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THE IRISH TIMES

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DUBLIN, TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1979

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Bomb on boat kills AT LEAST 18 Lord Mountbatten SOLDIERS DIE IN NI ATTACK

From Frank McDonald and Colm Boland THE WORLD HAS REACTED with horror and outrage to the killing of Lord Louis Mountbatten yesterday when his boat was destroyed by a bomb off the Co Sligo coast.

President Hillery and the Taoiseach, Mr Lynch, have condemned the murder; the Government of India has declared a week's official mourning, and in Washington the United States Government said it was deeply saddened by the tragic death. Senator Edward Kennedy issued a statement calling for an end to senseless violence and brutal acts.

Profound shock for party leaders

By Dick Walsh, Political Correspondent

GOVERNMENT and Opposition leaders in Dublin last night spoke of profound shock and shame at the assassination of Earl Mountbatten, the political and psychological impact of which may be even more traumatic than the killing of the British Ambassador three years ago.

The Taoiseach, Mr Lynch, was informed of the murder in Portlaoine, and is expected to return to Dublin before the end of the week. The Minister for Justice, Mr Collins, interrupted his holiday in Kerry to supervise the investigations at Mullaghmore.

President Hillery's message to Queen Elizabeth, expressing condolence at the death of a kinsman, was followed by a statement from the Taoiseach, Mr Collins, on behalf of the Government, promising that no effort would be spared to bring the assassin to justice.

"I am deeply shocked by the news of the death of Lord Mountbatten," said Senator Edward Kennedy. "No interest or cause is served by continuation of the senseless violence that has plagued Ireland for so many years. I would hope that this tragic event will cause all those who are dedicated to peace to redouble their efforts to put an end to such brutal acts."

But the deep and dangerous reverberations of the assassination are only beginning to be assessed in Dublin, and they cannot be examined in isolation from the murders of the Ambassador, of Mr Airey Neave, and of the British soldiers who died at Warrenpoint yesterday.

In the context of these events, the death of Earl Mountbatten was simply the most provocative. It casts doubt on security in the Republic, puts Anglo-Irish relations at risk and raises questions about the safety with which the Pope may visit Ireland, certainly, about the wisdom of a visit to the North.

The Government's statement spoke of profound shock and regret and noted that subversive organisations had claimed responsibility for the explosion.

"Assuming that Garda investigations substantiate the claims of sub-

IN PAGE 4: Son of Queen Victoria's grand-daughter who became brilliant war strategist. India goes into seven days of State mourning.

British leaders pay tributes. Boat was well-known in Donegal Bay. Prince told in Iceland. Noted impact as India's last viceroy.



A garda with part of the wreckage of Lord Mountbatten's boat at Mullaghmore yesterday. (Photo: Pat Langan).

time later Mullaghmore was aswam with gardai while an Air Corps helicopter flew in to coordinate the search.

The gardai set up road blocks and checkpoints over a wide area extending to the Border and as far south as Carrick-on-Shannon in their search for those responsible for the outrage.

But late last night a senior Garda officer admitted that they were failing to find a definite line of inquiry and he agreed it was possible that they could be closing the stable door after the horse had bolted.

The British Ambassador, Mr Robert Hayden, flew into Mullaghmore by helicopter yesterday afternoon. He immediately went to Classiebawn Castle to extend his sympathy and the sympathy of the British Government to Lord Mountbatten's second daughter, Lady Pamela Hicks, who is staying at the castle, the only member of the family who was not on the boat at the time of the disaster.

Last night the Minister for Justice, Mr Collins, also visited the scene of the blast with senior Garda officers, including Garda Commissioner P. J. McLaughlin and Deputy Commissioner Laurence Wren.

The Minister, in a brief interview, said his feeling about the outrage was one of "revelation and deep shock." He said that any changes which might be necessary to deal with terrorism would be considered by the Government and he hoped the incident would have no effect on Anglo-Irish relations.

