

Date and Time: Saturday, May 4, 2024 3:31:00AM EEST

Job Number: 223500080

Documents (100)

1. [2 Belfast bank workers held in theft The man and woman are suspected in the robbery nearly a year ago of \\$50 million, a British record.](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

2. [Omagh murder charges soon: Papers to be served on IRA dissident. EU legislators are asked to help women sue IRA members in death of their brother](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

3. [VOA NEWS: NORTHERN IRELAND SISTERS WORK FOR JUSTICE FOLLOWING BROTHER'S MURDER](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

4. [Suspected IRA Dissident Jailed in Bombing](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31,

5. [Police arrest IRA dissident on suspicion of involvement in 1998 bombing](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

6. [Crusading sisters snub Thatcher over her 'injustices' to N. Ireland](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

7. [Busy commuters keep one step ahead of their fears and tears](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

8. [Police arrest IRA dissident on suspicion of involvement in 1998 bombing that killed 29](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

9. [Former U.S. President Clinton congratulates to sisters of slain Northern Irish man](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type

Narrowed by

News

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

10. [Sisters of murdered Belfast man refuse award in protest of Thatcher](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

11. [Sunday, October 30](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

12. [NOTEWORTHY](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

13. [Thursday, January 27](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

14. ['Secret agent' conman jailed after lavish living](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

15. [SISTERS WIN EU CASH TO BRING KILLERS TO JUSTICE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

16. [Suspected IRA dissident to be charged with 29 murders from 1998 bomb, police say](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

17. [Charges to be laid in Irish bombing](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

18. [BORING BUT IMPORTANT](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

19. [Suspected IRA dissident to be charged with 29 murders from 1998 bomb: police](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

20. [Brief](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

21. [Almanac](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

22. [New human rights chief for Northern Ireland pledges to draft Bill of Rights](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

23. [Sinn Fein leader plays down snubs by Bush and Kennedy](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

24. [U.S. , IRISH LEADERS AGREE VIOLENCE MUST END IN ULSTER](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

25. [Tuesday, February 15](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

26. [Police make 2 arrests in killing of Ulster man](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

27. [2 employees arrested in \\$50m Belfast bank robbery: Suspicions of inside job rise with man, woman in custody](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

28. [Take a closer look before using the term 'moderate'](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

29. [WORLD at 0200GMT](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

30. [Irish sisters bring justice quest to U.S. ; Tale of slain brother widens criticism of IRA.](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

31. [Fierce sisters have IRA on the run: Brother murdered: Irish women make waves from Dublin to Washington](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

32. [The spy who loved gadgets](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

33. [Study finds one in three Londoners suffered stress after July 7 bombings](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31,

34. [*HOLD FOR RELEASE until 2301GMT Study finds one in three Londoners suffered stress after July 7 bombings*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

35. [*Protestant parades erupt in violence: Catholics riot as Northern Ireland marks 'The Twelfth'*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

36. [*WORLD IN BRIEF*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

37. [*Politics - Republicans take case to United States and Europe:*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

38. [*Prep-Today in History*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

39. [IRA threatens family striving to bring killers to justice: Relatives of Robert McCartney have brought world attention to his Belfast murder](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

40. [U.S. leaves pact on world tribunal](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

41. [Bush lauds Irish sisters as fighters for peace in Northern Ireland](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

42. [Bush lauds Irish sisters](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

43. [Relatives of Omagh bomb victims say Blair promised no amnesty for Omagh bombers](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

44. [*Ongoing protests block Belfast streets*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

45. [*IRA dissident to be charged with 29 murders in 1998 bombing*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

46. [*WORLD at 0200 GMT*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

47. [*NEWS SUMMARY*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

48. [*Sinn Fein chief finds friends amid the chill*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

49. [EUROPE AT 1100GMT EDITORS: The following is a digest of Europe's top general news.](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

50. [IRISH NATIONALIST LEADER DOWNPLAYS WHITE HOUSE SNUB](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

51. [Adams must disband the IRA](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

52. [Sisters bring IRA to justice](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

53. [ROUNDUP: Bush calls on parties in Northern Ireland to renounce violence](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

54. [AP Weekly News Calendar](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

55. [Northern Ireland bank employees arrested as suspects in \\$50M US robbery](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

56. [InShort](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

57. [Police Arrest N. Ireland Bank Employee](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

58. [IRA members threatening to attack relatives of slain Belfast man, family says](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

59. [IRA Said to Threaten Slain Man's Family](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

60. [IRA members threaten to attack relatives of slain Belfast man: family](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

61. [BELGIAN FILM WINS TOP HONORS AT THE CANNES FESTIVAL](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

62. [ST PATRICK'S DAY RECEPTIONS: TO THE IRISH AMERICAN COMMUNITY, ADAMS REMAINS THE ONE AND ONLY HOPE FOR PEACE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press

63. [WOMEN'S RIGHTS SPARKS WRANGLE](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

64. [Today in History - March 1](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

65. [AP Weekly News Calendar Saturday, Jan. 29:](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

66. [A return to the troubles?: December's bank robbery raises the question: Has the IRA really abandoned the gun and embraced democratic politics?](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

67. [Police arrest Northern Ireland bank employee suspected of role in record robbery](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

68. [Police arrest 2 Northern Ireland bank employees suspected of role in British-record robbery](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

69. [Belfast police suspect Protestant paramilitary UDA killed former leader](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

70. [Catholics attack police as Protestants march; About 60 officers are wounded in the melee](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

71. [Riots break out in Belfast as Catholics protest annual Protestant march](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

72. [Catholics Protest in Northern Ireland](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

73. [Catholics attack Northern Ireland police following Protestant marches](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

74. [LONDON BOMBINGS; ON THE SCEN; STOIC PRIDE; Londoners remain calm amid chaos and confusion](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

75. [EU is coming to the aid of family of Ulster victim](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

76. [Sinn Fein Leader Reasserts Rejection of Criminal Activity](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by

Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

77. [Decoding the communique](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

78. [*Irish can toast courageous stand against evil IRA*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

79. [*Saturday, January 7*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

80. [*News in Brief*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

81. [*The Almanac*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

82. [*Protestants riot in Belfast for a third straight night*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

83. [*To Some in Ulster , Celebration of I.R.A. Pledge Is Early*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

84. [*Today in History - July 23*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

85. [*THINKING RIGHT: High court, Jane Doe, absenteeism*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

86. [*When Large Events Are Writ Small, but Deep*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

87. [Belfast killing probe progresses](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

88. [Brave siblings stand up to IRA](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

89. [Sinn Fein Leader Plays Down Snubs From Bush and Kennedy](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

90. [NEWS FEATURE: Courage of Belfast sisters rocks Irish politics](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

91. [Bush holds up Irish sisters as fighters for peace in Northern Ireland](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31,

92. [*Time to pension off the IRA: Ballots have replaced bullets. The hard men of the Irish republican movement have been left behind*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

93. [*UPI NewsTrack TopNews*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

94. [*News in Brief*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

95. [*Killing in Belfast Puts I.R.A. on the Defensive*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases, Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

96. [*Politics & Policies: Syria blurs lines*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

97. [*In Focus*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

98. [*Protestants Riot in N. Ireland for 3rd Day*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

99. [*Protestant mobs mount Belfast-wide street confrontations for third straight night*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

100. [*Friday, September 9*](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Irish Republican Army"

Search Type: Natural Language

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newswires & Press
Releases,Newspapers; Timeline: Dec 31, 2004 to Dec 31, 2005

2 Belfast bank workers held in theft; The man and woman are suspected in the robbery nearly a year ago of \$50 million, a British record.

The Philadelphia Inquirer
November 30, 2005 Wednesday

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The Philadelphia Inquirer
Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A11

Length: 335 words

Byline: Shawn Pogatchnik, Associated Press

Body

Two Northern Ireland bank employees were arrested yesterday on suspicion of involvement in the robbery of their Belfast bank, raising questions about whether the theft, a British record, could have been an inside job.

Chris Ward, 24, and a 22-year-old woman whom police declined to identify were being held at the Northern Ireland police's central interrogation center in Antrim, west of Belfast, where under antiterrorist laws they could be held for up to a week before being charged or released.

A detective familiar with the investigation into the \$50 million robbery Dec. 20 confirmed that Ward was under arrest, as was a **female** friend who also works for Northern Bank.

The detective spoke to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity because it is against police policy to discuss the identities of suspects before they are charged.

Four police armored vehicles were parked outside Ward's home in Poleglass on the outskirts of Catholic West Belfast, a power base of the outlawed **Irish Republican Army**.

Elsewhere, police in Northern Ireland arrested a Sinn Fein politician and three other people yesterday on suspicion of involvement in one of the **Irish Republican Army's** most notorious atrocities - a 1972 triple car-bomb attack on a mostly Protestant village.

Six people were killed instantly and three others died later when the IRA detonated the bombs without warning in Claudy on July 31, 1972.

No one ever was charged in connection with the attack.

Police, who reopened the investigation in 2002, said all four people arrested - men aged 50, 60 and 67, and a 58-year-old woman - originally were questioned as suspects in 1972 but released without charge.

2 Belfast bank workers held in theft The man and woman are suspected in the robbery nearly a year ago of \$50 million, a British record.

Sinn Fein, the IRA-linked party that represents most Catholics in Northern Ireland, confirmed that police had arrested one of its officials, Francie Brolly, at his home in the mostly Catholic town of Dungiven. Brolly, a retired teacher best known locally as a traditional singer, was elected in 2003 to the province's long-mothballed local legislature.

Load-Date: November 30, 2005

End of Document

Omagh murder charges soon: Papers to be served on IRA dissident. EU legislators are asked to help women sue IRA members in death of their brother

The Gazette (Montreal)

May 11, 2005 Wednesday

Final Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A16

Length: 390 words

Byline: TOM PETERKIN, London Daily Telegraph; AP contributed to this report

Dateline: BELFAST

Body

Sean Hoey, a suspected ***Irish Republican Army*** dissident, is to be charged this month with murdering 29 people in Northern Ireland's deadliest terrorist attack, the 1998 car bombing of Omagh, it was confirmed in court yesterday.

The electrician, who has been in custody since September 2003 on other terrorist charges, will have papers served on him before his next court appearance on May 26.

Hoey, 35, was due to apply for bail in Belfast High Court yesterday, but his lawyer, Martin O'Rourke, asked for the application to be adjourned after last week's disclosure that Hoey was alleged to be charged in connection with the worst single atrocity of the Troubles.

"Since then there have been extensive media reports that the applicant is to be charged with the Omagh bombing and the 29 murders relating to that incident," he said.

Prosecutor Gordon Kerr said he could confirm that the police had received a direction that murder charges in relation to the 1998 Real IRA bombing would be considered by a magistrate.

O'Rourke said Hoey, of South Armagh, who is accused of being a member of the Real IRA was already facing a total of 20 charges relating to the possession of explosive devices and associated offences. The charges relate to bomb attacks in Armagh, Banbridge, Lisburn and Newry.

The car bomb went off in the County Tyrone market town on a Saturday afternoon after confusing warnings from terrorists. The dead included 11 children. More than 300 people were injured.

In Strasbourg, France, European Union legislators asked for the unprecedented use of EU anti-terrorist funds to help three sisters from Northern Ireland finance a civil suit against ***Irish Republican Army*** members suspected of killing their brother.

The motion, approved by a large majority of the 732-member European parliament, proposes that if Northern Ireland's police are unable to bring charges against suspects in the slaying of Robert McCartney, the EU "grant a

Omagh murder charges soon: Papers to be served on IRA dissident. EU legislators are asked to help women sue IRA members in death of their brother

financial contribution toward the cost of legal fees incurred by the McCartney family in their quest for justice, by way of civil proceedings."

In the debate preceding the vote, EU legislators launched bitter attacks on the IRA for creating a climate of fear that has prevented potential witnesses from coming forward, and criticized the IRA-linked Sinn Fein for not doing enough to help identify the killers.

Load-Date: May 11, 2005

End of Document

VOA NEWS: NORTHERN IRELAND SISTERS WORK FOR JUSTICE FOLLOWING BROTHER'S MURDER

US Fed News

March 16, 2005 Wednesday 7:22 AM EST

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Length: 596 words

Byline: US Fed News

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

The Voice of America issued the following story:

By Serena Parker

Bush and top U.S. lawmakers are defending their decisions to cancel meetings with Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams and to meet instead with the sisters of Robert McCartney. Members of the **Irish Republican Army** allegedly beat and stabbed Mr. McCartney to death in a Belfast pub on January 30, and his sisters have been campaigning for justice in his murder.

President Bush invited the five McCartney sisters - Paula, Catherine, Gemma, Claire and Donna - and Robert McCartney's fiancée, Bridgeen Hagans, to the annual St. Patrick's Day celebration at the White House on Thursday.

The president said he looks forward to meeting the **women** and he praised their decision to seek justice for their brother in the courts, rather than through violence.

"It's very important that people understand that the parties must renounce violence," he said. "The Good Friday Agreement laid out the way forward for peace in Northern Ireland and this administration and government strongly supports those steps. Tomorrow's message will be that we want to thank those in civil society who are working hard to achieve a peaceful resolution."

The **women** met with U.S. Senators in Washington Wednesday including Edward Kennedy and Hillary Clinton who said they hoped some good would come of the senseless murder of Robert McCartney. Mr. McCartney was brutally killed in a crowded pub in front of as many as 70 witnesses whom the sisters say are too afraid of the IRA to come forward.

Sen. Edward Kennedy, walks with members of Robert McCartney's family: left sister, Paula; fiancée, Bridgeen Hagen; and right, sisters Gemma, Catherine and Donna

Catherine McCartney thanked the lawmakers for their support and said she and her sisters would continue to press for justice.

VOA NEWS: NORTHERN IRELAND SISTERS WORK FOR JUSTICE FOLLOWING BROTHER'S MURDER

"We cannot rebuild our lives unless these people are brought to justice," she said. "But importantly for Ireland also we don't believe that peace and violence can co-exist in Ireland and that Robert's murderers being brought to justice will be a clear signal that those in Ireland have chosen peace."

Massachusetts Democrat Edward Kennedy, a well-known Irish-American and strong supporter of the Northern Ireland peace process, made headlines earlier this month when he announced he had cut off direct talks with Sinn Fein.

Senator Kennedy traditionally has welcomed Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams to Washington. He said he decided to cut off direct talks with Mr. Adams until the Sinn Fein leadership severs all ties with the **Irish Republican Army**, the outlawed paramilitary group.

"Eleven years ago the cease-fire was announced in Ireland. Seven years ago the Good Friday Agreement was initiated," Sen. Kennedy said. "Two years ago Sinn Fein entered the lists and went through the election process and has had recognition by many of the people in Northern Ireland and southern Ireland as well. No political party - no political party - can also have an armed unit that continues violence and criminality in today's world."

Senator Kennedy said the brutality of the killing and the cover-up of the murder after the fact were especially troubling. He hopes Sinn Fein will once and for all separate themselves from the IRA.

Parker

report:

http://www.voanews.com/mediaassets/english/2005_03/Audio/rm/parker_ireland_sisters_16mar05.rm

Listen

to

Parker

report:

<http://www.voanews.com/english/figleaf/ramfilegenerate.cfm?filepath=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Evoanews%2Ecom%2Fmediaassets%2Fenglish%2F2005%5F03%2FAudio%2Frm%2Fparker%5Fireland%5Fsisters%5F16mar05%2Erm>

For any query with respect to this article or any other content requirement, please contact Editor at htsyndication@hindustantimes.com

Load-Date: November 4, 2005

Suspected IRA Dissident Jailed in Bombing

Associated Press Online

November 22, 2005 Tuesday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 270 words

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

Detectives arrested a suspected ***Irish Republican Army*** dissident Tuesday on suspicion of involvement in a 1998 car-bombing that killed 29 people in Omagh, the deadliest terrorist attack in Northern Ireland's history.

Nobody has been convicted in connection with the Aug. 15, 1998, explosion, when a 500-pound car bomb detonated amid a crowd on the town's main shopping street, killing 29 people - mostly ***women*** and children - and wounding more than 300.

A dissident group called the Real IRA claimed responsibility for the bombing.

Police declined to identify the 34-year-old man arrested Tuesday. He could be held in the police's main interrogation center for up to a week before being charged or released.

In September, a court ruled the accused bomb maker, Sean Hoey, to stand trial in the deaths, making him the first person to be charged with murder in the bombing.

The dissidents oppose the IRA's 1997 cease-fire and the 1998 peace accord for Northern Ireland, which proposed Catholic-Protestant cooperation in a joint government and the gradual disarmament of the IRA and other groups. A power-sharing government fell apart in 2002, while disarmament officials in September announced that the IRA had surrendered its weapons stockpiles.

Omagh survivors have criticized British and Irish authorities for failing to convict anybody in the attack, which also wounded more than 300 people. The toll was particularly high because police - responding to vague telephone warnings - unwittingly evacuated people toward the bomb. Among the dead were three generations of one family, more than a dozen children and two Spanish tourists.

Load-Date: November 22, 2005

Police arrest IRA dissident on suspicion of involvement in 1998 bombing

The Canadian Press (CP)
November 22, 2005 Tuesday

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Section: FOREIGN GENERAL NEWS

Length: 252 words

Body

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) _ Detectives arrested a suspected **Irish Republican Army** dissident Tuesday on suspicion of involvement in a 1998 car-bombing that killed 29 people in Omagh, the deadliest terrorist attack in Northern Ireland's history.

Nobody has been convicted in connection with the Aug. 15, 1998, explosion, when a 227-kilogram car bomb detonated amid a crowd on the town's main shopping street.

APThe blast killed 29 people, mostly **women** and children, and wounded more than 300.

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Load-Date: November 23, 2005

Crusading sisters snub Thatcher over her 'injustices' to N. Ireland

National Post (f/k/a The Financial Post) (Canada)

November 4, 2005 Friday

National Edition

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Section: WORLD; Pg. A13; World Report

Length: 227 words

Byline: Reuters

Dateline: LONDON

Body

LONDON - Former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher was snubbed by five sisters of a Belfast murder victim who refused to share a stage with her yesterday because of her policies in Northern Ireland. The McCartney sisters, who made world headlines this year by standing up to the **Irish Republican Army**, were due to collect a **Women** of the Year award in London but declined when they found out Lady Thatcher would also be there. "Our campaign is one of justice and as an Irish republican family we feel we cannot share the same platform with a former prime minister who inflicted injustices on our community," two of the sisters said in a statement. The sisters' brother Robert, a 33-year-old forklift driver, was stabbed to death in January by a gang that included known IRA members. His sisters criticized the IRA and its political ally Sinn Fein, almost unheard of in their working-class Roman Catholic neighbourhood in Belfast, and accused local IRA men of intimidating witnesses to stop them going to the police. But while they have criticized IRA violence, they have remained loyal to their republican roots, and said that was why they could not share a stage with Lady Thatcher. The former British prime minister is hated by many Northern Irish republicans for her uncompromising policies in the province during her 11 years in office from 1979 to 1990.

Graphic

Black & White

Photo: Margaret Thatcher.

Load-Date: November 4, 2005

Busy commuters keep one step ahead of their fears and tears

The Courier Mail (Queensland, Australia)

July 9, 2005 Saturday

Copyright 2005 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: NEWS; Pg. 4

Length: 241 words

Body

LONDONERS were first dazed and then determined as their city was plunged into chaos.

Within hours of the attacks, many regional trains were running again and, by yesterday, the Underground itself was operating, albeit with significant delays.

"Things are being dealt with as they should be. We just have to push on. If I give in to the worry, the terrorists have won," said a 67-year-old **female** passenger preparing to board a train.

But the crippled transport system caused difficulties for hundreds of thousands of people, forced to walk miles from the city centre to the suburbs. As news of the carnage spread, many businesses closed or let staff leave early. Many did not make it home, holing up in pubs and inner-city hotels to wait for normal services to resume.

In the aftermath of the blasts, mobile phone networks swiftly became overloaded as people in Britain and abroad checked on the safety of loved ones.

"As soon as it started happening, people at home tried to get us on the phone but the mobile networks were down," said Andrew Henwood, a South African information technology worker who has lived in London for five years.

Airports remained open with guards, armed with automatic rifles, appearing at entrances to Gatwick and Heathrow.

They were still there yesterday and the trains to Heathrow Airport were running -- and crowded.

Even during the worst days of the **Irish Republican Army** attacks against Britain, the Tube itself was never hit.

Load-Date: July 8, 2005

Police arrest IRA dissident on suspicion of involvement in 1998 bombing that killed 29

The Associated Press

November 22, 2005, Tuesday, BC cycle

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Section: International News

Length: 270 words

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

Detectives arrested a suspected ***Irish Republican Army*** dissident Tuesday on suspicion of involvement in a 1998 car-bombing that killed 29 people in Omagh, the deadliest terrorist attack in Northern Ireland's history.

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Omagh survivors have criticized British and Irish authorities for failing to convict anybody in the attack, which also wounded more than 300 people. The toll was particularly high because police - responding to vague telephone warnings - unwittingly evacuated people toward the bomb. Among the dead were three generations of one family, more than a dozen children and two Spanish tourists.

Load-Date: November 23, 2005

Former U.S. President Clinton congratulates to sisters of slain Northern Irish man

AP Worldstream

October 10, 2005 Monday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 279 words

Dateline: LONDON

Body

Former United States President Bill Clinton congratulated the sisters and fiancée of a slain Northern Irish man who have mounted an international campaign to bring his killers to justice, as they were honored at an awards ceremony Monday.

The five sisters and fiancée of Robert McCartney, who was fatally stabbed and clubbed by IRA members outside a Belfast pub on Jan. 30, have spent months campaigning to bring his killers to justice.

On Monday night they received a special award at British newspaper the Daily Mirror's Pride of Britain Awards.

In a video message played at the awards ceremony in London, Clinton lauded the **women** for their campaign, which took them to the White House and the European Parliament.

"Your fight for justice, born out of the tragic loss of Robert, and your efforts to bring his assailants to trial have won you respect and admiration all around the world, not least here in the United States," Clinton said.

"Because you stood up against those who wanted to silence you and continued to speak out despite intimidation and threats, I have no doubt that your campaign contributed to the historic changes that have recently taken place in Northern Ireland," he said.

The **women** were presented with their award by British Prime Minister Tony Blair and his wife Cherie.

The killing of McCartney, a Catholic, focussed attention on **Irish Republican Army** intimidation within Catholic parts of Northern Ireland and led the IRA to dismiss three volunteers after admitting its members had been involved.

One reputed IRA figure has already been charged with McCartney's murder. Another has been charged with the attempted murder of McCartney's friend Brendan Devine.

Load-Date: October 11, 2005

Sisters of murdered Belfast man refuse award in protest of Thatcher

Deutsche Presse-Agentur

November 3, 2005, Thursday 16292116:29:21 Central European Time

Copyright 2005 Deutsche Presse-Agentur

Section: Politics

Length: 264 words

Dateline: London/Belfast

Body

The sisters of Northern Irish Catholic man Robert McCartney, who was allegedly murdered by an **Irish Republican Army** (IRA) gang, Thursday refused to collect an award in London because former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was being honoured at the same ceremony.

Thatcher, who was Prime Minister in the 1980's, had "inflicted injuries on Ireland", the sisters said in a statement.

Two of McCartney's five sisters had travelled to London to pick up the award, but declined when they discovered that Thatcher was also being honoured at the 50th "**Women** of the Year" awards in the British capital.

Singer Tina Turner was among the **women** receiving accolades at a lunch in London's Guildhall Thursday.

McCartney, 33, was stabbed to death outside a Belfast bar in January. His sisters have led a relentless campaign to bring his killers to justice. Two men have been charged over his murder.

A statement from the sisters said: "Our campaign is one of justice and as an Irish republican family, we feel that we cannot share the same platform as a former prime minister who inflicted injuries on our country."

The award organisers said the McCartney sisters declined the **Women** of the Year's Outstanding Achievement Award "due to circumstances they only became aware of this morning".

"However, **Women** of the Year would like to reiterate that they are proud to recognise their remarkable achievements and to offer them all our continued support."

Thatcher was being honoured for her "political career and her inspiration to other **women** to strive and achieve more in their work". dpa at emc

Load-Date: November 3, 2005

Sunday, October 30

AP Worldstream

October 22, 2005 Saturday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 769 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Body

Today is Sunday, October 30, the 304th day of 2005. There are 62 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1270 - The eighth and last Crusade is launched.

1697 - France signs the Peace of Ryswick, ending the War of the Grand Alliance between France on one side and England, the Netherlands, Spain, the Holy Roman Empire on the other.

1817 - Simon Bolivar organizes independent government in Venezuela.

1888 - In London, Jack the Ripper murders his last victim.

1918 - Czechoslovakia is proclaimed an independent republic.

1928 - Experimental transmission of still photographs by television begins in Britain.

1930 - Treaty of friendship between Greece and Turkey is signed in Ankara.

1938 - The U.S. radio play, "The War of the Worlds," starring Orson Welles, airs on CBS. The live drama, which employed fake news reports, panicked listeners who thought its portrayal of a Martian invasion was true.

1945 - The U.S. government announces the end of shoe rationing.

1953 - U.S. General George C. Marshall is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

1956 - Britain and France issue an ultimatum to Egypt and Israel calling for a cease-fire.

1961 - The Soviet Union tests a hydrogen bomb with a force estimated at 58 megatons, an action condemned throughout the world; the Soviet Party Congress unanimously approves a resolution ordering the removal of Josef Stalin's body from Lenin's tomb.

1963 - Algeria and Morocco sign a peace agreement in a border dispute.

1965 - Military activity by the Indonesian Communist party forces in Central Java intensify and assume aspects of a full-fledged revolt.

Sunday, October 30

1974 - Muhammad Ali knocks out George Foreman in the eighth round of a 15-round bout in Kinshasa, Zaire, to regain his world heavyweight title.

1978 - U.S. President Jimmy Carter signs a law allowing the deportation of all naturalized U.S. citizens who had engaged in Nazi atrocities.

1983 - A powerful earthquake hits eastern Turkey killing over 1,300 people in Erzurum and Kars provinces.

1989 - Riot police in Moscow repeatedly charge and club demonstrators following a candlelight vigil outside KGB headquarters in memory of Stalin's victims.

1991 - U.S. intelligence assessments cite that China is providing Iran with the equipment and technology to develop nuclear weapons.

1992 - Heavy fighting breaks out in Luanda, the capital of Angola, between the government and the Union for the Total Independence of Angola or UNITA. The conflict rages for three days, claiming at least 1,000 lives, until both sides establish a truce November 1.

1993 - Two gunmen open fire in a village pub in Northern Ireland, killing seven.

1994 - Gerry Adams, leader of **Irish Republican Army**'s political ally Sinn Fein, says that he is willing to accept a compromise that falls short of uniting Northern Ireland with the republic.

1995 - Quebec votes against separation from Canada by 50.6 percent to 49.4 percent.

1997 - Sri Lanka's air force begins recruiting **women** to train as pilots for cockpits left vacant by the deaths of airmen in the country's 14-year civil war.

1998 - While cracking down on the militant Hamas movement, the Palestinian Authority cabinet ratifies the land-for-peace accord; in Nicaragua, a mudslide caused by Hurricane Mitch kills at least 2,000 people on the slopes of the Casitas volcano in Posoltega.

1999 - The last Indonesian troop ship sails out of East Timor, ending a bloody 24-year military engagement in the now independent nation. Some 200,000 East Timorese and 5,000 Indonesian troops have perished since the Indonesian invasion of the former Portuguese colony on Dec. 7, 1975.

2000 - A Supreme Court judge, his bodyguard and chauffeur are killed and 35 others injured in Southern Spain, by a suspected Basque separatist car bomb.

2002 - The **Irish Republican Army** breaks off negotiations with an independent disarmament commission over talks on scrapping weapons - a key goal of Northern Ireland's 4-year-old peace accord.

2004 - Ukrainians vote in a presidential election closely watched by the West for signs of whether the former Soviet republic is committed to democracy and whether the country that sprawls between Russia and NATO's eastern flank will tilt toward the Kremlin.

Today's Birthdays:

Richard Brinsley Sheridan, Irish author-politician (1741-1816); Feodor Dostoyevsky, Russian novelist (1821-1881); Ezra Pound, U.S. poet (1885-1972); Louis Malle, French film director (1932-1995); Henry Winkler, U.S. actor (1945-); Diego Maradona, Argentine soccer star (1960--).

Thought for Today:

Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood - Marie Curie, Polish Nobel Prize-winning chemist (1867-1934).

Sunday, October 30

Load-Date: October 22, 2005

End of Document

NOTEWORTHY

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

January 8, 2005 Saturday 0 South Pinellas Edition

Copyright 2005 Times Publishing Company

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. 7A; Newspaper

Length: 311 words

Series: TIMES 2

Body

Sen. Clinton's former finance aide indicted

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton's former finance director, David Rosen, has been indicted on charges of filing fictitious reports that misstated contributions for a Hollywood fundraising gala for the senator, the Justice Department said Friday. The charges focus on an Aug. 12, 2000, dinner and concert.

The FBI previously said in court papers that it had evidence the former first lady's campaign deliberately understated fundraising costs so it would have more money to spend on her campaign.

UPDATE

Belfast bank robbery

The ***Irish Republican Army*** stole \$50-million from a Belfast bank, Northern Ireland police chief Hugh Orde said Friday. The British and Irish governments said the development gravely undermined years of effort to revive a Catholic-Protestant administration involving Sinn Fein, the IRA-linked party. The Dec. 20 raid on the Northern Bank is the biggest cash robbery in history.

Mexico killings

Ten alleged gang members were convicted Thursday in the killings of 12 ***women***, some of the hundreds who have been found slain in the border city of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico in recent years. Sentences ranged from 24 to 113 years in prison.

NEXT WEEK

SUNDAY

+ People's Choice Awards in Los Angeles.

MONDAY

NOTEWORTHY

- + Opening statements in Fort Hood court martial of Spc. Charles Graner on suspicion of abusing detainees in Iraq.
- + Palestinian territories elect successor to Yasser Arafat as head of Palestinian Authority.
- + Sudan's government and southern insurgents scheduled to sign comprehensive peace deal ending 21-year civil war blamed for deaths of 2-million people.

WEDNESDAY

- + Democrat Christine Gregoire to be inaugurated as Washington's governor after winning a hand recount by 129 votes out of nearly 2.9-million ballots cast.

FRIDAY

- + The European Space Agency's Huygens probe enters the atmosphere of Titan, a moon of Saturn.

Load-Date: January 8, 2005

End of Document

Thursday, January 27

Associated Press International

January 19, 2005 Wednesday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 781 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Body

Today is Thursday, Jan. 27, the 27th day of 2005. There are 338 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1340 - Edward III of England declares himself king of France, a claim that leads to the Hundred Years' War. The kings of England call themselves kings of France until 1801.

1695 - Mustafa II succeeds as Sultan of Turkey on death of Ahmad II.

1822 - Greek independence is formally proclaimed.

1865 - Treaty between Spain and Peru virtually recognizes Peru's independence.

1880 - Thomas Edison receives a patent for his electric incandescent lamp.

1888 - The National Geographic Society is incorporated in the United States.

1914 - Haiti's President Oreste abdicates during revolt, and U.S. Marines land to preserve order.

1943 - U.S. bombers stage first all-out U.S. air raid on Germany in World War II, a daylight attack on Wilhelmshaven; Germany begins civil conscription of women.

1944 - The German and Finnish siege of Leningrad, now St. Petersburg, is lifted. At least 650,000 people died during the 872-day siege.

1945 - Soviet troops liberate the Nazi concentration camps Auschwitz and Birkenau in Poland.

1951 - An era of U.S. atomic testing in the Nevada desert begins as an Air Force plane drops a one- kiloton bomb on Frenchman Flats.

1964 - France establishes diplomatic relations with China.

1967 - Three U.S. Apollo astronauts die in flash fire aboard space capsule; United States, Soviet Union and 60 other nations sign treaty to limit military activities in outer space.

Thursday, January 27

1973 - Accords are signed in Paris, providing for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Vietnam, leading to the collapse of South Vietnam in 1975.

1977 - The Vatican reaffirms the Roman Catholic Church's ban on female priests.

1981 - Indonesia's Tampo Mas II passenger ship catches fire and sinks in Java Sea, killing 580 people.

1991 - President Mohammed Siad Barre of Somalia flees the capital, Mogadishu, as a coalition of rebels seize power. The country plunges into virtual anarchy.

1991 - Allied aircraft bomb Iraq's second city, Basra.

1992 - Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's government survives no-confidence motions in parliament.

1993 - Police in New Delhi lob tear gas shells to disperse rioting mobs of Hindus and Muslims who attack a mosque and a temple and burn down dozens of shops.

1994 - Terrorists strike three times in Northern Ireland, killing the first two victims of the new year and wounding two others.

1995 - Burmese soldiers win a key battle against one of the world's oldest insurgencies, capturing the base of Burma's largest Karen rebel army in the Burmese jungle.

1996 - Niger's first democratically elected president, Mahamane Ousmane, is ousted in a coup and army Col. Barre Mainassara Ibrahim takes over as head of state.

1997 - The people of Chechnya go to the polls to elect Aslan Maskhadov for president, only months after Russian forces turned most of the capital to rubble.

1998 - Bowing to the wish of the pope, the Catholic Church in Germany stops issuing certificates allowing abortion.

1999 - Eamon Collins, a former Irish Republican Army intelligence officer and author of an expose of life inside the Irish Republican Army, is found dead near the Northern Ireland town of Newry.

2000 - Human rights officials announce that they have unearthed the remains of 50 people at a clandestine cemetery in Zacualpa, a village 64 kilometers (40 miles) northwest of Guatemala City. The victims, including two children, were apparent casualties of Guatemala's 36-year civil war.

2001 - Police fire tear gas and warning shots as thousands of rock-throwing students in Jakarta storm the gates of Indonesia's Parliament in the largest protest yet against the country's president.

2002 - Munitions at an army base in Lagos, Nigeria's commercial capital, explode, sending fireballs and shrapnel into the air forcing hundreds of area residents to flee. As many as 600 people drown in a canal that blocked their way to safety.

2003 - U.N. weapons inspectors report that although the Iraqi government had given inspectors access to suspected weapons sites, it had not provided sufficient information about its weapons programs and stockpiles. This report is seen as bolstering the U.S. case for military action to disarm Iraq.

Today's Birthdays:

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Austrian composer (1756-1791); Edouard Lalo, French composer (1823-1892); Lewis Carroll, English mathematician and writer (1832-1898); Jerome Kern, U.S. composer (1885-1945); Canadian novelist Mordecai Richler (1931--); James Cromwell, U.S. actor (1940--); Mikhail Baryshnikov, Russian ballet dancer (1948--).

Thought For Today:

Thursday, January 27

As men we are all equal in the presence of death. - Publilius Syrus, Roman mimographer (100 BC)

Load-Date: January 20, 2005

End of Document

'Secret agent' conman jailed after lavish living

Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia) (Sydney, Australia)

September 7, 2005 Wednesday

Copyright 2005 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: WORLD; Pg. 33

Length: 306 words

Body

LONDON: A barman who for 10 years posed as a British spy and brainwashed his victims into funding his luxury James Bond lifestyle was jailed for life yesterday.

Robert Hendy-Freegard, 34, was found guilty in June of conning hundreds of thousands of pounds out of at least seven victims.

In one case he persuaded three students they were being hunted by the **Irish Republican Army** and he needed money to arrange their protection.

MATP

"It appears that he has spent all of his criminal proceeds on a millionaire lifestyle of Rolex watches, top of the range BMWs, handmade suits and shoes, and other James Bond expenditure," Scotland Yard said at the end of the trial.

Hendy-Freegard, who was sentenced at London's Blackfriars Crown Court, had been convicted of 20 charges, including two of kidnap, 10 of theft and five of deception.

"Mr Hendy-Freegard was an evil con artist. He ruthlessly exploited weaknesses in any of his victims," said Scotland Yard detective Robert Brandon. "When he started he'd be charming, he'd listen and listen, and find any weakness in character, any vulnerability, and then he would ruthlessly exploit that.

"When he had control of his victims he went to whatever ends he possibly could to take all their money and all their dignity," Detective Brandon said.

In 1993, Hendy-Freegard convinced the three students, two **women** and a man, that he was an undercover Special Branch officer infiltrating an IRA cell at their agricultural college in Shropshire, in north-western England.

Police say Hendy-Freegard extracted more than \$1.21 million over 10 years from the students' families after he told the students they had to fund a witness protection scheme.

Police say he also swindled at least four other people.

Scotland Yard said Hendy-Freegard had "no discernible assets" left after spending the money on his lavish lifestyle.

Load-Date: September 7, 2005

'Secret agent' conman jailed after lavish living

End of Document

SISTERS WIN EU CASH TO BRING KILLERS TO JUSTICE

The Sun
May 11, 2005

Copyright 2005 NEWS GROUP NEWSPAPERS LTD

Length: 325 words

Byline: Patrick Griffin

Body

MURDERED Robert McCartney's battling sisters won Euro MPs' hearts, respect AND money yesterday.

The MEPs voted to help fund the women's civil action against their brother's suspected IRA killers.

The politicians will dig into their coffers if cops cannot get enough evidence for a criminal trial.

Last night the sisters described the historic decision by the European Parliament as "remarkable".

EU anti-terrorism funds have NEVER been used before to finance an individual case.

Dad-of-two Robert, 33, died after being beaten and stabbed outside a Belfast city centre pub on January 30. His sisters are convinced members of the IRA killed him- but they believe intimidated witnesses are too scared to speak to police.

Yesterday sisters Gemma, Paula and Catherine McCartney were in the public gallery to hear the MEPs back their campaign for justice.

The MEPs in Strasbourg voted by a massive 555-4 majority to fund the women's legal battle. But Sinn Fein's two MEPs - Bairbre de Brun and Mary Lou McDonald - voted AGAINST the motion.

Later the sisters were "overwhelmed" by the support.

Paula said: "Today's vote is totally remarkable.

"It is incredible that so many politicians representing different parties from all over Europe so strongly support our campaign for justice." The resolution claimed Robert "was brutally murdered by members of the self-styled 'Irish Republican Army'."

They "had attempted to cover up the crime and ordered all witnesses to be silent about the involvement of IRA members".

The MEPs accused Sinn Fein of failing to call on those responsible and witnesses to cooperate with the police.

Brave

They also praised the sisters and Robert's partner Bridgeen Hagans for refusing to accept the "code of silence" and for "bravely and persistently" challenging the IRA.

SISTERS WIN EU CASH TO BRING KILLERS TO JUSTICE

Ms de Brun insisted Sinn Fein supported the family.

But Democratic Unionist MEP Jim Allister said: "This outcome exposes Sinn Fein as without friends in Europe."

Load-Date: May 22, 2005

End of Document

Suspected IRA dissident to be charged with 29 murders from 1998 bomb, police say

Associated Press International

May 4, 2005 Wednesday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 309 words

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

A suspected **Irish Republican Army** dissident will be charged with murdering 29 people in Northern Ireland's deadliest terrorist attack, police said Wednesday.

Sean Gerard Hoey, 35, has been behind bars since September 2003 while awaiting trial for more than a dozen criminal offenses, including supplying part of the car bomb used to kill the 29 people on Aug. 15, 1998, in the town of Omagh. But until now, nobody has been charged with murder in connection with the attack.

A detective, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said state prosecutors have given the go-ahead for murder charges to be filed against Hoey, probably later this month. The decision followed a police recommendation in 2004 for Hoey to face murder charges.

Officially, the Police Service of Northern Ireland press office would confirm only that state prosecutors had recommend further action against Hoey but declined to specify what action.

The Omagh blast tore apart a crowd of shoppers, shop workers and tourists who had been unwittingly evacuated towards the bomb because of vague telephoned warnings from IRA dissidents. Among the dead, most of whom were **women** and children, were three generations of one family and a woman 8 months pregnant with twins. More than 300 others were injured.

Relatives of the dead - many of whom have harshly criticized the police investigation to date - welcomed news of the planned murder charges.

