Notes in Chronological Order

After 1969, the situation in Northern Ireland deteriorated rapidly, when the Civil Rights Movement had sought political and social equality for the minority Roman Catholic population of the province. The Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) was the police force in Northern Ireland and they lost control due to riots. The British government deployed the Army, initally to protect the Catholic population butthe Army went against the Catholic population. The IRA then split between Provisional and Official. The Provisional IRA (PIRA) armed and began a terrorist campaign against the Army, the RUC, and the majority Protestant population. Irish-related terrorist attacks on the British mainland continued in 1974.

**January 30, 1972 ‘Bloody Sunday”**

**-**Known as Bloody Sunday. 13 unarmed Catholic civil rights demonstrators are killed, with 15 wounded, by British paratroopers during a civil rights march in Derry in Northern Ireland. The British Army falsely called the victims gunmen and bombers—a report finalized in 2010 found none of the dead were threats. The shooting led hundreds to join the IRA.

-Saville Inquiry: The Prime Minister Blair agreed to hold a public inquiry into Bloody Sunday. The inquiry, chaired by Lord Savile, was established in April 1998. The report found:

-Lieutenant Colonel Derek Wilford Commander of 1 Para and directly responsible for the arrest operation. Found to have 'deliberately disobeyed' his superior, Brigadier Patrick MacLellan, by sending Support Company into the Bogside (and without informing MacLellan).

-Major Ted Loden: Commander in charge of support Company, following orders from Lieutenant Colonel Wilford. Cleared of misconduct; the report stated that Loden "neither realized nor should have realized that his soldiers were or might be firing at people who were not posing [...] a threat".The inquiry found that Loden could not be held responsible for claims (whether malicious or not) by some of the soldiers that they had received fire from snipers.

-Captain Mike Jackson Adjutant of 1 Para on Bloody Sunday. Cleared of sinister actions for compiling the "Loden List of Engagements". This was a brief account of what soldiers told Major Loden about why they had fired. This list played a role in the Army's initial explanations. The list did not include soldiers' names. Jackson told the inquiry it was simply a record of shots fired, not an investigative document. While the inquiry found the compiling of the list was 'far from ideal', it accepted Jackson's explanations.

-Major General Robert Ford: Commander of land forces in Northern Ireland and set the British strategy to oversee the march in Derry. Cleared of any fault, but his choice of 1 Para, and in particular his selection of Wilford to be in control of arresting rioters, was found to be disconcerting, as "1 PARA was a force with a reputation for using excessive physical violence, which thus ran the risk of exacerbating the tensions between the Army and nationalists".

-Brigadier Pat MacLellan: Overall operational commander of the day. Cleared of any wrongdoing as he believed Wilford would follow orders by arresting rioters and then returning to base, and could not be blamed for Wilford's actions.

-Major Michael Steele: With MacLellan in the operations room and in charge of passing on the orders of the day. The inquiry accepted that Steele did not know there was no longer a separation between rioters and peaceful marchers.

-Lance Corporal F was found responsible for five of the killings on Bloody Sunday.

-Intelligence officers Colonel Maurice Tugwell, and Colin Wallace (an Army press officer): Cleared of wrongdoing. The inquiry concluded the information Tugwell and Wallace released through the media was not a deliberate attempt to deceive the public, but rather due to the inaccurate information received.

**July 22, 1972 “Bloody Friday”**

**-**Twenty-plus IRA bombs explode in Belfast, leaving nine dead and 130 injured.

- That night British troops aressted 58 for possession of bomb making equipment, explosives and ammunition. IRA member Joseph Downey was shot and killed by British troops.

- The IRA claimed it was "an operation gone awry". IRA Chief of Staff, Seán Mac Stíofáin, said the civilian casualties "compromised the intended effect" of the bombings. Brendan Hughes, Officer Commanding of the IRA's Belfast Brigade, viewed the attack as a disaster.

- In 2002 the IRA issued a statement of apology for the incident.

**July 31, 1972 Claudy Bombing**

**-**Three car bombs detonated and killed 9 and injured 30 more.

-The Police of Ombudsman for Northern Ireland published a report into the bombing, which stated that the [Royal Ulster Constabulary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Ulster_Constabulary) (RUC) believed in the early 1970s that Father James Chesney, a local Roman Catholic Priest, was the IRA's quartermaster and Director of Operations of the South Derry Brigade.

