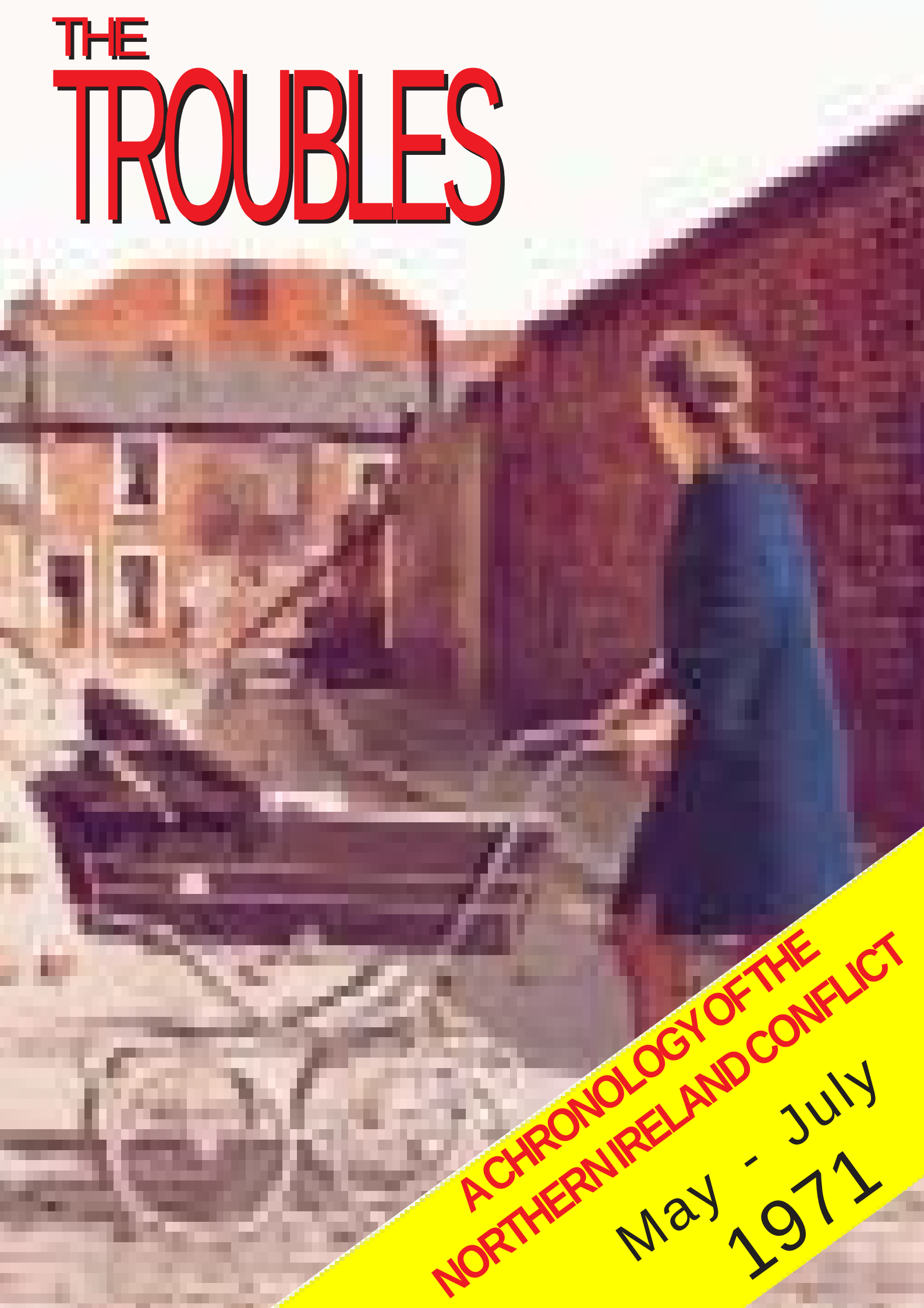
THE TROUBLES



A CHRONOLOGY OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND CONFLICT

May - July 1971

THE TROUBLES

A CHRONOLOGY OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND CONFLICT

It can often be a contentious issue of debate of when and how Northern Ireland's 'Troubles' began, who and what is to blame, and even which event in case led us to where we are now. You can go back 30 years, or even 300 years and beyond for in reality Ireland has been engaged in conflict with England for centuries.

Therefore, in order to compile a chronological record of the modern Troubles - the term usually given to the most recent conflict, we must mark a defining point of start, which we have taken as partition itself and from which we began in Issue 1. In turn again, we feel it is equally important to give you the reader some understanding why events spiralled as they did into a bloody civil war.

This is not another view of the Troubles, this has been done and redone. This is the historical recording of events compiled by people from different parts of Belfast who lived through them. Our objective as local historians is to compile what we hope will be as near as possible a definitive reference to events as they unfolded through the last three decades.

In terms of research we have used as much material as possible and from diverse perspectives. We are confident that we have covered events as they were reported at the time. If however you feel that we have either left something out or indeed got something wrong we are more than happy to hear from you. As mentioned above this series of publications is the historical recording of the Troubles and all corrections are more than welcome.

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This series of publications is designed to create a better historical understanding of what has become known as 'The Troubles.' Therefore for educational purposes you are more than welcome to use any material from them. All that we ask is that the source is acknowledged and a copy of the material sent to us after publication. We use material that has been placed in the public domain. We try to acknowledge all the copyright holders but sometimes this is not possible. If you claim credit for something that has appeared in this publication then we will be happy to know about it so that we can make the appropriate acknowledgements.

SOURCE MATERIAL

PUBLICATIONS

LOST LIVES
David McKitterick, Seamus Kelters, Brian Feeney & Chris Thornton
This publication is used for the list of those who died at the back of each issue



NEWSPAPERS

BELFAST NEWSLETTER
Various issues for period covered

BELFAST TELEGRAPH
Various issues for period covered

IRISH INDEPENDENT
Various issues for period covered

IRISH NEWS
Various issues for period covered

IRISH PRESS
Various issues for period covered

INTERNET RESOURCES

CAIN WEB SERVICE
http://cain.ulst.ac.uk

BBC ONLINE
www.bbc.co.uk

RTÉ ONLINE
www.rte.ie

ITN ONLINE
www.itn.co.uk

A STATE APART
BBC Northern Ireland (CD Rom)

MAY 1971

Saturday 1st May 1971
Boy is injured by pipe bomb
A 12-year-old Ballymurphy boy was rushed to hospital today after a homemade explosive device blew up in his hands. The explosives were packed inside a piece of copper pipe, which he found lying on the road. It exploded as the boy hammered the tubular object on the road.
The boy was taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital with injuries to his hands, face and legs. An RUC spokesman said: "It would appear the lad was hurt when the copper tube he found on the road exploded." Army bomb disposal experts went to the scene. Police and troops immediately began a search of the roadway at Ballymurphy Drive near to where the blast occurred. The explosion happened just before 2.30pm. Other children were playing on the roadway at the time.

Saturday 1st May 1971
Guns stolen in Dublin
Two armed masked men raided a gunsmith's shop in Dublin and escaped with 12 rifles, 4 revolvers and 1,000 rounds of ammunition.

Saturday 1st May 1971
Tricolour boy is sent to a home
A 16 year old youth found guilty of having a tricolour before the Irish Cup final earlier this month was sent to a remand home for six months at Belfast Juvenile Court. The juvenile denied a charge of behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace at Roden Street on April 3rd and he was also bound over. The youth was put on probation for two years when he admitted a disorderly behaviour charge and possessing an offensive weapon, a flagpole and a stone at Donegall Road was dismissed. The court was told the juvenile was on his way to the Irish Cup final between Distillery and Derry at Windsor Park. Another 15-year-old juvenile was committed to a training school for six months when found guilty of riotous behaviour at Wilton Street on April 15.

Saturday 1st May 1971
Ulster's troubles by Dr. Ramsey
The Archbishop of Canterbury has stated that trouble in Ulster was not caused by religion, but by religion distorted by political and racial prejudice.

Saturday 1st May 1971
Mob Attacks church hall during dance
Police today were still trying to find out why a church youth club dance in Belfast ended in a near riot before troops and police managed to restore peace.

The dance in a church hall beside St Mark's Parish Church at Ballysillan, was coming to a close when a 150-strong crowd of youths gathered outside. After a window in the hall was broken, there was a confrontation between the youths and some of the dancers said an RUC spokesperson. Before troops and police arrived on the scene the hall was under attack for several minutes and a number of windows were broken. The glass showered on some of the teenage dancers but none of them was seriously hurt.

The crowd was driven back up the Ligoniel Road and dispersed. Five youths later went to Tennent Street RUC station to help police and were allowed to leave. A spokesman said: "They will be subject to a report. We are still investigating the matter." The rector of St. Mark's said relationships in the area had always been good and hoped they would continue that way. Roman Catholics have been allowed to attend the dances run by the youth club in the hall.

Saturday 1st May 1971
Bomb thrown at Army
An explosive device is believed to have been thrown at an Army Scout car on the Upper Springfield Road but there was no damage and none of its crew was injured. An RUC spokesman said an explosion was heard, as the vehicle was moving along the road near the Henry Taggart Memorial Hall shortly before 4 am.

Saturday 1st May 1971
Robberies Foiled
Two armed hold-ups in Belfast and Armagh were foiled.

In Belfast two men tried to rob the owner of Ligoniel Service Station on the Crumlin Road. When they demanded money he told them there was none. The men locked him in the building and escaped on a motorcycle which was later found to have been stolen.

In Armagh a pools agent hurled a £10 bag of silver coins through a window to summon help when two masked gunmen demanded money. The gunmen told two customers to lie on the floor of the office at College Street but they panicked when the agent threw the money through a window. The pools agent was struck with a gun and later required three stitches. The men fled the scene.

Saturday 1st May 1971
Arson attacks in Armagh
Armagh firemen answered two calls within ten minutes of each other.
The first was to a derelict shed in Lower English Street and the next to the enclosed yard at the rear of Messrs J. White's car showrooms in College Street where a car was on fire. Both Blazes are believed to have started maliciously





TOP - The home of Superintendent Ross Laird on the Somerton Road after it was wrecked in an IRA bomb attack
BOTTOM - The Regent Bar, Dock Street, after a bomb attack

Saturday 1st May 1971
Ammunition find in school
A further 333 rounds of assorted ammunition were recovered by troops near St. Gabriel's school off the Crumlin Road in Belfast.

The previous week 11 weapons and almost 2,000 rounds were found.

Saturday 1st May 1971
Man assaults soldier
A Teenage sheet metal worker was remanded on bail at Belfast Magistrate's Court charged with assaulting an Army corporal. The 19-year-old man from Whiterock Gardens has been remanded on £100 bail until the 6th May, charged with disorderly behaviour at Leeson Street-Merrion Street and assaulting a corporal.





TOP - A soldier receives medical treatment after being injured during rioting in Derry
BOTTOM - Academy Street after a member of the IRA, Billy Reid, was shot dead by troops

Saturday 1st May 1971
580 enlist in UDR
In the six months from November, 1970 to April 1971 a total of 1,053 applications were received to join the Ulster Defence Regiment. In the same period 581 enlisted and there were 288 resignations.
Volunteer members of the regiment received a full day's pay at regular Army rates for any period of duty from eight to 24 hours. Minimum rates were: Private £2.50; Corporal £3.70; Sergeant £4.30; Major £8.
Members could use their cars on official duty journeys and in travelling to and from their homes or work to their place of duty. The rate of mileage allowance for an average sized family car was between 2p and 4p per mile depending on the nature of the journey

Saturday 1st May 1971
Remand in club blast case
A 34-year old man was remanded in custody until next Friday at Belfast Magistrate's Court charged with blowing up St. Malachy's Old Boys Club. The unemployed man from Emerson's Row, Ligoniel is charged with causing an explosion at Crumlin Road on the 19th March and possessing an explosive substance with intent to cause serious injury to property.

Monday 3rd May 1971
Chief Constable's plea
The Chief Constable Mr. Graham Shillington appealed for help in bringing bombers to justice. He made the plea in a statement on the explosions at the homes of two senior Special Branch officers in Belfast last night. He said: "The people responsible for these explosions not only showed a murderous intent towards the two policemen but a reckless and callous disregard for the lives of their families as well.
"It was providential that lives were not lost. I would ask the public to help us in ensuring that the criminals responsible for these acts be brought to justice and are no longer free to terrorise and endanger innocent people."
Meanwhile the RUC were declining to discuss what precautions would be taken to stop any further outrages against members of the force. A spokesman said: "We do not discuss security matters." But it is almost certain that tight security will be taken at the homes of senior officers – particularly those attached to Special Branch.
Daylight revealed the full horror of the blast, which virtually destroyed the home of Supt. Ross Laird in Somerton Road, Belfast. Demolition men said that the whole side of the house will have to be pulled down to make it safe. (See below)

Monday 3rd May 1971
High-ranking RUC officers escape death
Two high ranking Special Branch officers and their families escaped death last night after vicious bomb attacks on their homes.
Superintendent Ross Laird, his wife and their 13-year-old daughter and a visitor escaped death by only seconds after a 20lb gelignite bomb demolished one side of their house in Somerton Road. Mr. and Mrs Laird were entertaining the widow of Inspector Cecil Patterson who was shot dead by IRA gunmen in an ambush several months ago
A mile away Special Branch Inspector Samuel Kyle and his wife, who were watching television, escaped serious injury when the front of their home in Mountcoole Park was severely damaged by a similar blast. It is estimated that between 15 and 20 lbs of explosives were used. The Inspector received facial injuries
Both explosions went off almost simultaneously at around 11.30 and people in Somerton Road said that they heard an explosion in the distance shortly before the Laird's home was wrecked.
Bombers made five attacks in the city and Army bomb disposal experts were hard pressed going from one emergency to the next. The explosions were the latest of a number of weekend incidents, including the bombing of the Registrar General's office.
Slight damage was caused by pipe bomb attacks on the homes of a pensioner in Willowfield Street and of a salesman in Ravenhill Avenue.

Between two and five pounds of explosives was used in a bomb attack at the Universal Furnishing Stores in York Street. Plate glass windows were blown out and windows at the nearby Belfast Co-operative store and College of Art were also damaged.

The first explosion of the weekend caused only slight damage to Fermanagh House, the building which houses the office of the Registrar General.

Sporadic stoning incidents followed a Provisional Republican parade on the Falls Road. Troops made a number of arrests. At the Fall's Road library, military vehicles and private cars were stoned. Two cars were set alight by youths and troops made more arrests before midnight. There were a number of other minor stoning incidents in other parts of the city

The RUC made arrests on Saturday as soccer fans returned from the Irish league championship decider at the Oval.

At the Unity Flats flashpoint a rarely seen weapon on Belfast Streets was used – a crowd pusher. It was devised by Army boffins who mounted a massive steel shield on a mechanical shovel and can be used to give troops protection against rioters.