"We're delighted things are starting to move," said Michael Gallagher, whose only son died in the blast.

It's what we've been waiting for and I would hope this will be the beginning of the end for the families," said Gallagher, who is leading a group of survivors trying to sue five leading IRA dissidents for more than 10 million pounds ([euro]14.5 million; US\$19 million) in damages.

Hoey, who isn't among those being sued, was arrested in September 2003.

Load-Date: May 5, 2005

Suspected IRA dissident to be charged with 29 murders from 1998 bomb, police say

End of Document

Charges to be laid in Irish bombing

Prince George Citizen (British Columbia)

May 5, 2005 Thursday

Final Edition

Copyright 2005 Prince George Citizen All Rights Reserved

Section: WORLD; Pg. 15

Length: 309 words

Byline: Associated Press

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) -- A suspected **Irish Republican Army** dissident will be charged with murdering 29 people in Northern Ireland's deadliest terrorist attack, police said Wednesday.

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"It's what we've been waiting for and I would hope this will be the beginning of the end for the families," said Gallagher, who is leading a group of survivors trying to sue five leading IRA dissidents for more than 10 million pounds (about \$23.8 million Cdn) in damages.

Hoey, who isn't among those being sued, was arrested in September 2003.

Load-Date: February 17, 2006

Charges to be laid in Irish bombing

End of Document

BORING BUT IMPORTANT

MX (Melbourne, Australia)

April 7, 2005 Thursday

Copyright 2005 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: NEWS; Pg. 11

Length: 338 words

Body

VOTE TALLY GAPS POINT TO RIGGING

ZIMBABWE'S opposition today said it had discovered "serious and unaccountable gaps" in vote tallies, which prove its charges that President Robert Mugabe's ruling ZANU-PF party rigged last week's parliamentary election.

Morgan Tsvangirai's Movement for Democratic Change said its crushing defeat was hardly surprising because all the country's electoral institutions were controlled by Mugabe loyalists.

ADAMS FINALLY CALLS FOR PEACE

SINN Fein leader Gerry Adams today urged his IRA military allies to take an "historic" step to abandon violence for a final settlement in Northern Ireland and Irish Republic unity.

Adams, the leader of the main Catholic party in Northern Ireland, said he had supported the outlawed **Irish Republican Army** in the past because there had been no choice.

SMOKING DECREASES IVF SUCCESS

SMOKING reduces the chances of **women** using IVF treatment having a baby equivalent to ageing them 10 years.

Being overweight also limits the odds of becoming a mother, according to research released from Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre in the Netherlands.

NUCLEAR TREATY NEEDS STRENGTH

FORMER US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and ex-Defence secretaries Robert McNamara and William Perry call on the Bush and other governments to strengthen a pivotal treaty designed to stem the spread of nuclear weapons.

The treaty, supported by 186 countries, will be reviewed at a month-long conference beginning May 2 in New York. About 180 governments will attend, with 50 foreign ministers.

US SENATE APPROVES \$105b IRAQ BILL

THE US Senate Appropriations Committee today approved a \$105 billion emergency spending bill for US operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, about \$1.96 billion less than US president George W. Bush wanted.

BORING BUT IMPORTANT

The bill, which cleared the Senate committee with little debate, will slash aid Bush sought to reward countries that contributed forces in Iraq and Afghanistan.

But it gives Bush much of the \$859.34 million he wanted to build a new US embassy compound in Baghdad.

Load-Date: April 7, 2005

End of Document

Suspected IRA dissident to be charged with 29 murders from 1998 bomb: police

The Canadian Press (CP)

May 4, 2005 Wednesday

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Section: FOREIGN GENERAL NEWS

Length: 309 words

Body

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) _ A suspected **Irish Republican Army** dissident will be charged with murdering 29 people in Northern Ireland's deadliest terrorist attack, police said Wednesday.

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AP

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Relatives of the dead _ many of whom have criticized the police investigation to date _ welcomed news of the planned murder charges.

"We're delighted things are starting to move," said Michael Gallagher, whose only son died in the blast.

"It's what we've been waiting for and I would hope this will be the beginning of the end for the families," said Gallagher, who is leading a group of survivors trying to sue five leading IRA dissidents for more than 10 million pounds (about \$23.8 million Cdn) in damages.

Hoey, who isn't among those being sued, was arrested in September 2003.

Load-Date: May 5, 2005

Suspected IRA dissident to be charged with 29 murders from 1998 bomb: police

End of Document

Brief

The Toronto Star

February 23, 2005 Wednesday

Copyright 2005 Toronto Star Newspapers, Ltd.

Section: NEWS; Pg. A12

Length: 341 words

Body

Britain

IRA crimes to cost

Sinn Fein \$1 million in government benefits

Sinn Fein, the **Irish Republican Army**-linked party, will be hit with hefty financial penalties for the IRA's alleged \$50 million (U.S.) robbery of a Belfast bank and other crimes in Northern Ireland, the government said Tuesday.

Northern Ireland Secretary Paul Murphy said Sinn Fein's four members of the House of Commons - who have refused to take their seats - would lose their right to claim expenses, a benefit worth more than \$750,000 annually. He also said the government would continue to hold back a \$230,000 annual development grant to the party.

The penalties must be approved by Parliament.

Israel

Jewish militants to be disarmed before pullout

Police said yesterday they would disarm Jewish militants who threaten violence ahead of a Gaza Strip pullout and assign nearly all field officers to evacuate settlers and control protests.

Jewish settlers said they would set up a military-style operation to try to block the evacuation set for this summer, partly through civil disobedience and partly by lobbying legislators to bring down the government.

Kashmir

Extreme winter weather claims at least 244 lives

Avalanches and extreme cold have killed at least 244 people in this disputed Himalayan region which spans India and Pakistan, and about 150 others are missing on both sides, officials said yesterday.

In neighbouring Afghanistan, severe weather has killed at least 180 children during the coldest winter in years, Health Minister Mohammed Amin Fatemi said yesterday.

Italy

Rocker gets 30 years

Brief

for Satanic killings

Andrea Volpe, leader of heavy metal rock band "Beasts of Satan," was sentenced to 30 years in prison yesterday for the Satanic ritual slayings of its singer, Fabio Tollis, and two women.

Band members stabbed Tollis's girlfriend Chiara Marino to death under a full moon in 1998, apparently believing she was the personification of the Virgin Mary. Volpe was also convicted of murdering his ex-girlfriend Mariangela Pezzotta last year.

From the Star's wire services

Load-Date: February 23, 2005

End of Document

Almanac

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

March 1, 2005 Tuesday

Copyright 2005 Woodward Communications, Inc.

Section: Features; Pg. A7

Length: 313 words

Byline: ASSOCIATED PRESS

Body

Today is Tuesday, March 1, the 60th day of 2005. There are 305 days left in the year.

History highlights:

On March 1, 1945, President Roosevelt, back from the Yalta Conference, proclaimed the meeting a success as he addressed a joint session of Congress.

On this date:

In 1781, the Continental Congress adopted the Articles of Confederation.

In 1790, Congress authorized the first U.S. Census.

In 1864, Rebecca Lee became the first black woman to receive an American medical degree, from the New England **Female** Medical College in Boston.

In 1867, Nebraska became the 37th state.

In 1872, Congress authorized creation of Yellowstone National Park.

In 1904, bandleader Glenn Miller was born in Clarinda, Iowa.

In 1932, 20-month-old Charles A. Lindbergh Jr., the son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh, was kidnapped from the family home near Hopewell, N.J. (Remains identified as those of the child were found the following May.)

In 1954, Puerto Rican nationalists opened fire from the gallery of the U.S. House of Representatives, wounding five congressmen.

In 1961, President Kennedy established the Peace Corps.

In 1981, **Irish Republican Army** member Bobby Sands began a hunger strike at the Maze Prison in Northern Ireland; he died 65 days later.

Today's birthdays:

Almanac

Actor Robert Clary is 79. Singer Harry Belafonte is 78. Former U.S. Solicitor General Robert H. Bork is 78. Actor Robert Conrad is 70. Former Sen. John Breaux, D-La., is 61. Rock singer Roger Daltrey is 61. Actor Dirk Benedict is 60. Actor Alan Thicke is 58. Actor-director Ron Howard is 51. Actress Catherine Bach is 51. Actor Tim Daly is 49. Singer-musician Jon Carroll is 48. Rock musician Bill Leen is 43. Actor Russell Wong is 42. Actor John David Cullum is 39. Actor George Eads is 38. Actor Javier Bardem is 36. Actor Mark-Paul Gosselaar is 31. Actor Jensen Ackles is 27. TV host Donovan Patton is 27. R&B singer Sammie is 18.

Load-Date: March 2, 2005

End of Document

New human rights chief for Northern Ireland pledges to draft Bill of Rights

AP Worldstream

June 16, 2005 Thursday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 329 words

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

Northern Ireland residents will receive a new U.S.-style Bill of Rights and investigations into alleged abuses will be probed with greater power and vigor, the new chief of the province's Human Rights Commission pledged Thursday.

The British government appointed feminist politician Monica McWilliams to a three-year term atop the commission, which was formed under terms of Northern Ireland's 1998 peace accord - but since has been widely criticized as ineffective and feud-prone.

McWilliams, who previously led a tiny political party called the Northern Ireland **Women's** Coalition, said her top goal would be to draft a proposed Bill of Rights for the 1.7 million residents of this British territory. Until now, the commission has failed to make progress on the goal, which was specified in the 1998 accord.

"The main job of work here is going to be completing that work on the Bill of Rights," McWilliams said.

Also appointed Thursday were seven other commissioners, among them a university law lecturer, a hard-line Protestant politician who has highlighted the victims of **Irish Republican Army** attacks, a former principal of a state grammar school, and a post office worker.

They are joining a panel that has suffered repeated crises over the past four years' leadership of Brice Dickson, who stepped down earlier this year. Just six of the original 13 panelists remain following a spate of internal rows and resignations.

"Obviously, the last time round, there was political disagreement on what should be in the Bill of Rights and this time we can move the issue forward," McWilliams said.

McWilliams founded the **Women's** Coalition in 1996 to highlight the low number of **women** involved in Northern Ireland politics. She took part in the 22-month negotiations that produced the 1998 accord, but lost her seat in Northern Ireland's moribund legislature in a 2003 election, after which the **Women's** Coalition folded.

On the Net:

Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, www.nihrc.org

Load-Date: June 17, 2005

New human rights chief for Northern Ireland pledges to draft Bill of Rights

End of Document

Sinn Fein leader plays down snubs by Bush and Kennedy

The International Herald Tribune

March 16, 2005 Wednesday

Copyright 2005 International Herald Tribune

Section: NEWS; Pg. 5

Length: 315 words

Byline: Warren Hoge

Dateline: NEW YORK:

Body

Gerry Adams, the president of Sinn Fein, played down snubs from the White House and Senator Edward Kennedy, his party's most prominent supporter in American politics during a trip to the United States for St. Patrick's Day, March 17.

Speaking to the Council on Foreign Relations, Adams said Monday that it was a disappointment not to be going to the White House, as he had in recent years, but he cautioned against reading too much into that.

President George W. Bush canceled the traditional White House gathering of leaders of the political parties of Northern Ireland and invited instead the six women from the family of Robert McCartney, who have been leading protests over the killing of McCartney in January in a Belfast pub by a group that included members of the Irish Republican Army. Sinn Fein is the political wing of the IRA.

The New York Times

"Do I interpret that as a movement by this administration away from the peace process?" Adams asked. "No, I don't. This will not be worked out in the White House; this will not be worked out here," he said, referring to the council. "This will not be worked out anywhere else except back on the island of Ireland."

Kennedy, a Massachusetts Democrat, canceled a meeting with Adams scheduled for this week in Washington, and a spokesman explained that the senator had done so because of the IRA's "ongoing criminal activity and contempt for the rule of law."

In reaction, Adams said: "Sinn Fein has worked closely with him in the past. On this occasion, we believe that he has been badly advised."

Mitchell Reiss, Bush's special envoy to Northern Ireland, said: "It's time for the IRA to disband. There's no place in 2005 in Europe for a private army associated with a political party."

Adams said that he hoped the IRA would disband but warned that forcing it to do so in humiliating fashion ran the risk of creating a more radical replacement.

Load-Date: March 16, 2005

Sinn Fein leader plays down snubs by Bush and Kennedy

End of Document

U.S., IRISH LEADERS AGREE VIOLENCE MUST END IN ULSTER

States News Service

March 17, 2005 Thursday

Copyright 2005 States News Service

Length: 838 words

Byline: States News Service

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

The following information was released by the U.S. Department of State:

President Bush and Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern are in agreement that the violence and the thuggery and the criminality must end for peace to occur in Northern Ireland, according to White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan.

Speaking with the press March 17, McClellan said the United States stood with Ahern and British Prime Minister Tony Blair in making these comments and in the sentiment that the **Irish Republican Army** (IRA) should disband.

McClellan said Ahern and Bush discussed the efforts of civil society leaders to end the conflict in a 50-minute meeting, noting that President Bush said he strongly supports these efforts, believing they can show others around the world what is possible.

McClellan also said that President Bush met the sisters and fiance of Robert McCartney, a Belfast man allegedly killed by members of the IRA.^a He said Bush thanked the **women** for their courage and told them that justice will prevail.

The press secretary noted that, The sisters coming here sends the message that we are united with those who are working in the society to end the violence and bring about peace.

McClellan also said the sisters had united people around the cause of peace and the rule of law. ^a He noted that the president said that the United States would do what it could to help to bring McCartney's killers to justice.

Speaking to the press following his meeting with President Bush, Prime Minister Ahern said there had been constructive discussions covering a wide range of issues, including Middle East peace efforts, Iraq, Iran, Sudan and other topics of interest to the U.S.-European agenda.

Bush, he said, is extremely well briefed on recent events in Northern Ireland, including the December 20, 2004, bank raid in Belfast blamed on the **Irish Republican Army** (IRA) and the murder of Robert McCartney. We briefed the president on where we think things are and where we hope to go in the months ahead, he said, particularly after elections in the United Kingdom, expected this summer.

The sisters and fiancee of the late Robert McCartney also met with President Bush.^a The prime minister said the **women** had stated that they were not bitter people but were seeking justice.^a They wanted to see that the rule of law and the legal system and the court system would get justice for them, Ahern said.

U.S. , IRISH LEADERS AGREE VIOLENCE MUST END IN ULSTER

President Bush, he reported, stated that the American administration will do all that they can do. [Bush] said he was glad they were here. He was glad that he was able to show solidarity and support for them, Ahern said, as well as a desire to end such tragedies in the future.

The prime minister said the issues that have been so crystally clear in Ireland, are equally so here. But, he added, the message he received in Washington is that it is very clear what remains to be implemented in the Good Friday Accord, and that if the parties are committed its implementation, don't keep saying that you're committed to it and not implementing it. Let's bring it to an end and move on. That's what people are saying here and they are saying it very strongly, Ahern said. I don't think they want to see us back here again ... saying that we have a few items outstanding, he added.

A democratic peace in Northern Ireland means the end of paramilitarism, end of paramilitary links, end of criminality, he said.

Full implementation of the Good Friday Accord requires the IRA, including its political wing Sinn Fein, to honor all its responsibilities, Ahern said. The Irish leader met with Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams in Washington March 16 and said Adams informed him he shares that position. But, the prime minister added, We must see that thing delivered.

The Good Friday Accord of April 10, 1998, calls for Protestants to share political power with the minority Catholics, and gives the Republic of Ireland a voice in Northern Irish affairs. In turn, Catholics are to suspend the goal of a united Ireland unless the largely Protestant North voted in favor of such an arrangement. A good way of showing that to everybody ... would be to bring to justice the murderers of Robert McCartney, Ahern said.

According to press reports, Gerry Adams met with President Bush's Special Envoy for Northern Ireland Mitchell Reiss at the State Department March 16 but was not invited to the White House.

If there is no action on issues such as the McCartney killing, Ahern warned, the icy reception of this week will turn into just a total exclusion, which is the opposite of what we want to achieve.

The prime minister said the Irish government is prepared to meet with Adams again after the Easter holiday, but we would like to see progress on the McCartney case.

Ahern also said he had raised the issue of undocumented Irish citizens in the United States with President Bush, and he said the Irish people acknowledge and appreciate ... the [Bush] administration's assistance on the issue of trade and investment, which is very important to the Irish economy.

Load-Date: May 2, 2005

Tuesday, February 15

Associated Press International

February 7, 2005 Monday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 893 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Body

Today is Tuesday, Feb. 15, the 46th day of 2005. There are 319 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1677 - England's King Charles II announces he has made an alliance with the Dutch against France.

1798 - The Roman Republic is proclaimed after the French capture Rome, but Pope Pius VI refuses to surrender temporal power and leaves for Valence, France. He later dies in French captivity.

1806 - Franco-Prussian treaty against Britain, whereby Prussia closes her ports to British ships goes into effect.

1879 - U.S. President Rutherford Hayes signs a bill allowing **female** attorneys to argue cases before the Supreme Court.

1894 - France and Germany reach agreement on boundaries between French Congo and Cameroon.

1898 - The U.S. battleship Maine blows up in harbor of Havana, Cuba, killing 260 seamen. The cause of the explosion is never determined, but U.S. newspapers use the incident to whip up support for military intervention against the Spanish rule on Cuba.

1933 - U.S. President-elect Franklin Roosevelt escapes an assassination attempt in Miami that claims the life of Chicago Mayor Anton J. Cermak.

1942 - The British surrender the colony of Singapore to Japanese forces in World War II.

1944 - U.S. troops complete reconquest of Solomon Islands in Pacific Ocean in World War II; Nearly 1,000 British bombers pound Berlin, Germany.

1964 - Cassius Clay - who changed his name to Muhammad Ali - becomes the world's heavyweight boxing champion.

1965 - China's Foreign Minister Chen Yi says in Beijing that peaceful coexistence with United States is out of the question.

1970 - An Israeli oil pipeline is opened linking Eilat to Ashkelon.

Tuesday, February 15

1971 - Great Britain and Ireland switch to a decimal-based currency.

1973 - The United States and Cuba sign agreement calling for prosecution or extradition of hijackers of airplanes and ships.

1978 - Agreement is announced in Rhodesia, now known as Zimbabwe, to bring blacks into key roles in government of Prime Minister Ian Smith.

1988 - Austria's President Kurt Waldheim, accused of having a Nazi past, flatly rejects widespread calls for his resignation.

1989 - The last Soviet soldier leaves Afghanistan after a 10-year occupation.

1990 - Britain and Argentina restore diplomatic relations, broken off during the 1982 Falkland Islands War.

1991 - The South African government announces it will free all political prisoners and African National Congress agrees to end armed struggle against apartheid.

1992 - Heavy shellfire breaks out in Somalia's capital hours after warring factions pledged to end three months of fighting. At least 16 are injured.

1993 - Two car bombs shatter a downtown district in Bogota, Colombia, killing four and injuring more than 120.

1994 - North Korea agrees to open part of its nuclear program to international inspection.

1995 - A fire roars through a three-story nightclub in Taichung, Taiwan, killing at least 67 people and injuring 11 in Taiwan's deadliest fire on record.

1996 - Police deactivate a bomb in central London hours after the **Irish Republican Army** refused to rule out further attacks.

1997 - In Kigali, Rwanda, three uniformed gunmen kill a Supreme Court justice, his driver and a neighbor in an attack on his home.

1998 - Nineteen explosions blamed on radical Muslim groups rock Coimbatore, India, over two days, killing at least 56 people.

1999 - Abdullah Ocalan, a Kurdish rebel leader, is captured by Turkish commandos in Kenya, where he had sought refuge at the Greek Embassy. He is brought to Turkey to stand trial.

2000 - Stung by Britain's decision to suspend Northern Ireland's power-sharing government, the **Irish Republican Army** deepens the province's political crisis by breaking off negotiations on disarmament.

2001 - A Palestinian security official trying to infiltrate a Jewish settlement is killed in a firefight with Israeli troops, a day after a Gaza Strip bus driver plows into a crowded bus stop in Israel and kills eight young Israelis.

2002 - Investigators find hundreds of discarded corpses on the property of the Tri-State Crematory in Noble, Georgia. The bodies were meant to have been cremated but instead were dumped throughout the 6.5-hectare (16-acre) property.

2003 - The Vatican opens sealed archives concerning its relations with Germany between 1922 and 1939, when Eugenio Pacelli - later Pope Pius XII - was the Vatican secretary of state. The archives were unsealed to address criticism that Pope Pius XII had not tried hard enough to stop Nazi Germany from killing millions of Jews during the Holocaust.

Tuesday, February 15

2004 - The U.S. administrator for Iraq, L. Paul Bremer, opens the nation's first human rights ministry, saying it will investigate atrocities committed during Saddam Hussein's rule and will draft a human rights declaration and promote private groups that defend civil liberties in the country.

Today's Birthdays:

Galileo Galilei, Italian astronomer (1564-1642); Babur, founder of Mughal dynasty in India (1483-1530); A.N. Whitehead, English philosopher (1861-1947); Jane Seymour, English born actress (1951--); Hank Locklin, U.S. country singer (1918--); Melissa Manchester, U.S. singer (1951--); Matt Groening, creator of "The Simpsons" (1954--); Ali Campbell, British singer with reggae group UB40 (1959--).

Thought For Today:

Like all dreamers I confuse disenchantment with truth - Jean-Paul Sartre, French philosopher (1905-1980).

Load-Date: February 8, 2005

End of Document

Police make 2 arrests in killing of Ulster man

The International Herald Tribune

June 2, 2005 Thursday

Copyright 2005 International Herald Tribune

Section: NEWS; Pg. 3

Length: 377 words

Byline: Brian Lavery

Dateline: DUBLIN:

Body

Police officers in Northern Ireland and Britain arrested two men Wednesday in the killing of Robert McCartney, the Belfast man whose unsolved murder last January became the center of an international campaign against violence and intimidation by the **Irish Republican Army**.

One man, 36 years old, was arrested in Birmingham and another, 49, in Belfast. Police officials are holding both men in Antrim, Northern Ireland, where questioning is permitted for 24 hours without criminal charges and the police can apply for that period to be extended to several days.

International Herald Tribune

"We obviously welcome these arrests but remain cautious. People have been arrested before," Catherine McCartney, the dead man's sister, said.

Not one of the more than 70 people who were in the bar where McCartney was killed have cooperated with police inquiries, even though the IRA expelled three members for their involvement in the murder. Twelve people have been expelled or suspended from its political wing, Sinn Fein.

McCartney's fiancée and sisters blamed witnesses' silence on intimidation by the IRA, and they say they are determined to use legal means to "bring Robert's killers to justice."

Their public efforts have earned them death threats and physical harassment on the streets of their Belfast neighborhood.

The **women** met with members of the IRA, and refused an offer to shoot and kill those who were responsible. They met with political leaders, including President George W. Bush in March, and last month they received overwhelming support from the European Parliament, which pledged financial aid if criminal investigations fail and the family finds it necessary to bring a civil case.

The murder took place after an argument in a Belfast bar following a clash between an IRA commander and McCartney's friend, Brendan Devine, who was seriously injured in the ensuing fight but survived.

The murder dominated public attention because of its savagery. McCartney, a 33-year-old father-of-two, was mutilated, beaten, stabbed and left lying in an alleyway and because the victims had no paramilitary connections to justify the attack.

Police make 2 arrests in killing of Ulster man

IRA members later returned to confiscate security video tapes, warn witnesses to remain silent, and scrub the bar of forensic evidence.

Load-Date: June 2, 2005

End of Document

2 employees arrested in \$50m Belfast bank robbery: Suspicions of inside job rise with man, woman in custody

The Vancouver Sun (British Columbia)

November 30, 2005 Wednesday

Final Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A18

Length: 347 words

Byline: Shawn Pogatchnik, Associated Press

Dateline: DUBLIN, Ireland

Body

DUBLIN, Ireland -- Two Northern Ireland bank employees were arrested Tuesday on suspicion of involvement in the robbery of their Belfast bank, raising questions about whether the theft, a record for Britain, could have been an inside job.

Chris Ward, 24, and a 22-year-old woman whom police refused to identify were being held at the Northern Ireland police's central interrogation centre in Antrim, west of Belfast, where under anti-terrorist laws they could be held for up to a week before being charged or released.

A detective familiar with the investigation into the \$50 million US robbery Dec. 20 confirmed that Ward was under arrest, as well as a **female** friend who also works for Northern Bank.

The detective spoke to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity because it is against police policy to discuss the identities of suspects before they are charged.

Four police armoured vehicles were parked outside Ward's home in Poleglass on the outskirts of Catholic west Belfast, a power base of the outlawed **Irish Republican Army**. Forensic specialists in protective clothing searched both the house and a car outside.

Northern Ireland police commanders, the British and Irish governments, and international experts all have accused the IRA of robbing the central vault of the Northern Bank. The IRA has denied involvement.

Masked, armed gangs took hostage the families of two key Northern Bank employees, including Ward, and threatened to kill them unless both cooperated and raised no alarms.

Ward gave an interview to the British Broadcasting Corp. in Belfast days after the robbery, in which he stressed he had played no role in the raid.

Three people have been charged and ordered held without bail in connection with the robbery investigation. Chief Constable Hugh Orde, commander of Northern Ireland's police, says his detectives have accounted for about \$9.5 million of the stolen cash.

2 employees arrested in \$50m Belfast bank robbery: Suspicions of inside job rise with man, woman in custody

Police in the neighbouring Irish Republic seized about three-fifths of that total during raids in February on the homes and offices of people suspected of involvement in IRA money-laundering.

Graphic

Photo: Associated Press; Bank employee Chris Ward is seen leaving the bank with a distinctive holdall in this still image taken from security footage released by police investigating the December 2004 \$50-million US robbery. Ward, whose family was held hostage as part of the Belfast heist, was arrested Tuesday.

Load-Date: November 30, 2005

End of Document

Take a closer look before using the term 'moderate'

Financial Times (London, England)

July 14, 2005 Thursday

London Edition 1

Copyright 2005 The Financial Times Limited

Section: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR; Pg. 18

Length: 416 words

Byline: By FRANCIS GHILES

Body

From Mr Francis Ghiles.

Sir, Your reporters are quite right to argue ("UK denies blame for fostering 'Londonistan' ", July 12) that "Arab regimes have tended to label all their opponents as terrorists and win convictions against them in courts that lack independence. In many cases, sending wanted activists home would almost certainly expose them to torture."

One could also add that the same regimes often turned a blind eye - when they did not actively encourage fundamentalist groups throughout the 1970s, 1980s and even, in some instances, the 1990s in order to thwart leftwing groups and parties, most of which were non-violent.

However, to present Rached Ghannouchi, the Tunisian opposition leader, as a "moderate" is quite wrong. Mr Ghannouchi's supporters were not shy when it came to throwing acid in the face of young women students dressed "indecently" - that is, in European clothes, on the university campus of Tunis in the mid-1980s. Mr Ghannouchi has always refused to condemn such acts.

When leading Algerian intellectuals such as the writer Tahar Djaout were being murdered by the GIA (Islamic Armed Groups) in Algeria in the mid-1990s, Mr Ghannouchi told the New York Times that such intellectuals were the "sons of pharaoh". In the language of radical political Islam, this is akin to calling someone an "apostate", which suggests that he deserves the fate that befell him.

That interview was conducted in Hyde Park, and Mr Ghannouchi was then invited to the Royal Institute of International Affairs as a "moderate" spokesman of Islam.

This touches upon another point made in the article "US and UK security differences highlighted" (July 13). As they were fighting the Irish Republican Army, the British security forces probably felt they could follow the model they were using successfully with the IRA to deal with the Islamists; unfortunately, that did not work. The French at the time were very unhappy about this but did not help their case by briefing French journalists to write that the British authorities were giving asylum to Algerian fundamentalists to further their interests in North Africa.

Knowing the background of the people involved is essential if we are to avoid generalisations and labelling - the media have a duty to report facts, and unless the detailed background of any particular figure is well known, it seems to me pointless to label him or her "radical" or "moderate".

Take a closer look before using the term 'moderate'

Francis Ghiles,
Senior Fellow,
European Institute of the Mediterranean,
Barcelona, Spain

Load-Date: July 14, 2005

End of Document

WORLD at 0200GMT

AP Worldstream

September 26, 2005 Monday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 1621 words

Body

HIGHLIGHTS:

New: ISRAEL-PALESTINIANS- Sharon fends off leadership challenge from Likud rival.

New: US-PRISONER ABUSE - Military jury convicts female soldier in Abu Ghraib abuse case.

New: IRAQ - Gunmen kill Shiite teachers in an Iraqi elementary school.

New: NORTHERN IRELAND: Weapons commission announces Irish Republican Army's total disarmament after years of bloodshed.

New: US-HURRICANES HOMELAND WARNING - AP Exclusive: U.S. Homeland Security was warned of medical shortcomings in event of disaster.

TEL AVIV, Israel - Prime Minister Ariel Sharon survived a major challenge to his leadership of the ruling Likud Party, escaping with a narrow victory in a ballot that was widely seen as a referendum on his rule and the recent withdrawal from the Gaza Strip. The victory capped an dramatic comeback for Sharon, who has been vilified by Likud hard-liners for the withdrawal and who had been trailing in recent opinion polls as recently as Sunday. Sharon's supporters said the victory meant the prime minister would push forward with his peace efforts. BC-ME-GEN--ISRAEL-PALESTINIANS. Moved. By Steve Weizman. AP Photos AP Photos JRL107, 108, 116, AKCF104.

IRAQ-PRISON ABUSE: Military jury convicts woman in Abu Ghraib abuse case

FORT HOOD, Texas - Army Pfc. Lynndie England, whose smiling poses in photos of detainee abuse at Baghdad's Abu Ghraib prison made her the face of the scandal, was convicted by a military jury on six of seven counts. BC-NA-GEN--US-PRISONER ABUSE ENGLAND. By T.A. Badger. AP Photos AP Photos TXTG101-107.

IRAQ ASSASSINATIONS: Gunmen kill Shiite teachers in an Iraqi elementary school

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Insurgents dragged five Shiite schoolteachers and their driver into a classroom, lined them against a wall and gunned them down in a mixed Shiite-Sunni town in Iraq's Triangle of Death region - slayings that reflect the enflamed sectarian divisions ahead of a crucial constitutional referendum. Elsewhere, a suicide bomber and roadside bombs killed 10 Iraqis and three Americans - bringing to at least 52 the number of people killed in the past two days. BC-ME-GEN--IRAQ. Moved. By Lee Keath. AP Photos BAG105, 110, 115, 124. AP Graphic IRAQ ATTACK 2.

BELFAST, Northern Ireland - The weapons may be gone, but the struggle continues. After nearly a decade of negotiations, international weapons inspectors announced the Irish Republican Army's full disarmament but questions remain over the future of Northern Ireland and whether other paramilitary groups will follow the IRA's

WORLD at 0200GMT

lead. BC-EU-GEN--NIRELAND-IRA DISARMAMENT. Moved. By Paisley Dodds. AP Photos XBFT113-114, LLP115, LLP105, 107-109.

- BC-EU-GEN-NIRELAND-ROAD AHEAD. BELFAST - As the ***Irish Republican Army*** bids a long-overdue farewell to its arms, the happiest people in Ireland appear to be Sinn Fein leaders Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness. An AP Analysis. Moved. By Shawn Pogatchnik.

UNDATED - Months before the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Homeland Security Department was warned it was woefully unprepared for a medical disaster, lacking a plan even to show who was in charge of a mass casualty event, according to documents obtained by The Associated Press. BC-NA-GEN--US-HURRICANES HOMELAND WARNING. Moved. By Cheryl Wittenauer.

BC-NA-GEN--US-HURRICANE RITA. BEAUMONT, Texas - Hurricane Rita's path of devastation along the Texas-Louisiana coast became shockingly clear, as rescuers pulled stranded bayou residents out on skiffs. Moved. By Brett Martel.

NORTH KOREA: Long work still ahead on ridding the nation of nuclear weapons

SEOUL, South Korea - The steam plume rising from North Korea's main nuclear reactor is a nagging sign that the recent pact on ridding the communist nation of its atomic programs is still far from changing the reality on the ground. BC-AS-GEN--NKOREA-LONG ROAD AHEAD. Expected by 0400 GM. By Burt Herman.

AFGHANISTAN: U.S. military says rebel tactics have changed amid losses, but war far from over

KABUL, Afghanistan - Insurgents in Afghanistan are recruiting younger fighters and staging smaller attacks as they suffer losses at the hands of government and U.S.-led troops - but they are far from defeat, a U.S. military spokesman said. BC-AS-GEN--Afghan-US. Moved. By Steve Gutterman. AP Photos KAB101-103.

TYPHOON: Damrey heads toward Vietnam after leaving nine dead on China's Hainan island

HANOI, Vietnam - More than 150,000 people are evacuated along Vietnam's northern coast as Typhoon Damrey heads westward with winds of up to 120 kph (75 mph) after barreling across China's Hainan island where it left nine dead. BC-AS-GEN--VIETNAM-TYPHOON. Expected by 0400 GMT.

CALLAO, Peru - Shining Path founder Abimael Guzman, whose messianic communist vision inspired a rebellion that left almost 70,000 people dead, went on trial again with his attorney predicting he'll receive the same life sentence that was thrown out two years ago. BC-LA-GEN--Peru's Nightmare. Moved. By Carla Salazar. AP Photos LIM101-102.

CARACAS, Venezuela - A Venezuelan governor ordered the seizure of a plant owned by the country's largest food company, saying the expropriation was justified because the plant was no longer being used. Hugo de los Reyes Chavez, father of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez and governor of the southwestern Barinas state, ordered the expropriation amid rising tensions between the government and business groups. BC-LA-GEN--VENEZUELA LAND REFORM. Moved. By Christopher Toothaker. AP Photos CAR101.

WASHINGTON - The Bush administration has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to reinstate a ban on a procedure that critics call "partial birth" abortions, setting up a showdown that could be decided by President George W. Bush's new choice for the court. BC-NA-GEN--US-Abortion. Moved.

NUCLEAR AGENCY: Iranian VP blasts 'absurdity' of move to refer Tehran to Security Council

VIENNA, Austria - Iranian Vice President Reza Aghazadeh blasts the "absurdity" of a move to refer his country to the U.N. Security Council later this year but stops short of announcing that Tehran has made good on a warning it could retaliate by resuming uranium conversion. BC-EU-GEN--NUCLEAR AGENCY. Moved. By George Jahn.

BRITAIN-LABOUR CONFERENCE: Blair strives for political legacy in final term in office

BRIGHTON, England - Prime Minister Tony Blair is pushing ahead with a sweeping program of reforms to Britain's public services, hoping to secure a political legacy during his final term in office. In a speech to the governing Labour Party's annual conference later Tuesday, aides say Blair will spell out a series of bold and radical policies that will ensure Britain can cope with the challenges of globalization. BC-EU-GEN--BRITAIN-LABOUR CONFERENCE. Moved. By Ed Johnson. AP Photos LKW101-105, LKW115, 120.

WORLD at 0200GMT

POLAND: Election winner seeks quick talks on new government, eyes economic problems

WARSAW, Poland - The leader of the winning party in Poland's election has pledged to move ahead quickly on forming a coalition government to tackle economic problems that include the European Union's highest unemployment rate. Two center-right parties promising tax cuts overwhelmingly won Sunday's parliamentary election as voters punished a left-wing government tarnished by corruption scandals. BC-EU-POL--POLAND-ELECTION. Moved. By Ela Kasprzycka. AP Photos XCS151-154.

SPAIN-SEPT 11: Spanish court sentences al-Qaida suspect to 27 years for 9/11 conspiracy

MADRID, Spain - Spain's National Court has sentenced a suspected al-Qaida leader to 27 years in prison, ruling that he conspired to commit murder with the Sept. 11 architects, but clearing him and two others of being accessories to mass murder in the attacks on the United States. BC-EU-GEN--SPAIN-SEPT. 11 TRIAL. Moved. By Mar Roman. AP Photos JJ801-804, MADX810.

FRANCE: Police detain nine in anti-terror sweep, worry about freed militants

PARIS - French anti-terrorism police arrested nine people suspected of planning attacks, including an Islamic militant previously convicted on terrorism charges and freed from prison two years ago, officials said. France's interior minister details a raft of planned anti-terrorism measures, including increased video surveillance, in a television interview. BC-EU-GEN--FRANCE-TERROR SWEEP. Moved. By John Leicester.

LEBANON-EXPLOSION: Government says more attacks likely, students protest, after Lebanon bombing

BEIRUT, Lebanon - Students take to the streets in protest, and the government warns more attacks are likely, after a car bomb nearly kills a prominent anti-Syrian TV broadcaster. BC-ME-GEN--LEBANON-EXPLOSION. Developing. By Sam F. Ghattas. AP Photos AP Photos BEI101-103.

KHARTOUM, Sudan - The U.N. envoy for prevention of genocide warned that violence is increasing in the war-torn region of Darfur and criticized the Sudanese national courts for doing little to try suspects accused of atrocities. BC-ME-GEN--Sudan-Darfur. Moved. By Ibrahim Ali Suleiman.

NEW YORK- Crude oil prices rise more than \$1 a barrel while the oil industry assesses damage from Hurricane Rita and traders worry that demand for heating oil could soar ahead of the winter months. BC-NA-FIN-MKT--OIL PRICES. Moved. By Madlen Read.

U.S. and China begin third round of talks on agreement to limit Chinese clothing imports

WASHINGTON - U.S. and Chinese negotiators begin a third round of talks seeking to strike a comprehensive agreement to limit a flood of Chinese clothing and fabric imports that American manufacturers have blamed for the loss of thousands of U.S. jobs. BC-NA-FIN-ECO--US-CHINA-TEXTILES. Moved. By Martin Crutsinger.

-

YOUR QUERIES: The editor in charge is Bradley Brooks at the Americas Desk in New York. Contact your local AP bureau, the Americas Desk at +1-212-621-1650 or ami@ap.org, or the Asia Desk in Bangkok at +66-2-632-6911.

Load-Date: September 27, 2005

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Irish sisters bring justice quest to U.S.;
Tale of slain brother widens criticism of IRA.

The Philadelphia Inquirer

MARCH 17, 2005 Thursday CITY-D EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer

Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A01

Length: 941 words

Byline: Steve Goldstein INQUIRER WASHINGTON BUREAU

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

They are the most famous sisters in the world right now, seeking retribution for a brother allegedly murdered by members of the **Irish Republican Army**.

As they began a frenetic visit to Washington yesterday, which will culminate in an Oval Office meeting this St. Patrick's Day morning, the five McCartney **women** and their dead brother's fiancée were seen as something else: The way to final peace in Northern Ireland.

That was the view and the hope of Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D., Mass.) and the other senators and Congress members the six **women** met with yesterday. A correspondent for the Irish Times called this "a defining moment in Irish history."

But Paula McCartney, 40, a part-time teacher and mother of five, said that in avenging her brother Robert's death, she did not require the disbanding of the IRA or any political solution.

"Just justice for Robert," she said solemnly. "Just justice."

Catherine McCartney, 36, a history teacher, said she hoped this visit "will produce results on the ground . . . until it does, we can't move on and we can't rebuild our lives unless these people are brought to justice."

This is not the first time the **women** of Ireland have stood against the tide of violence unleashed by their men. In the summer of 1976, two ordinary Belfast **women**, Mairead Corrigan and Betty Williams, tried to bring the Catholic and Protestant communities together and caused thousands of **women** to march together.

They won the Nobel Peace Prize that year for promoting nonviolent protest, but the marches ended, the acclaim subsided and the movement disappeared - all in a matter of months.

Irish sisters bring justice quest to U.S. ; Tale of slain brother widens criticism of IRA.

Now come these six. Paula, Catherine and their sisters: Donna, 31, owner of a gourmet lunch shop; Gemma, 41, a nurse; and Claire, 26, a teacher's aide. Bridgeen Hagans, mother of Robert's children Conlaed, 4, and Brandon, 2, planned to marry in July.