Police Ombudsman report

-On 24 August 2010, the Police Ombudsman for Northern Ireland published a report into the bombing which concluded that the British government and the Roman Catholic Church had conspired to cover up Chesney's alleged involvement.[21] The report stated:

-The arrest of a priest in connection with such an emotive atrocity at a time when sectarian killings in Northern Ireland were out of control and the province stood on the brink of civil war was feared, by senior politicians, as likely to destabilise the security situation even further. A deal was therefore arranged behind closed doors to remove Fr Chesney from the province without provoking sectarian fury.[21]

**According to the report by Al Hutchinson, the Police Ombudsman,**

-The RUC's decision to ask the government to resolve the matter with the Church and then accept the outcome, was wrong. The decision failed those who were murdered, injured and bereaved in the bombing. The police officers who were working on the investigation were also undermined. I accept that 1972 was one of the worst years of the Troubles and that the arrest of a priest might well have aggravated the security situation. Equally, I consider that the police failure to investigate someone they suspected of involvement in acts of terrorism could, in itself, have had serious consequences.

The report found the following:

-Detectives believed Father Chesney was the IRA's director of operations in southern County Londonderry and was a prime suspect in the -Claudy attack and other paramilitary incidents.

-A detective's request to arrest Chesney was refused by an Assistant Chief Constable of RUC Special Branch who instead said that "matters are in hand".

-The same senior officer wrote to the government about what action could be taken to "render harmless a dangerous priest" and asked if the matter could be raised with the Church's hierarchy.

-In December 1972, William Whitelaw met the head of the Catholic Church in Ireland, Cardinal William Conway, to discuss the issue. -According to a Northern Ireland Office official, "the Cardinal said he knew the priest was 'a very bad man' and would see what could be done". The church leader mentioned "the possibility of transferring him to Donegal". In response to this memo, RUC Chief Constable Sir Graham Shillington noted: "I would prefer transfer to Tipperary."

-An entry in Cardinal Conway's diary on 4 December 1972 confirmed that a meeting with Whitelaw had taken place and stated that there had been "a rather disturbing tete-a-tete at the end about C".

-In another diary entry two months later, the Cardinal noted that he had discussed the issue with Father Chesney's superior and that the superior "had given him orders to stay where he was, on sick leave, until further notice"

**December 1972 Disappearance of Jean McConville**

-To continue, there was the Murder of Jean McConville (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Murder_of_Jean_McConville>). 4 men, 4 women involved. She was found dead after being accused by the IRA of passing information to British forces. She had a son who later became an official IRA. It claimed she had been passing information about republicans to the British Army in exchange for money and that a transmitter had been found in her apartment. A report by the Police Ombudsman found no evidence for this or other rumors.

-Obvious crime of international law: The act of “disappearing” someone, which the ICC has classified as a crime against humanity, is so pernicious, in part, because it can leave the loved ones of the victim in a purgatory of uncertainty. “You cannot mourn someone who has not died.” Trauma - hot to deal with it, even for those wrongfully convicted.

-Jean’s daughter was to give names to the police while they were working on the Boston Tapes per [this BBC video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=udMYSUO2HyY) and says that Gerry Adams was involved.

-Brendan Hughes ​(former Belfast IRA commander and gave testimony to the Boston College tapes project) gave testimony that ​​ the 2014 ex-IRA ‘chief of staff’ Ivor Bell was associated with McConville - charged with aiding and abetting her murder. Bell was

acquitted because the tapes were deemed unreliable by the court.

-Dolores and Marian Price opposed the Good Friday Agreement (threatened by another nationalist group known as Sinn Féin). Dolores has passed but Marian is alive.

-Price did not participate in the raid on the McConville house, but she drove Jean McConville across the border into the Republic of Ireland, where she was executed.

-Dolours was drawn to the I.R.A., in some measure, by “rebel chic.” Dolours was more attracted to the Provisional I.R.A., a more aggressive offshoot of the official I.R.A.

-Interestingly, Jean was an innocent mother of ten children and was wrongfully convicted. (By the way, there is a really cool new movie out entitled Belfast on The Troubles which relates to this Case).

-Gerry Adams: was held for four days by the Police Service of Northern Ireland for questioning in connection with 1972

abduction and murder of Jean McConville. He was released without charge and a file was sent to the Public Prosecution Service for Northern Ireland, which later stated there was insufficient evidence to charge him. Was he a member of the IRA? Yes (per McIntyre. He was President of Sinn Fein, which entered into peace negotiations with the British government attempting to persuade the IRA to abandon armed resistance and tolerate a continued British presence in Northern Ireland.).

