**Jock Eaglesham**

**7th February 1978**

SEFF remembers John (Jock) Eaglesham who was murdered on 7th February 1978 by PIRA terrorists.

Jock was 58 years old and a part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment but was murdered when performing his employment as a postman delivering post to a Primary School in Rock village outside Pomeroy, Dungannon.

The terrorists murdered Jock before he had a chance to draw his personal protection weapon.

Jock was a committed family man and was viewed as a dedicated soldier who took the role of 'protector of the community' very seriously.

Poignantly John Eaglesham (son of Jock) writes in J.I.V.T Ltd's book 'Lives Forever Changed'

"I have three sisters and our mum and dad were a huge part of all our lives. Our parents had brought us up in a home of love and respect - we were taught to hate nobody and that was the way we lived our lives" ...

"Everyone came to the funeral - all the politicians, and all the top policemen in the country. That was the last time we saw a policeman about the case for thirty three years, until I went to Cookstown Police Station where they told me that the file was with the HET ..."

"No-one has ever been charged for my Dad's murder, and probably never will" ....

And Celia Eaglesham (daughter of Jock) writes in the same publication:

"I don't hide my story from anyone. I was over in some event in the park one day and a girl came over to me and said: 'You're Celia Eaglesham, Jock Eaglesham's daughter,' and I said; I am.

She said, you know I was in School (in the Rock) the day your Dad was murdered and I made a scrapbook about it".

The problem was I let that girl go and I never saw her again - I would have loved to have got talking to her about it".

The morning after the brutal murder of Jock the IRA placed a bomb under UDR member William Gordon's car in Maghera murdering him along with his 10-year-old daughter Lesley and just nine days later the IRA callously murdered twelve civilians and injuring dozens in the La Mon hotel massacre in what was an act of serial murder.

SEFF's thoughts and prayers are with the Eaglesham family circle.