Chorus of horrified protest in the North

From Fionnuala O Connor, in Belfast

BY EARLY yesterday afternoon the Provisional IRA in Belfast had admitted responsibility for bombing Lord Mountbatten's yacht, and a chorus of horrified protest at the killings came in from politicians on all sides.

The Provisional IRA statement claimed that Lord Mountbatten's death had been an "execution" and maintained the bombing was "a discriminate operation" to bring to the attention of the English people the continued occupation of our country.

According to the Belfast spokesman, a 50 lb bomb had been placed on the yacht and detonated by remote control. As for the claim by the Irish National Liberation Army, "phoned to Dublin papers, that would very soon prove to be false."

The British Army had acknowledged that after ten years of war it could not defeat the IRA but yet the British Government continued "with the oppression of our people and the torture of our comrades in the H blocks."

Lord Mountbatten's death and the tributes paid to him would be seen in sharp contrast to the apathy of the British Government and the English people to the deaths of

over 300 soldiers. Unionist condemnation of the Sligo bombing unanimously blamed the Southern Government for allegedly fostering an atmosphere in which such things could happen. Renewed calls for extradition from the Republic came from the Official Unionist leader, Mr Harry West, and from the Reverend Ian Paisley.

Mr West said: "There's very little I can say - it's an appalling tragedy altogether - until these people are brought to justice on both sides of the border we'll have no peace from the IRA." Mr Paisley accused the Republic of "harbouring fugitive murderers and encouraging the Provos."

A young Unionist spokesman said that any security efforts the Republic made were a "sham so long as they are prepared to condone similar murders in the UK."

There was no official comment from the UDA who had held their regular inner council meeting yesterday morning, before the bombing and the killing of the soldiers at Warrenpoint. But loyalist

sources said that the organisation was likely to issue a statement today after another meeting. It is known that UDA leaders have been having some difficulty restraining their members from retaliatory action. The organisation's overall leader, Mr Andy Tyrrie, is out of the country on holiday at the moment.

Meanwhile, Mr Gerry Fitt, the SDLP leader, expressed fears that the killings seemed certain to provoke a backlash and accused the Provisional IRA of wanting that. "I think the Provos are trying to bring about a Protestant backlash and such a situation could exist in this country," he said.

Local people who rushed to the scene, would further polarise northern communities. There was a sense of real fear and danger in Catholic communities who felt sure the backlash would be against them.

Mr Fitt said that he was certain the vast majority of the Irish people north and south felt revulsion at the terrible crime, and that anyone who said it was an act of patriotism would have no support.

Britain stunned by death

By Martin Cowley, London Editor

THE killing of Lord Mountbatten yesterday stunned the nation where he was regarded as one of the most popular and respected members of the royal family.

After the initial horror at his death there is now a certain to be a wide-ranging reassessment by the security services of protection at home and abroad for royalty and prominent public figures, including politicians.

During his war-time service as a leading naval commander and strategist, later as Viceroy of India, and in many other spheres, Lord Mountbatten was frequently in the public eye. And, as an uncle of Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh and second cousin of Queen Elizabeth, he had always been very close to them.

Palace said last night Queen Elizabeth was "deeply shocked." During the day politicians, including former Prime Ministers, and others, paid tribute to Lord Mountbatten.

In Balmoral

Queen Elizabeth was in her Scottish holiday home Balmoral when she was given the news of the explosion which killed Lord Mountbatten, the two young boys and injured the other people on board the vessel off the Sligo coast.

Prince Philip was contacted shortly after arriving in France yesterday afternoon, and an official spokesman said that the queen expected to speak to him later by telephone. The news was broken to Prince Charles, who was holidaying in Iceland, when he was following the assassination earlier this year of the Conservative spokesman of Northern Ireland, Mr Airey Neave, in a car-bomb blast, in an underground car park at the House of Commons, will outrage British public opinion.

