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NORTHERN IRELANDS LARGEST POLITICAL PARTY



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DUP NEWS

Latest News:

MAZE ESCAPE PROGRAMME - "A GLAMORISING OF BLOODSHED, BRUTALITY & MURDER"

DUP Deputy Leader Nigel Dodds MP MLA today said:

"The makers of the BBC1 documentary about the Maze prison escape in September 1983 were more interested in providing republicans with a platform on which to boast of their deeds than in a proper and balanced assessment of the Maze escape and its implications. Many innocent victims of the people portrayed in this documentary will feel this was the glamorising of criminality.

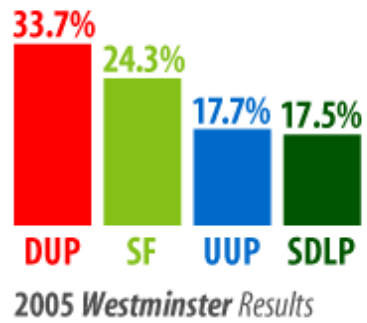


The BBC might want us to view the Maze breakout as some kind of heroic escapade, but let us look at the facts. Like so many of the so-called "romantic episodes" in Republican myth, it was characterised by bloodshed, brutality and murder.

Thirty-eight IRA prisoners, serving time for a range of serious terrorist offences, broke out of lawful custody and, in the process, were determined to murder or maim anyone who got in their way. Having previously smuggled guns and knives into the prison, they injured 20 prison officers, four of whom were stabbed and two shot. One

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of the stabbed officers, James Ferris, subsequently died from a heart attack. Twenty-five years on, several of the officers and their families continue to bear physical, emotional and psychological scars.

Thankfully, we are now in more peaceful times. But the innocent victims of the IRA must never be marginalised or forgotten. Nor should credibility ever be given to any attempt to sanitise, glorify or eulogise terrorists or their vile deeds - at the Maze site or anywhere else."

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