

# Adams commends Ballymurphy families

**I**N FEBRUARY west Belfast MP Gerry Adams unveiled a mural in Beechmount Avenue, pictured right, in support of the campaign by the families of 11 people killed by the British Army in August 1971.

The west Belfast MP, who has given his unstinting support to the campaign, last year facilitated meetings with the Irish government and the British Secretary of State.

The families of the 11 people killed by the British Army's Parachute Regiment in the Ballymurphy area in the three days following the introduction of internment in August 1971 want an independent international investigation into the deaths of their loved ones and an apology from the British government.

The families want the truth.

Speaking at the unveiling of the mural Mr Adams said: "I want to



commend the work of the families and their determination and courage in continuing to pursue this campaign over many difficult years.

"The families have been engaged in a whole series of initiatives to raise public consciousness about those events.

"We have met as a group with the

British Secretary of State Shaun Woodward and we are seeking a meeting with the British Prime Minister.

"We won't take no for an answer. We think it's important the British establishment face up to what was done in its name in a little housing estate here almost 40 years ago.

"All of these families deserve the full support and encouragement of the community, and of the Irish government, in their efforts to secure an independent international investigation in these deaths and to have the British government acknowledge the truth surrounding the shooting dead of their loved ones."