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Search continues as men released in murder probe

By Anita Guidera Saturay April 05 2008	Tools	
THREE men who were being detained by gardai in connection with the murder of Strabane man Andrew Burns in Co Donegal in February, were released last night without charge.	Print 🖂 Email	
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The men, aged 34, 35 and 40, were arrested on Tuesday night near Lifford and held for questioning in Letterkenny and Milford.	Go Bookmark & Share	
Two of the three were released last evening and a third man was	• Digg	

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expected to be released late last night. Files will be prepared for the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Following the arrests, gardai uncovered what they described as a "subversives' hide" containing bomb-making equipment in a remote wooded area near Raphoe in east Donegal on Thursday afternoon.

The find, including timing power units (TPUs) and other electronic components used in bomb making, was forensically examined yesterday after it had been checked by an explosives disposal unit.

Meanwhile, dozens of gardai using sniffer dogs continued to search the area at Mongorry woods yesterday in a follow-up operation, but there were no finds.

The three men, all believed to be from Strabane, Co Tyrone, were being questioned in connection with alleged membership of an illegal organisation and possession of a firearm at Doneyloop on February 12 last, the night the body of Andrew Burns(27) was found.

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The death of Mr Burns, who is believed to have had links with a breakaway republican group, prompted a major joint Garda and PSNI investigation.

Mr Burns was abducted from his flat in Strabane as he got ready to go to a pub to watch a football match and was driven to Donegal, where he was shot twice in a churchyard in Doneyloop.

He attempted to crawl to the road for help but died in the car park entrance.

- Anita Guidera

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