Sixty-one rounds of .303 ammunition and 32 rounds of .22 ammunition were found by a Royal Anglican Regiment patrol in a stream at Drumahoe, near Derry. A small amount of ammunition was also handed in at an Army post in Belfast.

Monday 3rd May 1971
Mystery Blast

Police in the Newtownstewart area of county Tyrone continued their search after a mystery explosion was heard in the village around midnight. The suspected blast was reported and the RUC investigated but found nothing. Army patrols in the area were "keeping an eye" for anything suspicious.

Monday 3rd May 1971
Kevin Boland quits Fianna Fail

Mr. Kevin Boland, the former Eire Minister for Local Government, who resigned from the Government a year ago in protest at the sacking of his cabinet colleagues Mr. Neil Blaney and Mr. Charles Haughey, has now left the Fianna Fail Party.

After a weekend during which he bitterly attacked the Premier Mr. Jack Lynch, he made the final break with the Party last night when he handed a letter of resignation to the secretary of his local branch in Rathcoole, County Dublin.

Mr. Boland said the best thing that could happen for Republicanism would be the defeat of Fianna Fail under Mr. Lynch's leadership. The party was now a sham, it had lost its Republican ideals, and it was essential that a new Republican Party be formed.

The primary objective of such a party would be to get rid of the border and bring to an end the two states existing in this country. He rejected a suggestion that this could be done through either wing of the Sinn Fein. "Sinn Fein is irrelevant," he added.

Mr. Boland said he had not had any formal discussions about the formation of a new 32 county Republican party.

A report in a Dublin newspaper said today that members of the Provisional wing of the IRA were in talks with a section of Fianna Fail about the formation of a new party was quickly denied.

Monday 3rd May 1971
Unionist Executive election

Nominations were received by Unionist Party officers for the election on Friday of the 36 strong executive committee. It is an influential body, which conducts much of the party business during the year, and 12 months ago the right wing of the party achieved substantial representation on it. The executive is chosen by the standing committee on a territorial basis, with representatives also from the Orange Order, the Young Unionists and the Unionist Labour Association.

Monday 3rd May 1971
Boy hurt by pipe bomb is still ill

The 13-year-old boy who was badly injured when he picked up a pipe bomb at Ballymurphy on Saturday was still ill in Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast today. The boy has received a broken right leg and injuries to his hands and







TOP - The army guard the Derry home of Martha Doherty after she was shot through the hand becaused she was dating a British soldier.

MIDDLE & BOTTOM - Funeral of IRA member Billy Reid on the New Lodge Road. He had been shot dead in a gun battle with British troops.

face. He found the deadly bomb on waste ground near his home and was battering it on the ground when it exploded. Soldiers found the boy bleeding badly and rushed him to hospital in a Land Rover. A massive follow up search was launched but nothing was found.

Monday 3rd May 1971
IRA raining camp
Two men arrested following the discovery of an IRA training camp in the mountains near Newport, County Mayo, were released after several hours of questioning by police.
After people living in Shramore area reported hearing gunfire a large force of police yesterday swooped on an isolated farmhouse. They found an arms cache, which included a machine gun, five rifles, two revolvers and about 1,000 rounds of ammunition. There was an abandoned car at the farmhouse and some sleeping bags were found in an outhouse.
Meanwhile in Dublin, detectives raided the homes of militant Republicans in their search for the 12 rifles and 1,000 rounds of ammunition taken in a raid on a gunsmith's store in the city. The raiders, between the ages of 20 and 30 both had Northern accents.

Monday 3rd May 1971
British Army patrol crosses border
Three British Army vehicles patrolling in South Armagh crossed the border by an unapproved road into the republic at Jonesborough. Arriving on the Newry–Dundalk road between the Road House Hotel and Ye Olde Border Inn the patrol turned left in the direction of the border, but when about 100 yards south of the Carrickarnon Customs post in the Republic they turned off into another unapproved road through Edentubber. They were then going in the direction of the Newry-Omeath Road, but left the Republic at Flagstaff, which overlooks Carlingford Lough and re-entered Northern Ireland. The incident occurred at 8.30 pm and Civic Guards were making inquiries into the infringement of Republic of Ireland territorial rights. The crossing of the border took place at Flurrybridge, where spikes were removed on several occasions when cross border roads were blocked last year. There are two large signs "unapproved Road" 50 yards away at the roads where the patrol crossed the border.



Monday 3rd May 1971
I saw UVF Training camp says MP
A Stormont opposition MP today told the Scarman Tribunal that he saw the UVF training at a sand pit outside Maghera. Mr. Ivan Cooper, SDLP, Mid Derry continuing his evidence to the tribunal, said he went to the sand pit at Curran, Desertmartin in August 1969, after being told about the training activity of the UVF.
He said he only stopped for a very short while at the sand pit because he had been told it was dangerous. Mr. Cooper added: "I saw some people on what looked to me like a firing range. They were dressed in civilian clothes, and were firing automatic weapons." He said he was interviewed ostensibly by the police about the incident, but refused to take them to the spot "because Curran was a very hostile place at that particular time." He said he pointed out, to police, on a map where he thought the sand pit was.

Tuesday 4th May 1971
Arms find in Fermanagh
More guns and ammunition have been found during arms searches by the security forces in Fermanagh and near Lough Neagh.
During one search at Mally Mountain, between Kinawley and Derrylin, Fermanagh, they found an arms cache wrapped in plastic sheeting and buried under glass sods in a ditch. The find consisted of two .303 Lee Enfield rifles, one .303 carbine, one Smith and Weston .45 revolver and holster, one Webley .45 revolver and 100 rounds of .303 ammunition. An RUC spokesman said: "All the weapons were well oiled and serviceable."
At Derrycro, on the shores of Lough Neagh troops found two .22 rifles, two bayonets, pistol mechanisms, a holster, a quantity of assorted ammunition and 74 pounds of shot. The items were discovered in an outhouse and a house. The RUC said today that certificates for the guns, ammunition and explosives were held by a former member of the Ulster Special Constabulary, who died some time ago.

Tuesday 4th May 1971
Dockland bar bombed
Bombers struck again last night wrecking a dockland bar and injuring two men. A vital radio mast and a priest's house were also attacked
A bar manager and barman were taken to hospital after a 10 lb gelignite bomb blasted the Regent Bar in Dock Street, off York Street – for the second time within a year. The men were clearing up after closing time when the bomb exploded. The blast wrecked the interior of the bar, blew out doors and windows. The bar which is due to close soon due to redevelopment in the area is a well known loyalist meeting place and was also used by a York Street band for practice

Earlier that night a double explosion at Ligoniel, which wrecked a radio mast and equipment hut, disrupted communications in the ambulance service and the Automobile Association. The mast near the Hightown Road at Squire's Hill was slightly bent by the blast, but the equipment was completely destroyed by a 10lb charge. Ambulance crews in Belfast had to use public telephones to contact their headquarters and ambulances could not be re-routed during journeys.
Troops and police waited until daylight to assess the extent of the damage in case further booby traps had been planted in the darkness.
Two men ran away after one of them had thrown a gelignite nail bomb towards an Army sentry in Albert Street. The bomb exploded harmlessly on the roadway. A search failed to find the two men.
After midnight, a fourth bomb caused sight damage to St. Anthony's parochial house at Willowfield Parade in East Belfast. The homemade chemical device, described by the Army as a "crude effort", blew in the glass of the front door. St. Anthony's RC Church was not damaged.

The RUC have now traced one of the two explosions, which were heard in the Newtownstewart area of county Tyrone on Sunday night. A three-pound bomb badly damaged a vacant farmhouse at Ballyrennan, near Baronscourt. The farmhouse, which is owned by the Duke of Abercorn, was vacated by a Protestant family and was due to have been occupied by a young Catholic couple.

There were isolated stoning incidents in the Oldpark, Clonard and Glenravel Street areas of the city. A fire crew, fighting a bonfire at Glenravel Street, was stoned and the appliance was slightly damaged.

Tuesday 4th May 1971
Halting bomb supplies not easy
The Prime Minister, Mr. Faulkner, admitted last night that difficulties exist in enforcing the law on explosives in Northern Ireland. He told the annual meeting of the Mid-Ulster Unionist Association in Omagh: "This

bombing is a matter is a matter that the public feel it should be possible to curtail. I agree with them, and at my insistence it is receiving urgent attention. "Ideally it should not be possible to obtain explosives for other than normal industrial use. Regulations to this end exist but I must admit their enforcement presents practical difficulties."

"Just consider that we import somewhere in the region of three million pounds of explosives each year. It is used in quarrying and road construction and agriculture, and must be held at many storage and distribution points. If only one tenth of one percent of this were to fall into the wrong hands that would be enough to make literally hundreds of gelignite bombs."

Tuesday 4th May 1971
Bomb attached to car
Detectives trying to discover who attached a bomb to Lady Beaverbrook's Vauxhall car were studying reports of similar incidents and of threats involving bomb attacks on public figures in the last few months.

The head of Surrey CID has taken charge of investigations. The Chief Constable of Surrey Police travelled to Cherkley Court, near Leatherhead, Surrey, after the bomb was discovered.

The bomb, a metal cylinder just over six inches long and filled with a powder, was clipped to the exhaust near the petrol tank and connected to a battery. It was rendered harmless by a Home Office explosives expert. A chauffeur made the discovery after Lady Beaverbrook, widow of Lord Beaverbrook, returned from shopping in London.

Wednesday 5th May 1971
Kidnapped man is found tarred and feathered
A Belfast man who was kidnapped by a masked IRA gang was found tarred and feathered and chained to a lamppost outside a Catholic Church. The man from Slievegallion Drive, Andersonstown, was discovered tied to a lamppost. Outside St. Agnes's Church on the Andersonstown Road shortly before 9 am. The RUC, helped by a number of civilians, freed the man and he was rushed to the Royal Victoria Hospital to have the tar and feathers cleaned from his head and body. He had been stripped to the waist before the tar was poured over him, but police said that apart from the shock he appeared to be unhurt.
It is understood that the man is not the victim of an internal dispute in the Republican ranks, and it has been confirmed he is not a member of either the official or provisional wing of the movement. Police were interviewing him to find out why he was tarred and feathered – a traditional punishment handed out by the IRA to other men in the city this year.

The man's wife told how her husband was taken from their flat above a shopping complex. We had just had come home and it was after 11o'clock last night when I heard a knock at the door. When I opened it, I saw a big man and three others. They were all masked. One of them held me and said: "We are the Irish Republican Army. We want your husband for interrogation." Then they took him out. I then went to the Army down the road and told them to let his mother know. Later, police and troops arrived at his home and a search was carried out. It is still not known where the man was taken to.



British soldiers face a hostile crowd on the Newtownards Road

Wednesday 5th May 1971
Riot bill is now £12 million
Mr. John Taylor, Minister of state at the Ministry of Home Affairs told the Commons at Stormont today that the current estimate of the total amount of compensation payable for riot damage in Northern Ireland is about £12 million. Mr Taylor said that this expenditure had fallen upon the Government and not the ratepayers.

Wednesday 5th May 1971
Rubber Bullets fired
Troops opened up with rubber bullets and snatch squads went into action when Protestant and Catholic crowds attacked the security forces and firemen in separate attacks.
The firemen were stoned and had to be given police and Army protection when they arrived to fight fires started maliciously. But the main concentration of violence was on the Shankill Road where once again homeward-bound soccer fans clashed with police and troops. The stoning in which an RUC sergeant was injured when his car was attacked started after two fans were arrested at Unity Flats for disorderly behaviour. Four hundred of them were making their way through the city centre from the Linfield v St. Patrick's (Dublin) game at Windsor Park.
After the arrests a section of the mob moved further up the Shankill to the junction of Townsend Street and pelted Army posts with stones and bottles. Snatch squads immediately went into action and dispersed them. It was shortly after this, at Northumberland Street, that the sergeant was injured by a brick, which was hurled through the window of the patrol car in which he was travelling. The officer was taken to hospital for a head wound.
At 10.30 pm trouble broke out when a crowd of 200 stoned Army vehicles in North Howard Street. Five arrests were made when the Army made baton charges. Later two men were detained at Millfield for disorderly behaviour at the Shankill end of North Howard Street.
A malicious fire was started at the remains of the Regent Bar in Dock Street, which was wrecked by an explosion on Monday night. Firemen were stoned as they tried to put the flames out. Troops and police dispersed the crowd. It is believed the fire was started at a gas main. The rioters regrouped and roamed the area for some time.
Two men were arrested at Fleet Street, off York Street, for disorderly behaviour during incidents when firemen were called to fight another fire started maliciously.
At 10.10 pm a vacant house at the junction of Springfield Avenue and Springfield Road was set on fire. Firemen were given Army protection when they arrived to fight the blaze. When some members of a crowd, which had gathered, attempted to set fire to another empty house the Army fired a rubber bullet to disperse them.

Thursday 6th May 1971
Attacked boy has letters UVF carved into hand
The mother of a 12-year old boy who had the letters UVF cut in his hand by three youths refused to allow the police to interview him, MP's at Stormont heard today. Mr. Paddy Devlin (SDLP, Falls), asked what action the police were taking about the incident, was told by Mr. John Taylor, Minister of State for Home Affairs, that the RUC were making strenuous efforts to get the facts of the incident but were meeting with difficulties. Pressed by Mr. Devlin to say what the difficulties were, Mr. Taylor said the police had arranged for the boy and members of his family to tour the area and try to identify the attackers but they had not kept the appointment and the boy's mother had refused to allow her son to be interviewed by verbally. Mr. Devlin said he understood the boy was able to identify those responsible and that his father had expressed a willingness to co-operate with the police.
Mr. Paddy O'Hanlon (SDLP, South Armagh) pointed out that this type of attack, which occurred last week in the Crumlin Road area of Belfast, was the second of its kind.

Thursday 6th May 1971
Trouble spots get lighting and warning
Street lighting in the Ballymurphy-Whiterock area of Belfast, put out of action during the recent troubles, is to be partially restored following a visit by a tenants association to the City Hall.
They were told by the chairman of the police committee, that if the repaired lighting was not damaged all the lighting would be restored. But he

warned: "If the lights which we are going to fix are broken again we will not repair them."

Thursday 6th May 1971
Radio stolen from sentry box
Soldiers were changing the guard at Newtownards Road sentry box when a man who had been drinking arrived on the scene. He looked inside, saw nobody there, and walked off with a field radio, valued £26, property of the Ministry of Defence.
An Army sergeant saw him, and gave chase. Admitting the offence, the 42-year-old man from Avoniel Road, claimed her had been drinking. He was fined £5 for theft.

Thursday 6th May 1971
Man threw bricks at vehicle
A woman collapsed and was helped out of Belfast Magistrate's Court when a youth received a six-month jail sentence for riotous behaviour. The court was told how a crewmember of an RUC Land Rover, saw the man throwing two bricks. There was a riotous crowd in the area at the time. The man, from Douglas Street, was released on his own bail pending an appeal.