-”[Gerry didn’t allow himself to be in the presence of guns, or in any situation that would put him at risk of arrest](https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2015/03/16/where-the-bodies-are-buried) Instead, he

deputized operational work to his close friend Brendan Hughes, a compact man with bushy black eyebrows and a shock of black hair. Hughes, who was known as the Dark, brought military cunning to the job, along with a measure of glee. He lived “from operation to operation,” he said later. “Robbing banks, robbing post offices, robbing trains, planting bombs, shooting Brits, trying to stay alive.” To Dolours Price, Hughes seemed like “a giant of a man.” He inspired fierce loyalty from his subordinates because he fought alongside them and “asked no volunteer to do what he would not do himself.”

**March 8, 1973 Old Bailey bombing**

-Estimates of injured range from 180-243 from the two bombings.

-George Clark ran an agent named George Point - Has information, and money involved. Gerry Kelly and the Price sisters involved.

-Roy Walsh was involved he state Initially six targets in London had been planned to bomb but this was scaled down to four targets, one of which had been picked to bomb was the Old Bailey Courthouse this was the target Roy Walsh was selected to bomb. On March 8, 1973, at about 06:00 am Roy Walsh & Gerry Kelly primed their car bomb which weighed about 100 lb, and drove to the Old Bailey, three other bombs were planted by other IRA volunteers around London and all timed to go off at roughly the same time.

-Before the initial explosion Walsh and nine others were detained at the Heathrow Airport.

-The jury acquitted Roisin Mcnearny for information provided in the case and she was given a new identity.

-Five other lesser-known volunteers from Belfast: William Armstrong, 29, Martin Brady, 22, Paul Holmes, 19, William McLarnon, 19, and Roisin McNearney, 18.

**Methods of police investigation in 1974:** comparison Modes and methods of police in England and Northern Ireland - what would the police do in USA as opposed to what they did in NI and England. 127 bombings that year (see “The Provisional IRA in England” by Gary McGladdery). Home office involvement with the police, investigation skewed (six people investigated and arrested - just confirms it - is it policing by design? Home Office involvement - West Midlands Police - Six men arrested - pure policing by design? or was a strategy in place to bring about changes the establishment wanted?

**October 1974 Guildford pub bombings**

**-**[Networked knowledge: UK: IRA Bombing Cases](http://netk.net.au/IRAbombingsHome.asp).

-Gerry Conlon, one of the Guildford four spent 15 years in prison after being wrongfully convicted and died during his sentence.

The Guildford Four and Maguire Seven were the collective names of two groups who were wrongly convicted. The Guildford Four

were wrongly convicted of bombings carried out by the Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA); the Maguire Seven were wrongly convicted of handling explosives found during the investigation into the bombings. Both groups' convictions were eventually declared "unsafe and unsatisfactory"and reversed in 1989 and 1991 respectively after they had served up to 15–16 years in prison.

-The Maguire case continued in the courts from 1974 to 1992. They were each convicted of a separate count charging an offense contrary to S4(1) of the Explosive Substances Act 1883 and they were trying to make a correlation between the nitroglycerine (NG) on each of the male applicants' hands - case based on the positive tests on the gloves. A judge and jury convicted them initially and it took three Law Lords to partially exonerate them in 1992. At least seven of the top forensic/analytical scientists in the world assisted the courts in their deliberations. See [here](http://netk.net.au/UK/MaguireChemicalNews.pdf).

-There is an interaction between forensic scientists and investigating officers as they communicate verbally throughout the investigation process. If scientists are increasingly seen as part of the investigating team there is clearly little independence.

**November 7, 1974 Woolrich pub bombings**

-Two were killed in the explosion Richard Dunne and Alan Horsley, a further 35 were injured.

-Two of the Guilford Four were wrongfully accused of the bombings at Kings Arm Pub [Paul Hill and Paddy Armstrong](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-51361262).

-In 1989, in the face of growing public protest and after the disclosure of exonerating evidence, [including the admittance of guilt in the bombings by an imprisoned IRA member,](https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/guildford-four-are-cleared) the Guildford Four were cleared of all charges and released after 14 years in prison. In the next year, a British appeals court also overturned the convictions of the Maguire Seven, who were jailed on the basis of forensic evidence that was shown to have no relevant scientific basis.