Members of the royal family, and many Government Ministers, par-

Explosion put boat 'up in the air'

A boy who witnessed the explosion said last night that he could actually hear the people on board talking to each other before the boat went off.

"I was sitting down on the rocks and the boat was coming straight towards me," said Denis Devlin (14), of Pomeroy, Co. Tyrone. It stopped for a couple of minutes and then the British Government continued "with the oppression of our people and the torture of our comrades in the H blocks."

His mother, Mrs Jenny Devlin, said that she was knitting in the family's rented caravan just up from the shore when she heard the blast. "I looked out and saw all the debris coming down. The boat had just disintegrated. It was miraculous that anyone escaped without being killed."

"I heard the survivors shouting



Lord Mountbatten

S. African rugby team invited

THE Four Home Unions committee, a body representative of the Rugby Unions of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, has issued an invitation to the South African Barbarians club to undertake an eight match tour of Britain and Ireland. The tour will include two matches in Ireland, probably against two of the provincial senior sides and is scheduled for October next, page 3.

US offers to meet her defecting husband, and has decided to return to the Soviet Union, page 7.

Protest to Israel

Ireland has protested to Israel at Israeli troop incursions into the area of southern Lebanon under the control of Irish units of the UN peace-keeping force, page 7.

Ryan refused entry

Mr Richie Ryan, TD, was yesterday refused permission to

drive his car into the grounds of Leinster House because he would not agree to a security search of the boot of the vehicle, page 11.