Thursday 6th May 1971
Troops search Dublin Express
Dozens of Belfast bound rail passengers found themselves in a new style of security operation when troops and police boarded the Enterprise Express train from Dublin. But it is understood that nothing was found during the search of the train and its passengers, which began shortly after it crossed the border. More than 100 troops and police, including policewomen, were standing by as the train came to a halt at a level crossing at Meigh, near Jonesborough.
Using ladders, the search party boarded the train, which then continued with its journey as they examined passenger's luggage. An Army helicopter, flying above the train, kept in radio contact with the troops. It was the first spot check on cross-border rail traffic and an Army spokesman confirmed they were looking for possible smuggled arms and ammunition. The passengers were told why the search was being carried out by Army officers. Troops carried out a further search of the carriages when the passengers left it at Belfast. "We may possibly carry out further checks on Belfast-Dublin trains in the future," said a spokesman.



Troops arrest men in the New Lodge area during disturbances there

Thursday 6th May 1971
Bomb victim seriously ill
Surgeons carried out an emergency operation on a 55-year-old barman after a bomb wrecked a County Antrim public house and a car parked outside. And in Derry a young soldier is still in hospital with a bullet wound after he was attacked by three men.
The barman received serious injuries to his left hand, back and right leg when a 20lb bomb blasted the Beechers Brook, public House at Loanends shortly before midnight. The man, who was carrying a crate of empty bottles to a store, was blown along a corridor by the explosion. He was taken to the Masserene Hospital, where he is said to be seriously injured but not dangerously ill. Eight other people, including the proprietor of the bar and his wife had a lucky escape. None of them were injured.

Shortly after the bomb explosion, a young soldier of the Anglican Regiment was attacked by three men after leaving his girlfriend at her home in the Bogside district of Derry. He had walked a short distance from the house in Drumcliff Avenue when the masked men appeared wearing green combat jackets and berets. One of the men is believed to be carrying a sub-machine-gun, and the others armed with a knife and a baton. The soldier, who was in civilian clothes, was beaten about the legs. As he ran away he fell and then heard a number of shots being fired.

Thursday 6th May 1971
Army guard Belfast jail
Troops have been guarding Belfast jail on the Crumlin Road as a security measure against possible attempts to spring prisoners. The daily guard on the prison is understood to have been in operation for a number of weeks as part of the general security plans to safeguard important installations.

It is not whether the precautions were taken after information about a specific plan to free prisoners or not. An Army spokesman said: "This is a security matter." Men of the Royal Highland Fusiliers, stationed at Girdwood Park, Antrim Road, were seen in the turrets on the prison boundary wall.

Thursday 6th May 1971
30 leave Fianna Fail
A former member of the national executive of Fianna Fail is among about 30 people who have left the party since the former Minister for Local Government, Mr. Kevin Boland, announced his resignation last weekend. There has also been a split in the Fianna Fail Youth Group in Galway, where a slight majority of members voted against supporting the leadership of Mr. Jack Lynch

Thursday 6th May 1971
3 on arms charges
Three young Dungannon men were remanded in custody for a fortnight when they appeared at Dungannon Magistrate's Court on explosives charges. The men from the Glenadush, Greystone and Cormullagh areas are charged with possessing 120 sticks of gelignite at Drumnashallogue on the 9th April. The men have been in custody since that date.

Thursday 6th May 1971
Ulster's legal armoury figures
North and East Down have the greatest number of licensed firearms of any area in Northern Ireland, according to figures given at Stormont. The figures were disclosed by the Minister for State for Home Affairs, Mr. John Taylor, in reply to a question by Mr. John Hume, SDLP, Foyle, show that on March 31st, this year, 11953 weapons were being held legally in the police division covering that area.
The number for other police districts were:
Central Belfast, 818; Springfield and Andersonstown, 764; Shankill, Oldpark, Ligoniel, 1,375: Antrim Road, Greencastle, and Newtownabbey, 2,970.
Newtownards Road, Dundonald, and Holywood, 3,650: Castlereagh to Dunmurry, 3,632; South Down and South-East Armagh, 7,065; Mid-Down and East Armagh, 8,434; East Tyrone and West Armagh 9,085.
Fermanagh, 6,838; Mid, South and West Tyrone, 6,987; North-West Tyrone, North-West Londonderry, including Derry City, 5,110; North, Mid and South Derry, 10,283; North and part of Mid Antrim, 9,628; Mid Antrim and South Antrim, 11,725

Thursday 6th May 1971
Republican Clubs not to join party
The Six County Republican Clubs re-

gional executive say they have no intention of participating in the proposed formation of an all-Ireland Republican Party. They described the party as a would-be alliance of sectarian and anti-working class place seekers, comprising members of the Fianna Fail and Republican Labour parties, Provisional Republicans and Nationalists. In a statement signed by their chairman, the executive says: "It now appears we are to witness a revival of the notorious Blueshirts under the banner of Republicanism, in which the fascist elements in Fianna Fail and their bigoted cohorts who nailed their 'provisional' colours to the mast after the pogroms of August, 1969, will attempt to obscure the true meaning and purpose of socialist Republicanism".

Thursday 6th May 1971
Green Jackets in city
The remainder of the 1st Battalion Royal Green Jackets arrived in Belfast from Germany yesterday for a four-month tour of duty. An advance company arrived on Tuesday. For four weeks the barracks and surrounding area where the regiment lived in Germany was changed into Belfast, and troops were trained in every type of riot situation.

Friday 7th May 1971
Craig loses in election
Mr. William Craig, the Larne MP, failed to secure election to the Unionist Party's influential executive committee. So too did another leading right-winger, the Rev. Robert Dickinson, of Derry, who is chairman of the West Ulster Unionist Council, and who was on the executive last year. These were distinct reverses for the party's right-wing and, generally the election of the 36 delegates – by the votes of the party's standing committee – has shifted the emphasis of the executive to the centre

Friday 7th May 1971
MP's want closer eye on Border
Approaches are expected to be made shortly to the British Customs authorities to intensify examination of vehicles coming into Northern Ireland, as part of the tighter security being clamped down along the border. This follows concerns in political circles in Northern Ireland that the general relaxation of Customs formalities on



Troops search for clues at the entrance of the Corporation Electricity office in Great Patrick Street after they were wrecked in a bomb attack

the main border routes could allow freedom for the smuggling in of arms and explosives.
Some MP's it is understood have conveyed their views to the Government and are suggesting that by more rigorous scrutiny of vehicles by customs officers could act as a deterrent to would-be arms smugglers.

And it is being pointed out that although the security forces have been mounting roadblocks on the main border roads, they cannot maintain a permanent watch. As the duties of the Customs come under the jurisdiction of the British Government, it is thought that Whitehall may be asked to consider the situation.

Friday 7th May 1971
Arms hunt in Lurgan
More than 400 troops carried out searches for arms and ammunition in three areas in and around Lurgan this morning, and police said a man was helping with their inquiries. A shotgun was found after men of the 1st Battalion, the Black Watch searched houses in Sloane Street, Lurgan. Searches were also mounted at the Davitts Park gaelic football ground, Lurgan and at Derrymacash, on the southern shore of Lough Neagh.

Friday 7th May 1971
Rights march off
A Civil Rights march planned for Omagh this Saturday has been postponed because it would have clashed with a number of charity marches. It is now to be held on May 15th.
Its purpose says the Civil Rights Association is to highlight social, religious and political bias in the judiciary, the failure of councils in Tyrone to end jobs and housing discrimination and the recent nominations of "well known Unionist backwoodsmen" to the Housing Executive.

Friday 7th May 1971
Blast barman has leg amputated
The 55-year-old barman injured in a bomb blast early yesterday has had his right leg amputated below the knee. This morning a spokesman at Massereene Hospital, Antrim that the Mallusk man was "brighter, but still ill."

Friday 7th May 1971
Attempt to derail train
A goods train ploughed through three sleepers thrown across the Antrim-Lisburn branch line last night in an attempt to derail it. The attempt failed because the wood in the sleepers on which "IRA" had been painted, was rotten. They were strewn across the line between Glenavey and Ballinderry. The train taking freight from Derry to Dundalk shattered them and did not leave the track. The RUC said that railway officials believed that derailment would have been caused if the sleepers had been in a better condition. The Antrim-Lisburn branch line is now used only for freight, and rarely carries more than two trains a day.
In County Tyrone security forces are still looking for the source of an explosion reported early this morning in the Clady area near Strabane. So far nothing has been found.
In Belfast a deputation of women from Unity Flats went to Brown Square military post to complain about alleged conduct by soldiers at the flats earlier this week. An Army spokesman said: "These complaints are being fully investigated at unit level. When the investigation is complete, no doubt we will have something to say. We have no further comment at the moment."

Friday 7th May 1971
IRA man jailed in Dublin
A 30-year-old man from Ballymum, Dublin, who joined the IRA when he was 15, was sentenced to two years in jail when he was convicted in the Dublin Central Criminal Court of two charges of shooting at police in an attempt to prevent his arrest. He was also found guilty of being in possession of firearms and with assaulting police at Ballyfermont Avenue on October 3rd 1968. The judge directed that he be released after three months on condition that he entered a bond to keep the peace for three years.

Friday 7th May 1971
MP's brother joins priests in judiciary protest
A Liverpool priest, who is the brother of a jailed M.P., is refusing to fill in his census form as a "protest against the Northern Ireland judiciary who blatantly operate a double standard of justice." Rev. Sean McManus, a member of the Redemptorist Order at Bishop Eaton Monastery, Liverpool, whose brother is Frank McManus, the member for Fermanagh and South

Tyrone at Westminster, says in a statement. "I have refused to fill in the form sent to me, I have done so as a means of protest; a protest against the general injustice perpetrated by the Unionist Government in the North of Ireland. More specifically, it is a protest against the Northern Ireland judiciary who blatantly operate a double standard of justice, a very rigorous one for political opponents of the Unionist Government.

"The latter is exemplified not only in the well known cases of my brother… but also in the numerous recent less publicised convictions." The statement said that he wants this carefully considered gesture of his to be an expression of solidarity with those priests and teachers and others in the North of Ireland who are taking similar action. "The fact that I live in Britain and receive a somewhat different census form from the one issued in Northern Ireland does not negate or diminish the intelligibility of my protest, because to state the perfectly obvious, Britain and the North of Ireland are not unconnected. Moreover, the above-mentioned people in Northern Ireland are not opposed to the census itself: they are, like myself, simply using it as a means of protest."

Friday 7th May 1971
Paisley arms bill – move beaten

A provision of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill, which removed in certain cases a defendant's right to trial by jury, came under fire in the Commons again yesterday. But an amendment by the Rev. Ian Paisley (Protestant Unionist, Bannside) to remove the clause was defeated by 18 votes to 11. He was supported by the Opposition.

Mr. Paisley said to do away with jury trials would only add to the propaganda being levelled at the judiciary.

Although most people chose to have their cases heard by a magistrate, it was not a good enough reason for removing the option of trial by jury. The Attorney General Mr. Basil Kelly, recommending the rejection of the amendment, said the Bill did not do away with jury trials in every case and in the vast majority of prosecutions the right to jury trial would be retained. And it would be the rule rather than the exception in serious cases. The Bill completed its remaining states in the Commons.

Friday 7th May 1971
Missiles hurled at Unionist delegates

Police and soldiers were called to Unionist headquarters in Glengall Street, Belfast, after missiles were hurled at delegates entering the building for a party meeting. The missiles, bottles and metal objects were thought to have been thrown from the roof of the nearby multi-storey Europa Hotel, which is under construction.

One man near the scene said afterwards: "Three or four bottles smashed in the middle of the street and one landed on top of a double-decker bus. Some of the metal objects hit the wall of the party headquarters as people were going in, but no-one was hit." About 60 members of the Army and RUC started an immediate search of the hotel.

Friday 7th May 1971
Girls death 'misadventure'

A Belfast jury returned a verdict of death by misadventure on a five–year-old girl who was knocked down by an Army Ferret scout car in the New Lodge Road area in February. The death of Denise Ann Dickson, of 49 Lepper Street, said Mr. John Pringle, QC, for the Minister of Home Affairs, was followed by "Considerable rioting and commotion." Neither the Lieutenant commanding the vehicle, nor the trooper who was driving it were called to give evidence at the inquest, but statements were taken by an Army investigation officer were read. The Coroner Mr. James Elliott was told that both men would be referred to by letters, because they were due to return to security duty in Northern Ireland and would possibly have to carry out duties in the area.

In his statement the driver, Trooper B., said he was driving from the New Lodge Road into Lepper Street when he saw the head of a child at the corner of his field of vision. He estimated his speed at about eight miles per hour, and had taken the corner rather wider than usual. Trooper B said he had been driving with the three front battle hatches in the open position, and when he stopped a crowd had gathered around the vehicle and it was attacked. The vehicle's commander Lieutenant A. said he had gone into the New Lodge area to give armoured cover to Royal Military Police vehicles investigating a stoning incident. He felt the speed of his vehicle was between eight and ten miles per hour as it turned into Lepper Street. From his position in the turret he suddenly saw a child out of the corner of his eye, and then she was directly in front of the nearside wheel. Lieutenant A said he immediately shouted "Stop" over the intercom to his driver, and at that time he had heard the vehicle collide with the child. The names of both soldiers were given to the Coroner.

Mr. Joseph Dickson asked the Coroner why the driver of the Ferret had not appeared at the inquest. He was told by Mr. Elliott that where a person might have to face criminal proceedings or liability in a case, he was not bound to appear at an inquest. Earlier Mr. Elliott, the jury and counsel were taken outside the courthouse on the Crumlin Road to inspect a Ferret scout car. Mr. Pringle said this would help them understand the view, which the driver of the vehicle could have. A neighbour of the dead child told the inquest that she saw the child on the pavement near the corner of Lepper Street and saw two Army scout cars coming around the corner from the New Lodge Road. The child had walked on to the road when she was struck by the first vehicle. She felt the speed of both the Army vehicles was faster than any other cars which she had seen going around the corner.

Death, the Coroner told the jury, was due to laceration of the brain, combined with a fractured skull.

Saturday 8th May 1971
UDR men escape bomb trap

Six part-time soldiers of the Ulster Defence Regiment narrowly escaped death today when their Land Rover was blasted by two booby-trap bombs on a lonely track at the Derry-Donegal border. The patrol drove along the track unaware that they were about to be ambushed. Men lying in wait at the roadside detonated the deadly bombs and the explosions came without warning. Two of the UDR crew were rushed to Altnagelvin Hospital, where one of them was detained. The man, a private, has deep cuts and abrasions, was said to be "quite comfortable." The Land Rover did not get the full force of the 15lb charge – about the same as the booby-trap bomb which killed five men on a deserted track at Brougher Mountain, County Tyrone on the 9th February.

Commenting on the attack a Major in the 2nd Parachute Regiment who was one of the first to be on the scene said: "It was totally different to the Brougher Mountain device in that someone pushed a button in this case." He added that the Land Rover was "quite badly damaged and would probably never be used again. A third UDR man suffered minor cuts and bruises. The soldiers were on normal patrol when the charges went off at 3.15.