**November 21, 1974 Birmingham pub bombings**

-Wrongfully convicted Birmingham six: Hugh Callaghan, Patrick Joseph “Paddy” Hill, Gerard “Gerry” Hunter, Richard McIlkenny, William “Billy” Power, and John Walker. They were long-term residents of Birmingham and were arrested trying to board the overnight Belfast ferry at Heysham in Lancashire (all but Hugh Callaghan who never left Birmingham). They were spotted by an alert ticket clerk leaving New Street railway station in Birmingham twenty minutes before the bombs went off and he informed the police. They said that they were going to see relatives in Belfast. They were asked if they would mind going to Morecambe police station to take part in forensic tests for elimination purposes (tests conducted by Dr. Frank Skuse. They then changed their story; they were going to McDade’s funeral. They were taken back to Birmingham. It was later asserted that one of the men had voluntarily confessed, incriminating the others, most of whom also confessed.

-The six – the five at Heysham plus Callaghan were charged with murder and three others (Michael Murray, Michael Sheehan, and James Kelly) were charged with conspiracy.

-Patty Hill: <https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-england-24948476>. Being wrongfully convicted interview with Jooles. Patty wasn’t even at the station on time.

-Michael “Mick” Joseph Murray (also known as Squire Murray/Big Mick): made the bombs, chose the targets, transported the bombs to Birmingham. He was charged with explosives offenses jointly with Michael Sheehan and James Kelly (aka Woods). Was apparently a lot that went wrong that night, [according to Mick](http://netk.net.au/UK/Bombings8.asp). Mick was released from prison and continued with the Provisional IRA (very much a hardliner and opposed decommissioning) until he died in 1999.

-The IRA never admitted planting the Birmingham bombs and, in the immediate aftermath of the bombings, said that if its members had been involved they would be court-martialled for a “violation of operational policy”. The organization’s leaders at the time promised an internal inquiry and said that they would make its results public. That did not happen and some of the men who carried out the attacks were not disciplined and continued to be involved in terrorism. In 1974, “Big Mick” Murray was second in command of the Birmingham IRA unit, which was commanded by Seamus McLoughlin, known as Belfast Jimmy. Jimmy lives in Dublin now - claims no involvement. Seamus died in 2014.

-Michael Christopher Anthony Hayes: bomb planter (West Midlands knew about this in 75).. [Later, he helped to plan further bombings in England](https://www.nytimes.com/1990/03/29/world/british-tv-names-bombing-suspects.html): Hyde Park and Regent's Park, 1982, 11 killed. Harrods Department Store, 1983, 6 killed. In the Grand Hotel, Brighton, 1984, when the I.R.A. tried to murder the Prime Minister, 5 were killed.

-James Francis Gavin: suspected too. Died in 2002. Involved with the IRA at an early age. Lived in Dublin.

-The targets were not the pubs, but the buildings in which they were situated: the tax office in New Street and the Rotunda gov’t. Building next to the railway station. As with previous bombings in the West Midlands, the intention had been to give the police enough warning to evacuate the buildings, but the warning call was botched and there was insufficient time. See Mullin’s [Error of Judgment Book](https://www.amazon.com/Error-Judgement-Birmingham-Chris-Mullin/dp/0905169921/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?_encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=) for more information. As part of this, he said he tracked down and interviewed 16 or 17 people who had been planting IRA bombs in and around Birmingham.

-In March 2022 journalist [Chris Mullin](https://www.theguardian.com/media/2022/mar/22/birmingham-pub-bombings-chris-mullin-wins-fight-to-protect-source) won his case to keep the identity of the man who committed the Birmingham pub bombings a secret in exchange for information to exonerate the wrongfully convicted Birmingham six dating back to his own investigations in 1985-1985.

-Patrick Hill has publicly backed the efforts of the [*Justice for the 21* campaign](https://justice4the21.co.uk/),[[165]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Birmingham_pub_bombings#cite_note-171) and would later state that, following their 1991 release from prison, the Birmingham Six had been informed of the names of the true perpetrators of the Birmingham pub bombings and that their identities are known among the upper echelons of both the IRA and the British government.[[166]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Birmingham_pub_bombings#cite_note-172) Hill stated that, following the 1998 [Good Friday Agreement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Good_Friday_Agreement), he has been told that five members of the Provisional IRA have admitted to committing the Birmingham pub bombings, relying on a clause in the Good Friday Agreement offering immunity from prosecution. Two of these men have since died and a further two have been promised immunity, whereas a fifth man reportedly had not received any such assurances. [See here](https://www.britannica.com/topic/Good-Friday-Agreement).

