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Brendan McDaid ssday, 11 November 2008			Advice For Business		
The Mayor of Derry today defended his decision to hold a private ecception for Army troops in the city amid calls for his resignation from Republicans. SDLP Councillor Gerard Diver has faced fierce criticism over the ecception for the Royal Irish Regiment and the Territorial Army who had served in the Middle East on Friday night, details of which were not made public.	Print 🖸 Email	Deat the Ore dit O			
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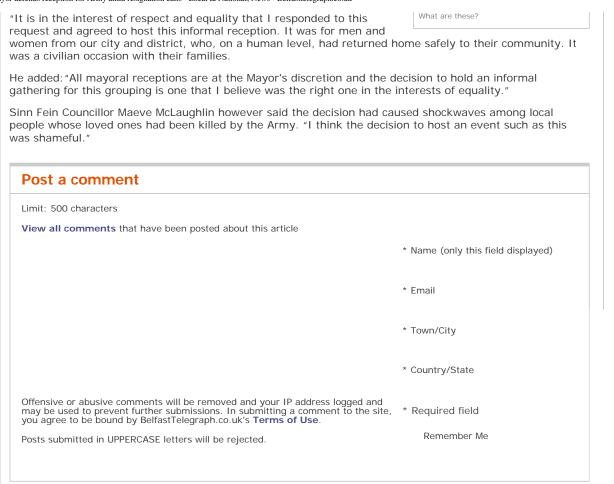
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He said: "From the start of my term, I have committed myself to be a Mayor for all. In that spirit of civic responsibility and of equality for all traditions, I responded to this request and agreed to host an informal reception for returning TA personnel from the city and district.

"This event was a civilian occasion for the personnel and their families, with no uniforms or military trappings.

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continued it is not and has never been part of Britain! Posted by Jake M | 11.11.08, 12:57 GMT JP no one is calling for the IRA to get a civic reception nor did they get a reception so your point is irrelevant. Posted by Tom | 11.11.08, 12:53 GMT Congratulations to Mayor Gerard Diver a rare politician in NI who understands his public position as Mayor is to represent all the people he serves not just the party or cultural group he/ she belongs to. Steve, a point of correction, Northern Ireland is part of the UK, it is not and has never been. It's a pretty basic fact one should be aware of. Posted by Jake M | 11.11.08, 12:31 GMT 🚬 Just a quick comment for Maeve McLaughlin - what about the local people whose loved ones were killed in a dirty war by the illegal organisation she supports ! Once again Sinn Fein conveniently forget the group they align themselves with killed people and what is more shameful is they forget the fact when it suits their situation. Stop living in the past Maeve ! Posted by JP | 11.11.08, 11:41 GMT 💻 How good to see a mayor ignoring the jibes and revisionist and odious SF comments, and holding a civic reception for our

http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/mayor-defends-.htmlption-for-army-amid-resignation-calls-14053573.html (2 of 3)11/11/2008 14:08:23

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soldiers who have risked their lives in the middle east conflict zones. Whether the objectionists like it or not N Ireland is still part of the UK and the Forces are the protectors and forces of this country and it was wholly appropriate that the bravery and sacrifices of N Irelands service men and women was recognised.

It IS disgracefull that mis truths are quoted so often that their content is now believed, working on the principle that if something is said often enough it will appear to be the truth, as for example the continual berating of any thing associated with the Armed forces in general or the Army in particular. This tactic is continually used by SF to discredit the forces, even to the extent of throwing mud at a celebration of the bravery of those from this country who have actually put their lives on the line in the service of their country.

Posted by Mike MacLennan | 11.11.08, 11:20 GMT

Here we go again,brits out and nothing else!What is it that Sinn Fein don,t understand about Northern Ireland being part of Britain,they talk of the suffering that the army has caused to their people,yes its true bad things did happen but there is never a word from Sinn Fein about the genocide they carried out against off duty soldiers and police,shot in the back or in front of their families,oh thats right you were at war!

Posted by steve | 11.11.08, 10:24 GMT

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