Saturday 8th May 1971
Nail bombs found

A Belfast man taking an early morning stroll along the beach in the Whitehead area found a quantity of nail bombs lying on a ledge. The RUC immediately sealed off the coastal path between Whitehead and Blackhead following the discovery of explosives. Army bomb disposal experts were called in. A police spokesman said that the 12 nail bombs were in good condition and were believed to have been dumped. It is understood that the security forces believe there may be more explosives in the water.

Saturday 8th May 1971
IRA was carved on me says boy

A 15-year-old boy has claimed he was attacked by six youths and had the initials IRA carved into one of his arms, police said today. The boy told the UUC at Carryduff that the attack happened shortly after midday on Thursday as he was walking through a plantation at Milltown close to Purdysburn Fever Hospital. Police said he alleged that six youths caught hold of him and held him on the ground while the letters were carved with a blunt instrument. An RUC spokesman said a search was carried out in the area. The name of the boy is not being released. "We are still making inquiries into this matter," added the spokesman.

Saturday 8th May 1971
Government building bombed

A six-storey Government office building in Belfast's city centre was rocked by a bomb late night as dozens of people queued for late-night buses. But only one man was injured by the blast, which severed two concrete stanchions at the rear of Londonderry House in Chichester Street. The injured man was treated for shock and later released. Police said he had been bowled over by the force of the explosion.

Police and troops, who were on the scene within minutes first thought the

explosion had occurred in the offices of the Calor Gas Company on the ground floor. After the area was sealed off, it was discovered that the bomb had been placed at the rear of the building at Montgomery Street. The charge estimated to be about 20lb of gelignite had been fixed to one of the concrete supports and exploded shortly after 11 pm. An open space below the offices is used as a car park. The blast sent shop fronts and dozens of windows crashing into the street and wrecked the interior of the Calor Gas Centre. Army experts later arrived and carried out a search. A closer examination of the building is being carried out to assess the extent of the structural damage. Lights were blacked out for a time by a fault at an electricity transformer at Belvoir Park housing estate near Newtownbreda. Some people thought there had been another bomb explosion, but police said the fault had not been caused maliciously.

Saturday 8th May 1971
Fire Authority review

The Northern Ireland Fire Authority in its review for the period April 1st 1968 to March last, today stated that out of a total of 13,790 calls during the three years, 278 owed their origins to the civil disturbances that overtook the province from 1969 onwards.

Monday 10th May 1971
McKeague death – RUC are keeping an open mind

Police are no longer certain which illegal organisation, if any, started the fire in which the mother of Shankill Defence leader Mr. John McKeague died on Saturday night. And it is now believed that the blaze was started by an incendiary device, not a gelignite bomb, as earlier reports had indicated. As intensive RUC inquiries continued, it became clear that the police were keeping an open mind on the incident. At first they issued a statement saying the fire, which killed 67 –year-old Mrs Isabella McKeague had political and no sectarian significance. Now every line of inquiry is being followed and no one is willing to speculate whether the attack was carried out by militant Republicans or Protestants. Three Protestants who have been detained by the RUC have now been released after more than 20 hours of interviewing. An eyewitness had seen a car similar to theirs leaving the scene of the fire. He jumped into his own vehicle and drove after them. But it is believed there was a mix up in the vehicle concerned. And it is thought that detectives are now satisfied that the three were not involved. The blaze started just before 11.30 on Saturday night. It is believed that a home made incendiary was hurled at the building. The flat where Mrs McKeague lived above her shop on the Albertbridge Road was a blazing inferno in minutes. Two men were burned trying to break down the door to reach the trapped woman. Eyewitnesses said she appeared at an upstairs window and refused to jump as the flames spread.

Mr. John McKeague (41) was under sedation at his sister's home in Portrush today. He was on a camping trip when his mother died. But his 47-year-old sister, Marty, a mother of four, said at her home today: "This attack must have been because of John. He is an out and out Protestant. But I will say to whoever did this he will not be deterred. John will rebuild his business. It will make him more determined."

She said her brother was not a violent man. "His tongue is his weapon. He will not get his mother back but he will not change his views in any way. The whole family is behind him. We are all staunch Unionists. Like John we do not dislike Catholics. We just think they should live under the law of this land like everyone else." She added

John McKeague hit the political headlines during the present unrest. He joined the Rev. Ian Paisley, against his mother's wishes, and also went to jail for taking part in an illegal procession. Then Mr. Paisley and he had a row and parted company but McKeague continued to speak out for his own kind of Protestantism. His sister said: My mother and John had only one disagreement and that was when John followed Mr. Paisley. She was against this and told him so."

Small groups of men gathered outside the burnt out shell of the McKeague shop and flat today. Inside letter-headed stationary of the Loyalist News lay in scorched heaps. There were also copies of a loyalist songbook and on a doorframe burned black by the flames someone had pinned a sticker, which read: "I'm proud of Ulster."

Monday 10th May 1971
Fire bomb alert – 42 bombs discovered

The Prime Minister Mr. Brian Faulkner has appealed to store owners and staff to help security forces beat the fire bombers who planted 42 incendiary devices in city centre stores at the weekend. Mr. Faulkner said: "While the security forces should be congratulated on their efforts, and successes have not come without considerable effort, I feel that nothing should be left undone to ensure that preventive measures are comprehensive and fully efficient."

Quick action by firemen and the security forces foiled a plan to wreck havoc in the city centre stores on Saturday night. The incendiary bombs, mostly contained in cigarette packets and hidden in the stores, were discovered when 14 of them ignited. But the fire-bombers misjudged their timing because the first devices ignited at Anderson and McAuley's in Donegall Place before closing time. Sixteen devices were found but damage was slight.

Shortly before 6 pm three ignited in the Belfast Co-operative in York Street and 12 others were discovered. A further six exploded at the North Street branch of Woolworth's and two devices were found during a search. One of two fire-bombs planted in a card rack at Candles and Cards in Wellington Place ignited and two or more were pushed through the letterboxes at Babyneeds, Donegall Square West and May's House Furnishers in May Street.

"The main weapons used by terrorists are incendiary and explosive devices. Because of the large number of people passing through many commercial and industrial premises each day it is not always possible to guard against the planting of these, but common sense precautions can be taken which will minimise the risk of damage." Mr. Faulkner said business premises should be searched at closing time every day, night watchmen could be provided and staff should continue to watch out for suspicious packages. The firebombs were part of a concentrated effort to cause trouble at the weekend.

A small bomb, containing about 4 ounces of gelignite damaged the window frame and front window of a grocers shop at Madrid Street in East Belfast early today. The family who live above the shop were not injured.

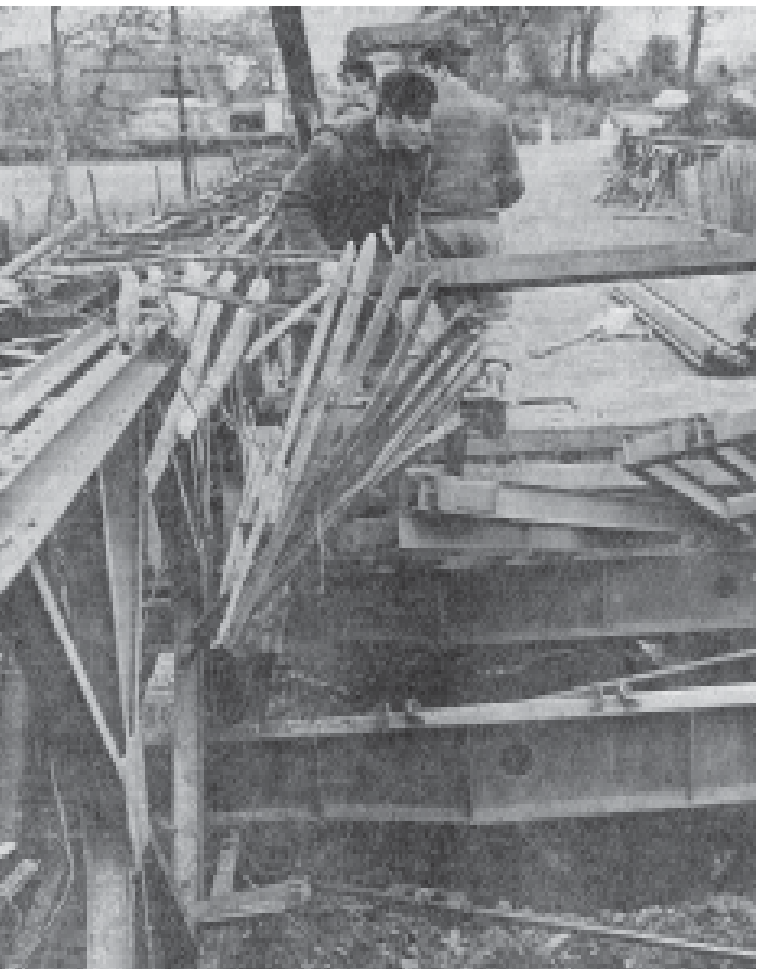
Early yesterday a bomb wrecked part of an Army Bailey bridge on the Road from Lisburn to Aldergrove at Dundrod. Police said two separate 5lb charges of gelignite had exploded. But Army engineers had the temporary bridge back in operation yesterday afternoon. It spans a river at the point where a stone bridge was washed away by floodwater some time ago.

Three revolvers and six boxes of ammunition were discovered during an Army search in the Cromac Street area of Belfast last night. The find in a disused house, consisted of two .38 Smith and Wesson revolvers, one .38 Webley and 264 rounds of assorted ammunition. An Army spokesman said that the cache, discovered at Riley Place, was in good condition.



The remains of a UDR Land Rover after it had been blased by two land mines on the Derry-Donegall border





A .45 and .38 revolver were found by troops under a bridge at Glenarny near Cookstown. And police are investigating an incident near Newry when four shots were fired as an Army patrol manned a checkpoint at Cloughogue Bridge on Saturday night.

Monday 10th May 1971
Man shot in head
A man who was helping police investigate a mysterious shooting incident in which a 22-year-old man was seriously wounded in the head has been allowed to go home. The RUC stated that the man, although he has a serious gunshot wound in his left temple, he is not dangerously ill. Police said troops reported hearing a shot in the Market's area and during a search near McAuley Street, traces of blood and a .45 rimless cartridge was found.

Monday 10th May 1971
Wake up says Paisley
There was a small attendance at the Ulster Protestant Volunteers rally at Kilkeel at the weekend, when the Rev. Ian Paisley, MP, said he felt that Kilkeel needed weakening up to realise what was going on in the province.

Tuesday 11th May 1971
Guns found at scene of ambush
Guns, ammunition and explosives were found by troops in South Armagh where an Army patrol was ambushed by gunmen during the night. The soldiers, who began searching at dawn, found four rifles, one automatic pistol, 70 rounds of assorted ammunition, 3 lbs of gelignite and some detonators. An Army spokesman said the arms searches were the result of the ambush on the Crossmaglen-Culloville Road shortly after 2 am when 12 shots were fired at troops on patrol

Tuesday 11th May 1971
Premier pays tribute to Sean Lemass
Mr. Sean Lemass, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic from 1959 to 1966, who died in Dublin this morning, was described by the Northern Ireland Premier Mr. Brian Faulkner as a most distinguished Irishman. In his tribute to the man who made Irish political history by crossing the border to visit Capt. Terrence O'Neill at Stormont in January 1965, Mr. Faulkner said: "He was prepared to look to the future, rather than to the past."
Mr. Lemass's visit infuriated extreme right wing Unionists and brought a storm around Capt. O'Neill's head, but it was followed subsequently by a reciprocal trip by the then Northern Ireland Premier to Dublin, and opened the way for much practical cross-border co-operation between the two Governments.

Tuesday 11th May 1971
Mrs McKeague's death 'a mistake'
The mother of Shankill Defence leader Mr. John McKeague was killed by mistake detectives investigating the outrage now believe. They believe the shop and flat where she lived and worked with her son would not have been attacked had it been known she was inside. It is thought that the attackers could have known that Mr. McKeague was away for the weekend and assumed that his mother Isabella went with him.

Tuesday 11th May 1971
Move to control 'Gelignite'
Talks aimed at finding ways to tighten up on the supplies of gelignite coming into Northern Ireland, from across the border and elsewhere, are taking place with the British Government, the Prime Minister Mr. Faulkner disclosed in the Commons. But in the public interest he refused to details of the discussions, which he said are continuing with "appropriate representatives" of the British Government. The Premier said they were concerned with explosives coming in both legally and illegally.

Tuesday 11th May 1971
Mystery gunman opens fire on border patrol
A British Army patrol came under attack from a mystery gunman near the Armagh-Monaghan border, but the soldiers escaped injury. The gunman fired 12 shots from an automatic weapon and disappeared in the darkness. An Army spokesman said two shots hit one of two Land Rovers on a normal border patrol shortly after 2am. The vehicles were about a mile south of Crossmaglen on the road to Cullaville when they were attacked. The troops were men of the 4th Field

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TOP - A wounded soldier is carried away after being injured in rioting in the New Lodge area
BOTTOM - Troops clear up after an army bailey bridge was blown up near Dundrod Village

Squadron of the 21st Engineers Regiment. The only damage was a punctured wheel. The spokesman said an immediate search was launched but nothing was found.

In Belfast more firebombs were found yesterday afternoon as storeowners and staff heeded RUC warnings to search their premises. Three devices were found at Anderson and McAuleys in Donegall Place, and two more were found at the Belfast Co-operative store in York Street. One device planted among books at a Smithfield bookstall went off but caused little damage. Another device was found at Marks and Spencer's was carried outside by a member of the staff and later made harmless by an Army explosive expert. Police said today that an explosion heard in the Lisburn area on Sunday has been traced to a telephone relay station at Hannahstown. Post Office engineers on a routine check visit at the Standing Stones relay station discovered the legs of a tower had been wrecked. But the tower, containing vital equipment for the main Belfast-Dublin trunk line, was not damaged. Police said about one pound of explosives had been used in the blast.

Tuesday 11th May 1971
IRA on the run says Taylor

Mr. John Taylor, Minister of State at the Ministry of Home Affairs, said last night he was convinced the Irish Republican Army were on the run, though he believed it would be some time before IRA activities were brought to an end in Ulster.

He was addressing a meeting of Unionist branches at Kilmore near Portadown.

Referring to the "disappearance of the Nationalist Party," Mr. Taylor said that at Stormont they now had an opposition which was much more plausible and much more dangerous – the most dangerous Northern Ireland opposition which Stormont had experienced in the 50 years' history of this country.

Today they had the Coopers, the Humes, the Fitts, the O'Hanlons and the Kennedy's, all having emerged from the university, which he knew and about which he had warned in 1965. These people, Mr. Taylor said, were making much better use of television and the press for propaganda purposes and in future the unionist party would have to concentrate their outlook along these lines.

Wednesday 12th May 1971
200 troops in search

Two hundred troops searched two areas for arms and ammunition. At Derrymacash on the southern shore of Lough Neagh, 150 men of 21 Engineer Regiment carried out a search while at Islandmagee, near Whitehead a search was mounted by Royal Engineers.

