

## RELATIVES FOR JUSTICE CONFERENCE? DUNGANNON

### Introductory Comments:

We are all clear why we are here. We have all lost loved ones at the hands of the British security forces or their proxy gangs and we have all discovered that there is absolutely no recourse to justice through the British judicial system. Instead the British state uses all its powers to obstruct us.

When an Irish citizen is killed by the British security forces there is no immediate investigation of the shooting by the police. The person who caused the death is not interrogated, rather he is debriefed by his superiors and then a press statement is released to justify the killing. The killer is frequently shielded from any questioning either by the police or in a court of law. Even the police investigation is devised to hide any proof of culpability;

thus the scene of crime is regularly tampered with to disturb the forensic evidence. *And in the only case where there was an exception - where the murderer of Kido Kirby was convicted - a life sentence meant less than 2 years in jail - A clear message to keep on killing.*

This contrasts markedly with the situation where a member of the security forces is killed. In such cases there are immediate, widespread arrests, interrogations, and frequent court cases which are supplied with the most meticulous forensic evidence on the part of the prosecution. There is one rule <sup>of law</sup> for the ordinary citizen and <sup>there is</sup> one rule of law for the British security forces.

Despite the fact that we have <sup>all</sup> faced similar situations, we have had to fight our battles for justice alone. By forming this organisation we can unite our efforts and in so doing break the isolation, the despondency and the hopelessness we have often felt in the past.