Dadds lobbies PM over Libyan sponsorship of terrorism

Nigel Dodds, DUP Deputy Leader and MP for North Belfast has today met with the Prime Minister Gordon Brown to urge the government to do more to secure compensation for victims of terrorism in which the Libyan regime of Colonel Ghadaffi had a hand through provision of funding and training. Mr. Dodds was accompanied by Andrew MacKinlay, Labour MP for Thurrock, Jason McCue of H2O legal practice and Michelle Williamson, whose parents were murdered in the IRA bombing of the Shankill Road in 1993. Speaking after the meeting, the DUP MP said:

"Prior to our meeting today, the message which we had been getting from the government was that there was nothing they could do on this matter. I am pleased that is no longer the case. The Prime Minister has indicated that the government will help move the issue of compensation for victims forward. "

The Libyans have admitted their guilt in supporting terrorism. The very fact that they have established a $2.7billion fund to compensate American victims of terrorist acts they supported is a clear admission of guilt. If the Americans can apply pressure to guarantee compensation for victims, why is our own government selling short victims from all corners of the United Kingdom who suffered at the hands of the terrorists."
Gaddafi bank-rolled? That is the message we took to the Prime Minister today.

People from all over the United Kingdom suffered at the hands of terrorists armed and financially backed by the Ghadaffi regime. I was pleased that my parliamentary colleague Andrew MacKinlay was in attendance – it showed that there exists cross-party concern over this issue.

The links between the Ghadaffi regime and terrorist groups are well-documented. As part of his campaign of terror against the west during the 1970s and 1980s Ghadaffi’s regime funded terrorist groups around the world. The Libyans also provided training and arms to illegal terrorist organisations. It is no exaggeration to say that the Provisional IRA could not have waged the campaign they did against the people of the United Kingdom on anything like the scale we witnessed without the help and assistance of Colonel Ghadaffi.

As the government rushes to improve relations with the Libyan regime they need to realise and remember that Ghadaffi was directly responsible and complicit in the death of many hundreds of people in the United Kingdom. There should be no thawing in our attitude towards the Libyan regime until they compensate UK citizens who suffered at the hands of the evil terrorists that they armed, trained and funded.”