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# Fresh inquest ordered into 'first shoot-to-kill' operation in Derry

## Patsy Duffy was shot at least 11 times by British soldiers

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**Northern Ireland's Attorney General has ordered a new inquest into the state killing of a Derry IRA member.**

The killing of Patrick Duffy is widely regarded to be the first example of a shoot-to-kill operation by the British Army in the North. Mr Duffy was shot at least 11 times after entering a house at Maureen Avenue in the city in November 1978.

The 50-year-old father-of-six was unarmed and alone when he was shot dead by suspected members of a highly secretive branch of the British Army 41 years ago.

None of the soldiers involved in the shooting gave oral evidence at an inquest into the incident in December 1980.

Members of the Duffy family have campaigned for decades to uncover the facts behind the killing and lawyers for

the family made an application for a new inquest in November 2015.

However, despite the political and financial impasse in dealing with Troubles legacy inquests, Attorney General John Larkin has now directed that a fresh inquest be brought forward as soon as possible.

Mr Larkin also stated the British Ministry of Defence has made no effort to contact his office with regard to the Patsy Duffy case in the last 18 months.

And, he said: "There does not, on the materials available to me, appear to be any objective justification for shooting Mr Duffy."

Patsy Duffy's daughter Martina said: "His death devastated my mother, me and my five brothers and sisters at the time and continues to do so today.

"It's just a pity that my mother, brother and sister are not alive to see this progress."

See Pages 6, 7 & 8 for more



Martina Duffy holding a photograph of her late parents, Patsy and Moira Duffy.

Photo: nwpresspics

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