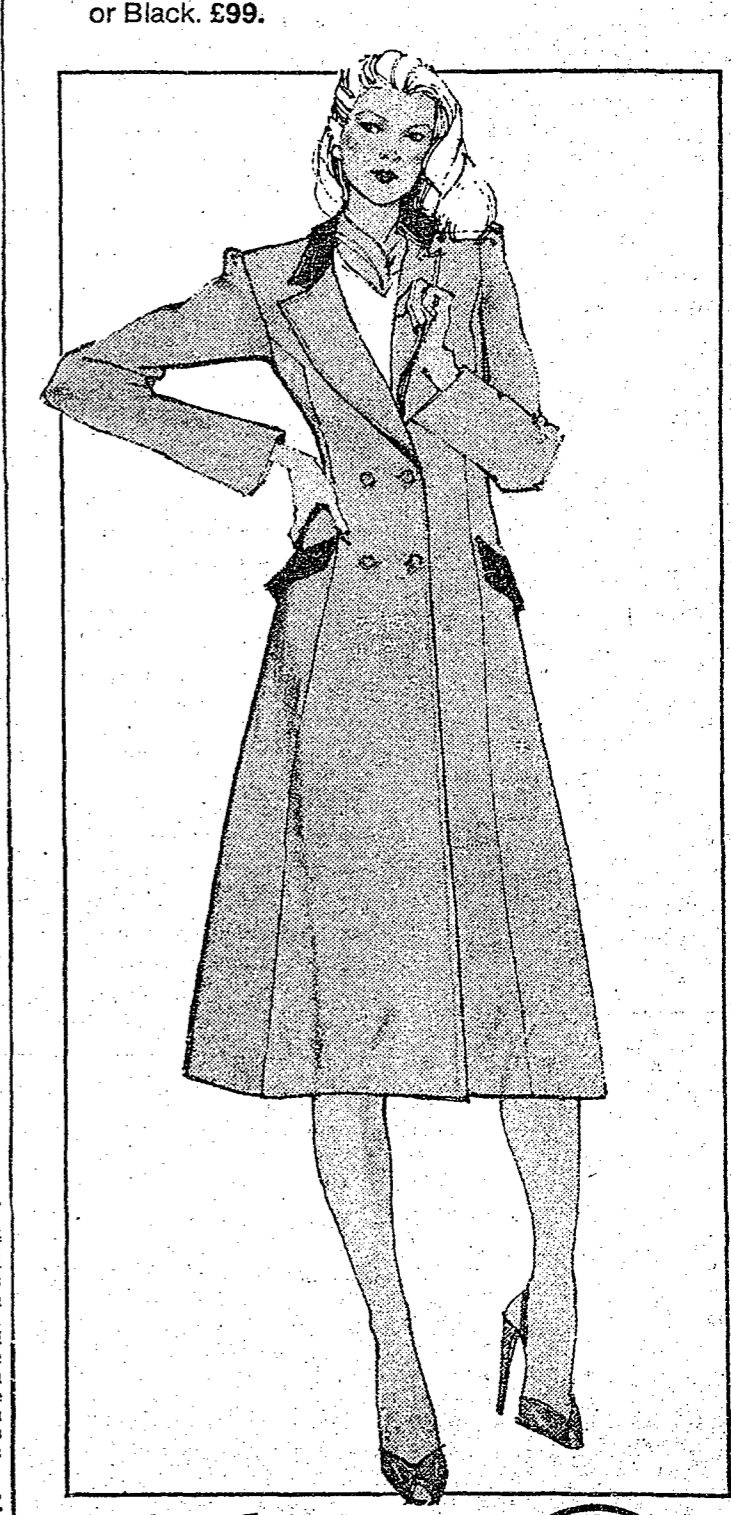
Big coal delivery

The first of a number of large consignments of US coal has arrived in Dublin, but owing to a backlog of orders, new orders are not being accepted, for the moment, according to a spokesman for Coal Distributors Ltd., page 11.

Ballerina to return

The Soviet ballerina, Miss Lyudmila Vlasova, has rejected

French Perfection. From our elegant new French collection of Autumn/Winter coats just arrived in our coat room. On the First Floor. Double-breasted coat in the new tailored lines from Paris, with velvet trim on collar and pockets. Broad in-set shoulders. In Recurrent or Black. £99.



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Garbage row takes turn for the worse

By Eugene McElodowney, Industrial Correspondent

THE DUBLIN garbage dispute took a turn for the worse yesterday when fitters at the Stanley Street depot who, two weeks ago had agreed to resume normal working, decided to renege on their word-to-rule and overtime ban.

The men, who are members of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW), have now rejoined their colleagues of the National Engineering and Electrical Trades Union (NETU), in their industrial action which has crippled the Dublin area. The fitters at Stanley Street repair and maintain the refuse lorries, and because of their absence the number of unrepaired vehicles has increased within the past few months. Since the AUEW agreed to resume normal working, the Dublin Corporation has been able to increase the fleet from 12 to 21 lorries, out of a total of 50.

The men's action follows a meeting of Corporation craftsmen in which the Sunday workers agreed to accept a weekly pay increase of £10.17 which, earlier, had been accepted by craftsmen in local authorities and health boards throughout the country. The Dublin men are seeking a higher increase.

The men's weekly pay scales, at present, range from £84.00 to £210.32 but the increase would include the first phase of the national understanding, which will add a further 9% to the scales when implemented.

Meanwhile, the dispute at Mullaghmore has ended and the men have returned to work.

The 13-week-old strike at the Richmond Hospital in Dublin still continues, but the strikers are expected to end the strike, which involves 40 porters, centres on a dispute over the introduction of a new plant in the hospital.

There was some disruption of production at the Bachelors Ltd. plant in Limerick, after a picket line of 100 men was placed on the plant.

A statement from the company said that the picket line had been dismissed last week.

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Profound shock for party leaders

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versive involvement." Mr. Colley said, "I know that all Irish people will join me in condemning this cowardly and heartless outrage. "No effort will be spared to bring those responsible to justice and I know that the people of Co Sligo will give every possible assistance in the investigation."

Lord Mountbatten was a regular and welcome visitor to Co Sligo with which his family had long been associated. His great personal qualities and his straightforward, practical approach to problems commanded the highest respect.