-Derrick Capper chief constable of the west midland police during Birmingham pub bombings. [See here](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Derrick_Capper). Followed by lord Phillip Knights. [See here](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Philip_Knights,_Baron_Knights)

-What about the forensic evidence again in this case? - [was destroyed](http://netk.net.au/UK/Bombings15.pdf).

-KRW Law suits:

-[Michael Patrick Reilly (young bomber?) and Sir David Thompson (West Midlands current Chief Constable).](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-birmingham-61908694) [Additional article](https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/pub-bombings-family-to-bring-civil-action-against-alleged-conspirator-41781537.html).

-Brandon Lewis: Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

**Christmas 1974**

-The IRA had declared a ceasefire at the end of 1974. The leadership ended the mainland ceasefire on January 17, 1975.

**August 27, 1979**

**-**IRA Bomb kills four including the cousin of Queen Elizabeth the II, Lord Mount Batten.

-There was further carnage that afternoon when the IRA ambushed a British Army convoy and then also the troops sent to reinforce it just over 100 miles away on the Irish border at Warrenpoint. Eighteen British soldiers were killed and six were seriously injured, making it the deadliest attack on the British Army during The Troubles.

-Mysteries remain. Given the enhanced threat, why wasn’t Mountbatten better protected in 1979? Could it be he didn’t want too much scrutiny? Or might the reason for his death have nothing to do with his symbolic royal status? Some people –Question whether he was really killed by the Provisional IRA, even though they were happy to take credit.

-An Irish career criminal named Patrick Holland claimed he was told by McMahon in Portlaoise Prison that he took the rap for Mountbatten’s murder to cover for others and that Mountbatten was actually killed by British Intelligence

-Thomas Mcmahon was convicted of the murder in 1979 but was later freed.

**Criminal Evidence (Northern Ireland) Order 1988**

-Reversed the traditional right to silence by permitting the failure of a suspect to give evidence to be taken into account along with other evidence of guilt = more false confessions by innocent?

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**April 15, 1989 Hillsborough Disaster**

-The soccer ground in Sheffield, where 94 people were crushed to death. The report concluded that senior police officers in charge of crowd control had shown a lack of leadership and gave evasive evidence at the inquiry. The police officer in charge of crowd control that day, Chief Superintendent David Duckenfield, had ordered the gates to the soccer ground to be opened, causing the crash that killed the fans. But after the disaster, he claimed the fans themselves had broken down the gates. Check into this. There was supposed [offensive language going on from the officers there](https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-xpm-1989-08-24-8901070481-story.html).

**Mid-August 1989 West Midlands Police**

-Chief constable of the West Midlands in the 1980s, Geoffrey Dear, suspended the entire senior staff of his Serious Crimes Squad. More than 50 detectives were shifted in a purge designed to clear the way for an inquiry into the squad`s operations.

-Look up cases from 1987-1989 - fabrication of how in nine cases in the past two years, police officers had fabricated confessions

by inserting fresh pages containing them into their notebooks and how original documents containing alleged confessions mysteriously came up. Missing confession statements from two men. A lot going wrong - so restructuring from Dear apparently.

-Geoffrey Dear went after Chris Mullin’s revelations of police brutality, corruption, and incompetence in his force’s investigation into the Birmingham pub bombings by the IRA in 1974.

**1991 - The release of Birmingham Six**

-The forensic evidence and the police notebooks – had been discredited. Christopher Mullin in court.

-This case also resulted in the setting up of a royal commission which, among other reforms, led to the setting up of the criminal cases review commission and the quashing of another 500 or more wrongful convictions. The judge also lifted a restriction under section 11 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981 after a challenge by five media organizations, including the Guardian. The restriction meant that the true identity of the confessed bomber could not be mentioned in the original hearing, in which he was described as AB. He has since been widely identified in the media as a “critical suspect”.

- Barbara Mills was the Director of Public Prosecutions when the Birmingham Six won their appeal in 1991 placed all the documents regarding the Bham Six and the bombings under embargo for 75 years - meaning the documents won't be available until 2066.