They doted on Robert - "Bert" - a 33-year-old bodybuilder and kindly soul, who worked as a dockside forklift operator and night doorman. Like his sisters, he lived in the Short Strand, a tiny Catholic enclave in east Belfast, in the familiar embrace of 56 cousins.

By all accounts, McCartney was stabbed and beaten to death by IRA assailants after an argument in Magennis' Whiskey Cafe over a perceived insult to a woman by McCartney's friend. The friend, whose throat and torso were cut, survived.

The IRA men then returned to the pub, wiped off fingerprints, mopped up blood, and destroyed tapes from the pub's security cameras. The 70 or so patrons in the pub were warned, "This is IRA business." No one has been arrested.

McCartney had no known connection to the IRA or any paramilitary activities.

The sisters demanded that the witnesses speak up and their brother's killers be brought to justice. Their stand and refusal to back down from the IRA galvanized huge outpourings of support in Northern Ireland.

Now the storm has blown across the Atlantic to the United States, which has 30 million Irish Catholics and a history of support for Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA.

Kennedy, the embodiment of Irish American royalty, snubbed Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams, here for his usual St. Patrick's Day visits, and met instead with the McCartney sisters, along with Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D., N.Y.); Christopher J. Dodd (D., Conn.); and John S. McCain (R., Ariz.).

"No political party can also have an armed unit that continues the violence and criminality in today's world," Kennedy said.

Kennedy urged Adams and Sinn Fein to understand "what an albatross the IRA is on them and for the cause of peace in Ireland."

Dodd said "these remarkable sisters . . . have taken a tragic event and are giving us some glimmer of hope that maybe we can end this violence once and for all."

McCain said the senators had assured the women they would do "everything in our power to see that the murderers are brought to justice."

After the 30-minute meeting, the six women returned to Kennedy's office and reemerged clutching caps with the insignia of the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy. They looked weary, and Paula confirmed that a 6:30 a.m. start did nothing to relieve their jet lag.

They gamely continued into a reception hosted by the Northern Ireland Bureau, an organization akin to a chamber of commerce that hoped to showcase the country's investment opportunities. Instead, the sisters - trailed by a mass of British and Irish reporters - became the focus of attention until they left 20 minutes later.

"We don't believe peace and violence can coexist in Ireland," Catherine McCartney said.

After it became clear that her family's stand was threatening the existence of the IRA, the group's leaders came to the sisters and offered to kill Robert's attackers themselves - an offer the horrified family rejected.

"Anyone who has lived in Northern Ireland from 1969 should not be shocked by that," Catherine said in an interview. "That is the way the IRA metes out punishment. We rejected that because justice for us was a fair trial for everybody in a court of law, not by people in an alleyway."

Irish sisters bring justice quest to U.S. ; Tale of slain brother widens criticism of IRA.

Earlier, in the press conference, McCain had issued a warning. "We say to anyone who has any ideas that the McCartney family are not doing the right thing and would discourage them from doing so: Don't."

Claire McCartney, the youngest, said the IRA had always been viewed as a protector by Catholics, but that had changed. There have been threats since they went public, she said, and Hagans was the target of a pipe-bomb hoax.

Are you afraid, then? someone asked.

"No," Claire said grimly. "They've done their worst."

Contact reporter Steve Goldstein at 202-383-6048 or sgoldstein@krwashington.com.

Graphic

PHOTO;

OLIVIER DOULIERY, Abaca Press

The sisters and fiancée of Robert McCartney, a Belfast man who was killed by **Irish Republican Army** members, met with Sen. Edward M. Kennedy during their visit yesterday to Washington.

Load-Date: September 8, 2005

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Fierce sisters have IRA on the run: Brother murdered: Irish women make waves from Dublin to Washington

National Post (f/k/a The Financial Post) (Canada)

March 15, 2005 Tuesday

National Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A3

Length: 860 words

Byline: Araminta Wordsworth, National Post, with files from news services

Body

If the **Irish Republican Army** doubted the pluck of Belfast's five McCartney sisters, it got a taste one day when an IRA commander in a balaclava turned up at Donna McCartney's door.

Donna, 39, runs Quality Sandwiches, a gourmet sandwich shop in central Belfast, and "wouldn't be afraid of the devil," according to her sister Gemma.

She proved that point when the hooded gunman demanded the use of her car to bomb a hotel.

"Take yourself off, ya big-nosed bastard," Donna replied.

Later they found the car covered in acid and destroyed.

Since the murder of their brother Robert, 33, by goons from the **Irish Republican Army**, the sisters have won the hearts of much of Northern Ireland with a display of courage that seems to run in the family.

The sisters -- Gemma, Paula, Donna, Catherine and Claire -- and Mr. McCartney's fiancée, Bridgeen Hagan, have denounced the IRA and its code of silence, loudly demanding justice over the man's murder.

Educated, articulate and passionate, the sisters and their sister-in-law have become the most significant Irish **women** since a 21-year-old Bernadette Devlin was elected to the House of Commons in 1969, making her the youngest-ever MP. They have been celebrated everywhere from Dublin to New York and Washington, in the process dealing a major blow to the stature and credibility of the IRA.

On Thursday, it will be the McCartney **women** who are feted at the White House on St. Patrick's Day, after the Bush administration decided not to invite Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Féin, the political ally of the IRA, as in previous years.

The White House told Mr. Adams he was not welcome, and made clear it did not want him or his colleagues raising money for their operations during their current trip to the United States.

Fierce sisters have IRA on the run: Brother murdered: Irish women make waves from Dublin to Washington

Yesterday, another political snub was added to the list when Senator Edward Kennedy, long a supporter of Sinn Fein, cancelled a meeting with Mr. Adams and told him his party could never be democratic with the IRA "albatross around its neck."

For the McCartney sisters, it was another victory in a campaign that began in outrage at their brother's murder on Jan. 31 and has gathered a seemingly unstoppable momentum. They were greeted with applause at a Sinn Fein conference in Dublin and the IRA even made the extraordinary suggestion of offering to shoot the men who had killed their brother.

But the sisters were having none of it.

"Some of these guys are psychopaths, but no one does anything to stop them," said Paula, 40, who is a mature student at Queen's University, Belfast.

"They're likened to the Mafia -- but frankly that's an insult to the Mafia."

"The only way our family will know the truth is when we hear witness statements in a court," insisted Catherine, 36, who teaches history and politics at a college of further education.

"It is just a matter of persistence," said Claire, at 26 the youngest and a teaching assistant.

The women derive their strength from being members of a closely knit family that is used to looking out for each other.

"Ah, we spoiled [Robert]," remembers Gemma, 41, the eldest and a district nurse. "With kisses mainly, because we didn't have any money."

The five girls and two boys grew up in a Roman Catholic family in the Short Strand area, a 3,000-strong fiercely Republican and Catholic enclave wedged into predominately Protestant East Belfast. (A second son, Gerard, killed himself at the age of 28 during a period of depression.)

Most of the siblings were born after the start of the Troubles in 1968, so they thought riots, being searched and soldiers patrolling in tanks was normal.

But every summer as the Protestant marching season began, their parents -- their mother was a dressmaker, their father, a carpet-fitter and upholsterer -- would take the family away. At the beginning of July, they would leave for a two-month holiday by the sea.

When they were young, the children would hear neighbours saying the "Orangies," the Protestant marchers, were coming down the street.

"I thought giant fruit were coming to get us," one of them told a radio program.

Until their brother's murder, the family had come through the Troubles relatively unscathed. The worst incident they could recall was their mother having to get stitches in her head after a loyalist bandsman hit her with a drumstick during a parade.

In the campaign for justice, Paula has been acting as the family's spokeswoman. Although she recently returned to college for a degree in women's studies, she has had little time for classes since her brother's murder.

In fact, she may never return. Yesterday came the news she is also considering entering politics, standing as a local councillor over the issue of the IRA involvement in her brother's death. Or perhaps even going to Westminster in Ms. Devlin's footsteps if that is what voters want.

The Sinn Fein response showed the party has learned little, if anything, from the current debacle.

Martin McGuinness, the group's spokesman, warned the sisters to stay out of politics.

Fierce sisters have IRA on the run: Brother murdered: Irish women make waves from Dublin to Washington

"It's vitally important for the McCartney campaign that they don't stray into party politics," he said.

"We do know there are people out there who would like to manipulate the situation."

Graphic

Colour Photo: Agence France-Presse; A campaign by the McCartney sisters for justice after the murder of their brother by members of the IRA has begun to undermine the organization. Two of the sisters, Catherine, right, and Claire, are seen here with Robert McCartney's fiancée, Bridgeen Hagan, left.

Load-Date: March 15, 2005

End of Document

The spy who loved gadgets

Essex Chronicle

October 27, 2005

Default Edition

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Section: News; People; Others; Pg. 15

Length: 421 words

Byline: Emily Parsons

Body

The name's Mason, Peter Mason. For years people have believed the gadgets and exploits of the world's most famous secret agent were all fiction, but after Maldon's Combined Military Services Museum bought the spyware belonging to the real-life James Bond, it discovered the truth behind Captain Peter Mason was far stranger than fiction.

Between 1944 and 1948 Mason led an SAS unit called the Baker Team, crack operatives sent to track down and assassinate Nazi war criminals who had killed British agents.

Winston Churchill effectively gave him a 'licence to kill' and Mason personally accounted for at least 12 criminals while in Her Majesty's Secret Service.

He went on to serve in many areas of conflict during the Cold War, and out of uniform, Mason operated behind the Iron Curtain, even posing as a circus performer, infiltrated the ***Irish Republican Army***, and smuggled defected diplomats into the West.

He was also a weapons expert, collected spy gadgets and had a love of fast cars. The connection between Mason and Bond is intensified by the discovery Mason owns a Walther PPK, James Bond's weapon, with the serial number 007.

The similarities don't end there. Mason freely admits to many 'encounters' with ***female*** agents before finally settling down with his wife Prue, codenamed Zoe during her career as an MI6 agent, on a Canadian farm.

Roger Moore, who starred in seven Bond films, described Mason as a "real life 007," but the truth behind the super spy's origins died with Bond creator Ian Fleming in 1964. Mason was a close friend of the author, Prue even has Fleming's typewriter, and it is common knowledge that Mason advised him on weapons the fictional spy should use. Featured in the museum is a Saville Row suit almost identical to that worn by Bond and a pair of shoes with a blade hidden in one heel.

Other unbelievable gadgets and spyware on display will include a reversible coat, a shilling concealing a curved blade, and a rectal carrying cylinder still containing the KGB skeleton key used to unlock so called 'unopenable' locks.

The spy who loved gadgets

The Combined Military Services Museum was set up about a year ago with the aim to "educate present and future generations about Britain's proud, and often forgotten, military history." Owner Richard Wooldridge said: "We are extremely proud to be able to exhibit the collection. Peter Mason personally selected the Combined Military Services Museum to display the collection as he regards us as guardians of history." For more information on the museum visit www.cmsm.co.uk

Load-Date: October 28, 2005

End of Document

Study finds one in three Londoners suffered stress after July 7 bombings

AP Worldstream

August 25, 2005 Thursday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 432 words

Byline: JILL LAWLESS; Associated Press Writer

Dateline: LONDON

Body

Almost one-third of Londoners suffered "substantial stress" after the July 7 transit bombings, though fewer than one in 100 said they sought professional help for their feelings, a study published Friday found.

Researchers from King's College London, University College London and the Health Protection Agency found that stress was greater among women, low-income residents and Muslims than in other sections of the population.

Researchers questioned 1,010 people for the study, published in the online edition of the British Medical Journal. The interviews were conducted July 18-20 - after the July 7 bombings which killed 52 people and four suspected bombers on three subway trains and a bus, but before failed second attacks on mass transit two weeks later. The bombs on July 21 failed to detonate fully, and no one was hurt.

Thirty-one percent of respondents reported substantial levels of stress after the July 7 attacks, with symptoms including disturbing memories, bouts of anger, difficulty concentrating and trouble sleeping.

Stress was more common among women, low-income Londoners and nonwhite people. Muslims "reported significantly more stress than people of other faiths," the report said, with 62 percent reporting signs of stress. It said the greater incidence of stress among nonwhite respondents was "not readily explainable by any preexisting vulnerability among these groups."

Other factors also influenced stress. Those who had lived through past attacks, such as the Irish Republican Army bombing campaign, suffered less than people with no experience of terrorism.

People who had been unable to contact friends and relatives by cell phone on the day of the bombings also were significantly more likely to experience substantial stress, the study found.

Only eight people - less than 1 percent of the total - said they had sought professional help for their negative emotions, and only 12 people felt they needed such help. A large majority of people - 71 percent - said they had talked about the attacks with family and friends either "a great deal" or "a fair amount."

Researchers said the results "confirm those of previous studies that show that most people are able to turn to lay support networks after traumatic events."

Study finds one in three Londoners suffered stress after July 7 bombings

The study found that many people planned to change their behavior because of the bombs. Forty-six percent of respondents said they did not feel safe traveling by subway, and 33 percent did not feel safe in central London. Thirty-two percent said they would reduce their use of subways, trains and buses, and make fewer trips into the center of London.

Load-Date: August 26, 2005

End of Document

**HOLD FOR RELEASE until 2301GMT Study finds one in three Londoners
suffered stress after July 7 bombings**

AP Worldstream

August 25, 2005 Thursday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 429 words

Byline: JILL LAWLESS; Associated Press Writer

Dateline: LONDON

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Load-Date: August 26, 2005

End of Document

Protestant parades erupt in violence: Catholics riot as Northern Ireland marks 'The Twelfth'

Ottawa Citizen

July 13, 2005 Wednesday

EARLY Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A6

Length: 426 words

Byline: Shawn Pogatchnik, The Associated Press

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

BELFAST, Northern Ireland - Militant Catholics attacked riot police with homemade grenades and gasoline bombs yesterday in an explosion of fury over the

Orange Order, a Protestant brotherhood that staged mass parades across Northern Ireland.

About 40 officers and two journalists were wounded when Catholics from Ardoyne, an ***Irish Republican Army*** power base in north Belfast, hurled at least two of the grenades into columns of riot police. The hour-long riot was the worst violence on a day of dangerous street confrontations across this British territory.

The officers had forced Catholic protesters off a main Belfast thoroughfare to clear the way for a few hundred

Orangemen. Members of this anti-Catholic organization parade each July 12 in commemoration of a 315-year-old victory by Protestant King William of Orange over the Catholic he ejected from the British throne, James II.

The mobilization of tens of thousands of Orangemen on "The Twelfth," an official holiday in Northern Ireland, has long been loathed by Catholics. But only in the past decade have Catholics waged organized opposition to the tradition.

Police deployed two massive mobile water cannons to douse the Belfast protesters, who included Gerry Adams, leader of the IRA-linked Sinn Fein party.

Mr. Adams had appealed to the crowd not to attack the police, but youths armed with a range of stockpiled weapons and projectiles disregarded his plea.

Mr. Adams, a reputed IRA commander since the mid-1970s, complained that police should have respected Sinn Fein's authority over the crowd.

"They brought the water cannon in too quickly. We should have been allowed to keep order," he said.

Protestant parades erupt in violence: Catholics riot as Northern Ireland marks 'The Twelfth'

Elder officials from Sinn Fein and the IRA confronted Ardoyne teenagers stealing a car and preparing to burn it on the road, and also dumped out bottles filled with gasoline. Despite the IRA's intervention, a second stolen car was abandoned and torched in front of the police lines.

Less intense violence marred the end of another major Orange parade in Londonderry, Northern Ireland's predominantly Catholic second-largest city. Catholic leaders there agreed to permit an Orange parade in the heart of Londonderry for the first time in more than a decade -- but once again, young Catholic men and teens ignored instructions not to attack police and the marching Protestants.

A ***female*** police officer suffered burns from one of several gasoline bombs hurled by Catholics near Londonderry's central square, where a tense standoff between Catholics and police with locked-together riot shields continued for hours.

Load-Date: July 13, 2005

End of Document

WORLD IN BRIEF

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

January 8, 2005 Saturday

Home Edition

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The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Section: News;; Briefs

Length: 458 words

Body

Iraq attacks may worsen

A U.S. general warned Friday that insurgents in Iraq may be planning "spectacular" attacks to scare voters ahead of the Jan. 30 elections. Air Force Brig. Gen. Erv Lessel, who is deputy chief of staff for strategic communications in Iraq, said the United States had no intelligence indicating specific plots but expected a rise in attacks.

In Washington, President Bush expressed optimism about the balloting, saying the elections would be "an incredibly hopeful experience," despite rising violence and doubts that the vote will bring stability and democracy. From staff and news services

Bangladesh fire kills 22 trapped workers

A fire raced through a garment factory in Bangladesh, killing 22 people trapped because most of the exits were locked. The blaze destroyed the Sun Knit garment factory in Siddhirganj, an industrial town near the capital, Dhaka, fire brigade official Nurul Islam said. Nearly 500 workers --- many of them women --- were in the four-story building, Islam said. He added that the cause was being investigated. Fires in garment factories are common in Bangladesh because of poor safety. The country exports more than \$5 billion in textiles each year.

14 killed in Italy when trains collide

A passenger train and a freight train collided head-on in heavy fog in northern Italy, killing at least 14 people and injuring at least 80. The crash lifted one train car vertically into the air until it was nearly perpendicular to the tracks. Another passenger car was ripped nearly in half. The trains collided at 12:50 p.m. in a rural area 25 miles north of Bologna. Officials said around 100 people were on board the passenger train, which was traveling south from Verona to Bologna. The freighter was headed north from Rome to San Zeno Falzano.

\$50 million bank heist blamed on IRA

Police in Northern Ireland blamed last month's \$50 million bank robbery on the outlawed Irish Republican Army, a move that could derail peacemaking in the province. Martin McGuinness, deputy leader of Sinn Fein, the Catholic

WORLD IN BRIEF

political party allied with the IRA, rejected the allegations. But Protestant leaders said Chief Constable Hugh Orde's announcement would harden their opposition to the bid by the British and Irish governments to forge a local power-sharing arrangement between them and Sinn Fein.

Polio spreading, Saudi case shows

A 2-year-old girl from Sudan has become Saudi Arabia's first case of polio in more than five years. The World Health Organization said the case, recognized in November but confirmed by lab analysis only recently, represents the latest spread of an outbreak that began in Nigeria in 2003 and migrated across west and central Africa.

--- From M.A.J. McKenna (mmckenna@ajc.com) and news services

Load-Date: January 8, 2005

End of Document

Politics - Republicans take case to United States and Europe;

Irish News

September 28, 2005

Copyright 2005 The Irish News Limited

Section: Pg. 8

Length: 472 words

Byline: Bimpe Fatogun

Body

The ripples caused by the destruction of the IRA's arsenal of weapons echoed across Europe and the US yesterday.

Sinn Fein chief negotiator Martin McGuinness arrived in Washington to brief the White House administration, Irish American supporters and members of Congress on events. He will address a small group of congressmen this morning.

Meanwhile, Sinn Fein MEPs Bairbre de Brun and Mary Lou McDonald called a press conference at the European Parliament in Strasbourg to "discuss the opportunities which had arisen from the IRA initiative".

They said that there were now "no more possible excuses for non-engagement between the DUP and Sinn Fein".

It was also revealed that Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams is to travel to Brussels next week.

"(Monday's) historic announcement by the **Irish Republican Army** has significantly advanced the potential for peace in Ireland," the MEPs said in a joint statement.

"Reinstatement of the political institutions benefits both the nationalist and unionist community.

"Over the course of the next days and weeks we will be briefing people from throughout the EU on the significance of yesterday's announcements. We will ask them to continue their valuable support and assistance in the search for a lasting peace in Ireland."

DUP MEP Jim Allister said it would not be easy for unionists to accept the gesture as authentic, however.

"For over 30 years, the guns of the IRA have been trained on the people of Northern Ireland, particularly the majority community," he said.

"Today, after years of brutally murdering hundreds of innocent men, **women** and children - and further years of broken promises - it is claimed that the IRA has decommissioned its weapons, but, again, with no transparency. If decommissioning has occurred, that, of course, is welcome. But there can and must be no political reward for putting beyond use guns which they never should have had or used.

Politics - Republicans take case to United States and Europe;

"With or without its weapons, the IRA is a vicious criminal organisation - as the murder of Robert McCartney, without guns, demonstrates. It is mired in criminality."

Meanwhile, Alliance leader David Ford urged the British government to "avoid making further knee-jerk concessions to republicans".

He called for ministers to address the "looming matter" of so-called on-the-runs (OTRs), which he said could "dwarf arguments surrounding the release of Sean Kelly and the return of the Colombia Three".

"Some of the OTRs are linked to some of worst atrocities during the Troubles," he said.

"Alliance has suggested that the return of the OTRs be linked to the lifting of the threat against the exiles, making the OTRs actually appear in court rather than being represented by proxy at a Special Judicial Tribunal, and to link the licence terms to the end of all paramilitary activity rather than a narrowly defined ceasefire."

Load-Date: September 28, 2005

End of Document

Prep-Today in History

Broadcast News (BN)

August 13, 2005 Saturday

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Section: GENERAL AND NATIONAL NEWS

Length: 466 words

Body

Today is August 27th.

Today's highlight in history:

On this date in 1758, Fort Frontenac -- now Kingston, Ontario -- was captured and destroyed by the British. The site of the present city was picked by LaSalle in 1673, and the explorer was named commandant of the French camp. Later, the site was occupied by United Empire Loyalists from New York state and renamed Kingston. It later became the chief naval base of Ontario.

CP

Also on this date:

In 551 B-C, Chinese philosopher Confucius was born.

In 1612, landing in his ship "The Discovery," Captain Thomas Button became the first European to winter in Manitoba.

In 1883, 36-thousand people died when the volcanic island of Krakatoa (krak-ah-TOH'-ah) in the Dutch East Indies, blew up. Most of the deaths were due to huge tidal waves set off by the explosion -- the largest in recorded history.

In 1896, the shortest war in recorded history ended with a British victory over Zanzibar. The British fleet bombarded Sultan Sa'id Khalid's palace for 38 minutes until he surrendered.

In 1917, Canada's Military Service Act was passed, putting conscription into effect.

In 1939, the world's first jet-propelled plane, the Heinkel H-E-178, made its first flight in Marienehe, in northern Germany.

In 1945, Allied troops began landing in Japan following the surrender of the Japanese government.

In 1973, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that native women who marry non-natives lose Indian status. A law reversing the ruling took effect in 1985.

Also in 1973, the largest hailstone documented in Canada fell at Cedoux, Saskatchewan. It weighed 290 grams and measured 114 millimetres in diameter -- almost three times the size of a golf ball.

Prep-Today in History

In 1975, Haile Selassie (HY'-lee sah-LAHS'-ee), the last emperor of Ethiopia's three-thousand-year-old monarchy, died in Addis Ababa at 83. He was overthrown in a military coup the previous year.

In 1979, the Earl Mountbatten of Burma was murdered by the **Irish Republican Army** when his boat was blown up near his summer home in Ireland. He was 79. Mountbatten was a top British commander in the Second World War and a main architect of independence for India and Pakistan in 1947. He was also an uncle of Prince Philip.

In 1980, the Ottawa Journal and Winnipeg Tribune stopped publishing, prompting a federal royal commission into newspaper ownership.

In 1992, the Supreme Court of Canada quashed Ernst Zundel's conviction for spreading false news about the Holocaust. The court ruled 4-3 that Zundel's right to freedom of expression was violated.

Today's birthdays 2005:

Former Newfoundland and Labrador premier Brian Peckford is 63.

Actress Barbara Bach is 58.

Actor Paul Reubens (Pee Wee Herman) is 52.

Actress Alexa Vega is 17.

Thought for today: "To err is human -- but it feels divine." -- American actress Mae West (1892-1980).

Load-Date: August 14, 2005

IRA threatens family striving to bring killers to justice: Relatives of Robert McCartney have brought world attention to his Belfast murder

The Vancouver Sun (British Columbia)

May 21, 2005 Saturday

Final Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A22

Length: 420 words

Byline: Associated Press

Dateline: DUBLIN

Body

DUBLIN -- Members of the outlawed ***Irish Republican Army*** are threatening to attack a Belfast family that has been focusing international attention on the IRA's killing of a Roman Catholic man, sisters of the victim said Friday.

The five sisters and fiance of Robert McCartney, who was fatally stabbed and clubbed by IRA members outside a Belfast pub Jan. 30, have spent the past four months campaigning to bring his killers to justice.

While the McCartney family's efforts have won praise and support from the European Parliament and White House, back home in their hardline neighbourhood, witnesses to the attack have either been afraid or unwilling to give evidence to police.

One of the sisters, Catherine McCartney, said Friday detectives told the family of a threat from the IRA.

"This threat implies that (Irish) republican elements are going to take action against the McCartney family if they continue to discredit the [Sinn Fein-IRA] republican movement," Catherine McCartney said.

Earlier this month, police warned the McCartneys "criminal elements" were threatening to burn down their homes, as well as a sandwich shop run by one of the sisters, because of their call for locals to help police with the murder investigation.

"The language tends to be more sophisticated than the last threat," Catherine McCartney said.

She declined to provide more details.

In Belfast, the IRA's allied Sinn Fein party denied any involvement by IRA or its own members in threats.

"We absolutely abhor any intimidation against the family," it said in a statement.

The case has highlighted the IRA's power within working-class Roman Catholic areas of Belfast. Traditionally, the IRA tries to kill anybody who testifies against the organization in court or tells police about IRA activities.

IRA threatens family striving to bring killers to justice: Relatives of Robert McCartney have brought world attention to his Belfast murder

After Robert McCartney's murder, IRA and Sinn Fein members allegedly swabbed up blood and other forensic evidence and confiscated a tape from a surveillance camera in the pub.

The women's campaign put the IRA and Sinn Fein on the defensive. Initially they denied involvement, then the IRA announced it had expelled three members involved while Sinn Fein suspended or expelled about a dozen members.

The IRA -- which opposes any cooperation with police -- also offered to shoot four people allegedly involved in the attack, an offer the McCartneys rejected.

Ever since the McCartneys achieved their most high-profile success -- a visit on St. Patrick's Day to President George W. Bush -- they have faced increasing criticism and veiled threats back home.

Graphic

Photo: Stephen J. Boitano, Associated Press; Two of the five sisters of the slain Robert McCartney, Catherine (left) and Paula McCartney, talk to reporters in the U.S. March 17.

Load-Date: May 21, 2005

U.S. leaves pact on world tribunal

St. Petersburg Times (Florida)

March 10, 2005 Thursday 0 South Pinellas Edition

Copyright 2005 Times Publishing Company

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. 2A; Newspaper

Length: 481 words

Series: IN BRIEF

Dateline: LONDON; BELFAST; BREMEN, Germany

Body

Prompted by an international tribunal's decision last year ordering new hearings for 51 Mexicans on death row in the United States, the State Department said Wednesday that the United States has withdrawn from the protocol that gave the tribunal jurisdiction to hear such disputes.

The withdrawal followed a Feb. 28 memorandum from President Bush to Attorney General Alberto Gonzales directing state courts to abide by the decision of the tribunal, the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands. The decision required American courts to grant "review and reconsideration" to claims that the inmates' cases had been hurt by the failure of local authorities to allow them to contact consular officials.

Compiled from Times WiresBlair: No more softening of terror bill

LONDON - In a political duel over new antiterror legislation, Prime Minister Tony Blair said Wednesday that he would make no further concessions to opposition demands for milder laws to control terrorist suspects.

The dispute provoked a showdown in Parliament between Blair and Michael Howard, leader of the opposition Conservatives, with each man accusing the other of seeking political gain by appearing tough on terrorism in advance of elections expected in May.

U.S. envoy tells IRA: Disband

BELFAST, Northern Ireland - In its bluntest criticism yet of the **Irish Republican Army**, the Bush administration told the IRA it should disband after the outlawed group's offer to shoot four men - including two recently expelled members - responsible for killing a Catholic civilian.

Wednesday's call from the U.S. envoy to Northern Ireland, Mitchell Reiss, came a week ahead of St. Patrick's Day when, for the first time in a decade, leaders of the IRA's Sinn Fein party won't be guests of the White House.

Detainee alleges torture at Guantanamo

BREMEN, Germany - Murat Kurnaz, 22, a German-born Turkish man held at the U.S. prison camp for terrorism suspects at Guantanamo Bay, had his head forced under water, was tortured with electric shocks and was sexually humiliated by **female** interrogators, his attorneys said Wednesday.

U.S. leaves pact on world tribunal

The Pentagon did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

In war crimes proceedings . . .

EX-KOSOVO LEADER: Kosovo's former prime minister surrendered to the U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, on Wednesday, a day after the ethnic Albanian resigned to face charges stemming from the province's fight for independence from Yugoslavia. Ramush Haradinaj, 36, is to face charges of atrocities committed during the 1998-99 war between ethnic Albanian separatists and Serbian forces.

YUGOSLAVIAN GENERAL: The wartime leader of the Yugoslavian army pleaded not guilty to war crimes charges Wednesday, including atrocities at Srebrenica, Bosnia, where at least 7,000 Muslims were executed in 1995. Gen. Momcilo Perisic, 60, surrendered to the U.N. war crimes tribunal Monday.

Load-Date: March 10, 2005

End of Document

Bush lauds Irish sisters as fighters for peace in Northern Ireland

The Canadian Press (CP)

March 17, 2005 Thursday

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Section: FOREIGN GENERAL NEWS

Length: 466 words

Body

WASHINGTON (AP) _ President George W. Bush gave his support Thursday to five sisters who want the outlawed **Irish Republican Army** held responsible for their brother's death, holding the **women** up as an example of those committed to peace in Northern Ireland.

Robert McCartney, a 33-year-old Roman Catholic forklift operator, was beaten and stabbed to death outside a Belfast pub Jan. 30 when he tried to defend a friend from what witnesses described as a knife-wielding IRA gang. McCartney's sisters are calling for charges to be brought against those who were responsible but the investigation has been stalled by IRA silence.

AP

McCartney's sisters and his fiancée met Bush for a few minutes during a St. Patrick's Day reception Thursday at the White House and asked him to use his influence on the case. The sisters said Bush singled out McCartney's fiancée, Bridgeen Hagans, to ask how she and their two young children are coping and offer his condolences.

"We pressed on the president the importance of getting justice for Robert and he said he's 100-per-cent behind our campaign," Catherine McCartney said.

Catherine McCartney said Bush didn't say exactly what he would do to help and White House press secretary Scott McClellan didn't elaborate, either.

"I'm not sure that _ what has been asked of us at this point but we stand ready to assist in helping the parties move forward on a comprehensive peace agreement," McClellan said.

White House guards didn't realize the **women** were invited guests of the president and shut them out briefly after they stepped outside the gates for a smoke.

The sisters are hoping public support in the United States for their cause will spur the IRA and its legal political arm, Sinn Fein, to encourage witnesses to offer evidence directly to Northern Ireland's police force. Roman Catholics often are reluctant to co-operate with the mostly Protestant police force in Northern Ireland, and the IRA reserves the right to execute anybody who tells police about their activities.

Bush invited the McCartney sisters to his private reception with other Northern Ireland civil leaders and activists. Because of the allegations about the IRA's involvement in McCartney's death and other crimes, Bush did not invite some Northern Ireland political leaders who had attended for 10 years, including Sinn Fein head Gerry Adams.

Bush lauds Irish sisters as fighters for peace in Northern Ireland

Not welcome at the White House, Adams was met with a standing ovation Thursday as he spoke to supporters at a Washington hotel. Adams told Friends of Sinn Fein neither the McCartney killing nor the cold shoulder from some U.S. officials would weaken his party by "beating up on Sinn Fein."

"You're beating up on the wrong people," Adams said.

"We will also not allow any rogue elements on the fringes of Republicanism to criminalize our struggle."

Load-Date: March 18, 2005

End of Document

Bush lauds Irish sisters

Prince George Citizen (British Columbia)

March 18, 2005 Friday

Final Edition

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Section: WORLD; Pg. 14

Length: 465 words

Byline: Associated Press

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

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The sisters are hoping public support in the United States for their cause will spur the IRA and its legal political arm, Sinn Fein, to encourage witnesses to offer evidence directly to Northern Ireland's police force. Roman Catholics often are reluctant to co-operate with the mostly Protestant police force in Northern Ireland, and the IRA reserves the right to execute anybody who tells police about their activities.

Bush lauds Irish sisters

Bush invited the McCartney sisters to his private reception with other Northern Ireland civil leaders and activists. Because of the allegations about the IRA's involvement in McCartney's death and other crimes, Bush did not invite some Northern Ireland political leaders who had attended for 10 years, including Sinn Fein head Gerry Adams.

Not welcome at the White House, Adams was met with a standing ovation Thursday as he spoke to supporters at a Washington hotel. Adams told Friends of Sinn Fein neither the McCartney killing nor the cold shoulder from some U.S. officials would weaken his party by "beating up on Sinn Fein."

"You're beating up on the wrong people," Adams said.

"We will also not allow any rogue elements on the fringes of Republicanism to criminalize our struggle."

Load-Date: February 17, 2006

End of Document

Relatives of Omagh bomb victims say Blair promised no amnesty for Omagh bombers

AP Worldstream

November 29, 2005 Tuesday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 493 words

Dateline: LONDON

Body

Prime Minister Tony Blair promised survivors of Northern Ireland's deadliest terrorist attack Tuesday that the **Irish Republican Army** dissidents responsible for the 1998 bombing could not avoid prison as part of peacemaking efforts, the survivors said.

On Aug. 15, 1998, a 500-pound (225-kilogram) car bomb detonated in a crowd on the main shopping street in the small town of Omagh, killing 29 people - mostly **women** and children - and wounding more than 300. A dissident group called the Real IRA opposed to Northern Ireland's Good Friday peace accord of 1998 claimed responsibility.

Relatives of the dead met Blair inside his Downing Street office Tuesday. Their chief demands: Those responsible must receive appropriately long prison sentences, and the British and Irish governments must jointly establish a fact-finding probe into police intelligence failures that could have allowed the attack to proceed.

Speaking afterward, Omagh victims leaders said Blair promised that anybody convicted of the bombing would not receive any accelerated paroles, a deeply divisive part of the 1998 peace deal. More than 500 members of the IRA and outlawed pro-British groups walked free from prison.

Currently, Blair's government faces a parliamentary fight to win approval for another bitterly disputed issue: granting amnesties to dozens of IRA fugitives who fled Northern Ireland rather than stand trial. Sinn Fein, the IRA-linked party that represents most of the province's Catholics, has demanded that concession since 1998.

"The assurance we sought was that, if there were any members of Sinn Fein or IRA that were involved in the Omagh bomb, whether or not they are on the run, they would receive no amnesty in respect of the 1998 atrocity in Omagh," said Victor Barker, an English lawyer whose 12-year-old son, James, was killed in the blast alongside two Irish school friends. "That assurance was given us unequivocally."

Blair did not comment after the 45-minute meeting.

Michael Gallagher, whose 21-year-old son, Aiden, was killed in the bombing, said the relatives handed Blair a detailed dossier arguing their case for a public inquiry. He and Barker said Blair had emphasized that no such probe would be legally possible until police and the courts had exhausted every possibility of bringing criminal prosecutions against those responsible.

Relatives of Omagh bomb victims say Blair promised no amnesty for Omagh bombers

"We are realistic enough to know that we would never have a public inquiry in any case until the current cases are dealt with," Gallagher said. "We are determined that we will get to the bottom of what happened at Omagh, however long it takes."

So far, only one man has been charged with the 29 murders. Unemployed electrician Sean Hoey, 36, has been held without bail since his September 2003 arrest and is expected to be tried next year in Belfast on 58 counts, including 29 charges of murder. Police and prosecutors allege he was involved in making or delivering 14 car bombs in 1998 on behalf of Real IRA dissidents.

Load-Date: November 29, 2005

End of Document

Ongoing protests block Belfast streets

The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario)

September 13, 2005 Tuesday Final Edition

Copyright 2005 Metroland Media Group Ltd

Section: FRONT; Pg. A5; NEWS

Length: 483 words

Dateline: BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

Body

Crowds of Protestant hard-liners blocked roads in Belfast and rioted for a third straight night yesterday in a long-building explosion of frustration at Northern Ireland's peace process.

At least 50 officers were wounded over the weekend when extremists fought riot police and British troops in the worst Protestant violence in a decade. The British governor and the territory's police chief said two outlawed Protestant paramilitary groups mounted machine-gun and grenade attacks on police.

Associated Press

The rampage followed British authorities' refusal Saturday to permit the Orange Order, Northern Ireland's major Protestant brotherhood, to parade as it usually does each year along the boundary of Catholic west Belfast.

Yesterday's road blockades, formed by men, women and children, caused traffic jams that lasted for hours.

Protestant riots resumed at nightfall yesterday in several parts of Belfast, although the mobs were smaller, the level of destruction much less severe and the intensity of violence greatly reduced from the weekend. No new injuries were reported.

Protestants threw fire bombs at a heavily fortified police base on the line between British Protestant and Irish Catholic turf in west Belfast. Gangs pelted cars on two major highways with stones, forcing police to divert traffic to smaller roads.

Gangs also hijacked and burned vehicles in north Belfast, although police prevented the hijacking of a bus and seized crates of Molotov cocktails and paint-filled balloons.

British governor Peter Hain and police commander Hugh Orde said the outlawed Ulster Volunteer Force and Ulster Defence Association, which are supposed to be observing ceasefires in support of Northern Ireland's 1998 peace accord, carried out the weekend attacks on police.

Hain said he would issue a policy statement within the next few days, raising expectations he will withdraw Britain's recognition of the groups' 1994 ceasefire. Their truce has been repeatedly violated, but rarely so brazenly as over the weekend.

"The evidence I have seen is absolutely clear-cut. If it wasn't clear-cut before, it's absolutely categorical now," said Hain, who viewed surveillance footage of the weekend's riots.

Ongoing protests block Belfast streets

Police have accused the Ulster Volunteer Force, which wields brutal authority in many parts of Belfast and runs a range of criminal rackets, of killing four Protestant men this summer in a turf war with a breakaway drug-dealing gang.

Hain could order a return to prison for dozens of convicts who received paroles as part of the 1998 peace deal.

But police and political analysts warned that the deep-seated Protestant alienation fuelling the riots required a diplomatic rather than security solution. Protestant politicians said rioting was inevitable given the belief of many Protestants that Britain has focused a decade of peacemaking on the demands of Catholics and the outlawed **Irish Republican Army**.

Graphic

Photo: ASSOCIATED PRESS; A burnt earth mover blocks a Belfast road yesterday on the third straight day of attacks on police and British troops by Protestants

Load-Date: September 13, 2005

End of Document

IRA dissident to be charged with 29 murders in 1998 bombing

The Associated Press

May 10, 2005, Tuesday, BC cycle

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Section: International News

Length: 490 words

Byline: By SHAWN POGATCHNIK, Associated Press Writer

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

A suspected ***Irish Republican Army*** dissident will be charged with murdering 29 people in Northern Ireland's deadliest terrorist attack, a 1998 car bombing in Omagh, a prosecutor said Tuesday.

Sean Gerard Hoey, 35, has been behind bars since September 2003 while awaiting trial for about 20 other charges related to dissident IRA bombings in 1998, a momentous year in Northern Ireland with its landmark Good Friday peace accord.

State prosecutor Gordon Kerr, while opposing a bail application by Hoey, told Belfast High Court that prosecutors have accepted a police recommendation to charge Hoey with the murders of all 29 people killed by the Aug. 15, 1998, bomb. He would be first to be charged with the murders.

Court officials said Hoey's lawyers would probably receive notification of the charges by May 19, and Hoey would appear in a Belfast court May 26 for both sides' lawyers to argue whether police have sufficient grounds for the murder charges to be pursued.

The dissidents, who opposed the IRA's 1997 cease-fire, planted several car bombs in Northern Ireland towns and cities in 1998 in hopes of derailing the complex Good Friday deal. Police and British army explosives experts that year prevented deaths in other towns with quick evacuations and bomb defusings.

But the bomb planted in Omagh became an unprecedented tragedy when police, responding to vague telephoned warnings, accidentally evacuated shop workers, shoppers and tourists straight toward the bomb. It detonated in a crowd, killing mostly children and ***women***, among them a woman eight months' pregnant with twins, and wounded more than 300.

