



- [News](#)
- [Sport](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Life & Style](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Cars](#)
- [Homes](#)
- [Classified](#)

- [Local & National](#)
- [World](#)
- [Politics](#)
- [Property](#)
- [Health](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Environment](#)
- [Technology](#)
- [Video](#)
- [Family Notices](#)
- [Crime Map](#)
- [Sunday Life](#)
- [The CT](#)

The digital gateway to Northern Ireland news, sport, business, entertainment and opinion

[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Local & National](#)

Speculation over police involvement in killing

Wednesday, 25 February 2009

The murder of RUC Sergeant Joseph Campbell (right) on February 25 1977 sent shockwaves through the quiet rural community of Cushendall which had survived relatively unscathed through the Troubles.

The popular sergeant was hit by rifle fire as he locked the village police station for the evening. He received one wound to the head and died almost immediately, leaving behind a wife, Rosemary, and eight children.

Days before his death Sergeant Campbell's behaviour had changed, it has been claimed, after he received a series of anonymous phone calls to his home.

Although the murder was initially attributed to the IRA, speculation about RUC involvement began and continued to circulate.

Special Branch Sergeant Charles McCormick was arrested and charged with the murder, but in 1982 was acquitted.

Interest in the case was sparked again 20 years later by a UTV Insight programme which claimed repeated warnings to senior officers that the Catholic officer's life was in danger were ignored. [MORE PICTURES](#)

Sergeant Campbell's family continued to allege police collusion in the murder and in 2002, after receiving information from the family, some journalists and British Irish Rights Watch, the Police Ombudsman's Office began an investigation into circumstances surrounding his death.



Murdered RUC Sergeant, Joseph Patrick Campbell

Northern Ireland Troubles Gallery



Drumcree: Petrol bomber on Garvaghy Rd

Visit **ACT ON CO₂** and compare new car fuel efficiency

Save Money
Save Fuel

Related Articles

[New evidence found in 1977 murder of village sergeant](#)

[Print](#) [Email](#)

Search [Go](#)

Bookmark & Share

[Digg It](#) [del.icio.us](#)

[Facebook](#) [Stumbleupon](#)

What are these?

Change font size: [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)

Post a comment

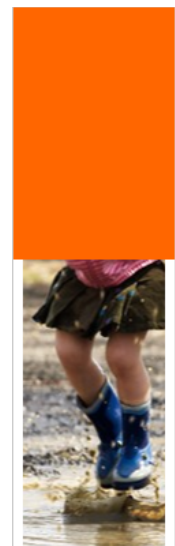
Limit: 500 characters, left: 1000

[View all comments](#) that have been posted about this article

Offensive or abusive comments will be removed and your IP address logged and may be used to prevent further submissions. In submitting a comment to the site, you agree to be bound by BelfastTelegraph.co.uk's [Terms of Use](#).

* Name (only this field displayed)

* Email



* Town/City

* Country/State

* Required field
 Remember Me

Posts submitted in UPPERCASE letters will be rejected.

Also in this section

- Abduction bid on boy - PSNI took 2 hours to respond
- P1 pupils in attacks on teachers
- Girl (8) killed in farm accident
- Immoral behaviour leaves a bad taste in mouth
- Scientist tackles three marathons

Results by
[COLIN'S SCHOOL OF MOTORING](#)
DOE Approved Instructor,
Excellent Pass Rate,
Friendly & Patient, Gift
Vouchers Available
[Driving Schools](#)
[I.M.S Driver & Rider Training](#)
Experienced Driver
Training, lessons by
professional instructors,
Advanced and Beginners
[Driving Schools](#)

[nibc Ltd.](#)
Northern Ireland Business
Communications Corporate
Mobile Solutions, Fleet
Management Solutions
[Mobile Phones & Accessories](#)

[Bracken Blinds](#)
Specialist suppliers of
Curtains and Blinds to all
commercial premises,
deigned and fitted
[Architects](#)

[K W M Wines & Spirits](#)
Award Winning Specialists
Since 1984 Shipping
Vintage Wines & Spirits
Worldwide
[Off Licences & Wine Merchants](#)

In Pictures: All Our Yesterdays



Park life. Victoria Park boat lake

In Pictures: Fashion & Showbiz



London Fashion Week

Most popular

1. In Pictures: Rio Carnival
2. In Pictures: Funny football chants
3. In Pictures: Real Madrid 0 Liverpool 1
4. IRA were some of the nicest people that I ever met, says actor
5. The Ten Best Car Gadgets
6. Midwife who cleared baby's airways sued by film dad
7. 'Radioactive' paedophile on the run
8. £500m Belfast rebirth is unveiled
9. Belfast gridlock as bomb scare seals roads
10. Woman tried to strangle internet lover

In Pictures: Northern Ireland

Nightlife



Had a big night out? Click here to send us your pics

nally designed and
ble Websites

chooboo

Results by

GLAMOUR

Specialising In Ladies
Shoes, Handbags, Hats &
Accessories

Shoe Shops

**North West Country
Sports**

Game angling & shooting.
Rod licences & local
permits. Fly, spinning &
sea rods. Branded ...

Fishing Tackle

The Derg Arms

10 Ensuite Rooms. Fishing
and Drying Facilities.
Breakfast, Lunch, A La
Carte. Coach Parties ...

Guest Houses

Seymour Dugan

Over 500 Rolls. Huge
Range In Stock. Multi-
Width Extra Wide Carpets.
Rug Gallery. Full
Measuring ...

**Carpets & Rugs - Retail
& Repair**

**PROJECT DESIGN
ENGINEERS**

Northern Irelands leading
Project Engineers
**Project Management
Services**

Starting a
Business?

choo
boo

Search **Advanced Search** ▶