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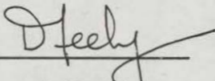
Mr. Declan Kelleher
First Secretary
Anglo-Irish Division
Department of Foreign Affairs
DUBLIN 2

Dear Declan

The "Cook Report", Tuesday, 24 August, 1993

You will have seen details of NI and British press coverage following the allegations made against Sinn Fein's Martin McGuinness in last Tuesday's programme. I attach, for the record, a brief summary (mainly in the form of direct speech) of the programme content.

Yours sincerely


Derek Feely

cc - Mr Hennessey
- Mr O'Reilly *
- PA - Sinn Fein
- IRA.

Return to D Kelleher.

The "Cook Report", Tuesday, 24 August, 1993

The Warrington bombing is recalled. Presenter: "What kind of man could order or sanction such violence?". James Martin McGuinness is named "Britain's number one terrorist - the man who controls the IRA. Derry is home to the man who by all standards should be locked up in jail - but he isn't! Why?"

[With the exception of Paul McGavigan, disguise and voice-over is used for all IRA/former IRA contributors.]

Former Official IRA man "Chris" says that this is because "they can't pin anything on him, no-one has actually informed on Martin McGuinness because anyone who did - I don't believe that they would live".

Former IRA bomber "Liam" says that McGuinness has had a taste for blood - he has killed people himself.

Presenter: "And now he passes himself off as a benevolent politician - some politician! McGuinness, as we'll show tonight, personally lured this unfortunate man to his death" (scene of a body lying by the roadside). Rose Hegarty (mother of dead man Frank Hegarty) is interviewed and (asked whether she held McGuinness responsible) claims that no-one else could be held responsible for her son's death. She argues that people are afraid to point the finger at McGuinness.

Profile of McGuinness. Film of his house. Presenter: "He claims income support for his family, and because he is unemployed, apart from terrorism that is, he has his rent paid by the British Government which he despises and who he has fought for the past twenty-five years".

"Beano" Casey says that "McGuinness is fully informed of all changes to tactics and has to sanction personally each change" (Presenter: "and that means, for example, switching bombing campaigns between NI and the mainland, and to places like Warrington").

Asked by the Presenter about "planning a Warrington", former IRA bomber "Liam" says that the process goes through a panel which comprises about 12/13 people, "and some carry more weight, but the main man who does carry the weight in it is Martin McGuinness who's truly hard-core - a hardline Republican as we call him". Asked about McGuinness' degree of influence, "Liam" replies "if he says jump, they just say how high? That's what they do, he is the main man behind it".

Presenter: McGuinness is very visible as a leading light in the political party, Sinn Fein. In the 70's "he was equally visible in the IRA".

Paul McGavigan says that McGuinness was the "hero" of the town - "you could see him shooting at soldiers and all".

"Chris" who "fought alongside McGuinness" says "I've seen him with my own eyes engaging the British Army, he was sniping and shooting around corners at British troops".

Presenter: "McGuinness was quickly and publicly made the IRA officer in charge in Derry and signalled a rise in old-style barbarism".

"Chris" claims that people were getting shot in the knees, women who fraternised with the Army had their heads shaved and they were tarred and feathered - "this did not occur until Martin McGuinness came on the scene".

Presenter: By mid-1972, McGuinness was already appearing at press conferences alongside the then leaders - "now he is the man in charge".

Unionist Councillor Gregory Campbell agrees that McGuinness is in total control and argues that many people, including the press, see the veneer, the facade, he has been able to lull the press into a false sense of security - "they haven't exposed him for what he really is".

Presenter: "When the IRA sought power through the ballot box as well as the gun barrel, McGuinness the terrorist quickly became McGuinness the politician - but behind the scenes, nothing had changed".

"Beano" Casey reports that he attended one Northern command meeting of the IRA when Martin McGuinness announced that it had become party policy to shoot prison officers.

Presenter: "Martin McGuinness was there, too, when Paul McGavigan was tortured - he was suspected, falsely he says, of being an informer". Evidence to this effect is given by McGavigan.

Sean O'Callaghan, convicted IRA terrorist says of a building contractor called McEvoy from Tyrone who supplied portacabins to the RUC; "Martin McGuinness gave the order to me and another PROVO for him to be killed".

Presenter: "And Seamus McEvoy was duly killed - by the other PROVO it is believed".

"Liam", former IRA bomber says that some of McGuinness' plans were really blood thirsty and twisted - particularly the "human bombs" and asks "what kind of a man does a thing like that or thinks a thing like that"?

Presenter: "McGuinness and his Sinn Fein colleague Gerry Adams caused offence to many at the funeral of Cardinal O Fiaich - by taking communion".

Fr. Denis Faul condemns the level of tyranny which Catholics are being subjected to in their own ghetto areas by "these people, Sinn Fein/IRA who exercise an arbitrary and capricious system of deaths and punishments and wrongdoings against these people".

The Presenter claims that some of these punishments are carried out in Sinn Fein advice centres; the Families against Intimidation and Terror have called on Amnesty International and Helsinki Watch to investigate the use of Sinn Fein centres "as interrogation and torture chambers". Paul McGavigan says that his interrogation/torture took place in the Sinn Fein advice centre in Derry.

"Hugh", former IRA terrorist says that McGuinness has great influence and complete control over the Republican movement - Sinn Fein and the IRA, "there is no doubt that both organisations are one and the same".

Councillor Gregory Campbell says that "in McGuinness, you can see encapsulated both the man with the political mind and yet with a military/strategic brain, and I have no doubt again that he very finely tunes both military and political strategies in order that they both co-exist very easily, side by side".

[Some minutes are then given to the case of Frank Hegarty.]

Presenter: It's the story of how he and his eighty-one year-old mother were cynically manipulated by Martin McGuinness which shows the true nature of the man justifiably branded "Britain's number one terrorist".

The brother of Kevin Coyle, murdered by the IRA, says that McGuinness told his father that had he known that Kevin was his father's son, that he might have been able to stop the execution. Coyle says "he has, more or less, the power of life and death".

Former Chief Constable Sir John Herman says that "Martin McGuinness has been involved in the terror scene for a very long time - I am talking about the Provisional IRA, and I am speaking from a point of view of being Chief Constable and based on intelligence - he has also been a political figure in Provisional Sinn Fein - those two organisations are inseparable, they work in unison and Martin McGuinness is very central to all that's going on".

Peter Bottomley MP, former NIO Minister says that there hasn't been an excuse for killing for twenty years. "People like Martin McGuinness ought to have the power to stop it, and if they have the power and are not using it, they are as guilty as the next person who destroys the life of another human being".

Presenter: "But for the moment, McGuinness goes on - and so do the killings".

Pointing out that McGuinness avoided the programme's attempts to contact him over the previous few days, the presenter concludes that "perhaps, on consideration, he has decided that defending the indefensible is beyond even him".

26 August, 1993