The carnage forced leaders of the IRA dissidents, nicknamed the "Real IRA" by Irish media, to suspend their violence for two years. The Real IRA since 2000 has resumed sporadic attacks in Northern Ireland, but most of their efforts have failed either through police intervention or faulty construction of their bombs.

Until now, detectives leading the hunt for those responsible for bombing Omagh have faced harsh criticism from relatives of the 29 dead - particularly over the failure to charge anyone with murder.

IRA dissident to be charged with 29 murders in 1998 bombing

Relatives welcomed news of the latest charges against Hoey, an electrician who lives in the Northern Ireland border village of Jonesborough, an area notorious for IRA activity. He was arrested in September 2003 in a dawn operation involving more than 200 police and soldiers who surrounded his home using helicopters.

Among the original charges filed against Hoey was an accusation he supplied a key part of the bomb used in Omagh. He was charged with involvement in two other car bombings earlier in 1998.

Several relatives of the Omagh dead are pressing ahead with an unprecedented civil lawsuit against five alleged Real IRA chiefs, but not Hoey. Their effort, launched in 2001, seeks \$19 million in damages from the five, but it has been delayed for years because of spiraling legal costs and procedural arguments.

Load-Date: May 11, 2005

End of Document

WORLD at 0200 GMT

Associated Press International

March 14, 2005 Monday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 1856 words

Body

HIGHLIGHTS:

New: PHILIPPINES-ABU SAYYAF - Police launch assault on jail taken over by Muslim militant suspects.

New: AFGHANISTAN-FORCED MARRIAGE - Despite re-emerging women's rights, forced marriage still rife in Afghanistan.

New: RWANDA-GENOCIDE - Rwandans identify at least 761,000 as participants in the 1994 genocide.

New: UGANDA-TROOPS - Uganda's president presses African countries to send troops to Somalia.

New: US-GAY MARRIAGE - Judge finds California's marriage law barring same-sex weddings unconstitutional.

New: BRITAIN-ECONOMY REPORT - British Treasury report outlines challenges to European economy.

Update: LEBANON-SYRIA - Unprecedented numbers protest for Hariri, against Syria in Beirut.

Update: POPE. Back at the Vatican, but pope shrouded by unknowns about his health.

Update: US-JACKSON TRIAL - Michael Jackson's accuser says he told school official that nothing happened.

Update: IRAQ: Kurds push ahead with Shiites on deal to form government.

LEBANON-SYRIA: Massive anti-Syria rally draws hundreds of thousands

BEIRUT, Lebanon - Hundreds of thousands of anti-Syrian demonstrators flooded the capital in the biggest protest Lebanon has ever seen. Flag-waving protesters clambered up cranes and mosque walls and minarets and turned downtown Beirut into a sea of red and white. BC-ME-GEN--LEBANON-SYRIA. Moved. By Zeina Karam. AP Photos AKCF109, AKCF121, AKCF116.

PHILIPPINES-ABU SAYYAF: Police launch assault on jail taken over by Muslim militant suspects

MANILA, Philippines - Gunfire and explosions ring out Tuesday as police launch an assault on Muslim suspects who took over a maximum-security jail in Manila in a failed jailbreak that left five people dead. BC-AS-GEN--PHILIPPINES-ABU SAYYAF. Moved. By Oliver Teves.

RICE TRIP: U.S. Secretary of State in Asia to discuss North Korean nukes, Chinese weapons and terrorism

WASHINGTON - The uneasy relationship between India and Pakistan, North Korea's nuclear weapons program and China are among the issues as Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice embarks on a weeklong trip. BC-NA-GEN--US-RICE-ASIA. Moved. By Anne Gearan.

WORLD at 0200 GMT

TAIWAN-CHINA: War threats from China get trumped by a corporate love story in Taiwan

TAIPEI, Taiwan - Images of Chinese lawmakers passing a law that authorizes an attack on Taiwan dominated the island's TV news in the morning. But by evening, the scare from Beijing got bumped by a story about Taiwan's richest man losing his wife to breast cancer. Moved. BC-AS-GEN--TAIWAN-CHINA. By Annie Huang. AP Photos TPE105, 109, BEJ123, XED101, 121, XHG108

AFGHANISTAN-FORCED MARRIAGE: Despite re-emerging women's rights, forced marriage still rife in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan - Fourteen year-old Bibi has never seen the father who wants to sell her into marriage with a stranger. She hid when he sent police to her village home in northern Afghanistan a month ago, then found sanctuary with a sympathetic relative in Kabul, where she now lives in fear her father will one day catch up with her. BC-AS-GEN--AFGHAN-FORCED MARRIAGES. Moved. By Matthew Pennington. AP Photo XDG101.

US-SINN FEIN: Sinn Fein leader admits "disappointment" over U.S. snub, says Sinn Fein on the defensive

NEW YORK - Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams is disappointed President George W. Bush did not invite him to the White House for St. Patrick's Day this week but still believes the United States is committed to the Northern Ireland peace process. BC-NA-GEN--US-SINN FEIN. Moved. By Nick Wadhams. AP Photos NYRD101, 103.

-BC-NA-GEN--US-CONGRESS-IRA. WASHINGTON - In a remarkable shift in official and popular support among Irish-Americans for the IRA, the head of a key Irish-American group in Congress said Monday that the Irish Republican Army should "go out of business," claiming the group's recent spate of alleged misdeeds was hurting the peace process. Moved. By Devlin Barrett.

-BC-EU-GEN--NIRELAND-ONE FAMILY'S FLIGHT. BELFAST, Northern Ireland - Sinn Fein admitted Monday that another of its election candidates was in the Belfast pub where Irish Republican Army members launched a fatal assault on a Catholic man. Moved. By Shawn Pogatchnik.

-BC-EU-GEN--IRELAND-IRA COP KILLERS. DUBLIN, Ireland - The widow of a police officer killed by the Irish Republican Army rejects the outlawed group's apology as self-serving, dishonest and nine years too late. Moved. By Shawn Pogatchnik.

POPE: Back at the Vatican, but pope shrouded by unknowns about his health

VATICAN CITY - Pope John Paul II has returned to the Vatican, but the extent to which the ever-frailer pope can rebound from his latest health crisis remains a worrisome unknown for his flock. The Vatican cancels a medical update for reporters that many had hoped would give hints about when or if the 84-year-old pontiff could resume his heavy workload. BC-EU-GEN--VATICAN-POPE. Moved. By Frances D'Emilio. AP Photos XRB101-102-103, GB106-107

WAR CRIMES: Kosovo's former prime minister pleads not guilty to war crimes allegations

THE HAGUE, Netherlands - Kosovo's former prime minister pleads not guilty to a list of atrocities he allegedly committed as a commander of the Western-backed ethnic Albanian separatists, and a former Bosnian Serb paramilitary commander surrenders to the U.N. war crimes tribunal - the 11th suspect to give himself up this year. BC-EU-GEN--WAR CRIMES-KOSOVO. Moved. By Anthony Deutsch.

RUSSIA-CHECHNYA: Authorities blow up house where rebel leader Maskhadov killed

ROSTOV-ON-DON, Russia - Authorities have blown up the house where Chechen rebel leader Aslan Maskhadov was killed because they feared deadly booby traps, but rights activists and government critics questioned the motives for a move that added to the secrecy shrouding last week's raid. BC-EU-GEN--RUSSIA-CHECHNYA. Moved. By Sergei Venyavsky.

EUROPE-ECONOMY: British Treasury report outlines challenges to European economy

LONDON - The British government, which takes on the presidency of the European Union later this year, published a report Tuesday outlining economic challenges facing Europe, including competition from emerging economies in Asia. BC-EU-GEN--BRITAIN-ECONOMY REPORT. Moved.

MACEDONIA-ELECTIONS: Macedonia poll marred by bickering, delays and 'serious irregularities'

WORLD at 0200 GMT

SKOPJE, Macedonia - International monitors cite serious irregularities in key Macedonian municipal elections, while rival candidates for mayor in the capital Skopje were at odds over Sunday's results. BC-EU-POL--MACEDONIA-ELECTIONS. Moved. By Konstantin Testorides. AP Photos

FRANCE-ASBESTOS TOWER: Paris skyscraper, an eyesore to some, has new problem: asbestos contamination

PARIS - One of Europe's tallest skyscrapers, a glass and steel finger that, to the annoyance of some, soars above Paris' scrupulously preserved low-rise skyline, is again making headlines for the wrong reasons: Experts say its 60 floors are chocked with cancer-causing asbestos. BC-EU-GEN--FRANCE-ASBESTOS TOWER. Moved. By Elaine Ganley. AP Photos PAR106-107.

ISRAEL-BARRIER: Israel approves final route of Jerusalem segment of separation barrier

JERUSALEM - Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has approved the final route of a barrier around Jerusalem that will include the largest Jewish settlement in the West Bank on the Israeli side, officials say, prompting Palestinian complaints that Israel is endangering fledgling peace efforts. BC-ME-GEN--ISRAEL-PALESTINIANS. Moved. By Mark Lavie. AP Photos.

-BC-ME-GEN--MIDEAST-ANNAN. RAMALLAH, West Bank - U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan says the United Nations is establishing a register of property damage caused by Israel's West Bank separation barrier, as hundreds of Palestinians protest the barrier outside the walled Palestinian government compound where he speaks.

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Kurdish and Shiite leaders agreed to convene Iraq's new parliament this week even if they fail to iron out some wrinkles in their deal to form a coalition government. BC-ME-GEN--IRAQ. Moved. By Todd Pitman.

HOLOCAUST: Personal effects, real shrapnel holes, and testimony at new Holocaust memorial

JERUSALEM - Lampposts at Israel's latest Holocaust memorial bear shrapnel holes from the 1943 Warsaw Ghetto uprising. Victims' personal effects are displayed beside screens showing survivor testimonies at a new historical museum at the Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. This week's ceremonies inaugurating the project will be attended by dozens of world dignitaries, including 15 heads of state and government. BC-ME-GEN--ISRAEL-HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL. By Steven Gutkin. Moved. AP Photos.

RWANDA-GENOCIDE: Rwandans identify at least 761,000 as participants in the 1994 genocide

KIGALI - Rwandans have identified at least 761,000 people as participants in the 1994 genocide in which more than half a million people were slaughtered in 100 days. BC-AF-GEN--RWANDA-GENOCIDE JUSTICE. Moved. By Edward Rwema.

UGANDA-TROOPS: Uganda's president presses African countries to send troops to Somalia

ENTEBBE, Uganda - President Yoweri Museveni on Monday pressed African countries to send troops to secure Somalia's transitional government as it returns home from exile in Kenya. BC-AF-GEN--UGANDA-SOMALIA PEACEKEEPING. Moved. By Henry Wasswa.

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast - Rebels said Monday they've detained a New Zealand man who they accused of being a mercenary hired by Ivory Coast's government. In New Zealand, Prime Minister Helen Clark said foreign ministry officials were working to secure the man's release. BC-AF-GEN--IVORY COAST-ALLEGED MERCENARY. Moved. By Pauline Bax.

JACKSON TRIAL: Michael Jackson's accuser says he told school official that nothing happened

SANTA MARIA, California - The boy who says Michael Jackson molested him acknowledged under cross-examination Monday that he told an administrator at his school that the pop star "didn't do anything to me.". BC-NA-GEN--US-MICHAEL JACKSON. Moved. By Linda Deutsch. AP Photos

HEART DISEASE TEST: Inexpensive test might be able to predict heart disease, study says

CHICAGO - An inexpensive test for elevated white blood cell counts could be used to predict heart disease, a study of more than 66,000 women suggests. The study adds to existing evidence that inflammation plays a role in strokes and heart attacks. BC-NA-MED--US-HEART PREDICTOR. Moved. By Carla K. Johnson.

U.S.-GAY MARRIAGE: Judge finds California's marriage law, barring same-sex weddings, unconstitutional

WORLD at 0200 GMT

SAN FRANCISCO - A judge ruled California's ban on gay marriage is unconstitutional, saying the state could no longer justify limiting marriage to a man and a woman. BC-NA-GEN--US-GAY MARRIAGE. Moved. By Lisa Leff.

NEW YORK - Wall Street manages a moderate gain in a volatile session that sees investors alternating between worries about interest rates and delight in a new wave of merger deals. BC-NA-FIN-MKT--US-CLOSING STOCKS. Moved. By Michael J. Martinez.

NEW YORK - Oil prices mount a sharp recovery from early losses to close near \$55.00 a barrel as traders brush off a Saudi call for OPEC to increase production quotas. BC-NA-FIN--OIL PRICES. Moved.

YOUR QUERIES: The editor in charge is Leyla Linton at the Americas Desk in New York. Contact your local AP bureau, the Americas Desk at +1-212-621-1650, or the Asia Desk in Bangkok at +66-2-632-6911.

Load-Date: March 15, 2005

End of Document

NEWS SUMMARY

The New York Times

May 1, 2005 Sunday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2005 The New York Times Company

Section: Section 1; Column 3; Metropolitan Desk; Pg. 2

Length: 498 words

Body

INTERNATIONAL 3-22

Iran Makes Nuclear Threat

Iran threatened to move forward with its nuclear program, a move that comes after a similar threat from North Korea and just 48 hours before representatives of 189 countries will meet to review the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

1

Vietnam Celebrates

At the 30th anniversary of Saigon's fall, signs of change were everywhere, from parade floats carrying the logos of American credit card companies to the Vietnamese government reaching out to former enemies for trade and friendship. 3

U.S. Ally Has Abuse Record

As evidence builds that the United States has sent terror suspects to Uzbekistan for detention and interrogation, Uzbekistan's treatment of its own prisoners continues to earn it admonishments from around the world. 1

Bombing Kills 15 in Iraq

Bombing attacks killed more than 15 Iraqis in the capital and in the northern part of the country, and three civilians in Falluja were killed in rocket attacks, officials said. 22

Man Dies in Cairo Bombing

A bomb killed an Egyptian man near a popular museum in the central area, and later two women attacked tourists on a bus in the south of the city, security officials said. 14

Nepal Lifts Emergency Rule

The King of Nepal announced the lifting of emergency rule in his Himalayan kingdom but left a host of unanswered questions about whether basic rights would be restored. 16

Support for Sinn Fein

NEWS SUMMARY

Sinn Fein, the political wing of the **Irish Republican Army**, is poised to pick up seats in local and British parliamentary elections, a result that would seal its political dominance among Catholic voters in Northern Ireland, political analysts say. 24

NATIONAL 26-36

Defining Social Security

By gingerly suggesting for the first time how he would cut Social Security in the future while protecting low-income workers, President Bush reopened a historic battle over what the program is about. 1

New Guantanamo Abuses

A high-level military investigation into allegations of detainee abuse at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, has concluded that several prisoners were mistreated, perhaps illegally, as a result of efforts to devise innovative methods to gain information. 35

Crackdown on Molesters

With a bill on a broad new crackdown on sex offenders awaiting Gov. Jeb Bush's signature, Florida will soon begin the nation's most aggressive monitoring of child molesters. 26

OBITUARIES 36-37

Mel Gussow

A longtime cultural reporter and critic for The New York Times who championed playwrights of the post World War II period, he was 71. 36

NEW YORK/REGION 39-44

Ground Zero Security Fears Security concerns outlined last month by the New York Police Department have set off a serious reassessment of plans for the former World Trade Center site. People involved in the rebuilding effort say that the revisions that need to be made to the site's most prominent feature, the Freedom Tower, could delay the start of construction from several months to a year. 1

Chess 44

Cong. Vote 43

Weather 45

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Load-Date: May 1, 2005

Sinn Fein chief finds friends amid the chill

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

March 19, 2005 Saturday

First Edition

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Section: NEWS AND FEATURES; International News; Pg. 15

Length: 485 words

Byline: Michael Gawenda Herald Correspondent in Washington

Body

The Sinn Fein leader, Gerry Adams, has finally received a standing ovation in Washington, after four days of one public relations disaster after another as leading US politicians cancelled meetings with him.

At a meeting of the Washington Friends of Sinn Fein, where, on St Patrick's Day, green was de rigueur, Mr Adams was all smiles and waving hands, relieved, it seemed, to finally get the sort of reception he clearly believes he deserves.

He gave a brief speech saying that neither the killing of Robert McCartney by three men allegedly members of the *Irish Republican Army*, nor what he called the "rogue elements of the republican movement", would be allowed to "criminalise our struggle".

Later he stopped and spoke to a small group of reporters, or rather responded to most questions, especially from the English media, with a stony silence.

In telling contrast, the five sisters of Mr McCartney, killed outside a Belfast pub on January 30, have received blanket media coverage, becoming symbols of the courage of ordinary people who decide that they will not give in to fear and be silenced.

Americans have responded to the *women* with great warmth because, after September 11, 2001, there is revulsion - even among supporters of the republican cause - not only against the sort of violence that killed Mr McCartney but also the sort of violence the IRA has used in the past. The violence might have been almost acceptable to some sympathisers before September 11 but it is not acceptable now.

That's just what the McCartney sisters are saying and that is why President George Bush met them at the White House on Thursday morning. During the private meeting they gave Mr Bush a dossier on the murder of their brother and asked for his help in bringing the killers to justice.

The White House spokesman, Scott McClellan, said Mr Bush had told them that they had united people everywhere "in the cause of peace". "The President told them that he was simply letting them know that we will do whatever we can to assist."

After the meeting, Paula McCartney said Mr Bush understood what the case was about and was "100 per cent behind us".

Sinn Fein chief finds friends amid the chill

At the National Press Club later in the day, Mr Adams said he was "100 per cent" behind the sisters in their quest for justice and dismissed the suggestion he had been snubbed by members of Congress, including Senator Ted Kennedy, a key republican supporter.

"It was a little disappointing that Mr Kennedy cancelled the meeting with me, but that won't affect the peace process and it's rescuing and getting on with the peace process that is important."

On Wednesday Senator John McCain, who is not usually vocal about Irish affairs, astonished Irish-American officials at a St Patrick's Day dinner when he attacked the IRA and Sinn Fein.

"It wasn't just the message; it was the messenger," said Representative Joseph Crowley. "I felt like I was being lectured by a substitute teacher."

Load-Date: July 17, 2007

End of Document

EUROPE AT 1100GMT EDITORS: The following is a digest of Europe's top general news,

AP Worldstream

July 29, 2005 Friday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 1214 words

Body

TOP STORIES:

BRITAIN-BOMBINGS: British police press hunt for three suspected bombers

LONDON - Fearing another deadly attack on London's transit system, British police hunt for three suspected terrorists and keep up their interrogation of a Somali man arrested for last week's failed bombings. Detectives hope Yasin Hassan Omar will help them trace his three alleged accomplices and point to other possible terrorist cells in Britain. BC-EU-GEN--BRITAIN-BOMBINGS. Moved. By Ed Johnson. AP Photos LAS103, 107.

-BC-AF-GEN-ZAMBIA-BRITISH BOMBINGS. Zambian security forces say man held for questioning about British bomb attacks has close links to Osama Bin Laden. Developing. By Lewis Mwanangombe.

NIRELAND-IRA: British army launches base cutbacks in response to IRA peace move

BELFAST, Northern Ireland - The British army begins closing or demolishing three military installations in the **Irish Republican Army**'s rural heartland in a rapid response to the IRA's declaration to renounce violence and disarm. BC-EU-GEN--NIRELAND-IRA. Developing. By Shawn Pogatchnik. AP Photos XDUB102, LON120, 803-805, 815.AP Graphic NIRELAND IRA.

NIRELAND-WHY NOW?: Has new threat of Islamic terror prodded groups like IRA to seek political solutions?

LONDON - Just as Britain confronts the new threat of Islamic terrorism on its home soil, its decades-long struggle with the **Irish Republican Army** appears to be coming to a close. Are the two developments linked? Analysts say this month's attacks on London almost certainly had no direct influence on the IRA's announcement that it was ending its war against Britain, but the new reality of terror groups willing to carry out carnage on a scale Irish republicans never imagined may be causing Europe's paramilitary movements to change tack and seek legitimacy. BC-EU-GEN--NIRELAND-WHY NOW? By Ed Johnson. By 1400 GMT.

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina - NATO in Bosnia welcomes the plea by Ljiljana Karadzic, wife of fugitive war crimes suspect Radovan Karadzic, that her husband surrenders. NATO says his surrender would be the best for his family, for Bosnia and for the whole region. BC-EU-GEN--BOSNIA-KARADZIC'S WIFE. Moved. By Aida Cerkez-Robinson.

ROME - Italy's Senate is scheduled to vote on a package of tougher anti-terror measures, a day after the interior minister warns that the threat of terrorism had forced the nation into a prolonged and intense "state of alarm." BC-EU-GEN--ITALY-TERRORISM. Developing. By Maria Sanminiatielli

EUROPE AT 1100GMT EDITORS: The following is a digest of Europe's top general news,

TIMISOARA, Romania - More than 400 Uzbek refugees arrive in western Romania where they will be temporarily sheltered after fleeing violence in their Central Asian homeland. BC-EU-GEN--ROMANIA-UZBEK REFUGEES. Moved. By Dragos Bota. AP Photos Expected.

MADRID, Spain - Spanish Flamenco dancing star Farruquito has been sentenced to 16 months in prison for killing a man in a hit-and-run accident in 2003, but will not have to serve it because he has no previous criminal record, his lawyer says. BC-EU-GEN--SPAIN-FLAMENCO STAR TRIAL. Moved.

BAKU, Azerbaijan - Azerbaijan's Foreign Ministry defends a trip by a group of Azerbaijani businessmen to Turkish-occupied northern part of Cyprus, saying the move, which offended the Greek Cypriot government, was a private initiative. BC-EU-GEN--AZERBAIJAN-CYPRUS. Moved.

PERTH, Australia - Australian prison authorities turn over a notorious serial pedophile to immigration officials who were to deport him to Britain. BC-AS-GEN--AUSTRALIA-BRITAIN-PEDOPHILE. Moved.

STOCKHOLM, Sweden - Swedish and U.N. officials mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of late U.N. Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold, whose fatal plane crash in Africa 44 years ago is still shrouded in mystery. BC-EU-GEN--SWEDEN-HAMMARSKJOLD. Lead by 1400GMT. By Karl Ritter. Moved.

BELGRADE, Serbia-Montenegro - A tiny makeshift Serbian Orthodox church on a pristine mountaintop in independence-seeking Montenegro has triggered ethnic tensions in this shaky Balkan union. BC-EU-GEN--SERBIA-MONTENEGRO-CHURCH DISPUTE. Moved. By Dusan Stojanovic. AP Photo XMP101.

LONDON - John Lennon's handwritten lyrics for "All You Need is Love," salvaged from his music stand after The Beatles' final television appearance in 1967, sells at auction in London for 600,000 pounds (US\$1 million; [euro]868,000). BC-EU-A&E-MUS--BRITAIN-LENNON AUCTION. Moved. By Jill Lawless. AP photos LLP106, LLP108.

BUDAPEST, Hungary - Back-to-back refinery fires in Texas and Louisiana send crude futures rallying above US\$60 a barrel as the unplanned outages fanned fears that production may not be able to meet demand in coming months. BC-EU-FIN-MKT--OIL PRICES. Moved. By Edith Balazs.

FRANKFURT, Germany - Automaker Volkswagen AG reports a smaller-than-expected second quarter profit on increased sales that increased nearly 6 percent. BC-EU-FIN-EARNS--GERMANY-VOLKSWAGEN. Moved. AP Photo planned.

GENEVA - Incoming WTO chief Pascal Lamy, who takes over as director general Sept. 1, name his four deputies, setting his sights on rejuvenating the Doha round of trade talks in the run up to a crucial December summit in Hong Kong. BC-EU-FIN-ECO--WTO-TRADE TALKS. Moved.

LONDON - Britain's antitrust watchdog says that a takeover of the London Stock Exchange PLC by either Euronext NV or Deutsche Boerse AG would damage competition and warned that any bid would require significant changes to be accepted by regulators. BC-EU-FIN-COM--BRITAIN-LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE. Moved. By Business Writer Jane Wardell.

SWEDEN- NORTHERN WINE: Swedes producing quality wines just south of the Arctic Circle

BLAXSTA, Sweden - The pine and oak forests of Sweden are a world away from the sunny European river valleys known for their great wines. But perhaps not as far as they seem. Merlot, chardonnay, cabernet and vidal blanc are being cultivated 500 miles (800 kms) south of the Arctic Circle, in a small vineyard nestled among glacial lakes and thick woodlands. BC-EU-FEA-GEN--SWEDEN-NORTHERN WINE. Moved. By Arthur Max. AP Photos.

AUSTRIA- NAKED AT THE MUSUEM: Vienna gallery admits visitors to erotic art exhibition for free - if they disrobe
VIENNA, Austria - Dozens of arts patrons visit a Vienna museum wearing little or no clothing, lured by an offer of free admission if they came in the spirit of "The Naked Truth," an exhibition of 20th century erotic art. Peter Weinhaeupl, commercial director for the prestigious Leopold Museum, says he hopes visitors would have a chance

EUROPE AT 1100GMT EDITORS: The following is a digest of Europe's top general news,

to enjoy the works by Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele and others while getting a chance to cool off amid a midsummer heat wave. BC-EU-A&E-ART--AUSTRIA-NAKED AT THE MUSEUM. By 1300GMT. By William J. Kole. AP Photos.

SOUTHPORT, England - Leading the teenage takeover of women's golf, Michelle Wie and Paula Creamer lie seven shots off the lead going into the second round of the British Open. BC-EU-SPT-GLF--**WOMEN'S** BRITISH OPEN. Moved. By Brian Creighton.

NYON, Switzerland - Everton spent last season fighting Liverpool for a spot in the qualifying rounds of the Champions League. Now it may end up battling its city rival for a place in the competition itself in Friday's third qualifying round draw. BC-EU-SPT-SOC--CHAMPIONS DRAW. BY 1130GMT.

- NYON, Switzerland - BC-EU-SPT-SOC--CHAMPIONS DRAW-LIST. By 1030GMT.

YOUR QUERIES: The Europe-Africa Desk in London can be reached at +44 207-427-4300.

Load-Date: July 30, 2005

End of Document

IRISH NATIONALIST LEADER DOWNPLAYS WHITE HOUSE SNUB

US Fed News

March 20, 2005 Sunday 5:54 AM EST

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Length: 475 words

Byline: US Fed News

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

The Voice of America issued the following story:

Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams says he does not feel slighted by President Bush, despite failing to receive an invitation to the White House during a visit to the United States last week.

It had become an annual tradition: inviting leaders and dignitaries from Northern Ireland to the White House on Saint Patrick's Day, which honors Ireland's patron saint.

But last Thursday Gerry Adams was kept at arm's length by the president. Mr. Bush met instead with the five sisters of a Belfast man, Robert McCartney, who was allegedly killed by members of the **Irish Republican Army** in January.

Mr. Adams, who heads the political wing of the paramilitary group, spoke on ABC's This Week program.

"I do not feel snubbed," said Gerry Adams. "And if the dis-invite of the Irish parties meant a stepping back from the [peace] process by the Bush administration, I would be very concerned. But it does not."

U.S. officials have urged Sinn Fein to cut ties with the IRA, which has waged a bloody campaign against British rule of Northern Ireland. British authorities say Northern Ireland's faltering peace process cannot resume until the outlawed paramilitary group halts criminal activity. In addition to the McCartney slaying, the IRA has been accused of carrying out a massive bank robbery to finance its activities.

But Gerry Adams says facts are being twisted to suit the aims of Sinn Fein's foes.

"Opponents of Sinn Fein will seize upon five or six articulate, good-looking, smart, young Irish **women** who are making this case, and who are fighting for justice for their brother and they will use that to try to tar us, Sinn Fein," said Gerry Adams. "The IRA did not kill their brother. Some rogue individual, IRA volunteers who have been drummed out of that organization killed their brother."

Mr. Adams says those who murdered Robert McCartney should face justice. Following the killing the IRA expelled some of its members. It also offered to shoot the men who killed Robert McCartney. But his family says "only in a court will the truth come out."

The McCartney sisters say witnesses of the incident, which took place in a crowded pub, are terrified of IRA reprisals if they testify.

IRISH NATIONALIST LEADER DOWNPLAYS WHITE HOUSE SNUB

A framework for semi-autonomous rule in Northern Ireland was part of the so-called Good Friday agreement reached in 1998. But the government was suspended in 2002 amid allegations of IRA interference in the political process and its refusal to disarm, a key point of the peace agreement.

Bowman

report:

http://www.voanews.com/mediaassets/english/2005_03/Audio/rm/bowman_sinn_fein_us_22mar05.rm

Listen

to

Bowman

report:

<http://www.voanews.com/english/figleaf/ramfilegenerate.cfm?filepath=http%3A%2F%2Fwww%2Evoanews%2Ecom%2Fmediaassets%2Fenglish%2F2005%5F03%2FAudio%2Frm%2Fbowman%5Fsinn%5Ffein%5Fus%5F22mar05%2Erm>

For any query with respect to this article or any other content requirement, please contact Editor at htsyndication@hindustantimes.com

Load-Date: October 20, 2005

End of Document

Adams must disband the IRA

Canberra Times (Australia)

March 22, 2005 Tuesday

Final Edition

Copyright 2005 The Federal Capital Press of Australia Pty Limited

Section: A;

Length: 459 words

Byline: Niall O'Dowd

Body

URING every Saint Patrick's period, the US media is galvanised to report on the Irish story of the week. The rest of the year, frankly they could care less. After all, Michael Jackson's pyjamas are much more compelling. This year it was no contest for the sultans of soundbite who run the media. The story of the McCartney sisters bore all the hallmarks of what they were seeking. There are brave women, bad terrorists and a story line that reaches all the way from Belfast to the White House. Hey, even Jo Schmo in Kansas can figure it out. The McCartney women were in and Gerry Adams was out, out of the White House, out of Ted Kennedy's office and if we are to believe the reports, also out with many ordinary Irish-Americans, except nobody has really bothered to ask them. Little matter that the media caravan trundles out of town the second Saint Patrick's Day is over. Last week, it was all McCartneys. The women have excellent media presence, have suffered a grievous wrong, and their story deserved to be told. Yet by Friday morning, the McCartneys were very old news. The attention-deficit disorder that inflicts about 95 per cent of the American media became evident. Activist Irish-Americans believe they see through this. They know that the McCartney story is important but the fate of the peace process is far more so in the long run. They believe that the same, maligned Gerry Adams is the only one capable of putting it back on track.

To do so, Adams must get the Irish Republican Army to disband. That is the message that the Sinn Fein leader received last week from almost every leading Irish-American. There is no other way, and Sinn Fein cannot continue to straddle both horses. The condemnations of Adams and the IRA have been filling American airwaves, especially in the context of the McCartney sisters. If condemnations could bring peace there would have been no Troubles to begin with. Equally if the acts of two or more drunken psychopaths in a Belfast bar brings down the peace process, it is an incredible tragedy. It is a gargantuan task for Adams to get the IRA to see the only realistic future, but it is not beyond him. He and Martin McGuinness pulled off the IRA ceasefire in 1994, which was a remarkable act, and they have continued to advance the process, often in an agonisingly slow manner for the past decade or so. Now Sinn Fein has lost the initiative and needs to win it back if the process is to be saved. After numerous meetings last week, Irish-Americans are more convinced than ever that Gerry Adams can bring this about. That was the real story Saint Patrick's Day. Not very sexy for news headlines; but then those boring old Irish Troubles rarely are. Niall O'Dowd is the publisher of The Irish Voice in New York

Load-Date: March 21, 2005

Sisters bring IRA to justice

The Daily Telegraph (Sydney, Australia) (Sydney, Australia)

March 5, 2005 Saturday

Copyright 2005 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: WORLD; Pg. 21

Length: 478 words

Byline: BEN ENGLISH

Body

LONDON: They have no guns, no bodyguards, nor any police protection.

Yet with words and raw courage, five sisters have done more to hasten the destruction of the *Irish Republican Army* than the combined might of the British and Irish governments.

Following the IRA murder of their brother Robert McCartney in a Belfast pub on January 30, the McCartney sisters have fearlessly spoken out against the assailants.

MATP

At any other time in modern Irish history, the *women* could have expected a severe, possibly deadly, reprisal.

Indeed, before they spoke out, it appeared that one of the most shameful incidents in republican history would go unpunished.

IRA men murdered Mr McCartney -- a family man with no interest in the republican cause -- in a beating witnessed by more than 70 people at Magennis's pub.

The father-of-two had gone to the hotel to meet Brendan Devine, an old mate who did have enemies in the IRA. A row broke out and the IRA commander present gave the signal -- a finger drawn across the throat -- to kill Mr Devine. Mr McCartney stood by his friend and paid for it with his life when he was fatally stabbed. Mr Devine survived.

IRA men guarded the hotel doors as the floors, walls and benches were scrubbed of evidence. CCTV tapes were destroyed. The killers were ushered to safe homes to have their clothes washed or burned.

Everyone obeyed the commander who announced to the pub: "Nobody saw anything. This is IRA business."

Everyone, that is, except for the McCartney sisters.

Their defiant call for a candlelight vigil evoked a public show of revulsion at the IRA by the very sympathisers who had always previously protected them.

The sisters had struck a nerve in a community fed up with the bullying and oppression of a group now more associated with organised crime than nationalism.

Sisters bring IRA to justice

The half-hearted response of IRA leaders and their Sinn Fein spokesman Gerry Adams has only strengthened the backlash.

One of the McCartney sisters, Paula, said: "We are not interested in revenge. We want these men to give themselves up so we can have a trial, that's all."

Now the women have promised to take their campaign for justice to Washington for the St Patrick's Day celebrations in a move certain to heap more pressure on the IRA-Sinn Fein hierarchy.

At the weekend, it showed the first signs of crumbling, expelling three of the central murder suspects, including the knifeman.

Sinn Fein, the IRA's political arm, followed suit on Thursday night by suspending seven members also implicated in the murder.

But the McCartneys won't stop until those responsible for their brother's death face a court of law.

It seems the McCartney murder, coming on top of undeniable evidence the IRA was behind the \$64 million Northern Bank robbery, has brought about an historic shift in Irish affairs.

Among diehard nationalists, republicanism and the IRA are no longer the same thing.

Load-Date: March 4, 2005

End of Document

ROUNDUP: Bush calls on parties in Northern Ireland to renounce violence

Deutsche Presse-Agentur

March 16, 2005, Wednesday 21525121:52:51 Central European Time

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Section: Politics

Length: 473 words

Body

photo 00391616 available =

Washington (dpa) - U.S. President George W. Bush said Wednesday that to achieve peace in Northern Ireland, all parties "must renounce violence".

The comments were Bush's first on refusing to invite Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams to the White House for St. Patrick's Day this year.

Instead, Bush will meet the sisters of a slain Northern Irish man Thursday to "thank those in civil society who are working hard to achieve a peaceful resolution" in the conflict.

"I'm looking forward to meeting these very brave souls," Bush said at a press conference at the White House. "They have committed themselves to a peaceful solution, and hopefully, their loved one will not have died in vain."

The five sisters and their brother's fiancée said as they left for their U.S. trip that they planned to hand a dossier on the murder to Bush that details "everything that happened" since the January 30 killing.

The **Irish Republican Army** (IRA) has been blamed for the killing of Robert McCartney in January in Belfast, and his sisters have gained fame by defying the IRA and the Sinn Fein, its political wing.

The slaying has resulted in a backlash against Sinn Fein and the IRA, and this year will mark the first St. Patrick's Day that Adams will not visit the U.S. president since the signing of the 1998 Good Friday peace accord.

In addition, Senator Edward Kennedy, an Irish-American Democrat from Massachusetts who has routinely appeared with Adams on March 17, has declined to meet with him this year, citing the IRA's "ongoing criminal activity and contempt for the rule of law".

"Sinn Fein cannot be a fully democratic party with the IRA albatross around its neck," the lawmaker said in a statement. "The time for decisive action is long overdue."

Kennedy, who met with the McCartney sisters Wednesday along with other U.S. legislators, told the CNN television news network that Adams has to "free himself" from the violence. He added that political parties could not have "their own private armies".

While Adams won't meet with the senator or Bush, he did get a meeting at the State Department Wednesday with Mitchell Reiss, the U.S. envoy for the Northern Ireland peace process.

ROUNDUP: Bush calls on parties in Northern Ireland to renounce violence

Department spokesman Adam Ereli said Reiss was to review recent developments in Northern Ireland, especially the 26.5-million-pound (50.7-billion-dollar) Belfast bank heist in December and the McCartney murder, both blamed on the IRA.

Reiss will also "make the point simply that the time for the IRA to disband has come", Ereli said.

As for the envoy's meeting with the McCartney women, Ereli said that Reiss "conveyed to the sisters that everybody in this country stands with them in grieving for their loss and in calling for the need for justice and accountability". dpa re ls

Adds State Department meetings with McCartneys and Adams, epa

Load-Date: March 16, 2005

End of Document

AP Weekly News Calendar

Associated Press International

February 25, 2005 Friday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 552 words

Body

Nagano, Japan - 2005 Special Olympics World Games begin. Through March 5.

Tokyo - Former U.S. President Bill Clinton visits to promote his autobiography.

New York - Twelve-year anniversary of the World Trade Center bombing.

Washington - Fourteen-year anniversary of the 1991 liberation of Kuwait by U.S.-led forces.

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan - Parliamentary elections.

Dushanbe, Tajikistan - Parliamentary elections.

Berlin - German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder sets off on six-nation tour of Persian Gulf region. Through March 3.

Sydney, Australia - Danish Crown Prince Frederik and Australian-born wife, Mary, make first official visit to her homeland since marrying last year. Through March 11.

Oslo, Norway - Norway's King Harald V and Queen Sonja depart on visit to United States, with stops in New York, Houston and Washington. Through March 8.

Los Angeles - Academy Awards.

United Nations - Commission on Status of Women reviews 1995 Beijing women's conference. Through March 11.

Perth, Australia - Britain's Prince Charles begins tour of Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, in visit expected to revive republican debate among Australians.

Beirut, Lebanon - Parliament meets to discuss the assassination of ex-premier Rafik Hariri.

London - Diplomats from "Quartet" sponsoring Mideast "road map" peace plan - United States, Russia, European Union and United Nations - discuss latest peace efforts.

London - British government-sponsored conference on helping Palestinians reform economy, civil administration and security forces. Through March 2.

Dhaka, Bangladesh - Bangladesh's main opposition Awami League holds a rally to protest the recent killing of five opposition members in a grenade attack.

AP Weekly News Calendar

New Delhi, India - Release of the annual report of the International Narcotics Control Board by the United Nations office of drug and crime.

Saudi Arabia - Voting in staggered municipal elections in eastern and southwestern regions.

Khartoum, Sudan - UNICEF Regional Goodwill Ambassador for the Middle East & North Africa, Mahmoud Kabil, holds a press conference after touring camps for the displaced in west and south Darfur.

Beijing - Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, an advisory body to the National People's Congress, begins its session.

Nashville, Tennessee - Academy of Country Music announces nominations for its 40th annual awards show.

Dublin, Ireland - Annual conference of Sinn Fein, the political party allied to the **Irish Republican Army**.

Cleveland - Dr. Imad Moustapha, Syrian ambassador to United States, speaks at The City Club about border security.

Fort Bragg, North Carolina - Pretrial hearing for Sgt. Hasan Akbar, Army sergeant facing a court-martial for allegedly killing two officers in a 2003 grenade attack in Kuwait.

New Orleans - Opening night of the second annual New Orleans International Human Rights Film Festival featuring 25 new films over 17 days in eight venues around the city.

Wellington, New Zealand - Britain's Prince Charles visits.

Cairo, Egypt - Damascus-based Palestinian factions gather in Cairo to discuss prospects of a truce with Israel and, if one could be agreed upon, how long it would last.

Beijing - The National People's Congress, China's legislature, begins its annual meeting.

Anchorage, Alaska - Ceremonial start of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

No major events added.

