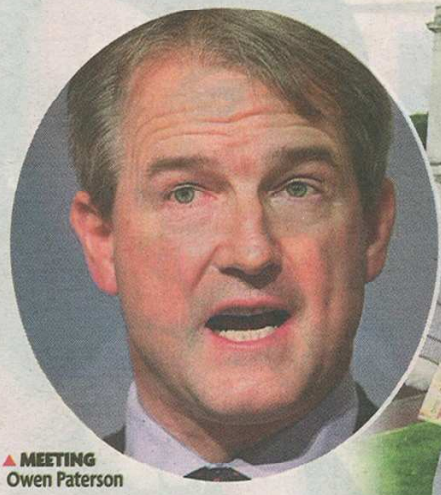
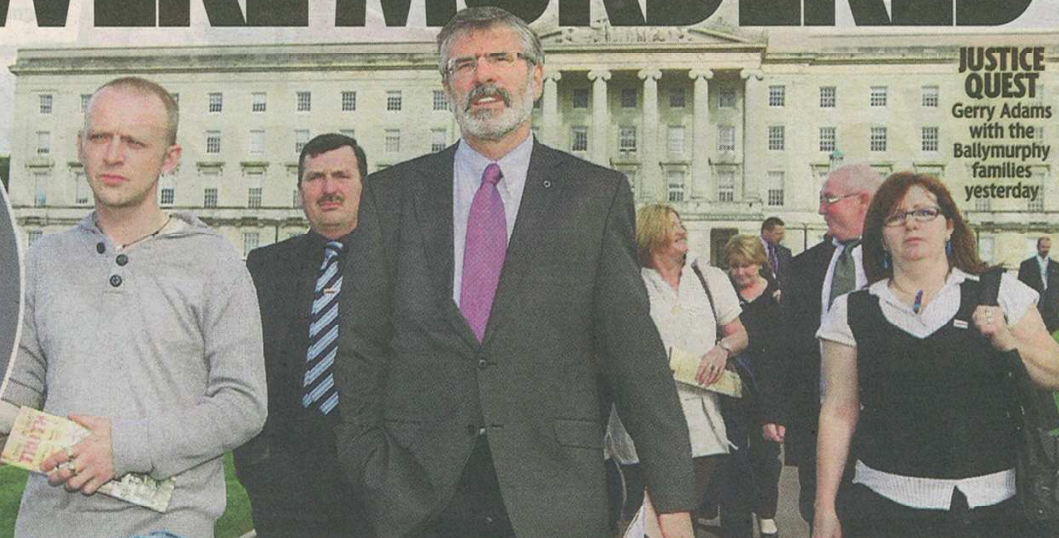




SEE WHERE OUR LOVED ONES WERE MURDERED



▲ MEETING
Owen Paterson



JUSTICE QUEST
Gerry Adams with the Ballymurphy families yesterday

Ballymurphy families in challenge to Paterson

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SECRETARY of State Owen Paterson was challenged by the Ballymurphy Massacre families last night to come and see where their loved ones died.

Speaking after campaigners met the Tory MP, spokesman John Teggart called on him to visit the West Belfast district and "see exactly where our family members were murdered".

Mr Teggart, 44, whose father Danny was shot 14 times in the infamous killing spree, is among those pushing for an inquiry into the 1971 killing of 11 people by the Parachute Regiment.

He told the Daily Mirror: "The families today gave Mr Paterson very personal accounts of what happened to their loved ones."

"But for us, even though it happened 39 years ago, the murder of our father and brothers is like yesterday."

"That's why we need an inquiry so we can deal with the past and move on. But we are dealing with a Secretary of State who represents the British Army and he is not sympathetic to the idea of an inquiry."

"But we are not going to go away. We have seen how the Bloody Sunday families campaigned for years until they got the truth. We have the support of Sinn Féin and the SDLP as well as TDs so we will keep pushing until we cannot be ignored."

"The Republic's Foreign Minister Michael Martin walked the walk we do every year

at the anniversary and he was deeply moved to stand in the exact spots where they were murdered. I'm calling on the Secretary of State to do the same thing before he decides how our case should be treated."

Mr Teggart said the Ballymurphy group does not want a Saville-style inquiry, but that any probe must be independent. Mr Paterson did, however, promise to meet the group again in January.

A Catholic priest and a mother-of-eight were among those killed during the three-day period in the city.

Troops claimed they opened fire after being shot at by republicans. Those shot died months before soldiers killed 14 civil rights marchers in Derry in 1972.

Mr Paterson said families should work with the Historical Enquiries Team.

He added: "The stories the families told were powerful and moving. I listened to them with Minister of State Hugo Swire and we have the most profound sympathy for their loss and grief."

"The HET is completely independent of central Government and reports to the Chief Constable."

"I urged the families to co-operate with the investigation into these tragic deaths."

"As was clear when we published the responses to the consultation on the Eames/Bradley Report, there is currently no consensus on how to deal with the past."

"Over the coming months I will be meeting with a range of individuals, groups and political parties to see if we can find a way forward that is broadly acceptable across Northern Ireland."

The murder of our father and brothers is just like yesterday

JOHN TEGGART