Wednesday 12th May 1971
Women behind firebombs

Three more firebombs were found in Belfast stores and police now believe the bombs are being planted by women. The firebombs, which were discovered before they exploded, were found at the Spinning Mill in Royal Avenue, Renee's Fashions, Donegal Square West, and British Home Stores. More than 50 incendiary devices have been planted in the city since the week-end and police think women are responsible for planting most of them.

Wednesday 12th May 1971
Mob attacks soldiers

Troops fired two rubber bullets to disperse a stone-throwing crowd of youths who attacked them while they were investigating a fire in workman's hut at Creeslough Park, Suffolk, Belfast. Three youths were arrested. RUC and firemen were stoned, but no injuries were reported. An RUC spokesman said more than 200 took park in the attack.

A 5lb nail bomb exploded harmlessly near the junction of the Glen Road and Monagh Road as an armoured car patrol was passing. Police said another explosion was heard near waste ground in the same area last night.

Two RUC men on foot patrol were attacked twice by youths at the Creggan estate in Derry. One policeman was injured in the first attack by 50 youths at Central Drive, and a young girl was struck by a stone as she passed by the scene of the second attack. No arrests were made.

The Heysham passenger ferry returned to Belfast last night after an anonymous telephone caller said an incendiary device had been planted on board. The ship, which was less than a half an hour out of port, was searched by men of the Special Patrol Group. Nothing was found and it left again at 11.30 pm.

Forensic experts are examining guns found by troops in gorse bushes near Keady in South Armagh.

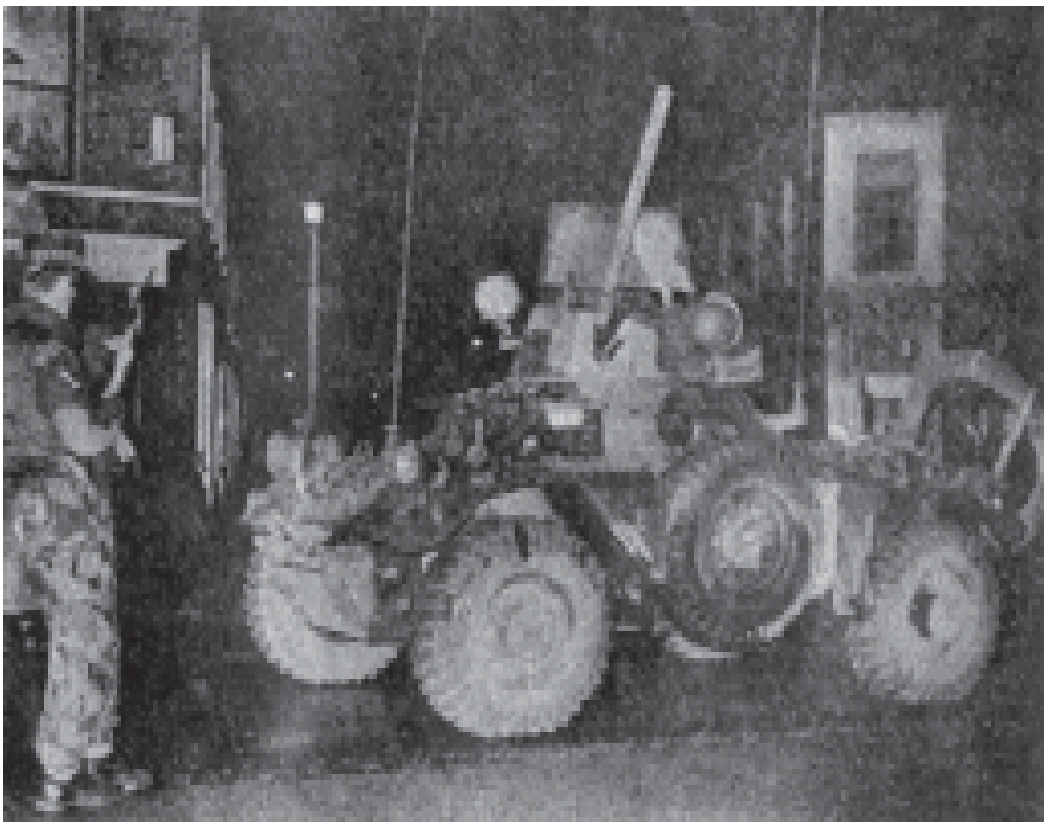
Wednesday 12th May 1971
685 guns sold to USC men

Mr. John Taylor, Minister of State at the Ministry of Home Affairs told Mr. John Hume, SDLP, Foyle, in the Commons yesterday that 685 rifles had been sold to members of the Ulster Special Constabulary since 1930. Mr. Taylor said the weapons were usually unserviceable .303 rifles, which as required by the conditions of sale, were converted to .22 calibre for use with USC rifle clubs.

No sales had been made to the general public, and all sales were discontinued in 1969. Mr. Hume said the guns had been sold for £1 each, added that it was absolutely scandalous that weapons should be made available in this way.

Thursday 13th May 1971
Verdict on victim of Kilroot hall blaze

An open verdict was returned at an inquest in Belfast on a 21-year-old barman who was burned to death in a fire at Kilroot Orange Hall on November 6th last year. He was Desmond John Lagan of Desertmartin, County Derry. A man who is serving an 18-month jail sentence after admitting setting fire to the hall gave evidence at the inquest. He said that on the night of the November he and Lagan drove to Belfast to a dance. On the way he told Lagan that his mother had received a threat that her house was going to be burnt. He mentioned it again later and said that if it happened he would do something himself. Lagan then suggested setting fire to Kilroot Orange Hall. They both got cans of petrol at two garages on the way home. At about 2.30am, they drove to the hall. He voiced his



An army ferret at Harper Street, Belfast

reservations about the attack but Lagan said that as they had come so far they may as well do it. The man said that when they entered the hall Lagan went upstairs with his container, while he threw his petrol in the room at the bottom. He then went out to the road and heard a big "blow out" from the hall. He wondered if Lagan had got out and called four or five times but there was no answer. He then went back inside and saw Lagan lying at the bottom of the stairs. He did not speak. He then dragged Lagan into the bottom room and left.

An RUC inspector gave evidence of going to the hall and seeing a charred unclothed body lying in the room. The man was alive but unconscious. A forensic expert said that the fire was started in the upper room of the hall. Lagan died in hospital later on the morning of the 6th November.





TOP - A woman is arrested by a military police woman in the New Lodge area

BOTTOM - A member of the bomb disposal team at work on an RUC mans car outside Mountpottinger Barracks

Friday 14th May 1971
Taylor attacked over prosecutions

Thirty-seven people have been prosecuted for membership of the IRA since 1956 the Minister of State, Mr. Taylor, told MP's at Stormont. There had been two prosecutions against alleged members of Republican Clubs, but none against persons for belonging to the Ulster Volunteer Force. Both are outlawed organisations.

Mr. Taylor told Mr. Gerry Fitt, SDLP, Dock, that there was no evidence that the UVF, proscribed in June 1966, was involved, as an organisation, in any recent illegal activity. And there was no reliable information to enable anyone to say conclusively that it existed as an organisation. Mr. Fitt said that when it was banned there was abundant evidence of its existence. Mr. James O'Reilly, Nationalist, Mourne, said members of the UVF had been prosecuted for using explosives against public utilities but they had not been described in court as such and the public had been misled.

Friday 14th May 1971
RUC hunt for branded youths

Belfast police are investigating an attack and scratching of the letters UVF on the arms of two 14-year-old schoolboys. The boys from Dill House flats and Sheridan Street, both in the New Lodge area of Belfast were returning from St. Patrick's Secondary school around 4 pm when they were attacked by a number of youths in the Duncairn Gardens area. They were dragged into an entry, held face downwards and the letters were scratched on their arms with broken glass. "Their injuries were very slight," said an RUC spokesman. An immediate search of the area was carried out but with no results.

Friday 14th May 1971
Youth arrested after stoning incident

As RUC personnel and troops searched a Co-operative shop in Andersonstown last night after an incendiary bomb had exploded, another incendiary ignited on the premises. A crowd of 200 Protestants and Catholics dispersed after troops were called to the New Barnsley area. A youth was arrested and charged with carrying an offensive weapon after a military foot patrol came under stone attack near the Falls Road, and troops and police both made ammunition finds. Troops found 31 rounds of service self loading 7.62 rifle ammunition during a search of a rubbish dump at Squires Hill, Ligoniel, and police discovered 80 rounds of .303 and 45 rounds of small bore ammunition in poor condition in the river Roe, at Limavady.

Only slight damage was caused to the Co-op store. The staff put out the first blaze and the security forces smothered the second. The devices had been planted behind goods on display shelves. Earlier in the evening two incendiary devices were found in Garvey's wallpaper shop in King street before they ignited.

Friday 14th May 1971
Guns Haul – 93 found in six weeks

The Army made more than 124,000 checks on vehicles and 2,000 searches of land and buildings in Northern Ireland during the six weeks ending Monday this week the Defence Under Secretary said at Westminster yesterday. Ninety-three firearms and 7,000 assorted rounds of ammunition and a considerable quantity of explosive and detonators were found, and the Army made eight arrests.

Saturday 15th May 1971
Ammunition stolen in gun shop raid

Three men, armed and masked, burst into a gun shop in Tullamore, County Offaly, today, tied up the owner, and got away with 14 weapons and 10,000 rounds of ammunition. The raid took place shortly after 10.30 am and the men got away in a green coloured Cortina car. The car was stolen the previous night in Portlaoise.

Saturday 15th May 1971
Ammunition finds

More than 800 rounds of ammunition were found by troops who searched allotments in North Belfast early today. In the search carried out by men of the 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry shortly before 4am, eleven 12-bore shotgun cartridges and a tin of airgun pellets were found.

The Army said that yesterday's search around the north shore of Lough Neagh by men of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh Royal Regiment uncovered 100 rounds of ammunition, 11 shotgun cartridges and a .22 rifle. The rifle was fitted with a telescopic sight and was found among bushes. The ammunition was discovered in a derelict building.

Saturday 15th May 1971
Troubles mean no rifles for hire

Special security measures were in operation today at an annual Aberdeen rifle shoot because of the recent troubles in Northern Ireland. The organisers, the Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Banffshire and Kincardine Territorial Rifle Association, have decided not to hire out rifles to the public, and have tightened up their checks on ammunition. Said the Association's secretary: "Its more than our job's worth to hire out rifles at £1 a time. They could be taken and be on a boat for Northern Ireland tonight. Because of the situation there we are not prepared to take the risk. This is purely a precautionary measure."

Saturday 15th May 1971
Union Jack burned at Soccer match

During the replay of the Blaxnit tournament between Linfield and Drogheda at Drogheda last night there were clashes between rival supporters. Stones were thrown a Union Jack was burned and one man was arrested.

Large crowds of Drogheda and Linfield fans clashed as the second half got under way. The Drogheda youths moved into the stand occupied by the Linfield supporters and snatched the Union Jack, which had earlier been displayed on an advertising billboard. The flag was torn up and burned as the youths ran round the pitch. There were chants of "Burn it, burn it" from spectators. Stones flew between the rival groups but there were no reports of injuries. When the scuffling and stone throwing subsided Drogheda supporters on the stand sang the Irish National Anthem. Towards the end of the game the Linfield fans moved towards crowds of Drogheda fans near the main gate and sang party songs while the last minutes of the game were played out. Police watched closely but when the final whistle was blown the fans moved off to their buses.

Monday 17th May 1971
Residents in gun battle area are questioned

Detectives carried out house-to-house inquiries in the maze of side streets surrounding the area where a member of the Provisional IRA was shot dead in a gun Battle with troops on Saturday night. The theory being considered was that the dead man and his two companions were probably on their way to carry out another attack when a routine patrol of three Royal Highland Fusiliers noticed the stolen car they were in. They could well have been waiting for on or more men to join them when the soldiers approached their vehicle. The RUC are reluctant to believe the statement from the Provisional wing that the three men "ambushed" the Army vehicle. This would have involved more men and guns. It is thought by the RUC that the men were caught in the early stages of another operation.

It was revealed today that the dead man, father of four William Reid (32), of Sheridan Street, died from a single bullet wound. And at the Royal Victoria Hospital, an armed guard was placed on the ward where the two soldiers injured in the battle lay. An 18-year-old Fusilier is still seriously ill after going through an emergency operation to have a bullet removed from the lower part of his stomach and another in his leg. A second Fusilier was hit in the shoulder by machine-gun fire as he approached the vehicle, a stolen green ford Corsair.

The Army today pieced together the story of the gun battle, which started in a quiet cul-de-sac off Academy Street in the York Street area. The three soldiers in their Land Rover decided to investigate when they saw what they believed to be three men acting suspiciously in the car. They blocked the road with their vehicle and one of the Fusiliers began to approach the Corsair to question the occupants. He had taken only a few steps when the window was wound down and one of the men opened up with a machine-gun. The second Fusilier was hit seconds after the gunman sprayed the Land Rover. He lay slumped in the back as the sergeant in the jeep dived for cover and returned fire. By this time, the second Fusilier was firing bullets from his SLR rifle into the car. Then he was hit on the shoulder.

There was a lull in the shooting. Then two men climbed from the car and tried to make a break for it. The sergeant changed position and fired after them. He hit one of the men who fell and rolled over. The wounded man was helped to his feet by his comrade and they both vanished, probably along York Street. The RUC and troops immediately set up roadblocks in the area to stop their escape. But they didn't find them. The Corsair was being examined today for fingerprints and other clues, which could help the RUC, track them down.

Meanwhile the Provisional wing of the IRA issued a statement claiming: "Lieut. William Reid, 'C' Company, Third Battalion, Belfast Brigade, IRA was killed in action when one of our active service units ambushed a patrol of the British occupation forces in Academy Street." It added "We should like to make it known that all other volunteers involved in the action have reported back safely, contrary to British Army propaganda."

Monday 17th May 1971
Farrar-Hockley to leave

The Commander of Land Forces Major General Tony Farrar-Hockley is to leave Northern Ireland in August to take command of a Division in Germany. He is to be succeeded by Brigadier Robert Ford who has been promoted to Major General. Brigadier





TOP - A car which was blased across the road during a bomb attack on the Springfield Road Barracks. A soldier, Sergeant Willets, was killed. BELOW - The funeral of Sergeant Willets passing the barracks.

Ford is at present principal staff officer to the chief of defence staff at the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall.

Monday 17th May 1971
Evacuation plan wanted for Ulster
Britain's civil servants today in Eastbourne called on the Government to make contingency plans to evacuate personnel and their families from Northern Ireland in case of a "further deterioration" in the situation. Compensation for personal injuries and damage to property while serving in Ulster was also demanded by the annual conference of the Institute of Professional Civil Servants. One Civil Servant, representing the Ministry of Defence, Air Force engineering branch said: "We have been terribly concerned about the effects of civil unrest in Northern Ireland. We are asking that the United Kingdom government, which has the responsibility for Northern Ireland to take steps to recompense normally mainland based staff for injuries to person and property due to an escalation of civil unrest." He moved that discussion should take place between the institution and the civil service department "to prepare plans for the protection and possible evacuation of normally mainland based staff and their families in Northern Ireland if and when the situation further deteriorates. The deputy general secretary said the situation at present did not warrant any such plans but the executive supported the motion because "one cannot rule out further deterioration."