Load-Date: February 26, 2005

Northern Ireland bank employees arrested as suspects in \$50M US robbery

The Canadian Press (CP)
November 29, 2005 Tuesday

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Section: FOREIGN GENERAL NEWS

Length: 507 words

Byline: BY SHAWN POGATCHNIK

Body

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) _ Two Northern Ireland bank employees were arrested Tuesday on suspicion of involvement in the robbery of their Belfast bank, raising questions about whether the theft, a record for Britain, could have been an inside job.

Chris Ward, 24, and a 22-year-old woman whom police refused to identify were being held at the Northern Ireland police's central interrogation centre in Antrim, west of Belfast, where under anti-terrorist laws they could be held for up to a week before being charged or released.

A detective familiar with the investigation into the \$50 million US robbery Dec. 20 confirmed that Ward was under arrest, as well as a **female** friend who also works for Northern Bank.

AP

The detective spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because it is against police policy to discuss the identities of suspects before they are charged.

Four police armoured vehicles were parked outside Ward's home in Poleglass on the outskirts of Catholic west Belfast, a power base of the outlawed **Irish Republican Army**. Forensic specialists in protective clothing searched both the house and a car outside.

Northern Ireland police commanders, the British and Irish governments, and international experts all have accused the IRA of robbing the central vault of the Northern Bank. The IRA has denied involvement.

Masked, armed gangs took hostage the families of two key Northern Bank employees, including Ward, and threatened to kill them unless both co-operated and raised no alarms.

Ward gave an interview to the British Broadcasting Corp. in Belfast days after the robbery.

In that interview, Ward stressed he had played no role in the raid and was an innocent victim. He said a man who was covering his face with a hat and coat collar arrived at his family's Poleglass home on the night of Dec. 19, then pulled a gun, donned a balaclava-style mask, and brought in more henchmen, who held Ward's family captive for the following 24 hours until the robbery was over.

Ward said the gang leader warned him that if he disobeyed instructions, "You and your family are dead."

Northern Ireland bank employees arrested as suspects in \$50M US robbery

Ward said he was taken to the rural home of his work colleague, Kevin McMullan, where a second gang was holding McMullan and his wife. Ward said he and McMullan both were ordered to go to work normally, stay past closing time, then ferry boxes of cash to a waiting van.

"You had to act as if nothing was wrong," Ward told the BBC. "It was very difficult to do, but you knew in the back of your head that you had to do it, that you couldn't tell anybody."

Three people have been charged and ordered held without bail in connection with the robbery investigation. None has been accused of actually carrying out the raid.

Chief Constable Hugh Orde, commander of Northern Ireland's police, says his detectives have accounted for about \$9.5 million of the stolen cash.

Police in the neighbouring Irish Republic seized about three-fifths of that total during raids in February on the homes and offices of people suspected of involvement in IRA money-laundering.

Load-Date: November 30, 2005

End of Document

InShort

The Irish Times

December 12, 2005 Monday

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Section: IRELAND; Other Stories; Pg. 4

Length: 503 words

Byline: Dublin man in court on bomb charge

Body

Some of the day's other news in brief.

A Dublin man appeared at a special sitting of the Special Criminal Court in Dublin on Saturday in connection with the discovery of a bomb in a car at the Westlink toll bridge on Thursday night.

Martin O'Rourke (22) Sheepmore Grove, Blanchardstown, was charged with the unlawful possession of an improvised explosive device at the Westlink Toll Plaza, Castleknock, on December 8th. He was also charged with membership of an unlawful organisation styling itself the **Irish Republican Army**, otherwise Óglaigh na hÉireann, otherwise the IRA, on the same date.

Mr O'Rourke was remanded in custody until tomorrow.

A second man who was held for questioning was released yesterday and a file is being sent to the DPP.

Man dies in Louth car crash

Gardaí in Blackrock, Co Dublin, say a man in his 70s was killed when struck by a car while crossing the road, at Newtownparkavenue at 7pm last night. Gardaí at Dundalk, Co Louth, are investigating a fatal traffic collision yesterday morning at Ballymacscanlon, Carlingford Road, Dundalk.

A 66-year-old man died when he lost control of his vehicle. A **female** passenger was treated for shock at Louth hospital.

In Co Galway, a man died when he was thrown from a dumper truck at a building site. Thomas Walsh (53) Ballinahalla, Moycullen, was driving the truck when it went out control in Moycullen on Friday.

Officials from the Health and Safety Authority visited the site to investigate the cause of the accident.

O'Rourke, Cassidy seek nominations

Seanad leader Mary O'Rourke and long-time rival Donie Cassidy TD will be among those seeking the nomination to contest the new Longford-Westmeath constituency at the selection convention on Sunday, January 8th. Mrs O'Rourke lost her seat to Mr Cassidy in the last general election.

Divers search for man in Co Louth

InShort

Divers from cos Monaghan and Louth were joined by a helicopter search unit yesterday off the Co Louth coast for a man who was reported missing at the weekend. The search was concentrated off the Cooley peninsula some distance from where it is thought the man, a native of Dundalk, may have fallen into the water.

PSNI appeal on missing schoolgirl

The PSNI is appealing for the public's help in tracing a vulnerable schoolgirl who has not been in touch with her family since December 7th. Helen McCurry (15) is 1.77m (5ft 10in) tall, of medium build with shoulder length brown hair, sometimes worn in a pony tail. She has an English accent.

Police believe Helen may be with two older males. It is possible she may be in the Republic or the UK. Anyone with information is asked to contact the PSNI on 0845 600 8000 or 04890 650222.

Simulated rescue on Lough Corrib

A simulated rescue exercise was carried out on a Lough Corrib tourist ferry on Saturday to prepare for future water-based emergency services. The Corrib Mask Search and Rescue, under the Irish Red Cross, held the exercise which simulated the tourist ferry Lady Ardilaun, licensed to carry 100 passengers, getting into trouble on the lake.

Load-Date: December 12, 2005

Police Arrest N. Ireland Bank Employee

Associated Press Online

November 29, 2005 Tuesday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 559 words

Byline: SHAWN POGATCHNIK; Associated Press Writer

Dateline: DUBLIN, Ireland

Body

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Police Arrest N. Ireland Bank Employee

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Police in the neighboring Irish Republic seized about three-fifths of that total during raids in February on the homes and offices of people suspected of involvement in IRA money-laundering.

The remaining two-fifths, police estimate, was burned before it could be seized during those raids.

Orde says the bulk of the missing money has been rendered worthless because the Northern Bank - which is allowed to print and distribute its own designs of British currency - withdrew its previous designs from circulation and issued new notes.

Load-Date: November 29, 2005

IRA members threatening to attack relatives of slain Belfast man, family says

The Associated Press

May 20, 2005, Friday, BC cycle

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Section: International News

Length: 544 words

Byline: By SHAWN POGATCHNIK, Associated Press Writer

Dateline: DUBLIN, Ireland

Body

Members of the outlawed ***Irish Republican Army*** are threatening to attack a Belfast family that has been focusing international attention on the IRA's killing of a Catholic man, sisters of the victim said Friday.

The five sisters and fiancée of Robert McCartney, who was fatally stabbed and clubbed by IRA members outside a Belfast pub Jan. 30, have spent the past four months campaigning to bring his killers to justice.

While the McCartney family's efforts have won praise and support from the European Parliament and White House, back home in their hard-line neighborhood, witnesses to the attack have either been afraid or unwilling to give evidence to police.

One of the sisters, Catherine McCartney, said Friday detectives had told the family of a threat from the IRA.

"This threat implies that (Irish) republican elements are going to take action against the McCartney family if they continue to discredit the (Sinn Fein-IRA) republican movement," Catherine McCartney said.

Earlier this month, police warned the McCartneys that "criminal elements" were threatening to burn down their homes, as well as a sandwich shop run by one of the sisters, because of their call for locals to help police with the murder investigation.

"The language tends to be more sophisticated than the last threat," Catherine McCartney said. She declined to provide more details.

In Belfast, the IRA's allied Sinn Fein party denied any involvement by IRA or its own members in threats. "We absolutely abhor any intimidation against the family," it said in a statement.

The case has highlighted the IRA's power within working-class Catholic areas of Belfast. Traditionally, the IRA tries to kill anybody who testifies against the organization in court or tells police about IRA activities.

The ***women***'s campaign put the IRA and Sinn Fein on the defensive. Initially they denied involvement, then the IRA announced it had expelled three members involved while Sinn Fein suspended or expelled about a dozen members.

The IRA - which opposes any cooperation with police - also offered to shoot four people allegedly involved in the attack, an offer the McCartneys rejected.

IRA members threatening to attack relatives of slain Belfast man, family says

Ever since the McCartneys achieved their most high-profile success - a visit on St. Patrick's Day to President Bush - they have faced increasing criticism and veiled threats back home.

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But Catherine McCartney said she was confident that police were doing everything they could. She said Sinn Fein and IRA witnesses to the attack on her brother had refused to provide meaningful statements of evidence.

If the police ultimately failed to press any charges, she said, the family would sue 15 people who either attacked their brother or covered up evidence.

The attack began in a downtown Belfast pub crowded with IRA and Sinn Fein members who had just returned from the 33rd annual commemoration of "Bloody Sunday" in Londonderry, Northern Ireland's second-largest city, when British troops killed 13 Catholic protesters.

IRA and Sinn Fein members allegedly swabbed up blood and other forensic evidence and confiscated a tape from a surveillance camera in the pub.

Load-Date: May 21, 2005

IRA Said to Threaten Slain Man's Family

Associated Press Online

May 20, 2005 Friday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 544 words

Byline: SHAWN POGATCHNIK; Associated Press Writer

Dateline: DUBLIN, Ireland

Body

Members of the outlawed **Irish Republican Army** are threatening to attack a Belfast family that has been focusing international attention on the IRA's killing of a Catholic man, sisters of the victim said Friday.

The five sisters and fiancée of Robert McCartney, who was fatally stabbed and clubbed by IRA members outside a Belfast pub Jan. 30, have spent the past four months campaigning to bring his killers to justice.

While the McCartney family's efforts have won praise and support from the European Parliament and White House, back home in their hard-line neighborhood, witnesses to the attack have either been afraid or unwilling to give evidence to police.

One of the sisters, Catherine McCartney, said Friday detectives had told the family of a threat from the IRA.

"This threat implies that (Irish) republican elements are going to take action against the McCartney family if they continue to discredit the (Sinn Fein-IRA) republican movement," Catherine McCartney said.

Earlier this month, police warned the McCartneys that "criminal elements" were threatening to burn down their homes, as well as a sandwich shop run by one of the sisters, because of their call for locals to help police with the murder investigation.

"The language tends to be more sophisticated than the last threat," Catherine McCartney said. She declined to provide more details.

In Belfast, the IRA's allied Sinn Fein party denied any involvement by IRA or its own members in threats. "We absolutely abhor any intimidation against the family," it said in a statement.

The case has highlighted the IRA's power within working-class Catholic areas of Belfast. Traditionally, the IRA tries to kill anybody who testifies against the organization in court or tells police about IRA activities.

The **women**'s campaign put the IRA and Sinn Fein on the defensive. Initially they denied involvement, then the IRA announced it had expelled three members involved while Sinn Fein suspended or expelled about a dozen members.

The IRA - which opposes any cooperation with police - also offered to shoot four people allegedly involved in the attack, an offer the McCartneys rejected.

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Load-Date: May 21, 2005

IRA members threaten to attack relatives of slain Belfast man: family

The Canadian Press (CP)

May 20, 2005 Friday

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Section: FOREIGN GENERAL NEWS

Length: 548 words

Body

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Load-Date: May 21, 2005

BELGIAN FILM WINS TOP HONORS AT THE CANNES FESTIVAL

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

May 22, 2005 Sunday

TWO STAR EDITION

Copyright 2005 P.G. Publishing Co.

Section: WORLD,; WORLD BRIEFS

Length: 548 words

Body

CANNES, France -- "The Child," a Belgian film directed by Jean-Pierre Dardenne and Luc Dardenne, won the Palme d'Or as best film at the 58th Cannes Film Festival on Saturday night.

The film, which follows a young petty thief as he struggles with the moral dilemmas of fatherhood, was inspired by Dostoyevsky's "Crime and Punishment" and influenced by the classic French film "Pickpocket," by Robert Bresson.

This is the second time the Dardenne brothers have won the festival's top prize; "Rosetta," their harsh look at work and unemployment in Belgium, took the award in 1999.

Pope meets Rwandan bishops

VATICAN CITY -- Pope Benedict XVI met with bishops from Rwanda yesterday and called for peace and reconciliation in the African country.

The pope, in an audience with the bishops, recalled the 1994 Rwandan genocide and urged priests and faithful to "remain firm in the faith, to persevere in hope" and to overcome "all temptations of discouragement."

More than half a million people, most of them minority Tutsis, were killed in the genocide orchestrated by extremists from Rwanda's Hutu majority.

U.S. bars Sinn Fein envoy

DUBLIN, Ireland -- U.S. immigration officials have barred a senior American-based representative of Sinn Fein from traveling back to the United States after a trip to Ireland because she violated her visa restrictions, the **Irish Republican Army**-linked party said yesterday.

Rita O'Hare, who has been Sinn Fein's senior lobbyist and organizer in the United States since 1998, was denied a visa to accompany Sinn Fein deputy leader Martin McGuinness on his upcoming visit to New York and Washington.

U.S. immigration officials say O'Hare is being punished because she violated the terms of a previous visa by traveling without authorization to Florida.

Search for missing soldiers

BELGIAN FILM WINS TOP HONORS AT THE CANNES FESTIVAL

LOS ANGELES, Chile -- Chilean soldiers yesterday searched the Andes mountains for 29 comrades lost when a blizzard struck during a training march, but their commander admitted that they almost certainly will be found dead.

The number of bodies found after Wednesday's storm increased to 16, the army said. The military took advantage of the first clear day since the blizzard started to deploy nearly 150 men in the largest ground and air search so far.

Meanwhile, 112 soldiers who survived the storm, including seven women, were flown by helicopter to Los Angeles, 400 miles south of the capital, Santiago.

Tougher line on Cuba urged

MADRID, Spain -- Lawmakers from Spain, Italy and Germany urged their governments yesterday take to a tougher line with Cuba after the communist government expelled a number of Europeans ahead of an opposition rally in Havana.

Spanish officials demanded that Cuba explain why two Spanish politicians were told to leave the country and a third threatened with expulsion before the rare opposition demonstration, the Foreign Ministry said yesterday.

Two former Spanish senators, Isabel San Baldomero and Rosa Lopez Garnica, were expelled, as were lawmakers from Germany, Italy and the Czech Republic.

Arnold Vaatz, a German lawmaker who was expelled from Cuba on Friday, called for the European Union to take a stronger stand against Cuba.

The diverse dissident groups debated pro-democracy projects yesterday, the second and final day of the meeting.

Load-Date: May 24, 2005

ST PATRICK'S DAY RECEPTIONS: TO THE IRISH AMERICAN COMMUNITY, ADAMS REMAINS THE ONE AND ONLY HOPE FOR PEACE

The Independent (London)

March 16, 2005, Wednesday

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Section: First Edition; NEWS

Length: 486 words

Byline: NIAL O'DOWD

Body

DURING EVERY Saint Patrick's period, the US media is galvanised to report on the Irish story of the week. The rest of the year, frankly they could care less. After all, Michael Jackson's pyjamas are much more compelling.

This year it is no contest for the sultans of soundbite who run the media. The story of the McCartney sisters bears all the hallmarks of what they are seeking. There are brave women, bad terrorists and a story line that reaches all the way from Belfast to the White House. Hey, even Jo Schmo in Kansas can figure it out.

The McCartney women are in and Gerry Adams is out, out of the White House, out of Ted Kennedy's office and if we are to believe the reports, also out with many ordinary Irish-Americans, except nobody has really bothered to ask them.

Little matter that the media caravan will trundle out of town the second Saint Patrick's Day is over. For now, it is McCartneys all the time. The women have excellent media presence, have suffered a grievous wrong and their story deserves to be told.

Yet by Friday morning, the McCartneys will be very old news. The attention- deficit disorder that inflicts about 95 per cent of the American media will become evident. If it's Friday it must be Martha Stewart, or Michael Jackson or those midget twins on the flying trapeze. Where's the next grist for our mill?

Activist Irish-Americans believe they see through this. They know that the McCartney story is important but the fate of the peace process is far more so in the long run. They believe that the same, maligned Gerry Adams is the only one capable of putting it back on track.

To do so, Adams must get the Irish Republican Army to disband. That is the message that the Sinn Fein leader has received this week from almost every leading Irish- American. There is no other way and Sinn Fein cannot continue to straddle both horses.

The condemnations of Adams and the IRA have been filling the airwaves here, especially in the context of the McCartney sisters. If condemnations could bring peace there would have been no Troubles to begin with. Equally if the acts of two or more drunken psychopaths in a Belfast bar brings down the peace process it is an incredible tragedy.

ST PATRICK'S DAY RECEPTIONS: TO THE IRISH AMERICAN COMMUNITY, ADAMS REMAINS THE ONE
AND ONLY HOPE FOR PEACE

It is a gargantuan task for Adams to get the IRA to see the only realistic future but it is not beyond him. He and Martin McGuinness pulled off the IRA ceasefire in 1994, which was a remarkable act, and they have continued to advance the process, often in an agonisingly slow manner for the past decade or so. Now Sinn Fein have lost the initiative and needs to win it back if the process is to be saved. After numerous meetings this week, Irish-Americans are more convinced than ever that Gerry Adams can bring this about. That is the real story this Saint Patrick's Day. Not very sexy for news headlines; those boring old Irish Troubles rarely are.

Niall O'Dowd is the publisher of 'The Irish Voice' in New York

Load-Date: March 16, 2005

End of Document

WOMEN'S RIGHTS SPARKS WRANGLE

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (Pennsylvania)

February 28, 2005 Monday

SOONER EDITION

Copyright 2005 P.G. Publishing Co.

Section: WORLD,; WORLD BRIEFS

Length: 578 words

Body

UNITED NATIONS -- Ten years after a landmark U.N. conference adopted a platform aimed at global equality for women, the United States is demanding that a declaration issued by a follow-up meeting make clear the women are not guaranteed a right to abortion.

Starting today, a high-level U.N. meeting attended by over 100 countries and 6,000 advocates for women's causes will be taking stock of what countries have done to implement the 150-page landmark platform of action adopted at the 1995 U.N. women's conference in Beijing to achieve equality of the sexes.

A draft declaration would have nations reaffirm the Beijing platform and a declaration adopted with it, welcome progress toward achieving gender equality, stress that challenges remain, and "pledge to undertake further action to ensure their full and accelerated implementation."

But at an informal closed-door meeting, the United States said it could not accept the declaration because of its concerns that the Beijing platform legalized the right to abortion as a human right.

Lebanese protest

BEIRUT, Lebanon -- Several thousand anti-Syrian protesters took to Beirut's streets late yesterday in defiance of a government ban, while a visiting U.S. official kept up Washington's pressure on Syria by calling on it to withdraw its 15,000 troops from Lebanon following the assassination of former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri earlier this month.

The protest came ahead of today's scheduled vote of confidence in the pro-Damascus government of Prime Minister Omar Karami.

Today's parliamentary session will be the first to deal with the Feb. 14 bombing that killed Hariri and 16 others. Opposition lawmakers are expected to demand details about the attack.

Kyrgyz election

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan -- Kyrgyzstan chose a new parliament yesterday, with some opposition figures and prominent politicians disqualified from the ballot in a country once seen as an island of democracy in former Soviet Central Asia.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS SPARKS WRANGLE

President Askar Akayev is prevented by the constitution from seeking a third term, and he denied that he wants another term, saying after voting that "I have not had, and do not have, intentions to change the constitution." The next presidential election is slated for October.

Preliminary results were to be announced today.

Tajikistan voting

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan -- Voters in Tajikistan chose a new parliament yesterday in an election marred by opposition allegations of widespread irregularities in favor of the former Soviet republic's powerful ruling party.

The election pitted a fledgling opposition against the party of strongman President Emomali Rakhmonov, who came to power during Tajikistan's civil war of the 1990s.

Rahmatullo Zoirov, leader of the opposition Socialist Democratic Party, said his party's observers had recorded "a vast number of violations" which he promised to make public tomorrow.

Preliminary results are expected today.

Rally against IRA

BELFAST, Northern Ireland -- Hundreds of people gathered yesterday to protest the killing of a Belfast man whose death has pitted the **Irish Republican Army** against its Catholic base.

The family of victim Robert McCartney urged those involved in the murder to surrender to authorities. The perpetrators are believed to be IRA members.

The IRA said Saturday it was expelling three members it blames for McCartney's knife slaying. The Jan. 30 attack outside a Belfast pub has fueled unusual Catholic hostility to the underground organization.

Load-Date: February 28, 2005

Today in History - March 1

Associated Press Online
February 28, 2005 Monday

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Section: DOMESTIC NEWS

Length: 569 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Body

Today is Tuesday, March 1, the 60th day of 2005. There are 305 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 1, 1945, President Roosevelt, back from the Yalta Conference, proclaimed the meeting a success as he addressed a joint session of Congress.

On this date:

In 1781, the Continental Congress adopted the Articles of Confederation.

In 1790, Congress authorized the first U.S. Census.

In 1864, Rebecca Lee became the first black woman to receive an American medical degree, from the New England **Female** Medical College in Boston.

In 1867, Nebraska became the 37th state.

In 1872, Congress authorized creation of Yellowstone National Park.

In 1904, bandleader Glenn Miller was born in Clarinda, Iowa.

In 1932, 20-month-old Charles A. Lindbergh Jr., the son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh, was kidnapped from the family home near Hopewell, N.J. (Remains identified as those of the child were found the following May.)

In 1954, Puerto Rican nationalists opened fire from the gallery of the U.S. House of Representatives, wounding five congressmen.

In 1961, President Kennedy established the Peace Corps.

In 1981, **Irish Republican Army** member Bobby Sands began a hunger strike at the Maze Prison in Northern Ireland; he died 65 days later.

Ten years ago: Somalia militiamen loyal to warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid seized control of the Mogadishu airport after peacekeepers withdrew. At the 37th annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, Sheryl Crow won record of the year for "All I Wanna Do" while Tony Bennett's "MTV Unplugged" was named best album.

Today in History - March 1

Five years ago: Candidates in both major parties turned their focus to Super Tuesday, a day after Texas Gov. George W. Bush won primaries in Virginia, North Dakota and Washington state, while Vice President Al Gore won in Washington state. A gunman in Wilkinsburg, Pa., fatally shot three men and wounded two others; the shooter, Ronald Taylor, was later convicted and sentenced to death. Classes were canceled at Buell Elementary School in Mount Morris Township, Mich., a day after 6-year-old Kayla Rolland was fatally shot by a fellow first-grader.

One year ago: Rebels rolled into Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, where they were met by thousands of residents cheering the ouster of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide the day before, on Leap Day. Iraqi officials approved an interim constitution. The California Supreme Court ruled a Roman Catholic charity had to offer birth-control coverage to its employees.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Robert Clary is 79. Singer Harry Belafonte is 78. Former U.S. Solicitor General Robert H. Bork is 78. Actor Robert Conrad is 70. Rock singer Mike D'Abo (Manfred Mann) is 61. Former Sen. John Breaux, D-La., is 61. Rock singer Roger Daltrey is 61. Actor Dirk Benedict is 60. Actor Alan Thicke is 58. Actor-director Ron Howard is 51. Actress Catherine Bach is 51. Country singer Janis Gill (AKA Janis Oliver Cummins) (Sweethearts of the Rodeo) is 51. Actor Tim Daly is 49. Singer-musician Jon Carroll is 48. Rock musician Bill Leen is 43. Actor Russell Wong is 42. Actor John David Cullum is 39. Actor George Eads is 38. Actor Javier Bardem is 36. Actor Mark-Paul Gosselaar is 31. Actor Jensen Ackles is 27. TV host Donovan Patton is 27. Rock musician Sean Woolstenhulme (Lifehouse) is 24. R&B singer Sammie is 18.

Thought for Today: "Words are, of course, the most powerful drug used by mankind." - Rudyard Kipling, English author (1865-1936).

Load-Date: March 2, 2005

End of Document

AP Weekly News Calendar Saturday, Jan. 29:

Associated Press International

January 27, 2005 Thursday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 662 words

Body

Baghdad, Iraq - Iraqi interim government closes borders before Jan. 30 election for new National Assembly. Through Jan. 31.

Turmi, Ethiopia - Global Pastoralist Gathering, where Spanish shepherds, Mongolian camel owners and other herders from 23 nations discuss challenges to way of life. Through Feb. 2.

Khartoum, Sudan - Regional UNHCR meeting on Sudanese refugees, including discussion of whether and how to begin repatriation program.

Beijing - Memorial service for deposed leader Zhao Ziyang held at China's main cemetery for revolutionary heroes. Ceremony lower status event than state funeral.

Taipei, Taiwan - First direct charter flights between Taiwan and China bring Taiwanese working on mainland home for Chinese Lunar New Year. Through Feb. 20.

Baghdad, Iraq - Iraqis elect National Assembly.

Vienna, Austria - Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries meeting on production levels.

Abuja, Nigeria - African Union summit on food security. Through Jan. 31.

Dublin, Ireland - International panel of experts reconvenes to prepare report on activities of **Irish Republican Army** and other outlawed groups in Northern Ireland.

The Hague, Netherlands - Trial begins for former Bosnian army commander Sefer Halilovic, most senior Bosnian Muslim to face charges before U.N. war crimes tribunal.

The Hague, Netherlands - U.N. war crimes tribunal to deliver verdict for Pavle Strugar, former Serb commander accused of responsibility for shelling of Dubrovnik, Croatia.

Bonneville, France - 16 people to appear in court as trial begins seeking to determine responsibility for 1999 inferno in Mont Blanc tunnel that killed 39.

Brussels, Belgium - European Union foreign ministers meet.

Tehran, Iran - 26th anniversary of return to Iran by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, founder of Islamic Republic of Iran.

AP Weekly News Calendar Saturday, Jan. 29:

London - Prime ministers of Britain and Ireland discuss how to revive negotiations on Northern Ireland's future following alleged IRA involvement in Belfast bank robbery.

Exeter, England - Britain hosts conference on climate change. Through Feb. 2.

Tokyo - Evacuation order ending for residents who fled volcanic eruption on Japan's Miyake Island in September 2000, allowing some 3,000 people to return home.

Jerusalem - German President Horst Koehler visits to mark 40 years of diplomatic relations between Germany and Jewish state. Through Feb. 4.

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia - Start of first-ever political campaigning in Saudi Arabia, with candidates competing for seats on municipal councils.

Shashemene, Ethiopia - Rastafarians start monthlong birthday celebrations for late reggae singer Bob Marley, holding them outside his native Jamaica for first time.

Dakar, Senegal - French President Jacques Chirac arrives for talk of Senegal's leaders and opening of international conference on agriculture. Through Feb. 4.

Djibouti - Djibouti's government and private aid group, No Peace Without Justice, hold regional conference on combating female genital mutilation. Through Feb. 3.

Harare, Zimbabwe - Opposition decides whether to compete in March parliamentary elections while demanding electoral reforms and end to government intimidation of political foes.

London - Former South African President Nelson Mandela speaks at rally in Trafalgar Square to endorse Make Poverty History campaign.

Frankfurt, Germany - European Central Bank's governing council sets interest rates for 12 nations using European Union's common currency.

Vienna, Austria - Prestigious annual Opera Ball.

Brazzaville, Republic of Congo - French President Jacques Chirac continues Africa trip, attending Congo Basin Summit. Through Feb. 5.

London - Finance ministers of Group of 7 industrial nations meet.

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia - International conference on fighting terrorism. Through Feb. 8.

Mexico - Governor elections in states of Baja California Sur, Guerrero and Quintana Roo.

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia - Ethiopia's largest ever concert held as part of monthlong birthday celebrations for late Jamaican reggae singer Bob Marley.

Load-Date: January 28, 2005

A return to the troubles?: December's bank robbery raises the question: Has the IRA really abandoned the gun and embraced democratic politics?

National Post (f/k/a The Financial Post) (Canada)

February 18, 2005 Friday

National Edition

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Section: ISSUES & IDEAS; Pg. A19

Length: 1333 words

Byline: John O'Sullivan, National Post

Body

In the grim humour of Belfast, Northern Ireland's capital, the latest form of punishment beating by the ***Irish Republican Army*** is called "a Padre Pio." The victim is told to clasp his hands in prayer and he is then shot through both palms. It is an economical form of wounding someone since one bullet produces two wounds.

Padre Pio was a saintly Italian priest whose hands bore the stigmata. These are wounds in the palms of the hands like those of Christ where the nails pierced Him. In addition to this, Padre Pio was rumoured to be able to see directly into the souls of those who sought confession or counsel. More than one pious Catholic of my acquaintance remembered a previous engagement when invited to an audience with him.

Today the British and Irish governments would dearly like to imitate Pio's powers of spiritual insight as readily as the IRA has mocked his imitation of Christ. For the IRA has been hinting that it might resume the "armed struggle" -- that is, murdering and wounding people on a non-discriminatory basis rather than confining such tactics to rebellious and dissident Catholics in the ghetto -- and the two governments want to know if they really mean it.

What began this crisis was a bank robbery two months ago, in which the IRA stole almost \$50US-million from the Northern Bank in Belfast. At first, the police and the two governments were reluctant to accuse the IRA of involvement since that would further undermine the already collapsing "peace process."

Of course, the IRA denied everything, but then the IRA had originally denied that the three terrorists training FARC insurgents in Colombia were their guys, too. They are now waging an international campaign for their release. And eventually, the truth about the robbery could no longer be fudged either. In due course, the police and the two governments declared that the IRA had robbed the bank.

In itself, a mere bank robbery might not have created a full-blown political crisis. After all, everyone concerned knows that during "the Troubles" (from the 1960s to the 1990s), the IRA, as well as planting bombs and murdering policemen, also built up a lucrative series of gambling, smuggling and protection rackets. Boys will be boys.

But this particular robbery came on top of a series of actions that caused the British and Irish governments, as well as all the democratic Northern Irish parties, to question whether the IRA had really abandoned the gun and embraced democratic politics. These actions included the IRA's failure to disarm completely and publicly after 11

A return to the troubles?: December's bank robbery raises the question: Has the IRA really abandoned the gun and embraced democratic politics?

years of promising to do so, and its brutal imposition of the Padre Pio on three Catholic youths for -- essentially -- not showing local IRA chieftains the proper respect.

The robbery was the final straw that broke the back of the peace process. It removed any early prospect of restoring the power-sharing Northern Ireland executive and assembly that had been suspended: The Unionist parties, which want Northern Island to continue to be part of the U.K., refused to share power with an IRA that was literally sticking to its guns.

On Feb. 2, the Provisional IRA Army Council reacted by issuing a long and bellicose statement. It reminded people that the IRA had ended a cease-fire before; it accused the two governments and "rejectionist" Unionists of seeking to humiliate Republicans (those want all of Ireland to belong to the Irish Republic); and it made vaguely menacing noises about protecting the rights of "our support base."

In 30-odd years of "the Troubles," it was the IRA that killed most of the 3,300 who died in the conflict. In those decades, such threats as these would have aroused alarm in Dublin and Whitehall. Instead, the mood is relatively relaxed. Analysts calculate that the IRA may huff and puff, but that it won't re-embark on a full-scale guerrilla war.

Underlying this calculation are three arguments: First, public opinion in Northern Ireland -- Catholic as well as Protestant -- is determined to keep the present peace. Neither community would tolerate any resumption of terrorism. Both might support a ruthless campaign of official repression if the IRA started bombing again.

Second, the IRA itself is still dangerous, but it is no longer a hard-edged guerrilla force. Its current leadership is a rich, fat, lazy, middle-aged mafia raking in millions of dollars from the rackets. If London and Dublin continue to turn a blind eye to control of the Catholic ghettos -- as they have done to date -- they will not wish to put their highly agreeable lifestyle at risk.

Third, in the post-9/11 world, Washington and the entire West would support the British and Irish governments in a crackdown on IRA terrorism. And with even Libya anxious to return to the international community, the IRA would be without friends.

For all these reasons, the politicians tell themselves, the IRA will go to the brink of war -- and then halt. And they make the further calculation that, at some future point, negotiations will resume, Sinn Fein-IRA will make an acceptable gesture of disarmament, the unionist parties will complain but eventually come round, and the peace process will be resumed.

These are all plausible arguments believed by hard-headed people. But London and Dublin may be missing a serious opportunity to move toward genuine peace and security in Northern Ireland by a firm warning that any resumption of terror would mean the permanent exclusion of Sinn Fein from government and the loss of all the concessions already granted them.

The background of public opinion in Northern Ireland, including Catholic opinion, is unusually open to such firmness. Just in the last month, the horribly brutal murder of a local man in the Short Strand -- a Catholic enclave of Belfast that was hitherto unquestioningly loyal to the Provisional IRA -- by local Provo chieftains has led to strong public revulsion. Even the local Sinn Fein councilor has distanced himself from this brutality to satisfy his constituents' anger. To quote the London Observer: "The unthinkable is happening. Graffiti has appeared denouncing 'PIRA scum'; women have stopped youths from rioting against the security forces; shops and businesses are displaying posters from the Police Service of Northern Ireland appealing for help in their inquiries."

But neither London or Dublin will want to take advantage of this public revulsion. They have grown accustomed to appeasing terrorism. They see Sinn Fein-IRA as indispensable partners in the peace process. They will not want to end the peace process (as opposed to merely suspending it). And so they will shrink from any firm action -- indeed they may oppose it.

A return to the troubles?: December's bank robbery raises the question: Has the IRA really abandoned the gun and embraced democratic politics?

But U.S. President George W. Bush could convey to the once and future terrorists that they will face the full wrath of the American government and people if they veer even a millimetre from the path of peaceful politics. And he could do so by a simple but Blarney-Stone-eloquent gesture.

St. Patrick's Day will occur, as usual, on March 17. It is now an established tradition for the President to welcome Irish politicians of all stripes to the White House for an ecumenical celebration. In recent years, the guests have included Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, who is a former terrorist leader.

To warn Sinn Fein/IRA -- and their Protestant equivalent, the Progressive Unionist Party, which is likewise linked to violence -- of the consequences of threatening or employing terrorism, President Bush should this year invite all the other party leaders on both sides of the Irish border to the St. Patrick's celebrations. He should explicitly disinvite Adams, Martin McGuinness and other prominent Sinn Fein figures and their counterparts in the Progressive Unionist Party. And he should explain why.

He should order that their visa waivers to enter the United States be lifted. And he should make clear that they will not be able to enter the U.S. again until they and their colleagues have finally and permanently abandoned the gun.

Graphic

Black & White

Photo: Reuters; An armed member of the **Irish Republican Army**, in a photo taken from a promotional calendar issued by the group.

Load-Date: February 18, 2005

End of Document

Police arrest Northern Ireland bank employee suspected of role in record robbery

The Associated Press

November 29, 2005, Tuesday, BC cycle

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Section: International News

Length: 559 words

Byline: By SHAWN POGATCHNIK, Associated Press Writer

Dateline: DUBLIN, Ireland

Body

Two Northern Ireland bank employees were arrested Tuesday on suspicion of involvement in the robbery of their Belfast bank, raising questions about whether the British-record theft could have been an inside job.

Chris Ward, 24, and a 22-year-old woman whom police refused to identify were being held at the Northern Ireland police's central interrogation center in Antrim, west of Belfast, where under anti-terrorist laws they could be held for up to a week before being charged or released.

A detective familiar with the investigation into the \$50 million robbery Dec. 20 confirmed that Ward was under arrest, as well as a **female** friend who also works for Northern Bank.

The detective spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because it is against police policy to discuss the identities of suspects before they are charged.

Four police armored vehicles were parked outside Ward's home in Poleglass on the outskirts of Catholic west Belfast, a power base of the outlawed **Irish Republican Army**. Forensic specialists in protective clothing searched both the house and a car outside.

Northern Ireland police commanders, the British and Irish governments, and international experts all have accused the IRA of robbing the central vault of the Northern Bank. The IRA has denied involvement.

Masked, armed gangs took hostage the families of two key Northern Bank employees, including Ward, and threatened to kill those hostages unless both men cooperated and raised no alarms.

Ward gave an interview to the British Broadcasting Corp. in Belfast days after the robbery.

In that interview, Ward stressed he had played no role in the raid and was an innocent victim. He said a man who was covering his face with a hat and coat collar arrived at his family's Poleglass home on the night of Dec. 19, then pulled a gun, donned a balaclava-style mask, and brought in more henchmen, who held Ward's family captive for the following 24 hours until the robbery was over.

Ward said the gang leader warned him that if he disobeyed instructions, "You and your family are dead."

Police arrest Northern Ireland bank employee suspected of role in record robbery

Ward said he was taken to the rural home of his work colleague, Kevin McMullan, where a second gang was holding McMullan and his wife. Ward said he and McMullan both were ordered to go to work normally, stay past closing time, then ferry boxes of cash to a waiting van.

"You had to act as if nothing was wrong," Ward told the BBC. "It was very difficult to do, but you knew in the back of your head that you had to do it, that you couldn't tell anybody."

Three people have been charged and ordered held without bail in connection with the robbery investigation. None has been accused of actually carrying out the raid.

Chief Constable Hugh Orde, commander of Northern Ireland's police, says his detectives have accounted for about \$9.5 million of the stolen cash.

Police in the neighboring Irish Republic seized about three-fifths of that total during raids in February on the homes and offices of people suspected of involvement in IRA money-laundering.

The remaining two-fifths, police estimate, was burned before it could be seized during those raids.

Orde says the bulk of the missing money has been rendered worthless because the Northern Bank - which is allowed to print and distribute its own designs of British currency - withdrew its previous designs from circulation and issued new notes.

Load-Date: November 30, 2005

Police arrest 2 Northern Ireland bank employees suspected of role in British-record robbery

AP Worldstream

November 29, 2005 Tuesday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 576 words

Byline: SHAWN POGATCHNIK; Associated Press Writer

Dateline: DUBLIN, Ireland

Body

Two Northern Ireland bank employees were arrested Tuesday on suspicion of involvement in the mammoth robbery of their Belfast bank, raising questions about whether the British-record heist could have been an inside job.

Chris Ward, 24, and a 22-year-old woman whom police refused to name were being held at the Northern Ireland police's central interrogation center in Antrim, west of Belfast, where under anti-terrorist laws they could be held for up to a week before being charged or released.

A detective familiar with the investigation into the 26.5-million-pound ([euro]38 million; US\$50 million) robbery Dec. 20 confirmed that Ward was under arrest, as well as a **female** friend of his who also works for Northern Bank.

The detective spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because it is against police policy to discuss the identities of suspects before they are charged.

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On Dec. 19 masked, armed gangs took hostage the families of two key Northern Bank employees, including Ward, and threatened to kill their hostages unless both men cooperated and raised no alarms.

Ward gave an interview to the British Broadcasting Corp. in Belfast days after the robbery.

In that interview, Ward stressed he had played no role in the raid and was an innocent victim. He said a man who was covering up much of his face with a hat and coat collar arrived at his family's Poleglass home, then pulled a gun, donned a balaclava-style mask, and brought in more henchmen. They held Ward's family captive for the following 24 hours until the robbery was over.

Ward said the gang leader warned him that, if he disobeyed instructions, "You and your family are dead."

Police arrest 2 Northern Ireland bank employees suspected of role in British-record robbery

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"You had to act as if nothing was wrong," Ward told the BBC. "It was very difficult to do, but you knew in the back of your head that you had to do it, that you couldn't tell anybody."

Three people have been charged and ordered held without bail in connection with the robbery investigation. None has been accused of actually carrying out the raid.

Chief Constable Hugh Orde, commander of Northern Ireland's police, says his detectives have accounted for about 5 million pounds (US\$9.5 million, [euro]7.5 million) of the stolen cash.

Police in the neighboring Irish Republic seized about three-fifths of that total during raids in February on the homes and offices of people suspected of involvement in IRA money-laundering; the remaining two-fifths, police estimate, was burned before it could be seized during those raids.