**Criminal Cases Review Commission established in 1995 and began work in 1997**

-Working slowly, even though the Birmingham Six was one of the motivating factors for the Commission.

**1997 Tony Blair and Gerry Adams Contact**

-Blair at the same time was speaking with the IRA Army Council in secret exchanges: <https://thebrokenelbow.com/2021/12/06/tony-blair-and-the-peace-process-secret-contact-with-adams-a-grisly-meeting-with-the-others-and-blairs-first-big-lie/>. The documents, which come from British files, also reveal that Blair was advised to avoid elevating the SDLP leader, John Hume into a major player during Blair’s stewardship of the peace process.

- Jools: “This is what we're up against and it is who the British State are protecting from being investigated and prosecuted. Tony Blair did secret deals with Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness in 2000 where Blair wrote 'On The Run' letters for terrorists of the IRA to be allowed to walk free if they were caught by the police.”

**1998 Good Friday Agreement**

-Signed by Adams and Hughes. The agreement released the location of some of the bodies were such as Jean McConville.

John Kerry stopped from the Boston project files from being opened. **Michael Gallagher was assisted by Kerry in 2001** - he listened to the victims stories (pressure from unions, Congress in the U.S. American decisions make decisions based off of what they hear - even if it is just through one ear. Showing that the victims and survivors are overlooked - in Birmingham - maybe that can help justice be done. Jools has never been heard in America (it is almost as it the victims never lived and never died). American politicians need to “rewriting of history because right now the past is buried. Why look into a case from 50 years ago? There is not an inquiry on Holocaust victims. Human rights attorney may be needed that is comfortable to go after the state.

**November 2006 Arrest of Kevin Fulton**

Kevin Fulton was allowed to participate in crimes that allowed people to be killed who were state officials! That is an example of 007 - he was given a license to kill! Perpetrators were about to get out of jail cards - but used to spy on people. He worked with British Mi5. Was given a new identity from British authorities for his service.

**2010 Voices from the Grave published**

-Was published as a oral history project by Ed Moloney of which interviewed the IRA - kind of hard to get those kinds of interviews because the IRA is like the mafia. He was only able to get those interviews to be published after the members of the IRA had died (that was their condition).

-The tapes were part of the Belfast Project, the oral history of the Troubles directed by writer and journalist Ed Moloney, and whose lead researcher was former IRA prisoner Anthony McIntyre, who carried out the interviews with Bell. Under the terms of the project, which was run from Boston College, republican and loyalist interviewees could give interviews about their involvement in the conflict which would not be released until their deaths. They were given guarantees of such confidentiality but after the PSNI sought to get these tapes it was learned that this guarantee of confidentiality only applied in “so far as American law allows”. Ultimately after a legal battle, the US courts released the tapes to the Police Service of Northern Ireland, PSNI.

-Ed Moloney was with another guy in the suit (Anthony McIntyre) but then you would have learned that "in their suit, they frame the attempts by the US and UK governments to gain access to the oral history project as the type of politically motivated prosecution of politically motivated crimes that was specifically excluded under the terms of a treaty between the US and UK governments."

-See McIntyre's interview [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6a7P2Y2UVzk). The British obviously defeated the IRA. McIntyre sees both sides. Why did people join the IRA? Need to tease out the different strands. “If people join social protest movements in correlation with a particular event or because of ideological background, their understanding of politics, how Marxist/opposed are they, etc. His dissertation eases out why they joined the IRA. IRA members were killed to unite Ireland against the British and wanted equality. Good Friday Agreement achieve that - was this their only outlet? The Sheffield Leadership probably knew that there was never going to be a united Ireland and signaled to the British as far back as 1996 to settle for a lot less than a united Ireland - they kept the armed struggle going. Maybe the British needed the tapes for the Good Friday agreement?

-If you look into Ed Moloney and type in words such as extradition, you find (<https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/protection-of-sources-is-a-principle-worth-defending-now-more-than-ever-1.4808368>). (Back to the Birmingham Six).

**The Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012**

-Only allows legal aid to be granted for inquests with a wider public interest.

- What ‘public interests are being protected by withholding the truth from the public? Apparently, it is not in the ‘public interest’ to tell us. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b04sp6n7>.