His many friendships in this country were yet another testimony to the warm and neighbourly relations between Ireland and Britain which subservient organisations have sought in vain to disrupt.

Mr Lynch issued this statement: "I was deeply shocked when I heard of the assassination of the Earl Mountbatten and his grandson Nicholas Brabourne and his employee, Paul Maxwell, by the IRA in the morning of August 22nd. Lord Mountbatten was a man of great courage and an extraordinary record of service to mankind. He was a member of the People of Queen Victoria, and was always a welcome visitor to our country. I understand that the IRA have admitted their responsibility for the murder of Lord Mountbatten and his grandson and employee, and I am sure that they will bring them to justice."

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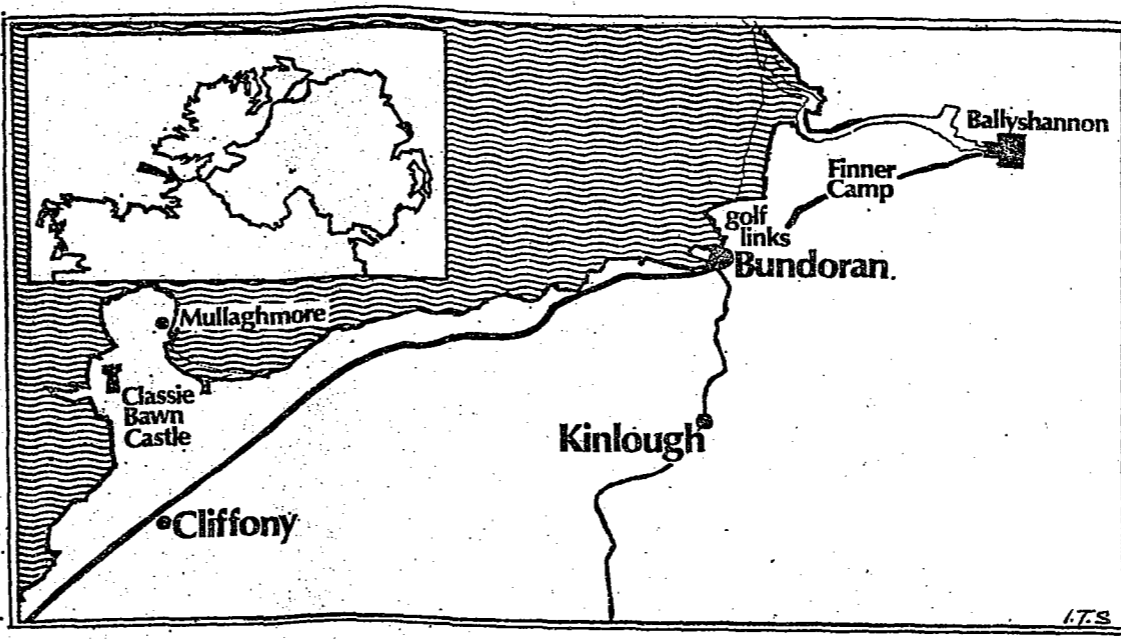
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15-year-old blast victim son of Lord Brabourne

NICHOLAS KNATCHBULL, aged 15, who died in the explosion of Mullaghmore (Co. Sligo), was the son of film producer Lord Brabourne, aged 58, and Lord Mountbatten's daughter, Lady Patricia, aged 59.

Lord Brabourne, John Ulrick Knatchbull, a great-great-grandchild of Queen Victoria, is the 7th Baron and 16th Baronet, the title dating back to 1641.

He was a captain in the Coldstream Guards and fought in the 1939-45 war in South-east Asia, where he was wounded.

Lord Brabourne went into films after the war and fought his way up from the studio floor to production assistant, production manager and then assistant producer.

His first film, the tiger-hunting adventure "Harry Black", carried the credit "Produced by John Brabourne" - the title omitted at his request.