Orde says the bulk of the missing money has been rendered worthless because the Northern Bank - which is allowed to print and distribute its own designs of British currency - withdrew its previous designs from circulation and issued new notes.

Load-Date: November 29, 2005

Belfast police suspect Protestant paramilitary UDA killed former leader

AP Worldstream

October 5, 2005 Wednesday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 617 words

Byline: SHAWN POGATCHNIK; Associated Press Writer

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

Police investigating the assassination of a top Protestant militant arrested six people Wednesday, and said they suspected his former comrades from the Ulster Defense Association had killed him.

Jim Gray, a notorious Protestant militant, was shot several times at point-blank range Tuesday night outside his father's Belfast home, where he had been staying since his release from prison on bail three weeks ago.

Gray had been a commander of the outlawed Ulster Defense Association, Northern Ireland's largest illegal group, until March, when other commanders ousted him. Detectives said Gray had received several death threats from former UDA colleagues in recent months.

"A significant and major line of inquiry is that Mr. Gray was murdered by the UDA," said police Superintendent George Hamilton, who is leading the investigation.

Earlier Wednesday, Hamilton's detectives arrested four men and two women during raids on the homes of UDA activists. The Police Service of Northern Ireland declined to give any details of the suspects' identities or where they were arrested.

Under British anti-terrorism laws, all six could be held at the police's main interrogation center at Antrim, west of Belfast, for up to a week before being charged or released.

Frankie Gallagher, spokesman for the UDA-linked Ulster Political Research Group, said few people in Belfast were saddened at the news of Gray's demise.

"I'm not surprised," Gallagher said. "What the man done, how he terrorized people ... he dragged the UDA's reputation into the mud with all his antics."

A week after Gray's ouster from the UDA, police arrested him and his girlfriend - apparently as they were fleeing Belfast with a large amount of cash - and charged him with money laundering and concealing stolen property.

Gray was both a much-feared and much-lampooned figure. With his year-round tan and sunglasses, shock of bleach-blond hair and gold hoop earrings, he was known widely - although rarely to his face - by the nickname "Doris Day." Others called him "Brigadier Bling" and his ever-present bodyguards the "Spice Boys."

Belfast police suspect Protestant paramilitary UDA killed former leader

Those who crossed him could suffer severe beatings or death. An Associated Press reporter witnessed one such attack on July 27, 2002, when Gray and an underling battered and repeatedly kicked a man at an outdoor Rod Stewart concert, then went back to their VIP seats.

Gray was grazed in the head with a bullet, but didn't suffer serious injuries, in September 2002 during a feud between the UDA and another illegal Protestant gang, the Loyalist Volunteer Force. Like so much bloodshed in the Protestant underworld, it was suspected to have been fueled by rival drug-dealing rackets.

Associates of Gray said he made monthly trips to Spain to oversee smuggling rackets.

The UDA, which has an estimated 2,000 members in this British territory of 1.7 million people, was founded in 1971 as a loose umbrella for neighborhood vigilante groups in working-class Protestant areas. It was responsible for killing about 400 people, mostly Catholic civilians, before calling a 1994 cease-fire.

That truce has been violated repeatedly, partly because of UDA involvement in so many illegal schemes that fuel deadly feuds.

The UDA, like other armed groups with official truces, was supposed to have disarmed fully by mid-2000 under terms of Northern Ireland's Good Friday peace accord of 1998. But the UDA refused, citing the continued existence of the much more sophisticated **Irish Republican Army**, the major illegal group in Catholic areas.

Despite its large membership, the UDA plays no meaningful role in on-again, off-again negotiations on Northern Ireland's future. Its political wing disbanded in 2001 after failing to win voter support.

Load-Date: October 6, 2005

End of Document

Catholics attack police as Protestants march; About 60 officers are wounded in the melee

Telegraph Herald (Dubuque, IA)

July 13, 2005 Wednesday

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Section: Front; Pg. c5

Length: 608 words

Byline: ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

Militant Catholics attacked riot police with homemade grenades and gasoline bombs Tuesday in an explosion of fury over the Orange Order, a Protestant brotherhood that staged mass parades across Northern Ireland.

About 60 officers and a dozen civilians were wounded when Catholics from Ardoyne, an ***Irish Republican Army*** power base in north Belfast, hurled at least two of the grenades into columns of riot police. The hourlong riot was the worst violence on a day of dangerous street confrontations across this British territory.

The officers had forced Catholic protesters off a main Belfast thoroughfare to clear the way for a few hundred Orangemen, an anti-Catholic organization whose members parade each July 12 in commemoration of a 315-year-old victory by Protestant King William of Orange over the Catholic he ejected from the British throne, James II.

The mobilization of tens of thousands of Orangemen on "The Twelfth," an official holiday in Northern Ireland, has long been loathed by Catholics. But only in the past decade have Catholics waged organized opposition to the tradition.

Police deployed two massive mobile water cannons to douse the Belfast protesters, who included Gerry Adams, leader of the IRA-linked Sinn Fein party. Adams had appealed to the crowd not to attack the police, but youths armed with a range of stockpiled weapons and projectiles disregarded his plea.

Adams, a reputed IRA commander since the mid-1970s, complained that police should have respected Sinn Fein's authority over the crowd.

"They brought the water cannon in too quickly. We should have been allowed to keep order," he said.

Elder officials from Sinn Fein and the IRA did confront Ardoyne teenagers stealing a car and preparing to burn it on the road and also dumped out bottles filled with gasoline. Despite this, a second stolen car was abandoned and torched in front of the police lines.

Less intense violence marred the end of another major Orange parade in Londonderry, Northern Ireland's predominantly Catholic second-largest city. Catholic leaders there agreed to permit an Orange parade in the heart of Londonderry for the first time in more than a decade - but once again, young Catholic men and teens ignored instructions not to attack police and the marching Protestants.

Catholics attack police as Protestants march; About 60 officers are wounded in the melee

A ***female*** police officer suffered burns from one of several gasoline bombs hurled by Catholics near Londonderry's central square, where a tense standoff between Catholics and police with locked-together riot shields continued for hours.

Serious violence was narrowly averted in another overwhelmingly Catholic village, Dunloy, where locals erected a road barricade of several cars and a truck, then staged a sit-down protest. Police began hauling off the protesters before Sinn Fein officials negotiated with police to end the protest.

Earlier, Adams appealed to Orange leaders to negotiate directly with Catholic protest leaders, most of whom are activists for Sinn Fein, the major Catholic-backed party. Orange leaders usually have refused, citing the IRA criminal convictions of some protest leaders.

"If Orangemen would demonstrate the necessary good manners to talk to their neighbors, we could reach an accommodation," Adams said.

Sinn Fein activists in 1995 began blocking Orange parades that pass near or through Catholic areas. The tactic challenged Northern Ireland's mostly Protestant police force to decide whose rights should prevail - those of the marchers or the locals.

Such confrontations triggered intense rioting across Northern Ireland in the mid-1990s but then, increasingly, encouraged British authorities to restrict the most contentious Orange processions.

Graphic

AP Photo

Load-Date: July 13, 2005

End of Document

Riots break out in Belfast as Catholics protest annual Protestant march

The Canadian Press (CP)

July 12, 2005 Tuesday

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Section: FOREIGN GENERAL NEWS

Length: 626 words

Byline: BY SHAWN POGATCHNIK

Body

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) _ Militant Catholics attacked riot police with homemade grenades and gasoline bombs Tuesday in an explosion of fury over the Orange Order, a Protestant brotherhood that staged mass parades across Northern Ireland.

About 40 officers and two journalists were wounded when Catholics from Ardoyne, an **Irish Republican Army** power base in north Belfast, hurled at least two of the grenades into columns of riot police. The hour-long riot was the worst violence on a day of dangerous street confrontations across this British territory.

AP

The officers had forced Catholic protesters off a main Belfast thoroughfare to clear the way for a few hundred Orangemen. Members of this anti-Catholic organization parade each July 12 in commemoration of a 315-year-old victory by Protestant King William of Orange over the Catholic he ejected from the British throne, James II.

The mobilization of tens of thousands of Orangemen on "The Twelfth," an official holiday in Northern Ireland, has long been loathed by Catholics. But only in the past decade have Catholics waged organized opposition to the tradition.

Police deployed two massive mobile water cannons to douse the Belfast protesters, who included Gerry Adams, leader of the IRA-linked Sinn Fein party. Adams had appealed to the crowd not to attack the police, but youths armed with a range of stockpiled weapons and projectiles disregarded his plea.

Adams, a reputed IRA commander since the mid-1970s, complained that police should have respected Sinn Fein's authority over the crowd.

"They brought the water cannon in too quickly. We should have been allowed to keep order," he said.

Elder officials from Sinn Fein and the IRA confronted Ardoyne teenagers stealing a car and preparing to burn it on the road, and also dumped out bottles filled with gasoline. Despite the IRA's intervention, a second stolen car was abandoned and torched in front of the police lines.

Less intense violence marred the end of another major Orange parade in Londonderry, Northern Ireland's predominantly Catholic second-largest city. Catholic leaders there agreed to permit an Orange parade in the heart of Londonderry for the first time in more than a decade _ but once again, young Catholic men and teens ignored instructions not to attack police and the marching Protestants.

Riots break out in Belfast as Catholics protest annual Protestant march

A **female** police officer suffered burns from one of several gasoline bombs hurled by Catholics near Londonderry's central square, where a tense standoff between Catholics and police with locked-together riot shields continued for hours.

Serious violence was narrowly averted in another overwhelmingly Catholic village, Dunloy, where locals erected a road barricade of several cars and a truck, then staged a sit-down protest. Police began hauling off the protesters before Sinn Fein officials negotiated with police to end the protest.

Earlier, Adams appealed to Orange leaders to negotiate directly with Catholic protest leaders, most of whom are activists for Sinn Fein, the major Catholic-backed party. Orange leaders usually have refused, citing the IRA criminal convictions of some protest leaders.

"If Orangemen would demonstrate the necessary good manners to talk to their neighbours, we could reach an accommodation," Adams said.

Sinn Fein activists in 1995 began blocking Orange parades that pass near or through Catholic areas. The tactic challenged Northern Ireland's mostly Protestant police force to decide whose rights should prevail _ those of the marchers or the locals.

Such confrontations triggered intense rioting across Northern Ireland in the mid-1990s but then, increasingly, encouraged British authorities to restrict the most contentious Orange processions.

On the Net:

Parades Commission, www.paradescommission.org

Load-Date: July 13, 2005

Catholics Protest in Northern Ireland

Associated Press Online

July 12, 2005 Tuesday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 649 words

Byline: SHAWN POGATCHNIK; Associated Press Writer

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

Militant Catholics attacked riot police with homemade grenades and gasoline bombs Tuesday in an explosion of fury over the Orange Order, a Protestant brotherhood that staged mass parades across Northern Ireland.

About 60 officers and at least a dozen civilians, including several rioters, were wounded when Catholics from Ardoyne, an **Irish Republican Army** power base in north Belfast, hurled at least two of the grenades into columns of riot police.

Officers responded with water cannons, clubs and volleys of British-style plastic bullets that hadn't been used in Northern Ireland since 2002. The hourlong riot was the worst violence on a day of dangerous street confrontations across this British territory.

The officers had forced Catholic protesters off a main Belfast thoroughfare to clear the way for a few hundred Orangemen, an anti-Catholic organization whose members parade each July 12 in commemoration of a 315-year-old victory by Protestant King William of Orange over the Catholic he ejected from the British throne, James II.

The mobilization of tens of thousands of Orangemen on "The Twelfth," an official holiday in Northern Ireland, has long been loathed by Catholics. But only in the past decade have Catholics waged organized opposition to the tradition.

Police deployed two massive mobile water cannons to douse the Belfast protesters, who included Gerry Adams, leader of the IRA-linked Sinn Fein party. Adams had appealed to the crowd not to attack the police, but youths armed with a range of stockpiled weapons and projectiles disregarded his plea.

Adams, a reputed IRA commander since the mid-1970s, complained that police should have respected Sinn Fein's authority over the crowd.

"They brought the water cannon in too quickly. We should have been allowed to keep order," he said.

Elder officials from Sinn Fein and the IRA did confront Ardoyne teenagers stealing a car and preparing to burn it on the road, and also dumped out bottles filled with gasoline. Despite this, a second stolen car was abandoned and torched in front of the police lines.

Catholics Protest in Northern Ireland

Less intense violence marred the end of another major Orange parade in Londonderry, Northern Ireland's predominantly Catholic second-largest city. Catholic leaders there agreed to permit an Orange parade in the heart of Londonderry for the first time in more than a decade - but once again, young Catholic men and teens ignored instructions not to attack police and the marching Protestants.

A **female** police officer suffered burns from one of several gasoline bombs hurled by Catholics near Londonderry's central square, where a tense standoff between Catholics and police with locked-together riot shields continued for hours.

Serious violence was narrowly averted in another overwhelmingly Catholic village, Dunloy, where locals erected a road barricade of several cars and a truck, then staged a sit-down protest. Police began hauling off the protesters before Sinn Fein officials negotiated with police to end the protest.

Earlier, Adams appealed to Orange leaders to negotiate directly with Catholic protest leaders, most of whom are activists for Sinn Fein, the major Catholic-backed party. Orange leaders usually have refused, citing the IRA criminal convictions of some protest leaders.

"If Orangemen would demonstrate the necessary good manners to talk to their neighbors, we could reach an accommodation," Adams said.

Sinn Fein activists in 1995 began blocking Orange parades that pass near or through Catholic areas. The tactic challenged Northern Ireland's mostly Protestant police force to decide whose rights should prevail - those of the marchers or the locals.

Such confrontations triggered intense rioting across Northern Ireland in the mid-1990s but then, increasingly, encouraged British authorities to restrict the most contentious Orange processions.

On the Net:

Parades Commission, <http://www.paradescommission.org/>

Load-Date: July 13, 2005

Catholics attack Northern Ireland police following Protestant marches

AP Worldstream

July 12, 2005 Tuesday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 679 words

Byline: SHAWN POGATCHNIK; Associated Press Writer

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

Militant Catholics attacked police with grenades, gasoline bombs and other crude weapons Tuesday in an explosion of fury over the Orange Order, a Protestant brotherhood that staged mass parades across Northern Ireland.

About 60 officers and at least a dozen civilians, including several rioters and two journalists, were wounded when Catholics from Ardoyne, an **Irish Republican Army** power base in north Belfast, hurled at least two homemade grenades - called blast bombs - and other makeshift weapons into columns of riot police.

Officers responded with water cannons, clubs and volleys of British-style plastic bullets - blunt-nosed cylinders designed to knock down, rather than penetrate, the target - that hadn't been used in Northern Ireland since 2002. The hourlong riot was the worst violence on a day of dangerous street confrontations across this British territory.

The officers had forced Catholic protesters off Belfast's Crumlin Road to clear the way for a few hundred Orangemen, an anti-Catholic organization whose members parade each July 12 in commemoration of a 315-year-old victory by Protestant King William of Orange over the Catholic he ejected from the British throne, James II.

The mobilization of tens of thousands of Orangemen on "The Twelfth," an official holiday in Northern Ireland, has long been loathed by Catholics. But only in the past decade have Catholics waged organized opposition to the tradition.

Police deployed two massive mobile water cannons to douse the Crumlin Road protesters, who included Gerry Adams, leader of the IRA-linked Sinn Fein party. Adams had appealed to the crowd not to attack the police, but youths armed with a range of stockpiled weapons and projectiles ignored his plea.

Adams, a reputed IRA commander since the mid-1970s, complained that police should have respected Sinn Fein's authority over the crowd.

"They brought the water cannon in too quickly. We should have been allowed to keep order," he said.

Elder officials from Sinn Fein and the IRA did confront Ardoyne teen-agers stealing a car and preparing to burn it on the road, and also dumped out bottles filled with gasoline. Despite this, a second stolen car was abandoned and torched in front of the police lines.

Catholics attack Northern Ireland police following Protestant marches

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A **female** police officer suffered burns from one of several gasoline bombs hurled by Catholics near Londonderry's central square, called the Diamond, where a tense standoff between Catholics and police with locked-together riot shields continued for hours.

Serious violence was narrowly averted in another overwhelmingly Catholic village, Dunloy, where locals erected a road barricade of several cars and a truck, then staged a sit-down protest. Police began hauling off the protesters before Sinn Fein officials negotiated with police to end the protest.

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On the Net:

Parades Commission, <http://www.paradescommission.org/>

Load-Date: July 13, 2005

LONDON BOMBINGS;
ON THE SCEN;
STOIC PRIDE;
Londoners remain calm amid chaos and confusion

Star Tribune (Minneapolis, MN)
July 8, 2005, Friday, Metro Edition

Copyright 2005 Star Tribune

Section: NEWS; Pg. 15A

Length: 564 words

Byline: Curt Brown; Staff Writer

Dateline: London, England

Body

Adrienne Donan had just climbed up from the Piccadilly Line underground train, heading for her waitress job. Alan King had just departed from the King's Cross Station, off to his energy consulting job.

It was nearly 9 a.m.

Moments later, a wave of terrorist bombings tore through central London.

In the aftermath, even as sirens wailed, a surreal calm seemed to settle over much of the city, which awoke so giddy about landing the 2012 Olympics the day before that free champagne flowed on a train traveling under the English Channel from Paris.

As Thursday's morning drizzle gave way to sunshine, throngs of Londoners stoically walked past the Big Ben clock tower and across the Westminster Bridge, heading for above-ground trains and home.

Donan, 25, expressed anger and dismay about the bombings - and how mildly some in the city were reacting to it.

"It's all so horrible," she said. "I'm so lucky that I got off that train 15 minutes before the explosion. But I feel so sorry for all those who were not as lucky. And what really hurts is that some people don't seem to care."

London's underground train system, red double-decker buses, banks, theaters and the gigantic London Eye Ferris wheel along the Thames River were all shut down after the bombings. But on some streets, a sense of indifference seemed to prevail.

King, 49, said he heard the explosion that twisted a red city bus moments after his train shut down and passengers began quietly filing on to underground platforms and up to the cobblestone streets.

"I had just come around the corner and - BOOM - it sounded like a bloody fireworks show or a car backfiring maybe 200 yards away," King said. "People were upset and a few women were crying, but within a few hours, everyone seemed rather blase. We're calm because we're used to it."

LONDON BOMBINGS; ON THE SCEN; STOIC PRIDE; Londoners remain calm amid chaos and confusion

He mentioned the era of **Irish Republican Army** bombings that made days such as Thursday "a fact of life in London." King said the cell phone network in the city was "complete chaos" as he tried to figure out how he would get to his home 24 miles north.

"The true chaos will come tonight when everyone tries to get home," he said.

Molly Bauman, a University of St. Thomas student who is studying in London this summer, initially mistook the sound of the bombings for construction. She had nearly gone to the King's Cross station Thursday morning to buy a train ticket to Paris.

Once she realized what had happened, she called her mom in Anoka. "I think it was 3 a.m.," Bauman said. "She was still asleep and I said, 'Just so you know, when you turn on the news and see what happened, I'm fine.'"

Across from Big Ben, a theater ticket brokerage shares a cramped office with a dry cleaner. A 25-year-old ticket clerk named Elisabeth, who declined to give her last name, said she emigrated from Poland a few months ago. She said she had to walk three hours to get to work after the train system shut down, joining thousands of others who had to march from the darkened subway corridors to the cloud-shrouded streets of London.

"English people are so very calm," she said while watching news reports on a black-and-white television in the corner of the store and police cars whizzing past a window. "As I walked to work, I saw people sitting in the pubs, eating their breakfasts as if nothing had happened."

Staff writer Allie Shah contributed to this report.

Curt Brown is at curt.brown@startribune.com.

Load-Date: July 8, 2005

EU is coming to the aid of family of Ulster victim

The International Herald Tribune

May 11, 2005 Wednesday

Copyright 2005 International Herald Tribune

Section: NEWS; Pg. 3

Length: 607 words

Byline: Brian Lavery

Dateline: DUBLIN:

Body

The European Parliament said Tuesday that Robert McCartney's fiancée and five sisters, who have campaigned for his killers to be brought to justice, should receive financial support from the European Union's fund for terrorist victims, allowing them to bring a civil case if the Northern Irish police fail to gather enough evidence to file criminal charges.

"The call for an end to violence and the struggle against injustice of all kinds has been heard," the Parliament's president, Josep Borrell, said in Strasbourg after a resolution supporting the women passed by a vote of 555 to 4. "I hope that our decision today will help to break the wall of silence surrounding Robert's murder."

The New York Times

McCartney was beaten and stabbed to death outside a bar in Belfast after an argument with members of the Irish Republican Army, the paramilitary group linked to Sinn Féin, Northern Ireland's second-largest political party.

Despite appeals to the 70 witnesses by the president of Sinn Féin, Gerry Adams, nobody has given a significant statement to the police most claim to have been in the restroom when the fight broke out which the McCartneys say is a result of intimidation by the IRA.

The identity of the alleged killers is widely known in Belfast, and the men were identified in Parliament by Jim Allister, a representative from the Democratic Unionists, Northern Ireland's hard-line Protestant party.

The McCartneys have received threatening letters and been verbally harassed near their home since March, when their campaign peaked in a meeting with President George W. Bush in Washington.

Catherine McCartney, one of the sisters, said the resolution gave her family new hope. "We feel very strengthened, and very heartened, that we will get a result, and hopefully sooner rather than later," she said in Strasbourg.

A civil action would be similar to the case brought by families of victims of the 1998 Omagh car-bombing, who are suing five men whom they believe responsible. That litigation may be put on hold for six months now that the Northern Irish police have compiled enough evidence for the province's state prosecutor to charge a man for the 29 deaths.

EU is coming to the aid of family of Ulster victim

Earlier, the police had refused to confirm reports that Sean Hoey, a 35-year-old electrician, would face a mass murder trial, but a state prosecutor revealed in Belfast's High Court on Tuesday that a preliminary hearing has been set for May 26.

Hoey is already in jail awaiting trial on terrorist charges of membership in the Real IRA, the IRA splinter group that claimed responsibility for the blast, and of possession of explosives that were used in a series of attacks on Northern Irish towns.

The Northern Irish police bungled the original investigation into the Omagh bombing, which maimed hundreds of people and was the deadliest attack in the history of Ulster's sectarian conflict. A new inquiry was started three years ago with a team of international scientists who reviewed forensic evidence and compiled thousands of pages of documents.

The victims' families had feared that no one would ever be successfully tried for the murders. Only one other man, Hoey's uncle Colm Murphy, has been charged, because he lent cellphones to the bombers. He is awaiting a retrial after his conviction was overturned because of false testimony by police officers from the Irish Republic.

Michael Gallagher, whose 21-year-old son, Aiden, died at Omagh, has led the families' battle, and he told RTE radio that he was "absolutely delighted" with the new case against Hoey, and that he anticipated further prosecutions. "We just hope and pray that this will not be the last charge," he said.

Load-Date: May 11, 2005

End of Document

Sinn Fein Leader Reasserts Rejection of Criminal Activity

The New York Times

March 6, 2005 Sunday

Late Edition - Final

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Section: Section 1; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Pg. 13

Length: 593 words

Byline: By BRIAN LAVERY

Dateline: DUBLIN, March 5

Body

Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the **Irish Republican Army**, used his keynote address at the party's annual conference on Saturday to reiterate that the party rejects criminal activity. His statement came after months of allegations linking the I.R.A. -- and Sinn Fein -- to crimes including a bank robbery, a money-laundering ring and a killing.

"There is no place in republicanism for anyone involved in criminality," Mr. Adams said. He promised the family of the man who was killed, whom he had invited to the session, that the killers would face charges.

"We know that breaking the law is a crime," he said, but in a nod to his hard-line supporters and to the party's history, he added, "But we refuse to criminalize those who break the law in pursuit of legitimate political objectives."

The thrust of his remarks, though, seemed intended to convince the Irish public that Sinn Fein has distanced itself enough from crime and paramilitary violence to warrant trust and political support. In recent opinion polls, 56 percent of voters who responded said they felt it would be unacceptable for the party's members of Parliament to serve in a coalition government.

Sinn Fein wanted the conference to be a celebration of its centenary year and electoral successes in Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic.

Instead, the party has been forced to respond to a pervasive belief, backed by assertions by the Irish justice minister and the police, that its allies in the I.R.A. are behind widespread illegal activity, including a Belfast man's slaying in a bar fight with I.R.A. members five weeks ago.

Since then, when Robert McCartney, a 33-year-old father of two, was killed, intimidation has stopped all 72 witnesses from giving evidence to the police, and 10 people arrested have remained silent in questioning.

Mr. McCartney's five sisters and fiancée have responded to that silence by waging an emotional campaign that has galvanized public opinion against the I.R.A., and led Mr. Adams to suspend seven party members suspected of involvement and to give their names to the police.

He also asked Mr. McCartney's fiancée, Bridgeen, and sisters to attend the conference.

Sinn Fein Leader Reasserts Rejection of Criminal Activity

"They buried their brother only a few weeks ago. It's very difficult to come here," he said, sitting beside the women, who had entered the hall to a standing ovation and deafening applause. "I invited them here because I wanted to demonstrate to Bridgeen and her children, and to the entire wider McCartney family, that we are on their side."

"Those responsible for the brutal killing of Robert McCartney should admit to what they did in a court of law. That is the only decent thing for them to do," Mr. Adams said. "I am not letting this issue go until those who have sullied the name of the republican cause are made to account for their actions."

Speaking to reporters after Mr. Adams's speech, Catherine McCartney, one of the sisters, said, "We believe that Gerry Adams will not let it go until justice is received."

In a speech largely devoted to broad attacks on the British and Irish governments, and Sinn Fein's Protestant rivals in Northern Ireland, Mr. Adams also tried to assuage fears that the I.R.A. might return to the violent and explosive campaign against Britain's rule in Northern Ireland.

"The peace process is the only way forward," he said. "I do not underestimate the depth of the crisis or the difficulties. But I am absolutely certain that there is a way beyond this crisis."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Load-Date: March 6, 2005

End of Document

Decoding the communique

Guardian.com

March 9, 2005

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theguardian

Length: 574 words

Highlight: The IRA's offer to shoot the Robert McCartney murder suspects was meant to convey reassurance or menace depending upon the audience, writes **Henry McDonald**.

Body

By its very nature, an illegal underground movement such as the **Irish Republican Army** speaks its own private language and sends coded and enigmatic messages to the outside world. So, for those unaccustomed to the enclosed culture of the IRA, the organisation's offer to shoot those of its members apparently responsible for murdering the Belfast Catholic Robert McCartney must have appeared bewildering and illogical.

However, behind yesterday's cack-handed PR gesture is a double-sided communique, in part assuring its base, in part intending to menace. To the former, the IRA is saying: "We are still the ultimate arbiters of 'justice' in nationalist communities." Moreover, the Provisionals' willingness to "deal" with errant "volunteers" will be popular among the IRA rank and file disgusted that some of their comrades have, in Gerry Adams's own words, "sullied" the republican cause. It also reminds the republican electorate in the north of Ireland that the IRA is prepared to put its house in order, even if that means shooting men who have served the organisation for almost a quarter of a century. The brutal fact is that, had the IRA shot the suspects, it would have been welcomed by thousands of republican supporters across Northern Ireland.

There has even been a suggestion that the IRA leadership released yesterday's statement as a pre-emptive move to stop top cadres in the organisation from taking such action. The reference in the statement to the murdered man's relatives' opposition to summary "justice" is seen by some inside republicanism as evidence of such an intention. (This almost happened once before, after the Omagh bomb massacre of August 1998, when a veteran IRA leader argued that the Provisionals should have shot Michael McKevitt and the other founders of the group responsible for the atrocity - the Real IRA.)

The menacing aspect of yesterday's seemingly bizarre message is aimed at the British and Irish governments. Decoded, it warns there is still an IRA out there prepared to use violence or the threat of violence to meet its ends. Paradoxically, the raging crisis sparked by the butchering of Robert McCartney outside a Belfast pub has presented the IRA with an opportunity to underline the fact that it remains willing to resort to armed action if needs be.

Those commentators forever searching for silver linings in the dark clouds hanging over Northern Ireland's political landscape are wrong in their assertion that the McCartney controversy provides a chance for the IRA to leave the scene. Their argument is that Sinn Fein is being forced, though the actions of six brave and determined women

Decoding the communique

(the McCartney sisters and the murdered man's partner), to persuade its supporters to accept the Police Service of Northern Ireland's bona fides. They point to the distance Sinn Fein leaders such as Gerry Adams have travelled in a matter of a few weeks, from denying outright that any republican was involved in the murder to calling on witnesses to pass on information to Northern Ireland's police ombudsman and for the people responsible to hand themselves over.

However, the searchers for a silver lining misunderstand the essence of what the IRA said yesterday. Stripping down that statement to its core, the real message is that the IRA is still a key player in the peace process and remains armed and dangerous and unwilling, as yet, to exit the stage.

· Henry McDonald is the Observer's Ireland editor

Load-Date: March 9, 2005

End of Document

Irish can toast courageous stand against evil IRA

The Calgary Herald (Alberta)

March 17, 2005 Thursday

Final Edition

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Section: Q: QUERIES - QUIBBLES - QUIRKS; Pg. A19

Length: 596 words

Byline: Mark Milke, For The Calgary Herald

Body

Happy St. Patrick's Day. It's especially worth wearing green because six brave **women** from Northern Ireland have put the boots to the provisional **Irish Republican Army**.

Instead of the group's political wing and its president, Gerry Adams, present at the White House, the fiancée and five sisters of a man murdered in January will shake hands with George W. Bush.

The IRA's losing streak began in December, when a bank heist that netted \$60 million was blamed on that organization by most observers. That broke a 1998 Good Friday Agreement, which obliged the paramilitary wing to turn in its weapons and renounce violence.

The bank job pointed to rather different future intentions by the provisionals.

A second optics problem arose on the evening of Jan. 30 in a Belfast bar. Cafe owner Brendan Devine got into an argument with some local IRA thugs.

When his friend, Robert McCartney tried to calm the waters, provisional members grabbed knives from the pub kitchen, returned, smashed a bottle over Devine's head and slit his throat.

According to family and his fiancée, McCartney, a 33-year-old forklift operator, helped his friend out of the pub only to be pursued and beaten with metal bars.

McCartney's head was jumped on and knifed, leaving a severed artery. Devine had his front-side ripped up by a knife-cut from chest to navel.

Amazingly, Devine survived; McCartney died the next morning in hospital. None of 70 witnesses has made a statement to police.

Though disappointing, I doubt many of us would act differently if thugs ran our neighbourhoods and the price of going to the police would be the murder of relatives. Still, the McCartney sisters and the fiancée refused to let the issue die, refused an IRA offer to kill the men responsible -- this one month later and after much publicity -- and instead demanded justice in real courts.

Irish can toast courageous stand against evil IRA

"Adams is now regarded with the same sort of disdain as (Yasser) Arafat," said a White House source to Britain's Daily Telegraph. U.S. Senator Ted Kennedy similarly distanced himself from the Sinn Fein and Adams. And the U.S. slapped an embargo on Sinn Fein fundraising in that country.

This change of heart is refreshingly overdue; some Americans have long been friendly to paramilitary Irish Nationalists.

All of this unfolds as Canadians learn of the not-guilty verdict in the 1985 Air India bombing. That 20 years later no one has yet been held responsible is an obvious tragedy.

It's pathetic we expect so little from our leaders and they from themselves. There is as of yet no change in the Liberal government's policy on Sinn Fein fundraising in Canada.

"We continue to see Sinn Fein as a political party, pursuing the aims of the Good Friday Agreement," a Foreign Affairs spokesman told me Wednesday.

Recent flowery, soft-power chatter from successive foreign affairs ministers is was pathetic, when one considers it was Liberal prime minister Pierre Trudeau who was our toughest leader on terrorism.

Sure, with the advantage of history, critics argue Trudeau went too far with the 1970 War Measures Act designed to rope in the bombing, murdering FLQ.

And yet, it's difficult to conceive of "just-watch-me" Trudeau taking the current Liberal government's lazy, unprincipled and careless approach to modern terrorism.

Besides, if the five sisters and fiancée of Robert McCartney have the courage to look their neighbourhood killers in the face, what excuse does any western politician have any longer for not dealing harshly with terrorism -- rhetorically, symbolically, and in practice?

Mark Milke is a Calgary author and political commentator.

Load-Date: March 17, 2005

Saturday, January 7

AP Worldstream

December 30, 2005 Friday

Copyright 2005 Associated Press

Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 754 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Body

Today is Saturday, Jan. 7, the 7th day of 2006. There are 358 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1537 - Alessandro de Medici is assassinated and Cosimo de Medici succeeds him in Florence.

1558 - French capture Calais from the British.

1610 - The astronomer Galileo Galilei sees four of Jupiter's moons.

1761 - Afghans defeat Mahrattas at Paniput in India.

1782 - The first commercial American bank, the Bank of North America, opens.

1789 - The first U.S. presidential election is held. Americans vote for electors who, a month later, choose George Washington to be the nation's first president.

1807 - Britain declares blockade of coasts of France and Napoleon Bonaparte's allies.

1913 - A cracking process to obtain gasoline from crude oil is patented in the United States.

1927 - Commercial trans-Atlantic telephone service is inaugurated between New York and London.

1942 - Japan begins successful siege of Bataan during World War II, routing American and Philippine troops.

1953 - U.S. President Harry Truman announces that United States has developed hydrogen bomb.

1959 - The United States recognizes Fidel Castro's Cuban government.

1961 - African heads of state issue African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights at Casablanca.

1967 - Fighting is reported between Chinese Red Guards and workers in Nanking.

1968 - Government of Lebanon resigns after Israeli commando raid at Beirut airport; the Surveyor 7 space probe makes a soft landing on the moon, marking the end of the American series of unmanned explorations of the lunar surface.

Saturday, January 7

1972 - India resists U.S. pressure and grants full diplomatic recognition to China.

1973 - Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos suspends scheduled plebiscite on new constitution, saying his country is slipping back into subversion and corruption.

1979 - Vietnamese forces capture the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh, overthrowing the Khmer Rouge government.

1987 - Lebanon's former President Camille Chamoun suffers minor wounds when remote-control car bomb explodes near his bulletproof car.

1990 - Thousands of Romanians demonstrate nationwide to protest the number of ex-Communists in the interim government.

1991 - Coup attempt in Haiti by former leader of paramilitary organization Tontons Macoute, Roger Lafontant, fails.

1992 - Yugoslav military shoots down European Union helicopter, killing five truce observers.

1993 - U.S. forces in Mogadishu, Somalia, unleash a barrage of tank, helicopter and rocket fire on two bases where snipers were firing.

1994 - About 750,000 gallons of heating oil blacken beaches on Puerto Rico when a barge runs aground.

1995 - The United Nations suspends relief flights in Bosnia, and accuses the warring sides of foot-dragging in carrying out a shaky four-month truce.

1996 - A bomb rips through a city bus in the southern Pakistani port city of Karachi, killing at least eight people and injuring 35.

1997 - In Algiers, Algeria, a car bomb explodes in a bustling shopping district, killing at least 13 people and wounding 100 others.

1998 - The Canadian government formally apologizes to the country's indigenous people for 150 years of oppression and establishes a "healing" fund.

1999 - The U.S. Senate opens the impeachment trial of President Bill Clinton, the first such trial in 130 years.

2000 - An exhausted 14-year-old Tibetan Buddhist leader reaches India after trekking across the snowy Himalayas after defecting from Chinese-ruled Tibet.

2001 - A general practitioner in Manchester, England, may have killed more than 200 patients over almost 24 years, a clinical study of Dr. Harold Shipman's medical practice shows. He is sentenced to life in prison for the deaths of 15 patients.

2003 - A Congo military court sentences 26 defendants to death for the January 2001 assassination of President Laurent Kabila, who was shot by a bodyguard in the presidential palace.

2005 - The **Irish Republican Army** stole \$50 million from a Belfast bank, the Northern Ireland police chief announces- a development that rocks the foundations of the peace process.

Today's Birthdays:

Pope Gregory XIII (Ugo Buoncompagno) (1502-1585); James Harrington, English political author (1611-1677); Robert Anderson, Scottish author (1750-1830); Zora Neale Hurston, American writer (1903-1960); Jean-Pierre Rampal, French flutist (1922-2000); David Caruso, U.S. actor (1956--); Nicolas Cage, U.S. actor (1964--).

Thought for Today:

Saturday, January 7

Whether women are better than men I cannot say - but I can say they are certainly no worse - Golda Meir, Israeli prime minister (1898-1978).

Load-Date: December 30, 2005

End of Document

News in Brief

The Philadelphia Inquirer
November 23, 2005 Wednesday

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The Philadelphia Inquirer
Found on Philly.com

Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A04

Length: 667 words

Body

In the Nation

Texas court sets deadline

for new school-aid system

The way local property taxes are used to support education in Texas is flawed, the state Supreme Court ruled yesterday, giving authorities until June 1 to fix the system. The state's highest civil court agreed 7-1 with those challenging the funding system that it amounted to a statewide property tax, which is unconstitutional in Texas. - **AP**

9/11 families can watch

Moussaoui trial at 6 spots

A federal judge has selected six sites for survivors and relatives of victims of the Sept. 11 attacks to watch the death-penalty phase in the case against Zacarias Moussaoui, the only person charged in the United States in the 2001 assaults on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center. The proceedings will be broadcast via closed-circuit TV to federal courthouses in Philadelphia; Manhattan and Long Island, N.Y.; Newark, N.J.; Alexandria, Va.; and Boston, U.S. District Judge Leonie Brinkema said yesterday. - **AP**

Teacher pleads guilty

to sex with student, 14

A **female** teacher pleaded guilty yesterday to having sex with a 14-year-old from a middle school near Tampa, Fla., avoiding prison as part of a plea agreement. Debra Lafave, 25, will serve three years of house arrest and seven years' probation. She pleaded guilty to two counts of lewd and lascivious battery. - **AP**

Gay-marriage foes in Mass.

say they're set for '08 vote

News in Brief

Backers of a proposed constitutional amendment to put a stop to same-sex marriage in Massachusetts said yesterday that they had almost twice the number of signatures needed to put it on the ballot in 2008 and would submit them before today's 5 p.m. deadline. The proposed amendment seeks to undo a 2003 ruling by the state's highest court that gay couples were entitled to marry. - **AP**

9/11 aid to be restored

to budget, Hastert says

House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert (R., Ill.) has promised to give back to New York about \$125 million in Sept. 11 aid that lawmakers had decided to take away just a week earlier. Much of the money will be directed to provide health care for injured firefighters and police officers, officials said. - **AP**

In the World

Attack in Afghanistan kills U.S. soldier, interpreter

A roadside bomb tore through an American armored vehicle in southern Afghanistan yesterday, killing a U.S. service member and an Afghan interpreter, the military said. The vehicle was part of a military resupply convoy in Uruzgan province, an area torn by Taliban rebel violence, a military statement said.- **AP**U.N. report sees worsening

of malnutrition in Africa

Hunger and malnutrition kill nearly six million children a year, and more people are malnourished in sub-Saharan Africa this decade than in the 1990s, according to a U.N. report released yesterday. Many of the children die from diseases that are treatable, including diarrhea, pneumonia, malaria and measles, said the report by the Rome-based U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization.- **AP**

Banned group's gains

show political turn in Egypt

The banned Muslim Brotherhood won about a quarter of the parliamentary seats open in the second round of balloting, according to results released Monday - an unexpectedly strong sign of Egypt's increasing turn toward conservative Islam and dissatisfaction with the U.S.-allied regime.- **AP**

Chinese city's water supply

is examined after blast

The city of Harbin in northeastern China said yesterday that its water system would be shut down for four days to check for contamination from an explosion at a chemical plant. The announcement set off panic buying of bottled water among the city's three million residents, news reports said. City officials announced the water shutdown in a bulletin on the government Web site.

