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## €175m winners: 'We're in shock'

## AS FEUD TRIAL COLLAPSES, WE GO

# INSIDE THE REGENCY

**SHOOTER  
aka Tac 2**

Hitman fires final shot  
into gangster Byrne



**DAVID  
BYRNE**

Kinahan cartel member  
is riddled with bullets



**KEVIN  
MCANENA**

BBC sports journalist  
hides during bloodbath

EXCLUSIVE by **STEPHEN BREEN**, Crime Editor  
and **OWEN CONLON**

THIS is the chilling moment a hitman for Gerry 'The Monk' Hutch's mob finishes off Kinahan gangster David Byrne while BBC reporter Kevin McAnena cowers in terror. As Patrick Hutch, 26, walked free yesterday from court after his murder charge was dropped, the Irish Sun today publishes the first ever CCTV images of the horror inside the Regency Hotel on February 5, 2016.



Patrick...  
yesterday

**THE HIT THAT SPARKED A DEADLY WAR — PAGES 2,3,4,5,6&7**

# REGENCY MURDER

# HOW GUNMAN

# FINISHED OFF DAVID BYRNE

# KILLERS ON THE LOOSE



Investigation... Regency

EXCLUSIVE by STEPHEN BREEN  
Crime Journalist of the Year

THESE are the horrific scenes as a Hutch hit team stormed Dublin's Regency Hotel in search of mob boss Daniel Kinahan — and instead whacked cartel member David Byrne.

Our exclusive CCTV images show the 34-year-old being gunned down in the lobby on February 5, 2016, after he was chased through the premises by the merciless killers.

Just a day after Patrick Hutch walked free following the collapse of his trial for the murder of Byrne, we publish a series of photographs to illustrate the horror that greeted men, women and children who were in the hotel that day for a boxing weigh-in.

BBC sports reporter begged, 'Don't shoot'

Our extraordinary CCTV grabs from inside the Regency show a Hutch gang member — named as 'Tac 2' — during the aborted Special Criminal Court case — aiming his AK47 assault rifle at Byrne.

He did so after Byrne, the most senior cartel member to have been murdered in the lethal Kinahan/Hutch feud, had already been blasted by another gunman, 'Tac 1'.

One terrifying still — today published for the first time — also shows innocent BBC sports reporter Kevin McAvena covering behind the reception counter.

Also pictured in the hotel is former dissident republican Kevin 'Flat Cap' Murray, who has since died from motor



Plugged... cartel member David



1

HOTEL STORMED

Two of the assassins, disguised as members of the Garda Emergency Response Unit, arrive at front door



2

STALKS CORRIDOR

neurone disease and was unable to stand trial for Byrne's murder.

As Byrne lies dead, another snap shows killer Tac 2, disguised as a member of the Garda's Emergency Response Unit, leaning over the counter while the journalist begs: "Don't shoot, don't shoot."

In an interview shortly after the atrocity, Mr McAvena also claimed: "He took a decision in that moment whether I would live or die."

And in another piece of extraordinary footage recorded by the hotel's CCTV, Byrne can be seen crawling on his knees after being shot by Tac 1. Seconds later, he

was dead. The cameras also caught gunman Tac 2 calmly jumping on top of the counter before firing a final shot into Byrne, who was already lying in a pool of blood.

Just seconds before the cartel member was struck down, CCTV images show terrified punters fleeing the hotel as shots rang out. As punters ran for their lives, the cams captured 'Tac 1' and 'Tac 3' storming through a hotel corridor.

In one of the shocking clips, a gunman returns along the corridor brandishing a firearm.

In another sensational image, a Hutch mobster is seen carrying an AK47 and a handgun as the Hutch team searches for its prey. Other

shots show the slayers roaming through the corridor. Unknown to the assassins, their main target, cartel kingpin Daniel Kinahan, 39, had a lucky escape when he was brought to safety by his own security team.

Senior cartel figure Sean McGovern, 33, who remains in Dubai, was blasted in the leg, while his pal Aaron Bulger, 28, was hit the stomach. Both survived.

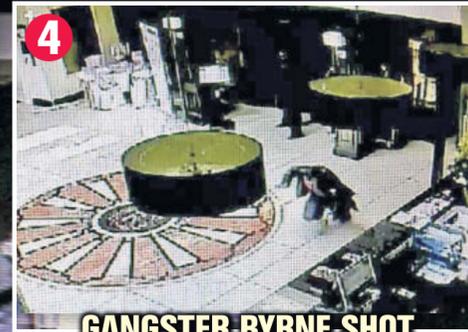
Shortly before the hit team searched for cartel members, CCTV also captured the man dressed as a woman in a corridor.

Running through the hotel, the assassin in drag was heard saying, "I can't f\*\*\*ing find him. He's not



3

LUNCH LEFT-BEHIND



4

GANGSTER BYRNE SHOT



5

HE CRAWLS FOR HIS LIFE



6

HITMAN MOVES IN FOR KILL



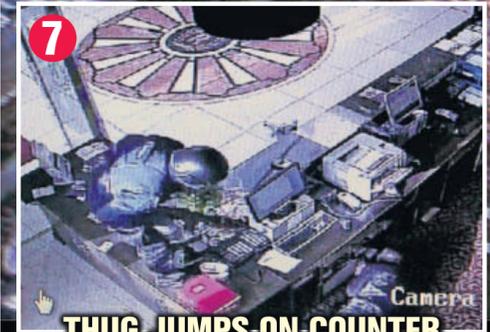
9

KILLER CALMLY DEPARTS



8

DEAD CARTEL-YOB DAVID



7

THUG JUMPS ON COUNTER

here." His job that day was to create a distraction by firing shots and forcing people to escape via the Regency's main entrance.

But when cartel members — along with innocent members of the public, including children — legged it in different directions, the hit team was unable to locate Daniel.

In other shocking images shown in the Special Criminal Court, investigators suspect two of them are senior Hutch associates, one of whom has survived previous attempts on his life.

The third is suspected of being a prominent dissident republican from Northern Ireland who has recently sought protection from the Real IRA over fears the Kinahan

mob were plotting to kill him. The investigation to ID the three mystery gunmen remains ongoing at Ballymun Garda Station.

During the trial last year, judges heard 'Tac 2' brutally killed Byrne. Barrister Sean Gillane, for the DPP, said: "Tac 2 jumped up on the counter and pointed his gun at the reporter but he didn't discharge it. The man then jumped off the counter, pointed the gun at Byrne, who was lying on the ground and coldly and calmly discharged more rounds into his head and body."

"The man in the blonde wig then arrived and could be heard saying words to the effect: 'I can't f\*\*\*ing find him, he's not f\*\*\*ing here.' A

total of six men were involved in the bid to wipe out the Kinahan cartel chief — two who initially entered the hotel, three posing as armed gardai and the driver.

The van was then driven to the nearby Charlemont Estate, where it was set ablaze.

The 'blonde' and the man in the flat cap — Murray — were seen running away, carrying bags.

The three who were dressed in tactical uniforms had changed clothes, and all the men left the area in different waiting vehicles.

Revealing the victim was shot six times and had gunshot wounds to his head, face, abdomen, hands and thigh, counsel described the hotel

assault as "resourced, carefully planned, targeted and murderous". Byrne's parents James and Sadie heard that a post-mortem found their son had died as a result of being shot a number of times with a high-velocity firearm.

Prosecutor Gillane told the court that during a separate Garda operation in Co Meath on March 9, 2016, investigators recovered three assault rifles which had been manufactured in China, Romania and Uruguay.

Ballistic reports found that these weapons matched spent cartridges which were recovered at the Regency following the gun attack.

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