Monday 17th May 1971
Mystery Shooting on Springfield Road
Police investigating a mystery shooting incident in Springfield Road on Saturday are faced with a wall of silence. At least three shots were fired around midnight near the junction of Ainsworth Avenue but so far police have not found anyone who saw the incident.

Yesterday three empty cartridges were found at the scene and bullet holes were found in a nearby telephone kiosk and a shop window. The RUC could not confirm that the shots were fired by three men who stepped out of Mayo Street. The report said the gunmen crossed the main Springfield Road before firing in the direction of three youths who were nearby. "We have received no complaints from the public so far about the reported shooting incident. The matter is still being investigated," said a spokesman Two-way radios and a quantity of air gun pellets were discovered by troops who chased a car near the border. The RUC said the chase began after a car stopped short of an Army roadblock, turned and moved off in the opposite direction along the Omeath Road near Newry. The car was followed by a Land Rover patrol of the 4th Field Squadron of the Engineers Regiment to a house where a search was carried out. Two men went with the RUC to Newry, but were later allowed to go. A police spokesman said that the owner of the house had a firearms certificate but the matter would be the subject of a police report.

Police inquiries are also continuing into two other ammunition finds in Ballymena and Derry.
A parcel containing 35 rounds of .303 and one round of .38 ammunition was found in Kingsland Variety Stores in Wellington Street, Ballymena on Saturday afternoon.

And children playing at the City cemetery in Derry on Saturday afternoon found seven rounds of .45 ammunition.
An incendiary device found at the Belfast Co-operative store in York Street was made harmless by an Army explosives expert.

Tuesday 18th May 1971
Hunt for IRA men stepped up
Detectives are following a definite line of inquiry in their hunt for the two IRA men who escaped after their companion was shot dead by the Army on Saturday night. And as the search was intensified today a special watch was being kept on possible escape routes, which terrorists may use to get one of the men who was wounded into the South. Security along the border has been tightened by both the Army and RUC. But because of the intense activity by the security forces since the gun battle in Academy Street it is believed the wounded man is still in Belfast. Over the past year dozens of injured and wounded have been taken for treatment in the South after riots. But gradually RUC intelligence reports have built up a picture of the well-worn escape routes being used.

Tuesday 18th May 1971
Civil Rights MP freed from jail
Frank McManus, the Westminster MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, was released from Castledillon open prison this morning after spending for months inside for his part in a banned Civil Rights march in Enniskillen last winter. He told reporters at the gates of the prison in the quiet countryside of County Armagh: "I'm off for a few days rest and then on with the struggle."

Tuesday 18th May 1971
Women will march to Stormont despite ban
The organisers of a planned protest march to Stormont on Thursday by a group of mothers say the march will go ahead in spite of police notification that not enough time notice had been given for the march to be legal. A spokesperson for the mothers, who are protesting about legislation to stop free milk for children over six years of age, said that when they had first approached the RUC there had been no mention of requiring five days notice.

Tuesday 18th May 1971
RUC barracks blasted
The wife of an RUC sergeant, whose family escaped a terror bomb blast at a police station, got a word of thanks from the Chief Constable Mr. Graham Shillington today. Mr. Shillington was visiting Toomebridge RUC barracks, which was extensively damaged, by a 10lb bomb, shortly before 2am. "The Chief Constable praised my wife for the way she acted and the help she gave after the explosion", said a police sergeant who is in charge of the three-man station. The sergeant described how the station was rocked by the blast, as they lay asleep in their beds. There was a very loud explosion and immediately afterwards there was a strange smell and the lights flickered. The explosion blew a hole in the gable wall.

Wednesday 19th May 1971
600 march in military style at IRA funeral
Six hundred quick stepping Republicans marched in military style behind the tricolour draped coffin of shot IRA man William Reid. A nine-man guard of honour in black berets flanked the coffin, followed immediately by women carrying wreaths. The mourners formed up in military style when the cortege emerged from Sheridan street, off the Antrim Road, where the dead man lived with his wife and four children. Then in response to commands, they marched four deep towards North Queen Street and Unity Flats where a crowd of Union Jack waving Protestants had gathered behind a deep cordon of troops and police. But despite the crowd of protestors who chanted "UVF" and sang the sash the Republicans continued to march towards Millfield and on to the Falls Road.

Before the hearse reached the Millfield junction at Unity Flats, dozens of youths and women formed two lines across Upper North Street to make a passage for the mourners. One feature of today's funeral was a noticeable absence of berets, blazers and combat jackets. The nearest thing to any form of uniform was the beret's and gloves worn by the guard of honour. Earlier Army Redcaps searched pedestrians, both men and women, on the main Antrim Road just before the funeral began. It was all part of one of the biggest security operations ever mounted at a funeral. The funeral of the father of four left his home shortly after 2 pm.

Hundreds of troops lined the route of the funeral to Milltown Cemetery, backed up by armoured personnel carriers. Minutes before the cortege moved off two priests protested to Army officers about the number of military vehicles blocking both ends of Sheridan Street. The commanding officer of the Royal Highland Fusiliers, whose men were involved in the Saturday night gun battle, told one of the priests: "I am going to make sure that this funeral passes off peacefully. I am going to make sure also that it is not going to be a military funeral.

Wednesday 19th May 1971
RUC may have pistols
Personal arms, including the new Walther pistol, are to be "more readily available" to the RUC in view of present conditions the Prime Minister, Mr. Faulkner said in the Commons today. But he added that there was to be no general issue of arms to the force.

Wednesday 19th May 1971
Soldiers escape hail of gunfire on Falls Road

Two soldiers escaped injury when gunmen riddled their Land Rover with machine-gun fire from a passing car on the Falls Road. Six bullet holes were found in the military vehicle after the attack and later a number of spent rounds of ammunition was found in the car abandoned in the same area. An Army spokesman said: "It was obviously a deliberate ambush and was perhaps a deliberate reprisal for last Saturday's shooting incident." The attack occurred on the Falls Road at about 7.45 pm, as the Army Land Rover occupied by two men from the Welsh Guards was passing the junction with the Whiterock. The Army said today that a maroon Ford car overtook the Land Rover at the traffic lights. The rear window of the car had been removed. As the car passed the Land Rover the windows were wound down and two automatic weapons were fired at the vehicle. One shot struck the windscreen and ricocheted off. The Army driver swerved on to the pavement and the soldiers leapt out, but were unable to return fire as the car sped away up the Whiterock Road. Several of the shots struck the canvas roof of the Land Rover, which was not on patrol, but was bringing supplies from Lisburn to a unit in Belfast. Later the car, which had been stolen, was found in Beechview Park and was handed over to police. A number of spent rounds of ammunition were found inside.

An explosion shortly after 11 pm demolished a workman's hut at a construction site in Dunville Park, at the junction of Grosvenor Road and the Falls Road. About a half pound of gelignite was used and there were no casualties. Police said today the bomb appeared to have been thrown from within the park. Slight damage was caused to the offices of Nationalist Party President Mr. Eddie McAteer at William Street in Derry last night when three petrol bombs were thrown through an upstairs window. Mr. McAteer is an accountant. The petrol bombs caused only slight damage top the floor.

Thursday 20th May 1971
RUC Land Rover Hi-jacked

Police on both sides of the border were searching for armed men, believed to be from the Republic, who held up two RUC men and hi-jacked their Land Rover at a carnival in County Fermanagh.

As military patrols joined the hunt along the border, the Gardai were combing the lakes and hills on the southern side, where the vehicle is thought to have been taken. Two gunmen carrying sub-machine guns, and another armed with an unknown weapon, drove off towards the border shortly before 2 am, after threatening to shoot one of the RUC men at a carnival in a field at Garrison. The RUC men, both of whom are stationed in Belleek were unhurt. An RUC spokesman said: "These men probably owe their lives to the fact that they were not carrying guns. They were simply carrying out their ordinary duties at the time."

Athhough only three men were seen to have guns, the RUC believe that a dozen men may have taken part in the hi-jack. The gunmen were wearing battledress uniform and spoke with southern accents. Police said that there was nothing valuable in the Land Rover, apart from the radio. One theory for the hi-jacking is that the men had planned to steal an Army Land Rover instead.

Thursday 20th May 1971
Stoning incident in Belfast

Rival Protestant and Catholic crowds stoned each other in North Queen Street in Belfast, but troops quickly brought the trouble to an end. The incidents began as workers left the Gallaher tobacco factory at lunchtime, but it is uncertain what started them. Score of troops kept one crowd at the New Lodge Road apart from the workers, who were forced back to the factory entrance. Traffic was later passing freely.

Thursday 20th May 1971
Explosion damages Sandy Row bar

A Belfast Bar, owned by the head of Northern Ireland's biggest hotel group, was damaged in a bomb explosion early today, but no one was injured. A two-pound gelignite bomb blew in the side door and smashed windows at the Moyloa Bar in Sandy Row, which is part of the William Hastings Group. Mr. Hastings, a Unionist councillor on Belfast Corporation recently bought six hotels owned by Grand Metropolitan Hotels.

The RUC said that the bomb had been placed at the side door in Stroud Street and the explosion occurred shortly after 1am. A number of bottles inside the building were smashed. The explosion was the only serious incident in a night of tension following yesterday's Republican funeral

A massive operation was again mounted around Unity Flats, as hundreds of chanting Linfield fans paraded past on their way home from Windsor Park. The cordon of steel, placed at the flats for the second time in six hours, and a joint RUC-military police "watchdog" patrol prevented any trouble.

A .303 rifle in good condition was found in a ditch by police on the Comber-Hillsborough Road in County Down yesterday. It had apparently been dumped. The RUC also found 32 detonators in a disused quarry at Magheralough, Castlederg, County Tyrone.

Thursday 20th May 1971
Cameramen banned from IRA ceremony

Press photographers and TV crews covering the IRA funeral of William Reid were turned away from Milltown Cemetery and told they could not film the graveside service. In Dublin, Provisional IRA men lowered the Irish tricolour to half-mast on the roof of the GPO while the funeral was taking place in Belfast. One rubber bullet was fired by the Army at Protestants who threw stones at them on the Falls-Shankill peace line at Cupar Street. More than 1,000 troops were involved in the security operation.

Friday 21st May 1971
Army arrests 30 men

As troops fired rubber bullets to quell renewed rioting in the New Lodge Road - North Queen Street area of Belfast, the Army raided a nearby pub and took away 30 men in a lorry. They included Republican Labour MP, Mr. Paddy Kennedy and solicitor Mr. Paddy McGrory. They were in the Starry Plough bar in the New Lodge Road when a platoon of soldiers from the Royal Highland Fusiliers forced their way in and made customers stand against the wall to be searched. Then Mr. Kennedy, Mr. McGrory and Councillor John Flanaghan, who is a member of the Police Authority, and the rest of the men were put into an Army lorry and driven away. It is believed they were taken to police station.

Army snatch squads again went into action when trouble flared for the second day in succession at Gallaher's tobacco factory. Crowds had gathered in the area since noon and an uneasy peace was broken when the Catholic crowd attacked a group of Protestants with bottles and stones. As both mobs began to swell in numbers the Army moved in and began firing rubber bullets to break up the Catholics. This was answered with a salvo of bottles and stones. Police at toe bottom of the New Lodge Road who were helping to keep the crowds apart were also attacked. When the troops lined up across North Queen Street, backed by a water cannon, the crowd of youths and young girls then began to smash windows in Gallaher's factory. They claimed people at the windows were gesticulating at them. Troop then advanced on the crowd firing rubber bullets and in seconds the rioters broke ranks and went scattering down side streets. It was at this point the Starry Plough was raided. Glasses were smashed as troops forced their way in. Meanwhile a large contingent of police stood by at the Brougham Street end of North Queen Street where a crowd of Protestants gathered. By this time the situation had calmed down although there was jeering from the high flats as the Scottish soldiers walked along the streets.

There was also slight trouble at Unity Flats today as Gallaher workers who live in the Shankill area made their way home. A girl from the flats had her coat torn and a leg bruised when she was involved in a scuffle with three of the workers. Earlier about 60 workers from the factory were shepherded past the flats singing party songs and jeering. Soldiers took up positions on the balconies when a bottle was thrown. Later some people from the flats gathered at the top of Kent Street watching Gallaher workers at the other end. As tensions grew Army snatch squads made sorties into the flats when another bottle was hurled. By mid afternoon the situation had eased.

This morning a crowd of women blocked Cromac Street at the corner of May Street for a short time. Police moved them to the side of the road and got traffic moving. It is believed they were protesting about alleged Army brutality.

Friday 21st May 1971
Staff put out incendiary

Staff at a Belfast supermarket put out an incendiary device found on their premises by throwing it into a bucket of water. The clothes-peg type device was found at King Kuts Supermarket, Sandy Row by staff shortly after 9 am. It is thought it had been placed on the premises shortly before the supermarket closed yesterday.

Friday 21st May 1971
Factory Row sparks off more trouble

Twenty-two people were arrested by troops in the North Queen Street and Unity Flats areas of Belfast when violence broke out in the streets again. The trouble had been simmering since lunchtime yesterday when troops made three arrests during skirmishes between rival groups of women outside the Gallaher Tobacco Factory. Women workers alleged there had been intimidation towards them in the factory from fellow workers. In the ensuing riot, which began in the North Queen Street area about 5 pm, soldiers who were guarding the factory, awaiting workers leaving came under heavy attacks of missiles. Four were injured and two had broken bones. Army snatch squads made continual baton charges into the crowd and a number of people were taken away bleeding. Military policewomen went in with soldiers to arrest women during the disturbances, which lasted about two hours. Three arrests were made at Unity Flats around midnight when soldiers came under a brief hail of bottles and stones from 30 local youths. Several dozen rubber bullets were fired during yesterday's "battle" when troops fought frequent hand-to-hand battles with the rioters. A water cannon was also used briefly.

A small bomb smashed a window in a paint shop at Mountpottinger Road, but only slight damage occurred and no one was injured. An incendiary device was pushed through a grill at Beechfield works in Edgar Street, in the Newtownards Road area, but caused only superficial damage in a disused part of the factory.

One of the women arrested by soldiers during the disturbances was the mother of William Reid, the 32-year-old IRA officer shot dead last weekend and who was buried on Wednesday. An army spokesman said she was later released.



A snatch squad from the Royal Highland Fusiliers arrest a man during disturbances in the New Lodge

Saturday 22nd May 1971
Soldier killed in Belfast

Senior Army officers are trying to piece together the events which led up to the ambush on an Army patrol by at least three gunmen armed with automatic weapons.

