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Title: A Very British Jihad.			
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Author: Paul Larkin			
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In April 2003, the *Stevens Report* provided the first official acknowledgement of collusion between loyalist armed groups and British security forces in the murders of nationalists in Northern Ireland. Yet, as this book demonstrates, such collusion and associated conspiracies have been a central feature of the British response to the conflict in Ireland for more than thirty years. That response, argues Paul Larkin, amounts to a Holy War, or *Jihad*, in the name of Protestantism and the British monarchy. That war has been swathed in secrecy and denial, protected by notions of 'national security' that pervade every corner of the legal system and the political establishment – a very *British Jihad*. This book is a milestone in uncovering the truth about the extent of collusion in Northern Ireland.

Investigative journalist Paul Larkin made his first film for *Spotlight* – BBC Northern Ireland's current affairs programme – in February 1989. It was about the solicitor Pat Finucane, murdered by loyalists operating with the assistance of British military intelligence. A few years later, Larkin had access to the diary of British agent and UDA intelligence officer Brian Nelson. What Nelson's diary revealed was that British military intelligence and covert units, including the Force Research Unit and 14th Intelligence, were intimately involved with loyalist armed groups. These groups had been equipped with armaments sourced in South Africa and smuggled into Northern Ireland with the full knowledge of MI5.

Paul Larkin made many films for *Spotlight* over the next seven years, examining among other things controversial killings, the burgeoning illicit drugs trade, the role of informers and agents, the links between soldiers, police officers and loyalist gunmen, RUC cover-ups and the notorious Portadown based 'ratpack' led by 'king rat' Billy Wright. He went on to produce a special investigation into the Dublin/Monaghan bombings for RTÉ.

The research for these films was the raw material for this book. Building on his earlier investigations, Larkin presents a detailed and revealing account of many aspects of Britain's 'dirty war'. He provides a unique insight into the political pressures exerted on journalists who dare to investigate the unsavoury relationships between the intelligence agencies, politicians, the police, the British Army and loyalism. Paul Larkin pulls together previously unpublished material from the whole 30-year period of the recent conflict. The book is illustrated with photographs and documents.

This was dangerous work involving many risks, not just to career prospects within a conservative institution such as BBC Northern Ireland, but also involving regular death threats and intimidation. Larkin shines light on areas that many powerful and ruthless interests do not wish us to see.

Contents:

1. 'Howard' – Arriving in Northern Ireland and the BBC culture of 1988. Informant Howard and clues to the nature of Loyalism.
2. 'Anto Murray' – Opening Nelson's diary. The targeting of Anto Murray and how British security forces assisted loyalist killers.
3. 'Londonderry' – BBC working culture, 'whingeing Taigs' and why solicitor Pat Finucane was seen as a threat.
4. '£1,000 - The Price of a Life' – Briefing Hogg, the labelling of lawyers and the 'thug in a suit', the murder weapon, censoring interviews. The state conspiracy to murder Finucane.
5. 'A Fine Soldier and a Fine Agent' – Setting up the McDaid's, the conviction of 'fine soldiers' for leaking intelligence, Special Branch and FRU co-operation, suing the MOD.
6. 'Working for the sovereign' – UDR assisted murders. The IRA killing of Charles Watson. John McMichael sharpens the knife. The cases of Loughlin Maginn, Jack Kielty, and James Craig.
7. 'Sticking to their Guns' – Exposing the Worker's Party hypocrisy over guns and the continued existence of the Official IRA. Relations with RUC Special Branch. From OIRA to Democratic Left and Labour.
8. 'War, war' – The IRA takes the war to England. Loyalist kill rate accelerates. Nelson's trial.
9. 'This Unsavoury Game' – The role of Paddy Flood, William Stobie and other informers. The Walker Report and Special Branch's special rules.
10. 'Brothers in Blood' – Shankill Butchers revisited. The murders of John McIver and Anne Marie Smyth. IPLO feuding.
11. 'A Girl Called Alice' – The strange death of Alice McLoughlin.
12. 'Into the Fire of Portadown' – Who killed Alice McLoughlin? (Don't ask the RUC)
13. 'Billy Wright' – Off limits and at home with Billy Wright ('King Rat'). Born again murderers and impending splits in the UVF.
14. 'The Spots of a Leopard' – Journey to Bosnia, UDR brings King Billy to the Balkans, the real UDR, Dublin/Monaghan bombings.
15. 'Ourselves Alone' – The Shankill UDA, parting companies, the rise of Adair, the South African arms shipment.

16. 'Spies stings and double crosses', – Loyalism and the South African connection, Project Echoes, Andrew Hunter MP and MI5.
17. 'Rat Pack' – Standing down Billy Wright's UVF and the formation of the LVF, Drumcree 1996 and the McGoldrick murder. Conspiracies against Sam Marshall and Colin Duffy. Threats to Rosemary Nelson. Drugs and guns.
18. 'Death of a journalist' – LVF murder of Martin O'Hagan. What was O'Hagan working on? LVF and RUC collusion. The murder of Roseanne Mallon.
19. 'Permanent Resistance' – The DUP and loyalism. McCrea and the LVF. From the Protestant Action Force to the Protestant Volunteer Force.
20. 'The Quiet Coup' – International death squad policy, the origins of the Jihad, undermining the Wilson government, bringing down the power sharing executive, the strategy of tension, the covert war against 'Britain's Cuba'.
21. 'The Great Cover-up' – Psychological operations, British Intelligence, Kincora and Tara, framing Wallace and rubbishing Holroyd, early denials of collusion, the killing of Strathearn and Campbell, looking after 'the Jackall', the who's who of the Dublin/Monaghan bombings.
22. 'Conclusion' – Making sense of the Jihad, its phases and strategies. Legacies and how to deal with them.

About the Author:

Paul Larkin was born in 1957 in Salford, England and raised in an Irish community. He joined the Danish merchant navy at the age of nineteen and spent four years at sea. Larkin then went to university taking a degree in Scandinavian Studies and Celtic Studies in 1985.

He first joined the BBC as a researcher in 1987 and became a trainee producer. He moved to Belfast in November 1988 and worked on the current affairs series *Spotlight* until 1994. During this time he produced many path breaking films on collusion, the research for which is the basis of his book *A Very British Jihad: collusion, conspiracy and cover-up in Northern Ireland*.

In 1994, Larkin moved to Dublin to work with Radio Telefís Éireann. He became a freelance director in 1996.

Paul Larkin was awarded the European Journalist of the Year in 1997 in the film and television category and was given the overall Liam Hourican Award for series about Ireland in Europe.