His successful career produced "Sink the Bismarck" in 1959; "HMS Defiant" in 1961; "Othello" in 1965; "Mikado 1966"; "Romeo and Juliet" (with Zeffirelli) and "Up the Junction" in 1967; "Dance of the Witches" in 1968; "Ward No. 6" in 1971; "Murder" in 1971; "The Orient Express" in 1974 and "Death on the Nile" in 1978.

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Villagers are shocked at death of 'friendly man'

From Frank McDougal

LOCAL PEOPLE in the village of Mullaghmore yesterday described Lord Mountbatten as a very friendly man who was humble and well-liked around the harbour which he left every day on fishing expeditions.

Last night, his station wagon was still parked on the quayside near where his boat was usually moored among local fishing boats. A pile of splintered planks, barely recognizable as parts of a boat, was being assembled in the backyard of Clifonye Garda Station. One section bearing the name Shona Brabourne was pointed out by Lord Mountbatten's fishing rod, broken in the blast and with a twisted reel was lying among the rubble, which included heavy hemp rope torn to shreds, a life-jacket and parts of the boat.

Last night, television crews formed around the Minister for Justice, Mr. Mulcahy, when he arrived at the little harbour and viewed the scene of the tragic explosion which has made world news.

Mullaghmore, which is situated on a headland with a panoramic view of Donegal Bay, is a popular resort, particularly favoured by visitors from across the border.

Hundreds of journalists from Ireland, Britain and Europe had arrived there last night and sight-seers crowded along the rocks to view the spot where the boat had been blown out of the water.

A local Garda remembered Lord Mountbatten as a very ordinary kind of man who was usually tucked out in old corduroy trousers and a traditional folk sweater in the castle.

"He liked the way I played the riddle and I have a letter from him to prove it," he said. "He was a very friendly man, not snobbish in any way and he got on very well with the locals. Everyone here is shocked by what happened and there's no one around who would condone it," he added.

There was no obvious sign of any hostility towards Lord Mountbatten or any other Englishman in the area, according to the Garda.

Seamus Kelly award

FRIENDS of the late Seamus Kelly will be celebrating an award in his memory. They hope to raise £10,000.

Journalists under 25 years of age working on a newspaper in Ireland will be eligible for the award. They will be invited to submit articles (published or unpublished) of 2,500 words on a theme or themes decided by the adjudicators.

The award committee includes Liam Boyd (chairman), Kevin O'Connell, Frank O'Reilly, T.P. Coogan, Des O'Malley, Paddy Kirby, Aidan O'Hanlon, Douglas Gageby, Seamus O'Brien, Michael Tierney, Terry O'Sullivan, Denise Moriarty, Robbie Rowick, Peter Leon, Dr. David Nowlan.

To halt Montreal flights

Our Air Correspondent

AER LINGUS is to suspend its regular passenger service to the Republic and Montreal because of heavy losses on the route.

Aer Lingus statement said it had decided to drop Montreal flights following a drop in the traffic volume in previous years and the prospects for this year are not optimistic.

Other important factors which have influenced the decision to drop Montreal flights include the rising costs of fuel and the fact that the route is not a profitable one.

The decision by the Irish carrier to drop services to Montreal is not surprising because of severe losses incurred in recent years. It was reported that Aer Lingus was losing money on the route.

A spokesman for the group, one of the carrier's former directors, confirmed that they had been offered a sum of money to play at the Mass.

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It is expected that the Mass will be held in the Phoenix Park area on Saturday, September 28th.

A spokesman for the group, one of the carrier's former directors, confirmed that they had been offered a sum of money to play at the Mass.

Man on drugs, arms charges

JAMES McCANN, no fixed address, appeared in the Dublin District Court on five charges involving firearms and drugs.

McCANN was charged with possession of a controlled drug, cannabis, and with having a controlled drug, cannabis, in his possession.

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Explosion put boat 'up in the air'

(Continued from page 1)

ster pots, I would say it had actually stopped.