Corporal Bankier, who was married with two children, is believed to have been killed by a 9mm bullet, probably fired from a sub-machine gun. He arrived in Belfast from Celle in Germany three weeks ago and was one of a four-man patrol, which went to help Redcaps who were being attacked at Cromac Square. The military policemen, said the Army, were being attacked by a crowd throwing bottles, but it was not regarded as a riot situation.

Corporal Bankier dismounted with other soldiers from their vehicle at Lagan Street and started off on foot. Then without warning, the patrol was fired on by gunmen on both sides of the street near the junction with Verner Street. An Army spokesman said at least three gunmen are believed to have carried out the ambush. Corporal Bankier fell seriously wounded as other members of his patrol returned fire. The troops fired five shots without hitting any of the gunmen, who escaped before other soldiers arrived at the scene. An Army spokesman said: "This attack was completely unexpected. About 15 shots are believed to have been fired by the gunmen." Another soldier in the patrol received slight facial injuries but the Army has not released his name.

The bottle attack may have been a diversionary tactic by the terrorists to draw other troops in to the area, where the gunmen had already taken up their positions. It is still not known where they fired from or how they managed to escape.

This morning the Cromac Street area was still surrounded as troops combed the streets for the gunmen. Forensic experts are examining the weapons found in the mattress to see if any of them were used in the ambush. The search was later called off, but troops were keeping watch on the situation in the area. The latest shooting has seriously worried Army and Police chiefs, who believe the gunmen may be stepping up their war with the troops

Saturday 22nd May 1971
Soldier shot six times

The driver of an army Land Rover was shot six times by a gunman from a passing car on the M1, near Belfast, only hours after another soldier was shot dead in the Markets area of the city. The jeep was hit 16 times by machine-gun fire and the soldier was wounded in the legs, stomach and shoulder. The gunman opened up on the Land Rover from a car which overtook it near the Stockman's Lane exit from the motorway. The soldier, whose name has not yet been released, underwent an emergency operation in the Royal Victoria Hospital, where a spokesman said he was "seriously ill." Shortly after the attack, police and forensic experts rushed to a by-road in the Springfield area of the city where a car, believed to have been used by the gunmen, was found damaged by a fire.

Troops and police launched a full-scale hunt for three men who were in a dark blue Cortina, which overtook the Land Rover on the motorway. The Army vehicle was travelling along the south bound carriageway towards Army HQ at Lisburn when one of the men poked a sub-machine gun out of the rear window and sprayed it with automatic fire. The Land Rover ground to a halt at the side of the motorway as the gunmen fled. Another soldier in the vehicle was not injured.

Army bomb experts were called to Mountain Loney, a by road in the Springfield area, where a dark blue Ford car was found abandoned with scorch marks. It is believed an attempt was made to set it on fire. The high-speed attack was almost a replica of the ambush on another Army Land Rover on Tuesday night. The motorway was sealed off by troops at Stockman's Lane and the Donegall Road entrance while police carried out an investigation.

The motorway ambush came only a short time after a machine-gun, pistols and shotguns were found by troops in the Markets area, where Corporal Robert Bankier (25) was gunned down as he and other troops went to the aid of military policemen. A Thompson sub-machine gun, two pistols and three shotguns were found hidden in a

mattress in a house at Keegan Street by men of the dead soldier's regiment, the 1st Battalion Green Jackets.

Saturday 22nd May 1971
27 taken to hospital after bomb blast
Ambulances had to shuttle 27 injured people to two Belfast hospitals, after a 10 lb bomb exploded at a packed British Legion hall just outside the city. Three of the people injured in the explosion were detained in hospital with what police describe as "bad injuries." A woman received a serious eye injury and two men were detained with bad face and chest lacerations.
The explosion at the Royal British Legion hall at Stewartstown Road was one of four blasts that occurred during the night. A 10 lb gelignite bomb went off outside a window at the hall, which was crowded with 250-300 people watching a cabaret show. A false roof inside the stone building collapsed under the blast, and 27 people had to be rushed to by a series of ambulances to hospital. Sixteen were taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital and the remainder received treatment for superficial injuries in the City Hospital.

Earlier three explosions occurred in Belfast within roughly a period of half an hour. A small explosion caused slight damage to a small garage n the Springfield Road and troops investigating it found a second explosive device on the roof, containing about 3lb of explosives.
Two other blasts damages electrical sub-stations in the city, one at Talbot Street and the other at Great Patrick Street. In the Great Patrick Street explosion a 62-year-old caretaker who lives on the premises and a 27-year-old woman who was passing by outside were both taken to hospital for shock but later released. The doors of the buildings were blown out in both instances, but it was only in the Talbot Street explosion that electrical equipment was actually damaged.

Saturday 22nd May 1971
Trail of blood
One of three gunmen in the Markets ambush may be wounded, said an Army spokesman said today. A blood-stained shirt and a trail of blood was found on the pavement at Verner Street. Inquiries are continuing.

Monday 24th May 1971
18 injured as bomb wrecks Shankill pub
Eighteen people were injured, at least one seriously, when a bomb wrecked a public house at a busy junction on Belfast's Shankill Road. As rescue workers combed the debris of the Mountainview Tavern, at the corner of the Shankill Road and Cambrai Street, a fleet of ambulances ran a shuttle service to ferry the injured to two hospitals. The blast, caused by a bomb of between 15 and 20 pounds of gelignite, planted at the rear of the building, hurled masonry and broken glass across the street.

An inner wall of the house next door collapsed and large chunks of debris crushed a car stopped at the traffic lights. As angry residents were held back from the scene by troops, road-blocks were set up around the city in an effort of catch the bombers. An Army bomb expert searched the building and firemen stood by in case a fire broke out. Police at the scene were issued with bulletproof vests.

Men of the Light Infantry and Parachute Regiments had trouble getting people to move away from the scene. Most of the injured were drinking in the ground floor of the bar, which is owned by Councillor William Hastings who recently became the head of Northern Ireland's biggest hotel group.

Monday 24th May 1971
Detective sergeant shot
A detective sergeant was shot in the leg by a gunman and a policeman's car was blown during a weekend of continuing violence in Belfast and other parts of the North. The Detective Sergeant was shot while investigating an earlier incident in which a colleague's car, parked outside Mountpottinger RUC Barracks, was wrecked by a bomb.

Immediately after the explosion a number of shots were fired from Altcar Street opposite the Barracks. The gun-man leapt out of an entry and fired towards police and troops who returned fire. The area was sealed off but the gunman escaped.

Monday 24th May 1971
Mistaken identity
A gunman burst into a house in Hillview Street, off the Oldpark Road, and fired a shot at a man's wife. The woman, whose identity is not being released, was not injured and the gunman fled after telling the couple: "It's a mistake, I have got the wrong house."
In another shooting shortly afterwards a bullet was fired into a parked car at Perth Street, off the Old Lodge Road, and another hit the roadway. The RUC said there was no apparent reason for the shooting and no one was injured.
In Derry early yesterday a shot was fired at an Army patrol from a car, which failed to stop at a checkpoint at Foyle Road. The car, which was stolen, was later found abandoned. No one was injured.
Earlier the home of a Derry Magistrate was bombed. A charge of 5-10 lbs of gelignite, placed outside the front door of his bungalow at Talbot Park, shattered the porch, part of the roof and a number of windows. The couple, who had just returned home from their holidays earlier in the day, were uninjured.
An RUC sergeant's telephone call to his wife probably saved her from serious injury, when a bomb blasted Pomeroy police station in County Tyrone on Saturday night. The woman





TOP & BOTTOM - Bomb attack on the Mountainview Tavern

was about to pick up the telephone in the hall of the married quarters when she saw a fuse burning outside. She quickly closes the door and took cover as the 10lb bomb went off breaking windows. Police believe the bomb was thrown from a passing car.

A short time later a bomb damaged the garage at the home of a detective sergeant in Dungannon. The man, his wife and two daughters were badly shocked but otherwise uninjured.

In another explosion early today a Nissan hut used by the UDR at Magherafelt, County Derry was badly damaged. The hut in the grounds of Magherafelt Technical School was blasted by a 5lb charge.

Monday 24th May 1971
Massive arms hunt

Troops kept a close watch on the border as they launched one of their biggest hunts for arms and ammunition at Kinawley, County Fermanagh, only a few miles from where gunmen opened fire on a helicopter in October after blowing up a customs post. As men were ferried into the area by Wessex helicopters, Sioux and Scout helicopters scanned the area for any activity. Seven Helicopters were used altogether.

More than 600 men were taking part inn the search, which the Army said was completely routine. As the operation started men of the 17/21st Lancers sealed off roads leading into the area with armoured vehicles. Troops systematically searched disused buildings, ditches and fields and many of them were ferried between search areas by helicopter. The soldiers who used probes and mine detectors were from the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment and the Black Watch.

Monday 24th May 1971
New plan for Clyde Valley

Prince Albert Temperance LOL 1892 in Belfast No. 3 Orange District, has launched a Clyde Valley Preservation fund. One of the two objects is to have two of the holds altered and decorated to house a loyalist museum, also a function room which could be hired by lodges. The Clyde Valley, which was used for UVF gun running, is now lying at Carrickfergus. The fund, the organisers say, has the approval of the County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast and the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

Monday 24th May 1971
Army on "Red Alert'

With more than four shootings in just over a week – one soldier dead and two seriously injured – Belfast has been put on "red alert" during the hours of darkness. And the Army have introduced strict measures to protect their men. Most outings to the shops or for entertainment have been stopped; soldiers are not allowed to go out on their own, and a special order has been given that Land Rovers must travel in convoys of not less than two. Vehicles will travel together and men armed with self-loading rifles will cover each vehicle. Men on the first vehicle will cover the second and vice versa and if a vehicle is fired on special instructions have been given to troops on how to deal with the gunmen. Regimental intelligence officers have briefed their men on what to expect from "car gunmen". In the last week troops have been ordered to wear their bullet proof vests at all times and guards at some command posts in the city have been doubled.

Tuesday 25th May 1971
22 months –The facts

More than 300 bombs have gone off in the North in the last 22 months, MPs were told in the Commons. In the same period 230 bombs and 231 devices, more than half of them incendiary bombs, failed to go off. It has also been estimated that about 2,200 lbs of explosives in this period. Nine people have been convicted for offences connected with explosives.

Tuesday 25th May 1971
IRA funeral within the law

It was stated in the Senate that there was no breach of the law at last week's IRA funeral in Belfast. The funerals, said one Senator may have been deliberately provocative, however they were carried out within the law.

Wednesday 26th May 1971
Soldier dies in bomb attack

A soldier died in a Belfast hospital last night after saving a family, which was caught up in a bomb attack. The soldier, a NCO in the 3rd Battalion Parachute Regiment took the blast from the 25lb bomb as he helped police usher the family away from the reception area at Springfield Road. The bomb, packed in a brown suitcase and thrown into the hallway, exploded before he managed to reach cover. He was thrown from one end of the building to the other. Surgeons in the Royal Victoria Hospital fought in vain for two hours to save his life.

The soldier who died was Sgt. Michael Willets (27) a father of two who was less than two weeks away from completing his tour of duty in Belfast. The RUC said two of their officers were speaking to a woman in the reception area of the barracks when the bomb was thrown. Seconds latter, at 8.30pm the entire front of the barracks was destroyed in the blast.

A detective's car was blown across the Springfield Road and Dozens of windows were broken. Seven RUC men, two soldiers, five men, four women and three children were taken to hospital.

Willets, described by his commanding officer as being "very brave" had stayed behind in the station to make sure everyone got out of the reception area. "He pushed a family out of the way first and then placed himself between them and the bomb", said an Army spokesman. Then the massive bomb exploded hurling him through the building. Sgt Willets was the eighth soldier to die in the north this year.

Another bomb damaged Kilmakee Orange Hall at Seymour Hill, Dunmurry three hours later, but no one was injured.

Wednesday 26th May 1971
Shankill school bomb – just a rumour

A headmaster in Belfast used an Army loudhailer today to reassure 100 mothers that his primary school was not going to be blown up. A rumour had spread around the Shankill Road area that the 1,000 pupil Glenwood was going to be blasted. Just after 9 am 40 anxious mothers arrived, but left after being told that the school had been searched by the police and Army. But then an hour later about 100 parents arrived to make sure their children were safe. The principal then spoke to them through an Army loudhailer, telling them that a bomb had not been planted. Some of them took their children home but the vast majority went away contented. "The whole thing was pure rumour," said the principal

Wednesday 26th May 1971
Divis Flats bomb blast

A bomb damaged two doors on the ground floor of Divis Street flats at lunchtime today but no one was hurt. The RUC said about 3lb of gelignite had been used in the blast, which occurred near a waste disposal unit at the flats. The Royal Green Jackets rushed to the scene and sealed off the area as Army experts examined the debris.

Wednesday 26th May 1971
Orderlies armed

New security measures have been put into operation at police stations following last night's bomb explosion at Springfield Road RUC Barracks. It is understood station orderlies – RUC men on duty in station reception areas – have been issued with personal weapons and doors will only be opened on a securing chain.

Wednesday 26th May 1971
Looting during trouble in Newry

The smashing of windows in shops at Newry last night was followed by looting before a joint Army-RUC group went into action to disperse a crowd at Marcus Square.

The trouble began with the holding of a protest meeting by young Republicans against Army tactics in the area and the security forces did not interface until stone throwing broke out and windows were smashed in the General Post Office, the Boulevard Hotel and shops in the immediate area. Four youths caught by snatch squads were take to the local police barracks.

Wednesday 26th May 1971
Army may shoot on suspicion says PM

Troops in Northern Ireland may now shoot on suspicion, the Prime Minister, Mr. Faulkner, revealed at Stormont last night. He told MP's: "The Army are not prepared to take half measures with terrorists. At this moment, any soldier seeing persons with a weapon or acting suspiciously may fire to warn or with effect, depending upon the circumstances, without waiting for orders. The new instructions, he added, had already been brought into use in the incident earlier this week in which an Army patrol rammed a stolen car. When the occupants ran away the soldiers fired warning shots, which resulted in one of the men being arrested.

Thursday 27th May 1971
IRA Provos disclaim statement on bombing

Leaders of the Provisional wing of the IRA in Dublin today denied a statement, claiming that they were responsible for the recent bomb explosions in which a soldier died and more than 70 people were injured, was authentic. But they replied "No comment" when asked bluntly whether their men were responsible for the blasts at the British Legion Hall, the Shankill Road pub and the Springfield Road police station.

The statement purporting to come from the Belfast Brigade of the Provisionals and admitting the outrage "regretted" that innocent people had been injured. But in Dublin a statement issued on behalf of the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau said the Belfast statement was not issued by them.

