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### News

## UN urged to probe O'Hagan murder inquiry

Sunday, April 15, 2007

By Ciaran McGuigan

Government over the failure to charge anyone for the murder of journalist Martin O'Hagan.

Human rights campaigners last month presented a file on the murder - believed to have been carried out by an LVF gang which included police informants - to the UN's Special Rapporteur for the protection of the right to freedom of expression, Adam Ligabo.

And they have urged him to quiz British officials on the failures of the police investigation into the murder of the investigative reporter in September 2001.

British Irish Rights Watch compiled the report on the circumstances surrounding the murder following Mr O'Hagan's inquest last year.

It's understood the report includes information relating to the murder that was only brought to light following the inquest, described by BIRW director Jane Winter as a "sham".

After the coroner's court hearing failed to shed any more light on the case, people with fresh information on the murder approached the London-based human rights group.

It's understood the same people have also agreed to co-operate with an ongoing Police Ombudsman probe into the original investigation.

BIRW director Ms Winter hopes the UN Special Rapporteur - who, along with his predecessor, has shown a personal interest in the case - will ask the Government to explain why no-one has been brought to book over the murder.

"If questions are being asked by the UN then people will sit up and take notice.

"What we have tried to do is give is give a picture of all the circumstances (surrounding the murder) so there can be a

proper investigation," she said.

Mr O'Hagan (inset) was gunned down as he returned home from a night out with his wife Marie in September 2001. A number of people have been arrested and questioned in relation to the murder, but none were charged.

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