna's barrister, Brian Fee QC, he said: "There was a roll-call that day by Cramptons and anyone who was there was signed in. If he was at the site he would have been signed in."

When asked: "If Seamus McKenna wasn't there would he have been signed in?" Mr Morgan replied: "No he wouldn't have been signed in."

Mr Morgan also said he was not afraid of Seamus McKenna.

None of the six families taking the ground-breaking civil action were in court to see Mr Morgan take the stand.

Post a comment

Limit: 500 characters

View all comments that have been posted about this article

* Name (only this field displayed)

* Email

* Town/City

* Country/State

Offensive or abusive comments will be removed and your IP address logged and may be used to prevent further submissions. In submitting a comment to the site, source to be bound by BelfastTelegraph.co.uk's **Terms of Use**.

Posts submitted in UPPERCASE letters will be rejected.

Remember Me



http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/trembling-witness-in-omagh-civil-trial-recalls-little-14059447.html (2 of 3)13/11/2008 16:05:44

Also in this section

- Health Trusts run up £133m bill for agency staff
- Politicians call for action over Baby P case
- McIlveen kicked 60 times, says witness
- Rugby world lines out as murdered player is buried
- Pupils' campaign makes roads safer

Advanced Ge Search ▶

©belfasttelegraph.co.uk Legal Terms & Policies | Contact Us | Sitemap | RSS Feeds | Group Websites | Daily Newsletter