Suspected IRA member held in deadly '98 bombing

Detectives arrested a suspected **Irish Republican Army** dissident yesterday on suspicion of involvement in a 1998 car bombing that killed 29 people in Omagh, the deadliest such attack in Northern Ireland's history. Police declined to identify the 34-year-old man.- **AP**

Load-Date: November 23, 2005

The Almanac

UPI

October 13, 2005 Thursday 3:30 AM EST

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Length: 659 words

Byline: United Press International

Body

Today is Thursday, Oct. 13, the 286th day of 2005 with 79 to follow.

The moon is waxing. The morning stars are Mars and Saturn. The evening stars are Mercury, Jupiter, Uranus, Neptune, Venus and Pluto.

Those born on this date are under the sign of Libra. They include American Revolutionary War heroine Molly Pitcher in 1754; actress Lillie Langtry in 1853; actor Cornel Wilde in 1915; puppeteer Burr Tillstrom in 1917; comedian Nipsy Russell in 1924; actor/singer Yves Montand in 1925 and former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, also in 1925 (age 80); comedian Lenny Bruce and Jesse L. Brown, the first black American naval aviator, both in 1926; actress Melinda Dillon in 1939 (age 66); singer/songwriter Paul Simon in 1941 (age 64); rocker Sammy Hagar in 1949 (age 56); Chris Carter, creator of "The X-Files," in 1957 (age 48); entertainer Marie Osmond in 1959 (age 46); actress Kelly Preston in 1962 (age 43); and figure skater Nancy Kerrigan in 1969 (age 36).

On this date in history:

In 54, the Roman Emperor Claudius was poisoned by his fourth wife, Agrippina.

In 1775, the Continental Congress ordered construction of America's first naval fleet.

In 1792, the cornerstone to the White House was laid. It would be November 1800 before the first presidential family (that of John Adams) moved in.

In 1903, the Boston Red Sox beat the Pittsburgh Pirates to win the first World Series, five games to three.

In 1943, conquered by the Allies, Italy declared war on Germany, its former Axis partner.

In 1972, more than 170 people were killed when a Soviet airliner crashed near the Moscow airport.

In 1977, four Palestinians hijacked a Lufthansa airliner in an unsuccessful attempt to force release of 11 imprisoned members of German terrorists called the Red Army Faction.

The Almanac

In 1987, Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize -- the first winner from Central America -- for his Central American peace treaty.

In 1989, the Dow Jones industrial average plunged 190.58 points, the stock market's worst loss since the 508-point crash of October 1987.

In 1990, Lebanese Christian military leader Michel Aoun ended his 2-year mutiny, ordered his forces to surrender, and sought refuge in the French Embassy in Beirut after Syrian-backed Lebanese government troops attacked his headquarters.

In 1991, the Group of Seven industrialized democracies agreed to formulate a Soviet economic reform program with Moscow.

In 1992, the first pig liver transplant patient died in a Los Angeles hospital 30 hours after surgery and just hours before she was to get a human organ.

In 1993, the U.N. Security Council voted to reinstate an oil and arms embargo against Haiti after its military leaders refused to step down as promised.

Also in 1993, the Bell Atlantic Corporation and Tele-Communications announced plans for a merger; the deal was worth \$33 billion.

In 1994, two months after the **Irish Republican Army** announced a cease-fire, Protestant paramilitaries in Northern Ireland did the same.

In 1999, the Senate rejected a treaty signed by the United States that banned all underground nuclear testing. Despite that, President Clinton pledged to abide by the treaty's provisions.

Also in 1999, a grand jury in Boulder, Colo., announced it had insufficient evidence to charge anyone in the Dec. 26, 1996, slaying of 6-year-old beauty queen JonBenet Ramsey.

In 2002, historian Stephen Ambrose, author of numerous books on World War II, American presidents and America's early westward expansion, died of lung cancer. He was 66.

In 2003, jockey Bill Shoemaker, one of horse racing's most renowned figures who won nearly 9,000 races, died at his home in San Marino, Calif. He was 72.

In 2004, investigators reported unearthing a mass grave in northern Iraq containing hundreds of bodies of **women** and children believed killed in the 1980s.

A thought for the day: French playwright Pierre Corneille said, "To win without risk is to triumph without glory."

Load-Date: October 14, 2005

Protestants riot in Belfast for a third straight night

The Gazette (Montreal)

September 13, 2005 Tuesday

Final Edition

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A1

Length: 674 words

Byline: SHAWN POGATCHNIK, AP

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

Crowds of Protestant hardliners blocked key roads in Belfast and rioted for a third straight night yesterday in a long-building explosion of frustration at Northern Ireland's peace process.

At least 50 officers were wounded over the weekend when extremists fought riot police and British troops in the worst Protestant violence in a decade.

The British governor and the territory's police chief said two outlawed Protestant paramilitary groups mounted machine-gun and grenade attacks on police.

The rampage followed British authorities' refusal Saturday to permit the Orange Order, Northern Ireland's major Protestant brotherhood, to parade as it usually does each year along the boundary of Catholic west Belfast.

Yesterday's road blockades, formed by men, women and children, caused traffic jams that lasted for hours. Adding to the chaos were troublemakers who called Belfast businesses and, pretending to be police officers, ordered them to send workers home and close early on security grounds.

Protestant riots resumed at nightfall yesterday in several parts of Belfast, although the mobs were smaller, the level of destruction much less severe and the intensity of violence greatly reduced from the weekend. No new injuries were reported.

Protestants threw firebombs at a heavily fortified police base on the line between British Protestant and Irish Catholic turf in west Belfast. Gangs pelted passing cars on the city's two major highways with stones, forcing police to divert traffic to smaller roads.

Gangs also hijacked and burned more vehicles on the Crumlin Rd. in north Belfast, although police prevented the hijacking of a bus and seized crates of Molotov cocktails and paint-filled balloons.

Several thousand police - equipped with shields, body armour, flame-retardant suits, guns loaded with plastic bullets, armoured personnel carriers, mobile water cannon and tear gas - were on standby in fortified barracks across this city of 600,000. About 1,200 British soldiers also were deployed to support the police.

Protestants riot in Belfast for a third straight night

British governor Peter Hain and police commander Hugh Orde said the outlawed Ulster Volunteer Force and Ulster Defence Association, which are supposed to be observing cease-fires in support of Northern Ireland's 1998 peace accord, carried out the weekend attacks on police.

Hain said he would issue a policy statement within the next few days, raising widespread expectations he'll withdraw Britain's recognition of the groups' 1994 ceasefire. Their truce has been repeatedly violated over the past decade - but rarely so brazenly as last weekend.

"The evidence I have seen is absolutely clear-cut. If it wasn't clear-cut before, it's absolutely categorical now," said Hain, who viewed surveillance footage of the weekend's riots at the police headquarters in east Belfast.

Police have accused the Ulster Volunteer Force - which wields brutal authority in many Protestant parts of Belfast and runs a range of criminal rackets, including counterfeiting and smuggling cigarettes - of killing four Protestant men this summer in a turf war with a breakaway drug dealing gang.

Hain could order a return to prison for dozens of UVF and UDA convicts who received prison paroles as part of the 1998 peace deal. Catholic leaders demanded sterner action against both groups.

But police and political analysts warned that the deep-seated Protestant alienation fuelling the riots required a diplomatic rather than security solution. Protestant politicians said rioting was inevitable, given the belief of many Protestants that Britain has focused a decade of peacemaking on the demands of Catholics and the outlawed **Irish Republican Army**.

"Quite clearly, what you have here is a politics of fatalism, a community that sees itself as not being listened to," said University of Ulster social scientist Peter Shirlow.

Confrontations over Protestant parades, particularly near Catholic areas, have triggered riots in the past. The most widespread violence happened from 1996 to 1998, when Catholic militants blockaded Protestants' parade routes.

Graphic

Colour Photo: JEFF MITCHELL, REUTERS; A man walks past a burning vehicle in a Loyalist area in North Belfast yesterday, where traffic ground to a halt during the evening rush hour after Protestant protesters blocked roads.

Load-Date: September 13, 2005

To Some in Ulster, Celebration of I.R.A. Pledge Is Early

The New York Times

July 30, 2005 Saturday

Late Edition - Final

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Section: Section A; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Pg. 3

Length: 653 words

Byline: By BRIAN LAVERY

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland, July 29

Body

If Northern Ireland woke up on Friday morning to a new era in the province's troubled history, few people here were in a mood to celebrate.

The **Irish Republican Army's** pledge to end its bloody 36-year campaign of violence, splashed across Belfast's dozen morning newspapers, did not really change anything, some residents said. Large-scale bombings and attacks mainly stopped with the group's 1994 cease-fire, they said, but low-level violence and organized crime have continued.

"It's the same as it was a week ago, a month ago, a year ago," said Anthony McIntyre, a former I.R.A. member who writes frequently about Northern Irish politics. The I.R.A. "will carry on with I.R.A. discipline, and intimidating people who oppose it. It can still prevent people from getting into clubs and from getting jobs."

Catherine McCartney, one of six **women** who led an international campaign to highlight I.R.A. violence after members of the group killed her brother, said she was surprised to hear what she called "euphoric" reactions to the statement from the British prime minister, Tony Blair, and his Irish counterpart, Bertie Ahern.

"I thought, 'Have they all taken amnesia pills or something?'" she said. "It's not historic. It's only historic if it's put into practice."

Despite the widespread skepticism, some tangible results were immediately visible. The British government promised legislation in the fall that would allow I.R.A. fugitives abroad to return home without fear of prosecution.

In southern Armagh, a rural county along the border with the Irish Republic where I.R.A. support is traditionally very strong, the British Army began dismantling a military base and two of the mountaintop watchtowers that, for a generation, have used sophisticated surveillance equipment to spy on private homes.

The British Army, which has more than 10,000 soldiers garrisoned in Northern Ireland, has removed a number of similar installations in recent years.

The I.R.A. statement was widely hailed as a watershed moment that formally ended the conflict that had stretched over 36 years and claimed more than 3,500 lives. It addressed several issues that have long frustrated attempts to

To Some in Ulster , Celebration of I.R.A. Pledge Is Early

resuscitate Northern Ireland's suspended local legislature, which was designed to share power between Protestant and Catholic groups after the 1998 Belfast peace accord.

In particular, the I.R.A. ordered its members to get rid of their weapons, and said it would cooperate with a commission that oversees disarmament, even using clergymen as witnesses to verify the process. The group's failure to disarm was one of the principal reasons the 1998 accord broke down.

Paul Bew, professor of politics at Queens University in Belfast, said he was optimistic that the current political conditions were more promising than they have been in years, and that the I.R.A.'s political wing, Sinn Fein, could hold talks with its Protestant rivals within six months. The Democratic Unionists, led by Ian Paisley, 79, have said that Sinn Fein was equivalent to the I.R.A., and have refused to meet its representatives in person.

One line in the I.R.A. statement said, "volunteers must not engage in any other activities whatsoever." Some analysts interpreted the phrase as a demand for an end to any criminal operations. Critics of the statement, however, said the wording is vague.

The I.R.A. has never admitted to the crimes of which it has been accused, like cigarette smuggling or money laundering, or a \$50 million Belfast bank robbery last December.

When asked at a news conference on Thursday to clarify the phrase, Sinn Fein's president, Gerry Adams, retorted, "What part of 'any other activities' don't you understand?"

Ms. McCartney, whose brother Robert was beaten and stabbed to death by I.R.A. members outside a Belfast bar, said that she wished Mr. Adams had spelled it out "as if we were 6 years old."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Graphic

Photo: Gerry Adams, the leader of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the I.R.A., spoke yesterday about the group's announced renunciation of violence. (Photo by Kirsty Wigglesworth/Associated Press)

Load-Date: July 30, 2005

Today in History - July 23

Associated Press Online

July 22, 2005 Friday

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Section: DOMESTIC NEWS

Length: 651 words

Byline: The Associated Press

Body

Today is Saturday, July 23, the 204th day of 2005. There are 161 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On July 23, 1886, New York saloonkeeper Steve Brodie claimed to have made a daredevil plunge from the Brooklyn Bridge into the East River.

On this date:

In 1885, Ulysses S. Grant, the 18th president of the United States, died in Mount McGregor, N.Y., at age 63.

In 1892, Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia was born.

In 1904, by some accounts, the ice cream cone was invented by Charles E. Menches during the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis.

In 1914, Austria-Hungary issued an ultimatum to Serbia following the killing of Archduke Francis Ferdinand by a Serb assassin; the dispute led to World War I.

In 1945, French Marshal Henri Petain who had headed the Vichy government during World War II, went on trial, charged with treason. (He was condemned to death, but his sentence was commuted.)

In 1951, Henri Petain died in prison.

In 1952, Egyptian military officers led by Gamal Abdel Nasser overthrew King Farouk I.

In 1967, rioting that claimed some 43 lives erupted in Detroit.

In 1977, a jury in Washington, D.C., convicted 12 Hanafi Muslims of charges stemming from the hostage siege at three buildings the previous March.

In 1985, bandleader Kay Kyser, known for his Kollege of Musical Knowledge, died in Chapel Hill, N.C., at age 79.

Ten years ago: In a new get-tough approach, the United Nations ordered the first combat unit from its rapid reaction force to Sarajevo to take out any rebel Serb guns that fired at U.N. peacekeepers.

Today in History - July 23

Five years ago: President Clinton rejoined the troubled Middle East talks at Camp David after hurrying back from a four-day trip to Asia. Leaders of the major industrial countries concluded their summit in Japan by announcing a campaign to slash the number of deaths worldwide from AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. Lance Armstrong clinched his second straight victory in the Tour de France. Tiger Woods, at 24, became the youngest player to win the career Grand Slam with a record-breaking performance in the British Open. Karrie Webb, 25, won the U.S. **Women's** Open.

One year ago: Militants in Iraq took an Egyptian diplomat hostage, demanding his country abandon any plans it had to send security experts to Iraq. The Pentagon released newly discovered payroll records from President Bush's 1972 service in the Alabama National Guard, though the records shed no new light on the future president's activities during that summer. Joe Cahill, a founding father of the modern **Irish Republican Army**, died in Belfast, Northern Ireland, at age 84.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Gloria DeHaven is 80. Actor Calvert DeForest is 77. Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy is 69. Actor Ronny Cox is 67. Radio personality Don Imus is 65. Country singer Tony Joe White is 62. Rock singer David Essex is 58. Actor Larry Manetti is 58. Actress Belinda Montgomery is 55. Rock musician Blair Thornton (Bachman Turner Overdrive) is 55. Actor Woody Harrelson is 44. Rock musician Martin Gore (Depeche Mode) is 44. Actor Eriq La Salle is 43. Rock musician Yuval Gabay is 42. Rock musician Slash is 40. Actor Philip Seymour Hoffman is 38. Rock musician Nick Menza is 37. Model-actress Stephanie Seymour is 37. Actress Charisma Carpenter is 35. Rhythm-and-blues singer Sam Watters is 35. Country singer Alison Krauss is 34. Rhythm-and-blues singer Dalvin DeGrate is 34. Rock musician Chad Gracey (Live) is 34. Actor-comedian Marlon Wayans is 33. Country singer Shannon Brown is 32. Actor Omar Epps is 32. Baseball player Nomar Garciaparra is 32. Actress Stephanie March is 31. Country musician David Pichette (Emerson Drive) is 28. Rhythm-and-blues singer Michelle Williams (Destiny's Child) is 25. Actor Daniel Radcliffe is 16.

Thought for Today: "I'm a self-made man, but I think if I had it to do over again, I'd call in someone else." - Roland Young, English actor (1887-1953).

Load-Date: July 23, 2005

THINKING RIGHT: High court, Jane Doe, absenteeism

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

July 8, 2005 Friday

Home Edition

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**The Atlanta
Journal-Constitution**

Section: Editorial;; Column

Length: 697 words

Byline: JIM WOOTEN

Body

Thinking Right on the week gone by:

* Britain will react as America did after Sept. 11, not as Spain did after the Madrid bombings. A nation that survived the brutality of Hitler and the **Irish Republican Army** will not be cowed into submission by terrorists.

* "We have to get out of this culture where it doesn't matter if you get married, just if you go on and be somebody's 'Baby Mama,' " says the new chief justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, Leah Ward Sears. It's a crusade in need of a high-profile black **female** champion. As she noted in an April speech to the Atlanta Rotary Club, a third of all births in this country in 2000 were to unmarried **women**, but among blacks it was 70 percent.

* Headlines: "Conservatives relish chance to seize court." "Filibuster deal haunts Democrats." One senses, in headlines, that something ominous is about to happen. It's not. It's the will of America expressed at the ballot box.

* A "centrist" precisely like Sandra Day O'Connor should be appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. When Ruth Bader Ginsburg retires. For the record, George W. Bush was elected to change, not preserve, the current 5-4 "balance" on the court.

* It may be legal, but anybody who tries to catch catfish barehanded --- noodling, it's called --- shouldn't be allowed to drive, possess dangerous weapons or wear UGA colors. OK, they can wear the colors. But first they have to spend a year at Virginia's Hargrave Military Academy, same as academically ineligible Bulldog signees.

THINKING RIGHT: High court, Jane Doe, absenteeism

- * When parked on public benches, they are called "homeless." When starting fires in vacant buildings --- as, for example, Saturday's fire in the historic Medical Arts Building at Peachtree Street and Ralph McGill Boulevard --- they are called "vagrants."
- * It is appropriate for the United Church of Christ to perform any ritual it wishes, so long as none of the participants is harmed.
- * Sandy Springs absolutely, unequivocally, should start out attempting to privatize every possible function of its government. Police and courts, with authority to take liberty and property, can't be privatized. But many of their functions, and every other service, can be.
- * Pharmacists complain about the secretary of state's administration of the state Board of Pharmacy. Understaffing, replies her spokesman. The solution is easy: quit regulating trades, like cosmetology. Most boards exist primarily for ego and to keep out the competition, anyway.
- * I don't get it: What is the problem with having a liberal and a conservative look at a Public Broadcasting Service program, or the video shown visitors to the Lincoln Memorial, to decide whether dominant views are fairly reflected? Ordering a new video that shows groups on the right also protesting publicly hardly seems to amount to skullduggery.
- * Legislators and local officials, as well as organizations financed with public money, such as MARTA, need a system that gets control of absenteeism. One sentence from a story on the murders at the Fulton County Courthouse should be the rallying call: "Security at the courthouse and jail for years has been undermined by pervasive absenteeism . . . " One solution would be to eliminate a fixed number of authorized absences --- and then to police absenteeism. Courthouse deputies were sick on Friday more than any other day. Fulton Sheriff Myron Freeman should be given more authority to hire and fire deputies.
- * Georgia ripped off the federal Medicaid program --- and paid consultants more than \$110 million to game the feds. Paying finder's fees to consultants so one group of taxpayers can rip off another is outrageous. The state's lucky to escape having to repay the more than \$2 billion the scheme netted.
- * Sad the way it's turned out, since personal problems should be addressed in private, but the police and jailers can't be blamed for not knowing the Jane Doe in their custody was the missing college student. She refused to identify herself.
- * Headline: "Journalist sent to jail for silence." Silence among journalists is a rarity. But hardly a jailing offense.
- * Jim Wooten is the associate editorial page editor. His column appears Fridays, Sundays and Tuesdays.

jwooten@ajc.com

Load-Date: July 8, 2005

THINKING RIGHT: High court, Jane Doe, absenteeism

End of Document

When Large Events Are Writ Small, but Deep

The New York Times

June 9, 2005 Thursday

Late Edition - Final

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Section: Section E; Column 3; The Arts/Cultural Desk; Pg. 5; CRITIC'S CHOICE

Length: 677 words

Byline: By STEPHEN HOLDEN

Body

Nothing casts a sharper focus on the human cost of terrorism than an examination of its impact on a single family. In Pete Travis's film "Omagh," the Gallaghers, who live in the Northern Ireland town of Omagh, are devastated when a car bomb explodes in August 1998 in the center of town killing more than two dozen people, including their son, Aiden.

The docudrama, which opens the 16th annual Human Rights Watch International Film Festival at the Walter Reade Theater this evening, is so skillfully assembled and powerfully acted that fiction merges with reality.

Responsibility for the bombing was claimed by dissident ***Irish Republican Army*** members, who call themselves the Real I.R.A. They were determined to disrupt the peace process that began four months earlier with the signing of the Good Friday peace accords.

Weeks after the bombing, Aiden's father, Michael (Gerard McSorley), a mild-mannered auto mechanic, becomes chairman of a support group for the victims' families. As he presses for an investigation and prosecution of the perpetrators, he is awakened to the painful realities of police incompetence, foot-dragging, coverups, and poor communication between investigative agencies. The resemblance between these events and the revelations of the mistakes and confusion surrounding 9/11 are inescapable.

"Omagh" exemplifies a principle guiding the selection of films in the festival, which is showing 26 movies from 20 countries through June 13. Most of these films view the struggles of ordinary people waging uphill battles against social, political and economic forces beyond their control from a ground-level perspective. The individual counts.

David Redmon's punchy documentary critique of globalization, "Mardi Gras: Made in China," looks at the conditions in a factory in the Chinese city of Fuzhou where young workers, mostly ***women***, are paid \$1.20 a day to work 14-to-20-hour shifts in enforced silence making the beads showered onto revelers in New Orleans in exchange for baring their breasts at Mardi Gras.

The Chinese factory owner, who sees himself as a good guy and model manager, boasts of the punishments he exacts in wages from the workers toiling in sweatshop conditions when they don't meet their quotas. In a nifty turnabout, the filmmaker asks the revelers if they know where the beads come from. They don't, of course, and even when told, few seem to care. When he also shows the Chinese workers pictures of how the beads are used, they giggle in embarrassment.

When Large Events Are Writ Small, but Deep

The 15-year-old subject of the documentary "The Education of Shelby Knox" is a brave, smart, independent high-school-age crusader for sex education in Lubbock, Tex., a city that has one of the highest rates of sexually transmitted diseases among teenagers in the country. Because the local high schools teach abstinence as the only safe sex, Shelby's efforts are tolerated only to a point by the city's conservative, Christian political establishment. The movie, which has its premiere on June 21 on the PBS documentary series "POV," is a pungent civics lesson on what can and cannot be accomplished by one plucky, idealistic girl.

Margaret Loescher's "Pulled From the Rubble," filmed and narrated by its creator, is an intimate, inspiring portrait of courage and resilience. On Aug. 19, 2003, her father, Gil Loescher, an expert on refugee issues, was attending a meeting at United Nations headquarters in Baghdad when a truck packed with explosives destroyed the building and killed everyone at the meeting but him. The movie is his daughter's journal of his recovery after losing both legs above the knee and much of his right hand. He subsequently learned to walk with prosthetic legs; he has said that the explosion was the beginning, not the end of his life.

That spirit, challenged but undefeated, goes to the essence of the Human Rights Watch Festival. At a moment in film history when documentaries and docudramas have shown signs of moving closer to the forefront of international cinema, this invaluable festival is helping show the way.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Graphic

Photo: In Pete Travis's "Omagh," a Northern Irish family faces loss. From left, Fiona Glascott, Michele Forbes, Pauline Hutton and Gerard McSorley. (Photo by Portman Film)

Load-Date: June 9, 2005

End of Document

Belfast killing probe progresses

USA TODAY
May 20, 2005, Friday,
FIRST EDITION

Copyright 2005 Gannett Company, Inc.

Section: NEWS;; World

Length: 671 words

Byline: Richard Willing

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

BELFAST, Northern Ireland -- The sister of a man killed in a bar brawl involving members of the *Irish Republican Army* says police are closer to filing charges in the case that has shaken support for the IRA in Northern Ireland and the USA.

"It's the most optimistic they've been" since the January slaying of Robert McCartney, says Paula McCartney, who spoke with a detective this week. "I have to believe that some of the witnesses who were intimidated by the IRA have begun to give more help."

The IRA, a paramilitary group dedicated to ending British rule in Northern Ireland, has said three of its members were involved in the stabbing of the 33-year-old forklift operator and destroying evidence after the fight.

The IRA considers itself a protector of Catholics in this divided city in which Protestants outnumber Catholics by 48% to 42%. McCartney was a Catholic.

In March, the IRA offered to execute two men involved, an offer rejected by McCartney's family. Since the killing, Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing, has removed 12 of its members, some believed to have been in the bar, without giving reasons.

But McCartney, 40, with her four sisters and her brother's fiancée, has waged an intense campaign to bring the killers to justice.

They say the IRA and Sinn Fein have hindered the investigation by failing to assure that witnesses will not face reprisals if they implicate IRA members. Based on conversations with friends and relatives of witnesses, the McCartneys have given police a list of at least four IRA members who they say were involved.

"People are afraid to tell what they know, and unless (the IRA passes) the word, they'll continue to be afraid," says Catherine McCartney, 36, seated in the living room of Paula McCartney's brick row house in the mostly Catholic Short Strand neighborhood.

The killing and its aftermath have called attention to an aspect of life in Northern Ireland that the McCartneys say has received little attention: that the IRA, which has maintained an 11-year cease-fire with the British government and Protestant paramilitaries, uses violence and intimidation to control Catholic neighborhoods in this city of 280,000.

Belfast killing probe progresses

A February report by the Independent Monitoring Commission overseeing the Northern Ireland peace process called the IRA a "paramilitary crime" group responsible for the \$50 million holdup of a Belfast bank in December.

But the McCartney campaign has done the most damage to the IRA and Sinn Fein:

*President Bush shunned Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams, instead hosting the McCartneys on St. Patrick's Day.

*Longtime Sinn Fein allies Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., have called on the IRA to disband.

*The European Parliament last week voted to give the sisters money from a terror victims' fund to file a civil suit against the suspected killers.

The women's campaign has raised concern for their safety. "I'm surprised they've been allowed to go on as long as they have," says Anthony McIntyre, a former IRA member, who is now one of its critics. "Historically, tolerating dissent is not (the IRA's) way."

Police have warned the McCartneys that there might be plans to burn their homes. While passing out leaflets, Paula McCartney, 40, says several residents shook fists at her and cursed her brother.

Short Strangers say the McCartneys are wearing thin in a community long supportive of the IRA and Sinn Fein.

Frankie Brennan, 55, a Sinn Fein member, says the sisters have been co-opted by pro-British media bent on discrediting Irish republicanism. He notes that Sinn Fein has called on anyone with knowledge of the crime to speak to police.

The sisters acknowledge it will be tough to break the code of silence. They point to graffiti on a wall near Paula McCartney's front door, summing up the traditional attitude toward cooperation with police: "What Ever You Say Say Nothing."

The McCartney case "isn't about politics, it's just a straight-up case of covering up a murder," Catherine McCartney says. The old slogan, she says, "just won't do."

Load-Date: May 20, 2005

Brave siblings stand up to IRA

Courier Mail (Queensland, Australia)

March 5, 2005 Saturday

Copyright 2005 Nationwide News Pty Limited

Section: WORLD; Pg. 23

Length: 691 words

Byline: Ben English

Body

Three sisters have broken the code of silence protecting the terror group, writes Ben English

"We are not interested in any kind of revenge" Paula McCartney

THEY have no guns, no bodyguards, nor any police protection.

Yet with words and a raw courage that few of their neighbours have mustered, five sisters have done more to hasten the destruction of the **Irish Republican Army** than the combined might of the British and Irish Governments.

Following the IRA murder of their brother Robert McCartney in a Belfast pub on January 30, the sisters have fearlessly spoken out against the assailants.

These married mothers have shattered a decades-old tradition in Short Strand -- one of the most fiercely pro-republican districts in Belfast -- of unquestioning loyalty to the IRA.

At any other time in modern Irish history, the **women** could expect a severe, possibly deadly, reprisal.

Before they spoke out, it appeared one of the most shameful incidents in republican history would go unpunished.

IRA henchmen murdered McCartney -- a family man with no active interest in the republican cause -- in a beating witnessed by more than 70 people at Magennis's pub in Belfast city centre.

The father-of-two had gone to the hotel to meet Brendan Devine, an old mate who did have enemies in the IRA. A row broke out and the IRA commander present gave his lieutenant the signal -- a finger drawn across his neck -- to kill Devine. McCartney stood by his friend and paid for his loyalty with his life when he was fatally stabbed in a lane next to the hotel and left for dead. Ironically, Devine survived.

IRA officers guarded the hotel doors as the floors, walls and benches were scrubbed of incriminating evidence. Closed-circuit TV cameras and tapes were destroyed. The killers were ushered to safe homes to have their clothes washed or burned.

And everyone obeyed the commander who announced to the pub: "Nobody saw anything. This is IRA business."

Everyone, that is, except for the McCartney sisters.

Brave siblings stand up to IRA

Their defiant call for a candlelight vigil evoked something which had not been since the beginning of the conflict: an open and public show of revulsion at the IRA by the very republican sympathisers who had always previously protected them.

More than 600 of the McCartneys' nationalist neighbours joined them in the vigil. The sisters had struck a nerve in a community fed up with the bullying and oppression of a group now more associated with organised crime than nationalism.

Previously unheard of graffiti of "IRA scum out" emerged on Belfast's streets while a new expression was adopted for the paramilitary force: Rafia -- a hybrid of the street word for the Provisionals "Ra" and the Mafia. Since then, the half-hearted response of IRA leaders and their Sinn Fein spokesman Gerry Adams have only strengthened the backlash.

When it became clear public sympathy lay with the dead man's family, Mr Adams told people to contact a solicitor or priest. The IRA issued a statement urging "truth and justice" but neither could take the leap of telling people to call the police.

The McCartney sisters' message was, by contrast, simple and direct: "We are not interested in any kind of revenge," said one of the sisters, Paula. "We want these men to give themselves up so we can have a trial, that's all."

More than a thousand mourners -- a third of Short Strand's population -- attended Robert McCartney's February 8 funeral. There, Paula then openly accused the IRA of shielding her brother's killers.

Last Sunday thousands more poured on to Short Strand's streets to show their anger and solidarity with the McCartneys.

Now the McCartneys have promised to take their campaign for justice to Washington for the St Patrick's Day celebrations in a move certain to heap more pressure on the IRA-Sinn Fein hierarchy.

At the weekend, it showed the first signs of crumbling, expelling three of the central murder suspects, including the knifeman. Sinn Fein, the IRA's political arm, followed suit on Thursday night by suspending seven members also implicated in the murder.

But the McCartneys won't stop until those responsible for their brother's death face trial in a court of law.

Load-Date: March 4, 2005

Sinn Fein Leader Plays Down Snubs From Bush and Kennedy

The New York Times

March 15, 2005 Tuesday

Late Edition - Final

Copyright 2005 The New York Times Company

Section: Section A; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Pg. 5

Length: 598 words

Byline: By WARREN HOGE

Body

Gerry Adams, the president of Sinn Fein, arrived yesterday in New York on his annual St. Patrick's Day trip to the United States, and played down snubs from the White House and Senator Edward M. Kennedy, the party's most prominent supporter in American politics.

Speaking to the Council on Foreign Relations, Mr. Adams said it was a disappointment not to be going to the White House, as he had in recent years, but cautioned against reading too much into it.

President Bush has canceled the traditional White House gathering of leaders of the political parties of Northern Ireland and invited instead the six women from the family of Robert McCartney, who have been leading vocal protests over his killing in January in a Belfast pub by a group that included members of the Irish Republican Army. Sinn Fein is the political wing of the I.R.A.

"Do I interpret that as a movement by this administration away from the peace process?" Mr. Adams said. "No, I don't. This will not be worked out in the White House, this will not be worked out here," he said, referring to the council. "This will be not be worked out anywhere else except back on the island of Ireland."

Mr. Kennedy, Democratic of Massachusetts, canceled a meeting with Mr. Adams scheduled for later this week in Washington, and a spokesman explained that he had taken the action because of the I.R.A.'s "ongoing criminal activity and contempt for the rule of law."

In reaction, Mr. Adams said: "Sinn Fein has worked closely with him in the past. On this occasion, we believe that he has been badly advised."

Complicating Mr. Adams's trip this year to corral the support of Irish-Americans are recent instances of criminal activity by the I.R.A. that have prompted demands that Sinn Fein shed or disband the guerrilla force. Aware of the unease in Washington this year, Mr. Adams did not seek the visa he normally does that would allow him to raise funds.

Mitchell B. Reiss, Mr. Bush's special envoy on Northern Ireland, said: "It's time for the I.R.A. to disband. There's no place in 2005 in Europe for a private army associated with a political party."

Conceding that Sinn Fein had been thrown "on the back foot," Mr. Adams said he hoped the I.R.A. would disband but warned that forcing it to do so in humiliating fashion ran the risk of creating a more radical replacement. "No one

Sinn Fein Leader Plays Down Snubs From Bush and Kennedy

wants the I.R.A. to go back to war, and in my view people want to see the I.R.A. leaving the stage in a dignified way," he said.

A longtime Sinn Fein backer, Representative Richard E. Neal, Democrat of Massachusetts, said he would warn Mr. Adams that he risked his American support "if the republican movement becomes so diminished that instead of a nationalist organization, you have morphed into the mob."

Another Sinn Fein backer in Congress, Representative Peter T. King, Republican of New York, said: "For the peace process to go forward and for Sinn Fein to have the input that it deserves, it is time for the I.R.A. to stand down. There is no constructive purpose being served at this time by the continued existence of the I.R.A."

Representative James T. Walsh, another New York Republican and the head of the Congressional Friends of Ireland, said he would keep his date with Mr. Adams because "I think it is essential that we talk to him."

"I don't think people should be shutting him away," Mr. Walsh said. "But our concern is that the acts of the I.R.A., alleged and admitted, are damaging the peace process, and I want him to know that Americans are thinking that."

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Load-Date: March 15, 2005

End of Document

NEWS FEATURE: Courage of Belfast sisters rocks Irish politics

Deutsche Presse-Agentur

March 3, 2005, Thursday 16355316:35:53 Central European Time

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Section: Politics

Length: 645 words

Dateline: Belfast/London

Body

For Paula McCartney, walking down the street in the staunchly catholic enclave of Short Strand in East Belfast has become a painful experience.

"That's where one of them lives," the 40-year-old university lecturer told the Times, as she identified the home of an IRA man she believes took part in the brutal pub murder of her younger brother.

Robert McCartney, a 33 year-old forklift-driver, and like Paula, a life-long voter of Sinn Fein, the nationalist party linked to the **Irish Republican Army**, was killed by a gang of IRA men after a pub brawl on January 30.

Since the murder, in which Robert, trying to shield a drinking companion from attack, was himself set upon with kitchen knives, broken bottles and metal rods, life has not been the same for Paula.

Together with her four sisters and Robert's fiancée, the group of **women** have, with unprecedented bravery, launched a campaign of "people power" against "IRA intimidation" hitherto unseen in Northern Ireland.

Of the 70 people present in the Magennis's pub on the night of January 30, none have so far come forward to report what they saw.

For Paula, the reluctance is not surprising. According to her account, the IRA men, after destroying all evidence in a "clean-up operation", closed the pub doors and warned those inside: "Nobody saw anything; this is IRA business."

She hasn't yet had time to cry. "We can't afford sentiment at the minute," Paula told the Guardian.

The **women's** campaign to take on the IRA in republican heartland, and their determination to bring the perpetrators to trial, is daily gaining momentum.

It has, according to analysts, already seriously damaged the standing of Sinn Fein, the party led by Gerry Adams, and forced the IRA to exclude three "high-ranking volunteers" from the organisation.

As a next step, the **women** are planning a trip to Washington to lobby the White House, linking their cause to a call for an end to Sinn Fein funding from U.S. sources.

McCartney says it is "laughable" to assume that she and her sisters deliberately planned to harm Sinn Fein, the party they voted for all their lives.

NEWS FEATURE: Courage of Belfast sisters rocks Irish politics

"We did not set out to change Irish politics. But if these men walk free, then everyone in Ireland must fear for the consequences," she added.

The McCartney murder, coming hot on the heels of a 26.5 million pound (50 million dollar) bank robbery in Belfast before Christmas, also blamed on the IRA, has stalled the peace process.

The governments in London and Dublin have both accused the IRA of the robbery, and said that no peace talks can be held unless the IRA and, by implication Sinn Fein, abstain from "criminality".

The fight of the McCartney sisters is, therefore, seen as a crucial test of how far "peacetime paramilitarism" can go, said one analyst.

Northern Ireland's police chief, Hugh Orde, commenting on the bank robbery and the McCartney case, said recently: "Time is moving on, and the IRA is being left behind."

Few believe that the IRA, after the virtual collapse of peace negotiations last December, will come forward now with "concessions" aimed at helping to resurrect the peace process.

There remained, therefore, a constant and real threat of a return to full-scale violence, according to Professor Paul Bew, an expert on Irish politics at Queen's University in Belfast.

Politically, Sinn Fein, if not torn apart by the crisis, could pay a heavy price at the ballot box, Bew predicted.

In the Irish Republic, the image of Gerry Adams "may already have been fatally damaged", he added.

Electoral advances in recent years, which saw Sinn Fein overtake the Social Democratic SDLP as the main nationalist party, could be reversed.

"All the positive Sinn Fein momentum is now placed in jeopardy," Bew wrote in the Daily Telegraph.

The 1998 peace agreement, always a "brave gamble against the odds, could now be lost in the worst possible way." dpa at sr

Load-Date: March 3, 2005

Bush holds up Irish sisters as fighters for peace in Northern Ireland

Associated Press International

March 17, 2005 Thursday

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Section: INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Length: 668 words

Byline: NEDRA PICKLER; Associated Press Writer

Dateline: WASHINGTON

Body

President George W. Bush gave his support Thursday to five sisters who want the outlawed **Irish Republican Army** held responsible for their brother's death, holding the **women** up as an example of those committed to peace in Northern Ireland.

Robert McCartney, a 33-year-old Catholic forklift operator, was beaten and stabbed to death outside a Belfast pub on Jan. 30 when he tried to defend a friend from what witnesses described as a knife-wielding IRA gang. McCartney's sisters are calling for charges to be brought against those who were responsible, but the investigation has been stalled by an IRA culture of silence.

McCartney's sisters and his fiancée met Bush for a few minutes during a St. Patrick's Day reception Thursday at the White House and asked him to use his influence on the case. The sisters said Bush singled out McCartney's fiancée, Bridgeen Hagans, to ask how she and their two young children are coping and offer his condolences.

"We pressed on the president the importance of getting justice for Robert, and he said he's 100 percent behind our campaign," Catherine McCartney said.

Catherine McCartney said Bush didn't say exactly what he would do to help, and White House press secretary Scott McClellan didn't elaborate, either. "I'm not sure that - what has been asked of us at this point, but we stand ready to assist in helping the parties move forward on a comprehensive peace agreement," McClellan said.

McClellan said Bush told the sisters that he believes in the power of everyday citizens to accomplish extraordinary things. The McCartney sisters have become unlikely figures in the international cause for peace - five **women** from working class roots motivated by grief for their brother. White House guards didn't realize the **women** were invited guests of the president and shut them out briefly after they stepped outside the gates for a smoke.

The sisters are hoping that public support in the United States for their cause will spur the IRA and its legal political arm, Sinn Féin, to encourage witnesses to offer evidence directly to Northern Ireland's police force. Catholics often are reluctant to cooperate with the mostly Protestant police force in Northern Ireland, and the IRA reserves the right to execute anybody who tells police about their activities.

Before meeting with the McCartneys, Bush received a bowl of shamrocks in a public ceremony with Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern. Bush pledged to help the Irish people move toward a lasting agreement in Northern Ireland peace process.

Bush holds up Irish sisters as fighters for peace in Northern Ireland

"As you work for peace, our government and the American people will stand with you," Bush said.

Bush invited the McCartney sisters to his private reception with other Northern Ireland civil leaders and activists. Because of the allegations about the IRA's involvement in McCartney's death and other crimes, Bush did not invite some Northern Ireland political leaders who attended for 10 years, including Sinn Fein head Gerry Adams.

"There is no place for the violence and the thuggery and the criminality," McClellan said of the IRA. "The president made that clear."

Ahern spoke to Adams for an hour Wednesday night. He said the Sinn Fein leader faced deepening isolation, particularly in Washington, unless the IRA goes out of business.

"People want to see that we're going to get action, because if we don't, let's be frank about it, the icy reception this week will turn in to just total exclusion, which is the opposite of what we want to achieve," Ahern said. "If we don't see action, I'm not too sure I want to be around next year."

