'Sets out, in black and white, shocking evidence of cynical, unprincipled, and probably criminal, actions by politicians senior military and security services officers and civil servants.' — Anne Cadwallader

Secret British Army units, mass sectarian screening, propaganda 'dirty tricks', the arming of sectarian killers and a point-black refusal to outlaw the largest loyalist killer-gang in Northern Ireland, all point to the incontrovertible fact that collaboration did exist between successive British governments and loyalist paramilitaries. Tactics such as curfew and internment were imposed almost exclusively on the nationalist population of Northern Ireland.

Based on research by the Pat Finucane Centre and Justice for the Forgotten and using official British and Irish declassified documents from the 1970s and early 1980s, this book explores the tangled web of relationships between British government ministers, senior civil servants, leading police and military officers, and UDA and UVF paramilitaries. These documents provide evidence of more than a decade of official toleration, and at times encouragement, of loyalist paramilitaries, leading to horrifying results and prolonging the conflict in Northern Ireland. Yet the authorities in London continue to deny such links. Britain truly is a state in denial.



Front cover. UDA members march through Grove Park in Belfast 1972. (Photo by Jack Garofalo/Paris Match via Getty Images) A STATE
DENIAL

MARGARET URWIN

MERCIER 🗞

'A ground-breaking response to British propagandists and their Irish apologists. Opens up chilling vistas of what really went on during the Troubles.' – Justine McCarthy