It was enveloped in a cloud of smoke and then came the bang. There was a delayed reaction. We saw the smoke first and then heard the bang. When the smoke cleared, there was nothing but rubbish scattered around."

Commandant Mulligan said that he immediately ordered those on board to get to the water.

Nothing left. Mr Brian Wakely from Omagh was in a sailing dinghy when Lord Mountbatten's boat exploded.

When I reached that it was, he said, in a terrible state and wanted to swim out to save him, but was persuaded not to do so.

The man was Mr John Maxwell, a teacher at Enniskillen Technical College. He was fishing at the time of the explosion.

Mrs Elizabeth Duffy, who runs the hotel, said she saw the boat explode. She said that Lord Mountbatten's boat had just disintegrated into matchwood.

She said that during the trip she had been asking for his dad to talk to him. Lord Brabourne's legs were seen to be flying about.

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Church leaders appalled

THE CHURCH leaders of the National Council for the Reformation of the Church of Ireland, Bishop of Down, said they were appalled by the murder of Lord Mountbatten.

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At least 18 soldiers die in Co Down attack

(Continued from page 1)

ough. The second blast went off in the gateway of the castle, where apparently some of the force was located.

Following the explosions, a major security operation was launched near the Co. Lond. border.

Northern security forces said last night that they believed the IRA unit responsible had been operating from a short distance from the border.

Side activity on the Republic's border from shortly after 5 p.m. until first news of the explosion, when it was believed to have occurred, was in the area of Warrenpoint.

The force of the explosion was so strong that it was heard over a wide area of Warrenpoint. "We were almost lifted off the floor of the station," was how a Garda officer at Omagh explained it.

The Garda said that about 100 Old IRA members took part in the explosion.

A local Fine Gael councillor, Mr Tommy Elmore, who lives in Omagh and heard the explosions, has denied reports that gunmen were operating from the Republic during the ambush.

He said that he had checked with local people, and that there had been no sign of IRA men shooting from the Narrow Water at British troops.

He said that British troops were firing across the Narrow Water and had been badly damaged by it.

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History of bomb attacks

(Continued from page 1)

The following are the bomb attacks against British political figures in recent years:

October, 1952: A bomb exploded under the car of Lord Mountbatten.

November, 1957: A bomb was found beneath a car parked near the home of Lord Mountbatten.

October, 1975: A bomb exploded under the car of Conservative MP Mr. Hugh Fraser.

July, 1976: British Ambassador to Ireland, Mr. Christopher Ewart Digby, was killed when a bomb was exploded under his car in Dublin.

April, 1978: Conservative MP Mr. Ewart Digby, was killed when a bomb exploded under his car in Westminster.

April, 1978: Conservative MP Mr. Ewart Digby, was killed when a bomb exploded under his car in Westminster.

Largest single-incident killing

(Continued from page 1)

THE KILLING of 18 soldiers in a landmine explosion near Warrenpoint, Co. Down, yesterday, was the largest single-incident killing in the history of the IRA.

The explosion, which occurred on March 19th, 1972, 35 British soldiers were killed at Crossbarry, Co. Cork, in an ambush in which over 100 Old IRA members took part.

The troops in the 1972 engagement were travelling in a convoy of minibus, three of which were caught in the crossfire, while the remainder managed to escape.

Another ambush at Kilmichael, Co. Cork, on November 28th, 1920, was also a major IRA victory. In this incident three British soldiers were killed.

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Tombstones moved

BY JOE GREEN

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Teacher held on drugs charge

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Church leaders appalled

(Continued from page 1)

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Cardinal O Fiach appalled by attacks

(Continued from page 1)

By the same token the senseless murder of Lord Mountbatten has reinforced the sense of outrage felt by those who seek to bring to an end the IRA's political ends by these evil means.

The Government will spare no effort to ensure that those responsible for the IRA's political ends are brought to justice.

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