Not welcome at the White House, Adams was met with a standing ovation Thursday as he spoke to supporters at a Washington hotel. Adams told Friends of Sinn Fein that neither the McCartney killing nor the cold shoulder from some U.S. officials would weaken his party by "beating up on Sinn Fein."

"You're beating up on the wrong people," Adams said. "We will also not allow any rogue elements on the fringes of Republicanism to criminalize our struggle."

Load-Date: March 18, 2005

End of Document

Time to pension off the IRA: Ballots have replaced bullets. The hard men of the Irish republican movement have been left behind

The Gazette (Montreal)

March 17, 2005 Thursday

Final Edition

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Section: EDITORIAL / OP-ED; Pg. A23

Length: 655 words

Byline: TRUDY RUBIN, Knight Ridder Newspapers

Body

Today is St. Patrick's Day. But Sinn Fein - the political wing of the **Irish Republican Army** - is being snubbed by the White House. Even a Boston Irishman like Senator Ted Kennedy is turning up his nose.

For the first time since 1995, Sinn Fein leaders won't be at the White House for shamrock celebrations. The reason: The IRA has turned from fighting for a political cause to barroom brawls and bank heists. And Sinn Fein, whose leaders have been "outed" as IRA leaders, can't escape responsibility for IRA crimes.

IRA hard men are still reluctant to give up their arms in a verifiable fashion, despite the 1998 Good Friday peace accord between Catholics and Protestants in Northern Ireland. The IRA stands accused of robbing a bank in the Irish Republic of \$50 million in December. Other IRA members used knives to slit the throat of Catholic Robert McCartney in a Belfast bar on Jan. 30.

Time was when residents of Belfast's Catholic slums were grateful to the IRA, which fought for Catholic rights and defended them against vicious attacks by Protestant militias. But times have changed.

The Good Friday accords are temporarily frozen, but sectarian violence in Northern Ireland has halted. The economy is booming, and unemployment has dropped to 4.7 per cent, as investment rises. There are excellent prospects for stronger economic and political ties between Northern Ireland and the prosperous Irish Republic. People don't want to live in the past.

So when the five sisters of the murdered Robert McCartney decided to break the code of silence Catholics normally observe about IRA activities, they got support in their community. The sisters called on the IRA to stop protecting the killers. The White House invited the McCartneys to the St. Paddy's Day party instead of Northern Irish political leaders. Even Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams has praised the **women**.

But none of the 70 witnesses to the murder - including two Sinn Fein political candidates - has gone to the police.

The IRA did ask the McCartneys whether they wanted the organization to handle the matter. It offered to shoot the offenders. The sisters angrily declined. The fact such an offer could be made, in this day and age, in Europe, shows how out of touch the IRA has become.

Time to pension off the IRA: Ballots have replaced bullets. The hard men of the Irish republican movement have been left behind

Despite a bitter history of British repression, of discrimination by Protestants against Catholics in Northern Ireland, despite the anti-Catholic bigotry of Protestant leader Ian Paisley, the age of bullets has been replaced by the time of ballots.

Catholics now have a legitimate way to address grievances and seek power. Sinn Fein has gained strength as a political party in Northern Ireland and in the republic. In the words of Mitchell Reiss, President George W. Bush's special envoy on Northern Ireland: "There's no place in 2005 in Europe for a private army associated with a political party."

Reiss called for the IRA to disband. But what is most important is whether the IRA gives up its guns.

"It doesn't matter (if the IRA is disbanded) if it doesn't carry out criminal activity," says Paul Murphy, British secretary of state for Northern Ireland. "Those days are gone. Sinn Fein must go down an exclusively political road."

Thousands of kilometres away, the militant Lebanese group Hezbollah is facing a similar choice. As it showed by turning out 500,000 demonstrators, Hezbollah is a major political force in Lebanon - on the streets and in parliament. But the group, which has carried out terrorist operations in the past, insists on keeping its armed militia, despite U.S. and United Nations calls for it to disarm.

Surely, Northern Ireland is more politically advanced than Lebanon. Even Gerry Adams has said he hopes the IRA will disband, but "in a dignified way."

Surely, old republican fighters can find other employ than becoming a new mafia. It's time for Sinn Fein and its supporters to demand that the IRA become the Old Comrades Association and to pension its members off.

Graphic

Photo: REUTERS; Gerry Adams won't be at the White House today.

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UPI NewsTrack TopNews

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February 21, 2005 Monday 12:15 PM EST

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Length: 676 words

Body

Irish government: Sinn Fein leaders in IRA

DUBLIN, Ireland, Feb. 21 (UPI) -- Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness have been accused of being members of the **Irish Republican Army** council by the Irish government.

Speaking to Dublin's Today FM Sunday night, Irish Justice Minister Michael McDowell named Adams, the Sinn Fein president; McGuinness, the chief negotiator; and a Sinn Fein member of the Irish Parliament, Martin Ferris, as members of the IRA's ruling council.

McGuinness, who served two jail terms for IRA membership in the mid-1970s, said the claim was a politically motivated attempt to criminalize Sinn Fein.

But Irish Foreign Minister Dermot Ahern, said: "We're absolutely satisfied that the leadership of Sinn Fein and the IRA are interlinked. They're two sides of the one coin."

Sinn Fein is facing a crisis following the seizure last week of more than \$4.1 million, thought to have been part of the \$47.8 million robbery of a Belfast bank in December. The IRA has been blamed for the robbery.

Bush prods M.E. allies on democracy

BRUSSELS, Feb. 21 (UPI) -- U.S. allies Saudi Arabia and Egypt were nudged by President George Bush Monday to move faster toward political and social reform.

Bush, speaking in Brussels on the first day of a trip to Europe, brought the spotlight on the two as he called for Europe to join in helping spread the common values and benefits of freedom and democracy.

Freedom and democracy would not come all at once in all oppressive or restrictive nations, he qualified, and it would need to come from within. But a shared vision of freedom for others must still remain clear and firm.

"We must expect higher standards from our friends and partners in the Middle East," he added. "The government of Saudi Arabia can demonstrate its leadership in the region by expanding the role of its people in determining their future. And the great and proud nation of Egypt, which showed the way toward peace in the Middle East, can now show the way toward democracy in the Middle East."

Saudi Arabia, criticized for its lack of democracy and restrictions on women, recently held its first municipal elections. Women, however, were barred from participating. Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak has been faulted for going slow on reforms and stifling political dissent.

Togo lawmakers pull support for leader

LOME, Togo, Feb. 21 (UPI) -- Lawmakers in the tiny West African nation of Togo have voted to reverse constitutional changes that let deceased President Gnassingbe Eyadema's son take power.

The Parliament had endorsed the army's recent elevation of Faure Gnassingbe, leading to an outcry among citizens and prompting West African leaders to impose sanctions, the BBC said Monday.

The legislature, however, did not call on Gnassingbe to step down, perhaps to give him a face-saving way to do exactly that, observers said.

A regional group of African nation known as ECOWAS and the African Union sanctioned Togo, the European Union urged Lome to restore constitutional order and Washington said it was cutting off all military assistance.

Chavez: Washington is trying to kill me

CARACAS, Venezuela, Feb. 21 (UPI) -- Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez said the United States is planning to kill him, El Nacional newspaper reported Monday.

"I am sure that in Washington they are considering ways to kill me," said Chavez in a nationally televised broadcast, adding President Bush would be the man responsible for his death.

"If you try (to kill me), you will regret it comrade Bush," he said Sunday.

In recent weeks Chavez has stepped up his anti-Bush and Washington rhetoric following criticism from new U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice who called the Venezuelan leader a "negative force" in Latin America.

U.S. officials have also expressed concern about Venezuela's decision to improve China's access to its oil fields. Venezuela is the world's 5th largest oil supplier.

A short-lived coup in April 2002 saw Chavez removed from power for two days before returning to office. At the time, Washington expressed approval of his ousting.

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News in Brief

The Philadelphia Inquirer

FEBRUARY 9, 2005 Wednesday CITY-D EDITION

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The Philadelphia Inquirer

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Section: NATIONAL; Pg. A04

Length: 690 words

Body

In the Nation

Bush and guests mark

Black History Month

* President Bush, whose relationship with black Americans has been strained over the last four years, welcomed prominent African Americans to the White House yesterday to celebrate Black History Month. Those who attended the event included Dorothy Height, 92, who spent 30 years as the president of the National Council of Negro Women; members of the original Tuskegee Airmen, a group of minority pilots who excelled in the era of Jim Crow; Frederick Douglass 4th, great-great-grandson of the famed abolitionist; and actress Cicely Tyson. - AP

Ex-GOP consultant gets jail

for jamming foes' phones

* The former head of a Republican consulting group was sentenced yesterday to five months in jail for jamming Democratic telephone lines in several New Hampshire cities during the 2002 election. Allen Raymond, 37, who was president of the GOP Marketplace LLC, did not comment as he left the U.S. District Court sentencing in Concord. He pleaded guilty in June. - AP

State Senate election

in N.Y. is finally decided

* Three months after Election Day, New York State Sen. Nicholas Spano was reelected yesterday by 18 votes out of 127,000 cast, ending the state's longest legislative race ever. The Republican's victory over Democrat Andrea Stewart-Cousins came after months of recounts and legal challenges that went all the way to the state's highest court. The final tally leaves one undecided state race in the nation, a contest for the Kentucky Senate. - AP

Astronomers catch sight

of star fleeing galaxy

* An outcast star is zooming out of the Milky Way, the first ever seen escaping the galaxy, astronomers reported yesterday. The star is heading for the emptiness of intergalactic space after being ejected from the heart of the Milky Way following a close encounter with a black hole, said Warren Brown, an astronomer at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. - Reuters

In the World

Voters in Denmark give

premier another term

* The center-right government of Denmark's Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen won its second term in elections yesterday, as voters embraced its plans to keep immigration in check and taxes from rising. Opposition leader Mogens Lykketoft conceded defeat. With nearly all four million ballots tallied, the governing bloc had 55 percent of the vote, giving it control of 96 of the 179 parliament seats. - AP

Crash killed all 104

on Afghan airliner

* All 104 people aboard an Afghan airliner that hit a snow-covered mountain near Kabul last week are dead, authorities said yesterday. Officials said it could take weeks to collect the bodies from Chaperi Mountain, where relentless snowfall grounded NATO helicopters set to ferry in medics and investigators. Afghan authorities say the cause of the crash of the Kam Air Boeing 737 remains a mystery. - AP

Report says IRA had hand

in \$50 million bank holdup

* A still-unpublished report on the \$50 million robbery of a bank in Belfast, Northern Ireland, firmly links the **Irish Republican Army** to the Dec. 20 incident, Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern said yesterday. He spoke after his cabinet had discussed the confidential study by the Independent Monitoring Commission, a panel of experts formed by the British and Irish governments to monitor the activities of illegal Northern Irish groups. Both governments plan to publish the report tomorrow. - AP

U.S. cuts funds for fighting corruption in Kenya

* The U.S. ambassador to Kenya said yesterday that the United States was suspending \$2.5 million in funding for anti-corruption work in the East African nation, citing what he called President Mwai Kibaki's faltering commitment to fighting graft. William Bellamy's announcement came a day after presidential anti-corruption adviser John Githongo resigned because of frustration with efforts to deal with the issue. - AP

Milosevic trial resumes

after his bout with flu

* Slobodan Milosevic's trial resumed yesterday after a week's delay to allow the former Yugoslav president to recover from the flu. The war-crimes trial in the Hague, Netherlands, began in 2002 and has been delayed repeatedly due to his health.- Reuters

Load-Date: September 7, 2005

Killing in Belfast Puts I.R.A. on the Defensive

The New York Times

March 7, 2005 Monday

Late Edition - Final

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Section: Section A; Column 1; Foreign Desk; Pg. 6

Length: 1386 words

Byline: By LIZETTE ALVAREZ; Lizette Alvarez reported from London and Belfast for this article. Brian Lavery contributed reporting from Dublin.

Dateline: LONDON, March 6

Body

In the Catholic neighborhoods of Belfast, the ***Irish Republican Army*** has long served as judge, jury and, in some cases, executioner, meting out its own brand of vigilante justice. Catholics who defy the I.R.A.'s dictates end up with broken kneecaps. Those who betray the I.R.A. wind up dead.

But now five sisters are turning that tradition upside down, spurred by the extraordinarily brutal killing on Jan. 30 of their brother, Robert McCartney, and what is widely seen as a subsequent I.R.A. cover-up.

Mr. McCartney was attacked in a crowded Belfast bar, then taken outside and beaten with iron pipes. His throat was slit and his torso was slashed open with a knife. The attackers left him to bleed while they went back to the bar, scrubbed it of evidence and warned customers that the fight had been an internal I.R.A. matter.

So far, the witnesses have heeded the warning from the I.R.A. men, and none have come forward to the police.

The McCartney sisters, working on instinct and grief, are demanding that the I.R.A. stop protecting the attackers -- as many as 15 men, whose identities are widely known -- and allow witnesses to tell the police their stories so that justice can be done.

The sisters' boldness has galvanized the community. For perhaps the first time, the I.R.A. is facing broad and vocal dissent among its own supporters.

The killing and the sisters' response are creating a crisis for Sinn Fein, the I.R.A.'s political party, as well as for the I.R.A.'s rank and file and its leadership, coming as it does just weeks after the group was weakened by accusations that it was behind a Belfast bank robbery that netted \$50 million.

The events have added to a disillusionment with the I.R.A. that has slowly built since the 1998 peace accords. Its members, once considered heroes in Catholic neighborhoods for their role in the struggle against British rule, are increasingly seen as turning to Mafia-like crime and common thuggery and preying on the very community that formed the group's core of support. The I.R.A., long nicknamed Ra, is now sometimes called the Rafia.

The firestorm over Mr. McCartney's killing has forced the I.R.A. and Sinn Fein into a corner, people in Belfast say. And pressure is building from long-time backers in Ireland and the United States. To some, the furor threatens to

Killing in Belfast Puts I.R.A. on the Defensive

strip away the old veneer of "constructive ambiguity" that allowed the I.R.A. and Sinn Fein to claim that their leaders had no true ties.

On Thursday, one day before the start of Sinn Fein's annual political conference, Gerry Adams, the party leader, announced that he had suspended seven party members over accusations that they were involved in the killing. A week earlier, the I.R.A. announced that it had expelled three men it believed were involved.

Startlingly, Mr. Adams also said he had given the names of the seven men to a police ombudsman. The I.R.A. and Sinn Fein had always refused relations with the police service, out of deep suspicion from the time of the Troubles, as the civil strife is known.

And on Saturday, at a party conference in Dublin, Mr. Adams, appearing with the McCartney sisters, ratcheted up the pressure and urged the men to come forward. "Those responsible for the brutal killing of Robert McCartney should admit to what they did in a court of law," Mr. Adams said. "I am not letting this issue go until those who have sullied the name of the republican cause are made to account for their actions."

The Irish government of Prime Minister Bertie Ahern, which had strongly supported Mr. Adams through the peace effort, has now publicly challenged Mr. Adams to admit that he is a member of the I.R.A. leadership and has said that the top leadership of Sinn Fein must have known about the Belfast robbery and probably approved it.

Sinn Fein has also lost whatever good will it had mustered with Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain, a sponsor of the peace effort, as well as some of its backing from Irish in the United States. Mr. Adams has canceled fund-raising efforts in the United States, and his deputy, Martin McGuinness, will not travel to the United States this month as expected.

For its part, the White House canceled this year's St. Patrick's Day invitations to the leaders of Northern Ireland's political parties to avoid the embarrassment of having Sinn Fein represented. Instead, the McCartney sisters are planning a trip to the United States for St. Patrick's Day, possibly to New York and Washington.

The sisters have bluntly pressed for justice. "All of Ireland knows who the men are," Catherine McCartney, 36, a teacher, said of the attackers in an interview last week inside her sister Paula's home in Belfast. "But people know what the I.R.A. are capable of. They butchered a man and slit his throat. I would be afraid, too."

"Republicanism is not what happened to Robert," she said. "They can't call themselves republican if they did that. Certainly not murdering innocent people."

Many Catholics in the McCartneys' neighborhood, a battle-scarred area called the Short Strand, have responded with surprising solidarity.

On the day of the funeral for Mr. McCartney, a popular 33-year-old fork lift operator with two young sons, a thousand people turned up. Graffiti denouncing the I.R.A. popped up on walls, a first in a republican neighborhood; the markings were quickly erased, but quickly reappeared. Small photocopied posters with Mr. McCartney's photograph appeared on shop windows. "No More Lies," one said. "Shame on Them," said another.

Last Sunday, the women held a rally in the neighborhood. Hundreds showed up, including politicians, and several speakers expressed outrage. The sisters held placards that read, "Murdered -- Who's Next?"

"If these men walk free from this, then everyone in Ireland should fear the consequences," Paula McCartney, 40, a Queen's University student, told the crowd, according to news reports. "Justice must be done."

The police said Friday that 10 people had been arrested so far but had refused to cooperate and were released. "We need witnesses, and those witnesses need to be able to return to their own communities," said the Northern Ireland police detective superintendent, George Hamilton.

The plea was indicative of the more troubled relationship that has developed between the I.R.A. and Catholics in Belfast's nationalist area since the Troubles wound down after the 1998 Good Friday peace agreement.

Killing in Belfast Puts I.R.A. on the Defensive

Many people interviewed here say they feel indebted to the I.R.A., a private army, for fighting for Catholic rights and protecting them from Protestant loyalists, like the Shankill Butchers, who tortured and killed Catholics with butchers' knives.

They acknowledge being increasingly disturbed by the I.R.A.'s criminal undertakings, acts of intimidation and extortion, and punishment beatings. Once mostly excused as necessary tools of war during the Troubles, such acts are now far harder to accept.

"There is a cynicism within the community," said Anthony McIntyre, who served 18 years in prison for I.R.A. activity and is now a dissident. "One reason the I.R.A. existed was to protect people from the Shankill Butchers. Now I.R.A. members are plowing their violence in their own community."

Everyone knows what happened on Jan. 30. Witnesses have talked on the street, and people have told these stories to the sisters.

Mr. McCartney stopped for a drink with a friend at Magennis's bar in the Markets section of Belfast on that Sunday night. An I.R.A. man thought he saw Mr. McCartney make a rude gesture toward a woman in his own group in the crowded bar. A brawl broke out, then spilled into the streets.

A short while later, Mr. McCartney lay dying. His friend's throat was sliced, as well, but he survived.

The attackers walked a couple of blocks back to the bar, locked it and warned the 70 people inside to keep quiet, the sisters added. "This is I.R.A. business," the sisters were told the men said. The men wiped down the bar, washing away fingerprints and blood.

The next day some of them were seen in the neighborhood, chatting with friends on street corners, as if Jan. 30 had been no different from Jan. 29, the sisters said.

The message was plain. "They can murder you, clean it up, cover it up and walk away," Catherine McCartney said.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Graphic

Photos: Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Fein, at a meeting on Saturday with three of Robert McCartney's sisters, from left, Paula, Catherine and Donna. (Photo by John Cogill/Associated Press)

Posters in Belfast, Northern Ireland, condemn the killing of Robert McCartney. ***Irish Republican Army*** members are accused of the crime. (Photo by Carlos Lopez-Barillas for The New York Times)

Load-Date: March 7, 2005

Politics & Policies: Syriana blurs lines

UPI

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Length: 767 words

Byline: CLAUDE SALHANI

Dateline: WASHINGTON, Dec. 20

Body

"Syriana," the new political thriller starring George Clooney, tries, but doesn't quite succeed, in explaining the phenomenon behind the new scourge of the 21st century -- the rise of Islamist terrorism -- and its weapon of choice, the suicide bomber.

While the film skirts the topic of how young Muslim men are easy prey to the "recruiter" who finds no difficulty turning the innocent youth into lethal suicide bombers, it falls short of offering a concise picture of why that is so.

The film misses the opportunity to examine the new face of international terrorism, which has undergone radical transformations over the last decade or two.

The use of terror by radical groups as a political tool has indeed seen tremendous change. In recent years, terrorism went from being used in geographically limited conflicts to becoming a truly global phenomenon.

In the late 1960s and 1970s, groups such as Italy's Red Brigades, Germany's Baader-Meinhof Gang or the *Irish Republican Army*, for example, engaged in specific and limited geographic conflicts as they struggled to impose change upon their respective societies.

In contrast, today's terrorism has become global, striking anywhere from New York to London, Madrid, Istanbul, Bali or Karachi, not forgetting Baghdad, Amman and New Delhi. As international borders have become somewhat less relevant in today's global economy with migrant workers jumping continents in search of employment and mega-corporations selling Cokes, Nikes, McDonalds and the latest version of Microsoft Windows from Algeria to Zambia, so too, has the war being waged by militant Islamists become global.

"Syriana" accentuates the plight of the over-exploited, under-paid, South Asian laborer, the tens of thousands of Indian, Pakistani and Baluchi migrant workers, some of who toil under near-slavery conditions on the oilrigs and affiliated jobs the oil industry has created in the Arabian desert.

Politics & Policies: Syriana blurs lines

True, the depressed socioeconomic situation of these migrant workers facilitates their recruitment by politicized Islamists making them potential terrorist material. Yet the jobs they find in the oil-rich countries is often a step up, allowing them to escape the chronic unemployment and poverty back in their home countries.

While the large pool of imported work force in some oil-producing states outnumbers the local population 2-1, it is worth remembering the majority of the 19 terrorists who on Sept. 11, 2001, hijacked airliners and flew them into New York's World Trade Center and the Pentagon were not underpaid day laborers, but mostly young and educated university graduates.

"Syriana" is one of those Hollywood releases where Tinseltown meshes reality with Lala Land make-believe, intermingled with Washington's political wishful thinking. Often, what cannot be accomplished in real life due to geopolitical restraints and realities is given more than poetic license in Hollywood.

The outcome is very "today," in which you have a hard time distinguishing the blurred lines separating the good guys from the bad guys. How far will the CIA go to protect U.S. interests?

The bad guys (in the movie) use torture to extract the information they seek. But in real life we just discovered that the good guys are also using torture. And when they don't turn to torture themselves, they outsource it. We learned that suspected terrorists were dispatched by U.S. authorities to Syria, Egypt and Jordan, so they could be "properly" interrogated.

The film, directed by Stephen Gaghan (scriptwriter of "Traffic,") with Clooney as a CIA agent, takes you behind the scenes in a Tehran not likely to be experienced by most business travelers to the Islamic republic.

It's the hidden side of the land of the ayatollahs where booze flows freely, where drugs and women are as readily available as in Las Vegas or Rio -- the very thing the Islamists are fighting against.

The film also takes us to a netherworld where backstabbing, double-crossing and corporate greed is also truly global -- extending from the imaginary Syriana (or is it?), to the very real Washington and beyond.

It is unclear though if "Syriana" intends to tell us that the cause of Islamist terrorism, or at least part of it, comes as a result of Western corporate greed. Again, here the lines are somewhat unclear.

What is clear, though, is the ugly side of extreme white-collar corporate gluttony, where political assassinations are sanctioned on condition they will guarantee that oil continues to flow to the good guys, and at a decent price. Fact or fiction? Again, blurred lines.

(Comments may be sent to Claude@upi.com.)

Load-Date: December 21, 2005

In Focus

The Gazette (Montreal)
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Section: NEWS; Pg. A2

Length: 724 words

Byline: The Gazette

Body

EU ministers call spread of bird flu 'global threat'

The European Union declared yesterday the spread of bird flu from Asia into the EU a "global threat" requiring international co-operation, saying western Europe is ill-prepared to deal with an influenza emergency. Western European governments scrambled to buy industrial quantities of flu vaccines and face masks to protect citizens from possible infection. Details, Page A4

Suspicious parcel found at Tremblay's cottage

For the second time in a month, a suspicious package has been found at the country cottage of Montreal Mayor Gerald Tremblay. Police wouldn't confirm that the parcels contained flammable material, however, and officials in the mayor's office insisted he's not worried. Details, Page A7

Saddam's lawyer urges three-month trial delay

Background: Saddam Hussein and seven senior members of his 23-year regime go on trial today to face charges they ordered the killings of nearly 150 people from the mainly Shiite town of Dujail following a failed attempt on Saddam's life.

New: The lawyer for Saddam says he will ask a tribunal for a three-month adjournment of the former Iraqi dictator's trial for the 1982 massacre. Details, Page A18

Women's shelter reopens

Background: Fifteen years ago, Melpa Kamateros founded Shield of Athena Family Services in Park Extension and Laval.

New: Columnist Mike Boone looks at the Greek community organization that operates a **women's** shelter - which reopened Monday - as well as offering support groups for victims of conjugal violence and tutorials on how to raise child victims of family abuse. Details, Page A7

Cocaine a firing offence

In Focus

Background: Andre Boisclair, the front-runner for the Parti Quebecois leadership, has faced repeated questions since he admitted using cocaine while a member of the Quebec cabinet.

New: Former premier Bernard Landry hints he might have fired Boisclair if he had known he consumed cocaine while in his government. Details, Page A10

Sikh fights hard-hat rule

Background: A B.C. Sikh won the right in 1999 to ride his motorcycle in the province without a helmet.

New: Avtar Singh Dhillon is now fighting a new hard-hat policy on the Vancouver waterfront that he says has limited the jobs available to Sikh longshoremen like himself.

Next: A Canadian Human Rights Commission hearing on the matter is expected to continue into November. Details, Page A15

Pakistan's bold gesture

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf has offered to open the contentious border between Pakistani Kashmir and India to help victims of the Oct. 8 earthquake find their loved ones. Details, Page A18

Business

Rona targets 12 rivals

Rona Inc., which is battling Home Depot Inc. for the leadership in Canada's home-improvement market, may buy at least 12 smaller rivals as part of a plan to double revenue in two years, CEO Robert Dutton said. Details, Page B1

CN reports record net

Despite the negative impact of hurricanes, higher fuel costs, a couple of major derailments and a rising loonie, Canadian National Railway reported record third-quarter earnings of \$411 million, a 19-per-cent increase from a year ago. Details, Page B3

Sports

Concordia vs. big boys

The Concordia Stingers men's basketball team won't be facing any cream puffs when it heads to the U.S. for seven exhibition games against the likes of Duke and the University of Connecticut. Details, Page C4

Millington glad he's back

The Toronto Argonauts' Sean Millington found retirement didn't suit him. After two seasons on the sidelines and at age 37, the Canadian running back is back in the CFL. Details, Page C5

Arts & Life

Sigh of relief at film fest

Festival du Nouveau Cinema co-founder Claude Chamberlan reports the 34th edition of his festival is going well, as witnessed by full theatres and sold-out screenings. "I'm in heaven," he said. The event wraps up Sunday. Details, Page D5

Adult. proud to be weird

In Focus

Eclectic Detroit band Adult. (yes, with a period) resists attempts to confine them to a specific genre, but concede that their dark lyrics and warped world view put them in the realm of weird. The band performs tomorrow as part of the MEG festival. Details, Page D5

follow-ups

IRA respecting agreement, panel says: The **Irish Republican Army** has halted a wide range of activities and is broadly observing its July 28 peace declaration, government officials said yesterday. Page A28

Graphic

Photo: (Sigh of relief at film fest);

Photo: (EU ministers call spread of bird flu 'global threat')

Load-Date: October 19, 2005

End of Document

Protestants Riot in N. Ireland for 3rd Day

Associated Press Online

September 12, 2005 Monday

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Byline: SHAWN POGATCHNIK; Associated Press Writer

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

Crowds of Protestant hard-liners blocked key roads in Belfast and rioted for a third straight night Monday in a long-building explosion of frustration at Northern Ireland's peace process.

At least 50 officers were wounded over the weekend when extremists fought riot police and British troops in the worst Protestant violence in a decade. The British governor and the territory's police chief said two outlawed Protestant paramilitary groups mounted machine-gun and grenade attacks on police.

The rampage followed British authorities' refusal Saturday to permit the Orange Order, Northern Ireland's major Protestant brotherhood, to parade as it usually does each year along the boundary of Catholic west Belfast.

Monday's road blockades, formed by men, women and children, caused traffic jams that lasted for hours. Adding to the chaos were troublemakers who called Belfast businesses and, pretending to be police officers, ordered them to send workers home and close early on security grounds.

Protestant riots resumed at nightfall Monday in several parts of Belfast, although the mobs were smaller, the level of destruction much less severe and the intensity of violence greatly reduced from the weekend. No new injuries were reported.

Protestants threw fire bombs at a heavily fortified police base on the line between British Protestant and Irish Catholic turf in west Belfast. Gangs pelted passing cars on the city's two major highways with stones, forcing police to divert traffic to smaller roads.

Gangs also hijacked and burned more vehicles on the Crumlin Road in north Belfast, although police prevented the hijacking of a bus and seized crates of Molotov cocktails and paint-filled balloons.

Several thousand police equipped with shields, body armor, flame-retardant suits, guns loaded with plastic bullets, armored personnel carriers, mobile water cannon and tear gas were on standby in fortified barracks across this city of 600,000. About 1,200 British soldiers also were deployed to support the police.

British governor Peter Hain and police commander Hugh Orde said the outlawed Ulster Volunteer Force and Ulster Defense Association, which are supposed to be observing cease-fires in support of Northern Ireland's 1998 peace accord, carried out the weekend attacks on police.

Protestants Riot in N. Ireland for 3rd Day

Hain said he would issue a policy statement within the next few days, raising widespread expectations he will withdraw Britain's recognition of the groups' 1994 cease-fire. Their truce has been repeatedly violated over the past decade - but rarely so brazenly as last weekend.

"The evidence I have seen is absolutely clear-cut. If it wasn't clear-cut before, it's absolutely categorical now," said Hain, who viewed surveillance footage of the weekend's riots at the police headquarters in east Belfast.

Police have accused the Ulster Volunteer Force, which wields brutal authority in many Protestant parts of Belfast and runs a range of criminal rackets including counterfeiting and smuggling cigarettes, of killing four Protestant men this summer in a turf war with a breakaway drug dealing gang.

Hain could order a return to prison for dozens of UVF and UDA convicts who received prison paroles as part of the 1998 peace deal. Catholic leaders demanded sterner action against both groups.

But police and political analysts warned that the deep-seated Protestant alienation fueling the riots required a diplomatic rather than security solution. Protestant politicians said rioting was inevitable given the belief of many Protestants that Britain has focused a decade of peacemaking on the demands of Catholics and the outlawed **Irish Republican Army**.

"Quite clearly, what you have here is a politics of fatalism, a community that sees itself as not being listened to," said University of Ulster social scientist Peter Shirlow.

Confrontations over Protestant parades, particularly near Catholic areas, have triggered riots in the past. The most widespread violence happened from 1996 to 1998, when Catholic militants blockaded Protestants' parade routes.

Since then, a government-appointed Parades Commission imposed restrictions on disputed Protestant parades. Until now, Orangemen usually accepted with sullen resignation.

But when the commission ordered Saturday's marchers to parade through a factory site instead of the main road, Orange leaders called for illegal sit-down protests all over Belfast. Orangemen refused to accept any responsibility for the rioting.

Mitchell Reiss, President Bush's envoy to Northern Ireland, accused Protestant leaders of making bogus excuses for rioters.

"I think all of us are pretty disappointed with the abdication of responsibility by many (Protestant) unionist leaders," Reiss said in Belfast. "No political party, and certainly no responsible political leadership, deserves to serve in a government unless it cooperates and supports fully and unconditionally the police, and calls on its supporters to do so."

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Protestant mobs mount Belfast-wide street confrontations for third straight night

The Associated Press

September 12, 2005, Monday, BC cycle

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Byline: By SHAWN POGATCHNIK, Associated Press Writer

Dateline: BELFAST, Northern Ireland

Body

Protestant hard-liners blocked roads all over Belfast during evening rush hour Monday, causing massive traffic jams and threatening a third night of rioting with Northern Ireland police and British troops.

Starting at about 4 p.m. local time, thousands of Protestant men, women and children sat down on the main highway running through the capital and scores of other roads and intersections. Many Belfast shops and businesses closed early out of fear the illegal blockades would degenerate into violent attacks on police, as happened Saturday and Sunday.

Belfast is home to a third of Northern Ireland's 1.7 million people.

Until early Monday, crowds of masked men and youths confronted police backed by British troops in dozens of hard-line Protestant districts in Belfast and several other towns. Gunmen shot at police and soldiers in at least two parts of the capital Sunday night, but nobody was hit.

Police units equipped with helmets, body armor and flame-retardant jumpsuits doused crowds with massive water cannons and fired several hundred plastic bullets.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland said 18 officers were injured Sunday night and Monday morning, chiefly by shrapnel from rioters' homemade grenades, raising the force's three-day casualty total to 50 injured.

"This is a moment of choice for everybody. ... Whose side are you on?" the British governor, Northern Ireland Secretary Peter Hain, said before Protestant crowds resumed their street blockades Monday afternoon.

"Are you on the side of law and order, applied fairly and equally to every citizen? Or are you against law and order, siding with those firing bullets at the police, throwing petrol bombs and blast bombs at police and attacking them?"

Earlier, Hain received a detailed intelligence briefing on the weekend chaos from Northern Ireland's police commander, Chief Constable Hugh Orde.

Hain said Orde and senior detectives presented "absolutely clear-cut" evidence that members of Northern Ireland's two biggest outlawed Protestant groups, the Ulster Defense Association and the Ulster Volunteer Force, were

Protestant mobs mount Belfast-wide street confrontations for third straight night

instrumental in directing the riots. He said he planned to announce within days whether Britain would continue recognizing the legitimacy of the joint UDA-UUVF cease-fire, which has existed officially since 1994.

Sixteen Protestants appeared in court Monday on a range of riot-related charges. One man, shot in the arm Sunday by British troops, was charged with attempting to murder police and soldiers.

Orde has blamed the Orange Order - a legal brotherhood with more than 50,000 members - for inspiring the riots. The violence began Saturday when police prevented Orangemen from parading near a hard-line Catholic part of west Belfast.

But the senior Orangeman in Belfast, County Grandmaster Dawson Bailie, said Monday he would not condemn the rioters' actions.

"As far as I am concerned, the people to blame are the secretary of state, the chief constable and the Parades Commission," Bailie said, referring to Hain, Orde and a joint Catholic-Protestant panel that since 1998 has imposed restrictions on Protestant demonstrations.

The American envoy to Northern Ireland, Mitchell Reiss, offered unusually harsh criticism of Protestant political leaders, whom he accused of offering halfhearted, ambiguous backing for the police.

Reiss said Protestant leaders should not be eligible to serve in any future power-sharing government - the central, unfulfilled goal of Northern Ireland's 7-year-old Good Friday accord - unless they stood firmly behind the police and against their voters in the mobs.

"All of us are pretty disappointed with the abdication of responsibility by many (Protestant) unionist leaders," Reiss said in Belfast.

Police and analysts agreed that the march provided a pretext for the UDA and UVF to launch a pre-planned rebellion against police authority. Their desire for street mayhem reflected their near-total disconnection from the British province's decade-old peace process.

Both are supposed to be observing cease-fires and disarming in support of the 1998 peace pact, just like the outlawed ***Irish Republican Army*** rooted in militant Roman Catholic areas.

But while the IRA has built a support base through its Sinn Fein party and has grown central to negotiations, the Protestant paramilitary groups have failed to win electoral support and barely register in political talks. Instead, they wield power through criminal graft backed by occasional intimidating shows of force.

On the Net:

Northern Ireland Parades Commission, <http://www.paradescommission.org>

Orange Order, <http://www.grandorange.org.uk>

Graphic

AP Photos XBFT101, 108-110

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Protestant mobs mount Belfast-wide street confrontations for third straight night

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Friday, September 9

AP Worldstream

September 1, 2005 Thursday

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Body

Today is Friday, September 9, the 252nd day of 2005. There are 113 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1509 - Turks take Nicosia on Cyprus.

1513 - Scotland's King James IV is killed in Battle of Flodden with British.

1585 - Pope Sixtus V excommunicates Henry of Navarre of France.

1776 - Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia changes the name "United Colonies" to "United States."

1835 - "September Laws" in France severely censor press and suppress radical movement.

1888 - Chile annexes Easter Island in South Pacific.

1893 - Frances Cleveland, wife of President Cleveland, gives birth to daughter, Esther, in the White House. It is the first time a president's child is born in the executive mansion.

1894 - Sun Yat-sen heads his first attempt at revolution in China. The revolt does not succeed until 1911.

1921 - Constitution of Central American Union is signed by republics of Guatemala, Honduras and San Salvador.

1943 - A day after the Italians surrender, Allied troops land at Salerno, south of Naples, but face stiff resistance from a German Panzer division, which consists of armored vehicles.

1944 - While the Soviet army advances in Bulgaria, the government is overthrown in a Communist-led coup.

1948 - Korean People's Democratic Republic is formed in North Korea, claiming authority over entire country.

1951 - Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru becomes president of the governing Congress Party, succeeding Purchottamdas Tandon who resigned in a policy dispute.

1957 - U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signs into law the first civil rights bill to pass the U.S. Congress since the Civil War.

Friday, September 9

1971 - Prisoners seize control of the maximum-security Attica Correctional Facility near Buffalo, New York, beginning a siege that claims 43 lives.

1974 - U.S. President Gerald Ford is criticized heavily in Congress over his pardoning of former President Richard Nixon.

1986 - Gunmen kidnap American director of Lebanese school as he drives from his home in Muslim west Beirut.

1987 - Iraq launches series of coordinated air raids on Iranian power plants, factories and oil centers.

1988 - Burma's former Prime Minister U Nu, toppled in a 1962 military coup, announces formation of a rival government.

1991 - Saudi Arabia releases 400 Iraqi citizens held in the kingdom in exchange for a Saudi prisoner of war and a Saudi woman held in Iraq.

1992 - In a bid to defuse tensions with U.N. forces, the Khmer Rouge, Cambodia's radical communist movement that ruled the country from 1975 to 1979, invites the peacekeeping chief to its secluded base.

1994 - The United States agrees to accept at least 20,000 Cuban immigrants a year in return for Cuba's promise to halt people who boarding rafts and trying to sail to America.

1995 - NATO warplanes return to the skies over Bosnia to attack repaired Serb air defenses, and acknowledge that the attacks probably killed some civilians.

1996 - Typhoon Sally hits coastal areas of Guangdong, China's most developed province, killing more than 130 and injuring thousands.

1997 - Sinn Fein, political ally of the **Irish Republican Army**, formally renounces violence and enters talks on the future of Northern Ireland.

1998 - Independent prosecutor Kenneth Starr submits to the U.S. Congress a report on possible impeachable offenses by U.S. President Bill Clinton.

1999 - Israel begins releasing Palestinian prisoners as part of new peace deal.

2000 - Gunmen wound three people in a beauty salon in Kashmir, 24 hours after warning **women** to wear veils in public or be shot. The group said to be behind the warning denies it had issued any such threat.

2001 - Afghanistan's military opposition leader Ahmed Shah Massood is fatally wounded and later dies after a suicide attack by assassins posing as journalists.

2002 - The U.S. releases \$42 million in military aid to Colombia after certifying that its armed forces' human rights record met U.S. congressional requirements. The U.S. had released the first \$62 million installment of a \$104 million military aid package in April.

2003 - The Roman Catholic archdiocese of Boston, Massachusetts, and lawyers representing 552 alleged victims of sexual abuse by priests announce a legal settlement worth up to \$85 million.

2004 - Suspected Muslim militants detonate a car bomb outside the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, killing eight people and wounding more than 160 others.

Today's Birthdays:

Cardinal Richelieu, French churchman-statesman (1585-1642); Cornelius van Tromp, Dutch admiral (1629-1691); Luigi Galvani, Italian physiologist (1737-1798); Max Reinhardt, Austrian stage/screen director (1873-1943); Otis Redding, U.S. soul singer/songwriter (1941-1967); Hugh Grant, English actor (1960--).

Friday, September 9

Thought for Today:

Think wrongly if you please, but in all cases, think for yourself - Gotthold Lessing, German dramatist-critic (1729-1781).

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