**2018** former head of West Midlands Counter Terrorism Unit Marcus Beale was dismissed after losing secret papers.

**April 2022 Mullin in Court again**

-“an application – under the Terrorism Act, no less – from the West Midlands Police. They are demanding that I hand over notes I made in the 1980s during my investigation into the Birmingham pub bombings, in the hope that these will help them to track down one of the two surviving bombers.”-Mullin

-Christopher Mullin - (former Labor member of Parliament for Sunderland South) promised to protect the man’s identity in exchange for information that would help exonerate the six.

-Disclosure of the fact that you are in fact the person responsible for a major crime that has led to innocent people being assaulted

by the police and jailed for life so that they can belatedly be vindicated - on the condition that your identity is never disclosed. Balance of public interest? Not exactly on the same scale, is it?

-He interviewed 16 or 17 men who had planted bombs in and around Birmingham in the mid-1970s. Was confidential (no police involved).

-Needs to have an overriding public interest requiring them to disclose his sources.

-Why was just Mullin’s taken to court now? Not when he published the book? Not 50 years ago?

-Angle to look into: the journalist that help get the Birmingham released - then elected into Parliament. Court honored animinity of the sources (bombers turned in), recognized by journalism principle. Is he a hero? Can the journalist protection of sources be overseen? Research this.

-“Mullin said: “The right of a journalist to protect his or her sources is fundamental to a free press in a democracy. My actions, in

this case, were overwhelmingly in the public interest. They led to the release of six innocent men after 17 years in prison, the winding up of the notorious West Midlands serious crimes squad and the quashing of a further 30 or so wrongful convictions. "This case also resulted in the setting up of a royal commission which, among other reforms, led to the setting up of the criminal cases review commission and the quashing of another 500 or more wrongful convictions, most recently those of the many sub-postmasters wrongly convicted of fraud and theft. My investigation is also the main reason why the identity of three of the four bombers is known. Finally, I am grateful to the National Union of Journalists for their unswerving support.”

-Much of the information he has, the police already know. The police took him to court to divulge his source - who the young

planter. The police knew that they had the wrong people. Did the police know in 1974 that they had the wrong men? The CPS of which Barry will send shows why they didn’t prosecute - he couldn’t provide information.. Shows a triangulation with certain people

involved. THE CPS IS CONFIDENTIAL.

-Did the police know in 1974/5 had the wrong men - did they know before Mullin that they knew the Birm Six didn't do it, but did

know who did but left the six to rot in jail (as did the IRA let them rot in jail, even though they too knew who had actually killed our loved ones).

-Need to prove standard of proof that Mullins withheld information he would know or he would believe would be of material asstiance.

-An overriding public interest that might displace CM’s strong Article 10 (freedom of expression) right to protect his confidential journalistic source along with the Court considering its discretion?

-Mullin backed by: The statements are from Michelle Stanistreet, the General Secretary of the National Union of Journalists; Alan Rusbridger, a journalist and editor who is now the editor of Prospect Magazine and who was editor and then editor-in-chief of The Guardian between 1995 and 2005; Dr Paul Lashmar, a former head of the department of Journalism at City University, London and a Reader in Journalism, an investigative journalist since 1978; and Lord Falconer, a former law officer, Minister in the Cabinet Office and Lord Chancellor who has held other government and shadow governmental roles.

-[From Mullin’s](https://www.lrb.co.uk/the-paper/v44/n07/chris-mullin/diary): “The West Midlands Police, in common with much of the legal profession, were content to believe that the six men whose convictions had been quashed were, in fact, guilty.” The convictions had been based solely on confessions that were found to have been fabricated.

-Look up the judges? I.e. Lord Chief Justice Lane (passed away)- judges mentioned the longer the case goes on, the more guilty the

people are.

-James Lewis QC, representing West Midlands Police, said that Mr. Mullin had "provided material voluntarily" with redactions and

omissions to protect the identity.

-Does the Terrorism Act 2000 give the police the power to oblige journalists to disclose their sources in cases involving terrorism?

-West Midlands Police used the Terrorism Act to bring the production order application.

-There are three key tests: first, do I have in my possession material that comes within the terms of the Terrorism Act?

Second, is the evidence the police are seeking likely to be of substantial value? And finally, is it in the public interest that the right of a journalist to protect his sources, enshrined in Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, should be overridden? There are precedents, but none quite matches my case. The law leaves the judge a good deal of discretion.

-Only two witnesses are called: Mullins and Detective Constable Sutton. Why is the detective also a witness? Sutton

acquitted himself. Look into Sutton lying about Mullins’ notes at the Hull History Centre.