Thursday 27th May 1971
Gelignite found

Army bomb disposal experts rushed to Alexandra House flats in Victoria Parade, Belfast, last night after a stick of gelignite, a detonator and fuse were discovered at the back of the building. But the eight-ounce stick was not wired up and was taken away by the experts. Later 600 rounds of .303 calibre ammunition were found in a vacant house in Sandown Road, in the upper Newtownards Road area. An RUC spokesman said it seems to have been there for some time

Friday 28th May 1971
The camera versus the gunmen

New technical equipment, likely to include concealed cameras, which will be used to keep track of the movements of suspects, is being progressively introduced by the security forces in the battle against the IRA. According to a joint security committee these latest devices will be for "covert surveillance." And new measures are being taken to protect buildings, including police barracks, which might be the target of bombers. "Members of the public should be particularly careful to ensure that vehicles are locked and, were possible, immobilised or fitted with an anti-theft device. Stolen cars are an increasingly used component of the terrorists' equipment and public co-operation in prevention of theft will assist the security forces."

Friday 28th May 1971
Soldiers don't qualify for VC

Northern Ireland and its on going armed conflict is causing confusion as to what awards should be awarded to soldiers involved in acts of bravery. But the Ministry of Defence in London made it quite clear that the awards applicable to soldiers serving in Ulster did not include the Victoria Cross. However, soldiers may be awarded the George Cross, the CBE, OBE, MBE, George Medal –or the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct. Awards that will not be given said the Military spokesman, included as well as the VC, the DSO, Military Cross, Military Medal and DCM. These medals can only be awarded for gallantry "basically in action against an enemy or in the face of an enemy," said a spokesman. He would not comment further as to whether the guerrilla tactics, which have been seen, constituted enemy action.

Saturday 29th May 1971
Army trucks to get bullet-proof shell

Several Land Rovers have been fitted with special "bullet proof" protection following the shooting of a young soldier as he drove along the motorway last Saturday. A special fibre-glass shell, which will withstand most small arms and sub-machine gun fire, will eventually be fitted to as many Land Rovers as possible to protect the lives of soldiers on mobile patrol. The shell will cover the Land Rover and added protection in the form of bullet proof Mackralon plastic will be fitted to the windows. The new panels will give the Land Rovers a different appearance and they will be totally enclosed with the fibreglass protection. Canvas hoods will be dispensed with.

Saturday 29th May 1971
Bomb wrecks border post

A bomb wrecked a British customs post about three miles from Derry. It was the only overnight incident. It was not the first time that the post at Killea on the main Derry-Letterkenny road had been a target. It was blown up before, also petrol bombed. Between 10 to 15 lbs of gelignite was used for the bomb, which was placed at the rear of the wooden building. No one was hurt in the blast. In Belfast last night a joint police-army force searched five houses in the New Barnsley areas and found three antique rifles and one air pistol.

Monday 31st May 1971
Tarred and feathered by Official IRA

The 23-year-old Belfast labourer, who was tarred and feathered in the Markets area of Belfast on Sunday morning, said today that the Official IRA were responsible. "The men who attacked me said that I had been giving the Officials too much trouble. They claim that I had broken into a house in the Markets area and stolen £16. I did not do this. I have been warned off before," he said. "I have been stopped a couple of times before for running about drunk but not by the same guys. And I was told if I did not watch it I would get hit." The man from Vernon Street was sitting in his home when two men rushed in and started to beat him up Later he was tied to a concrete post with a bit of barbed wire and cold tar poured over his head.

Monday 31st May 1971
Bomb scare in Dublin

A bomb scare at the 16 storey, Ballymum Flats, near Dublin Airport, caused the evacuation of over 100 families early this morning. Police had been asked to search for a car with a Northern Registration, seen "in suspicious circumstances" near the airport and later an anonymous telephone caller told Dublin Fire Brigade that a bomb had been planted. Nothing was found in the search.



Hastings Street Barracks, Belfast, after an IRA bomb attack

JUNE 1971

Tuesday 1st June 1971
600 Green Jackets arrive in North
Six hundred men of the Royal Green Jackets have begun arriving in Ballykelly, County Derry, from Germany for a two-year tour. They are the fifth regiment to be sent to the North for a 24-month stint. The normal period is four months. But the arrival of the men of the 2nd Battalion Royal Green Jackets does not mean any increase in the Army garrison here. The 3rd Battalion Parachute Regiment, stationed in Belfast, have been sent home. Their place in the city has been taken by the 2nd Battalion Parachute Regiment, who were on peace keeping duties in Derry.
There are almost 10,000 troops in Northern Ireland at the moment. And although Army headquarters are reluctant to talk about security arrangements for the "marching months" it is almost certain that figure will rise by about 2,000 for the summer.
The regiments already serving a two-year tour of duty are: 1st Battalion Parachute Regiment, stationed at Holywood; 3rd Queens, Ballykinlar; 17/21st Lancers, Omagh; and 1st Battalion Royal Anglican Regiment, Derry.

Tuesday 1st June 1971
Sinn Fein stage court picket
Members of the North West Republican Executive of Sinn Fein staged a picket outside Lifford Court. A Sinn Fein representative said they were protesting against the alleged collaboration between the Southern Special Branch, British Army Intelligence and the RUC.

Wednesday 2nd June 1971
Man tried to get soldiers to desert
In the first ever prosecution of its kind in the North, a Belfast man has been fined £40 for trying to persuade British soldiers to desert. The 22-year-old clerk from Servia Street did not appear to answer the two summonses. The first alleged that at Clonard Gardens on April 12th he endeavoured to seduce members of the Security Forces from their duty of allegiance. And he was charged secondly with having in his possession a document with intent to aid and abet desertion. Charges were brought under the Incitement to Disaffection Act 1934.
The Crown prosecutor said the man had approached two soldiers and handed them a leaflet which expressed political sentiments and suggested that the reason the troops were here was merely to protect the middle and upper classes who were making fat profits while the ordinary soldiers were going without sleep. It was the last sentence on the leaflet to which the Crown had taken a serious view and this called on the soldiers to desert. The man was fined £20 on each summons.

Wednesday 2nd June 1971
Bomb explodes near Army Land Rovers
A remote control bomb exploded near two patrolling land Rovers outside Armagh early. No one was injured and one of the vehicles was slightly damaged. The device was placed against a fence on the busy Dungannon road and detonated by remote control. Army explosive experts and police made a thorough search of the scene and are studying the results.

Wednesday 2nd June 1971
Army searches criticised
Strabane Republican Club in a statement about the searching of two cars at the Strabane-Lifford border post on Tuesday says it questions the so-called impartiality of the RUC. It also accuses Scottish soldiers of considering "their campaign of provocation and intimidation in Belfast to have been very successful" and on being intent on extending it "against the minority areas outside Belfast."
"We would now advise the Scottish soldiers and their hypocritical counterparts in the RUC that the Irish people will ensure that they and their fellow lackeys of British Imperialism will eventually reap the harvest which they seem so determined to sow."

Thursday 3rd June 1971
McKeague faces hatred charges
A crowd of about 150 placard carrying women protested outside Belfast Magistrate's Court today when the chairman of the Shankill Defence Committee and two other men appeared in the first prosecution under the Incitement to Hatred Act. The women, most of them wearing red, white and blue collaret's, carried placards. The three are charged with attempting to stir up hatred against or arouse fear of a section of the public in Northern Ireland by publishing threatening, abusive or insulting written matter, namely verses entitled "I was born under a Union Jack," which is in a book called Orange Loyalist Songs, 1971.
When McKeague left the court the crowd of women standing at the entrance cheered and then began to sing "I was born under a Union Jack." – the subject of the charge. One woman was wearing a vivid orange dress, and waved a Union Jack type umbrella while she chanted the song.

Thursday 3rd June 1971
Scotland Yard arrest IRA leader
Scotland Yard Special Branch men in the Home Counties have apprehended a man who was believed to have taken over the IRA units in England a few months ago. His name has not been released but it is understood that he worked on the building sites in the south of England since coming since arriving in the country about seven years ago.

Thursday 3rd June 1971
RUC leak not traced
Despite intense investigation it has not been possible to establish how the Rev. Ian Paisley received confidential RUC information, Junior Home Affairs Minister Mr. John Taylor told the Commons. He had been asked by Mr. John Hume, SDLP, Foyle, for the results of his investigations. Mr Taylor said that steps are being taken to prevent further leakages to persons outside the force. Mr. Hume asked Mr. Taylor to point out to Mr. Paisley that no members of the House should encourage members of the police force to take part in political activities in this way.

Thursday 3rd June 1971
Fire sweeps through Derry
Thousand of pounds worth of damage was caused overnight in Derry by an explosion at a £22,000 community centre and fires in a city centre bookshop and a Waterside supermarket. There were also attempts to set fire to the Waterside branch of the municipal library and what the RUC described as an incendiary device was thrown against the outside wall of the Burmah Oil Company's premises at Strand Road, where there are large storage tanks
The first incident was an attempt on the oil company's premises at 6.30 pm, and the other fires occurred within the next hour. The explosion at the community centre in Brooke Park was at around 12.45 am. The fire at Riteprice Supermarket in Spencer Road, which is a short distance from the Waterside branch library was discovered at 6.50 pm. It caused extensive damage to the stores and roof. Three fire units dealt with the blaze. The APCK bookshop fire in Shipquay Street flared up at around 7.15 pm. Stockrooms were damaged and part of the main premises was damaged by water as four units of the fire authority fought the outbreak. One fire crew had to turn out from Strabane. Due to the other fire at the supermarket the city's own resources were stretched to the limit.
Around 7.30 pm two incendiary devices, which ignited in the branch of the library, were extinguished by staff. Three other devices were found during a search by the Army and were removed safely. About 10lbs of gelignite were is believed to have been used in the explosion which damaged the community recreation centre built by the Army in Brooke Park. It consists of two single storey buildings at right angles to each other, and it is close to a military billet in the Rosemount area. It is believed the charge was planted between the buildings. Windows in nearby houses were blown out by the blast, but there were no reports of injuries.

Thursday 3rd June 1971
Ambulance stoned by youths
A crowd of youths stoned vehicles including an ambulance at the Belfast end of the M1. A police spokesman said about 30 or 40 youths at the Donegall Road entrance of the motorway stoned vehicles coming into Belfast. No damage was caused and no one was injured the spokesman said. An Army patrol went to the scene and the youths ran off. There were no other incidents in the city.

Friday 4th June 1971
Public Records Office bombed
Four men were still helping police with their inquiries after an explosion at the partially completed Public Records Office at Balmoral, Belfast. They were detained shortly after the blast ripped through the boiler house of the building in Balmoral Avenue. Immediately after, RUC men swooped on a car the

men were in and intense inquiries begun. It is believed the men are from the Dunmurry-Finaghy area and their ages range from mid twenties to the mid thirties. Four houses in South Belfast were searched after the men were taken in for questioning. It is not known what the searches revealed, if anything.

Friday 4th June 1971
Payroll snatched
Minutes after an RUC escort had pulled away masked gunmen raided a payroll van in Armagh and made off with £2,000 in wages. The cash was to pay the wages of the 200 employees of Armagh Shoes Factory at Loughgall Road on the outskirts of the city.
As the police escort headed back to the city two men wearing white overalls and stocking masks, held up the two employees in the van at gunpoint and snatched two bags containing the payroll. They then ran to a waiting getaway car, which had been parked outside the factory entrance, and were driven away by a third man. A short time later the car was found abandoned at Drumsollen, about five miles from the factory. Neither the driver, nor the cashier was injured.

Friday 4th June 1971
Plane searched at Aldergrove
Security forces searched passengers, luggage and freight shortly after the midday Aer Lingus flight from Shannon arrived at Aldergrove Airport. A short statement from RUC headquarters said the search was carried out independent of the normal customs check. It took place in the airport building. It was part of the intensive programme of search operations being maintained by security forces, a police spokesman said. In recent months, security search parties have boarded the Enterprise cross border express to carry out spot checks. Nothing was found.

Friday 4th June 1971
Ardoyne gun Club – Still no decision
An application three months ago to form a gun club at Ardoyne is still under consideration an RUC spokesman said today. A group of ex-Servicemen applied in March to form the club, which they intend to call the Catholic Ex-Servicemen's Association. An RUC spokesman said today: "The matter is still under consideration. We are waiting further necessary details from the people concerned." All documents relating to the proposed club are in the hands of the RUC who will make a recommendation to the Ministry of Home Affairs. A Ministry spokesman said: "an application has not reached us."

Friday 4th June 1971
Belfast building on fire
Firemen rushed to Adelaide Street, Belfast, after one floor of a six-storey building was swept by fire. A few minutes after the blaze started, a spokesman at Fire Brigade headquarters in Belfast said "One floor is well alight but we have brought the fire under control." He could not say what started the fire. Traffic was disrupted around the City Hall as firemen tackled the blaze. It is believed that no one has been injured.

Friday 4th June 1971
Bomb scare disrupts exams
About 250 chemistry students at Queen's University will have to re-sit their examinations after one session in the Whitla Hall was interrupted by a bomb hoax.

Friday 4th June 1971
Fire in Markethill
Forensic experts are investigating the cause of a fire, which broke out in a small store in Main Street, Markethill, Armagh.

Saturday 5th June 1971
Tarred and Feathered
The whereabouts of a young man who was tarred and feathered in Belfast early this morning was a mystery this afternoon. His flat at Clifton Park Avenue was empty and his neighbours said they had not seen him or his roommate since yesterday. It was at 4.15 am that he arrived at Glenravel Street police station covered in tar and feathers.
He told police that in the early hours of the morning he was stripped to the waist, then tied to a tree, and tarred and feathered. He was also beaten up. It is understood the incident happened in the Unity Flats area. The man, who is unemployed, and who is in his early 20's, was taken to the City Hospital where he was cleaned up. He was later helping the police but after that he disappeared. A statement purporting to come from the Provisional wing of the IRA this afternoon said members of that faction carried out the tarring and feathering.

Saturday 5th June 1971
Two men charged with Belfast Blast
Two 31-year-old men were charged at Belfast Magistrates Court with blowing up the Public Records Office at







TOP - Rioting in the Creggan Estate, Derry
MIDDLE - Military security erected at the front of the Hastings Street Barracks
BOTTOM - Military patrol on the Crumlin Road after James McCann escaped from Belfast Prison





Balmoral. Both are accused of causing an explosion at Balmoral Avenue on Thursday night of a nature likely to endanger life or cause serious injury to property. Several thousand pounds worth of damage was caused be the attack.

Saturday 5th June 1971
Arms haul in two areas
Arms searches in Newry and Derry today uncovered a large quantity of explosives. In Derry, hand grenades, gelignite and ammunition were found in the grounds of St. Columba's Church, Long Tower, in a haul described by the RUC as substantial. Earlier in Newry, a .303 US carbine with two loaded magazines, over 300 rounds of ammunition, a box with black berets and Republican literature were found. The gun was discovered at Drumalane Park, and the rest at Cloughreagh Park and Violet Hill. Two men were appearing at a special court in Newry in connection with the arms find, a third man was released by police.

The Derry find came after children found two hand grenades under a water tank at the rear of the church building. Troops and police then searched the grounds and found the rest of the haul. It included seven hand grenades, some of them home-made, six sticks of gelignite, about 100 rounds of ammunition, six detonators, ten feet of safety fuse, two incendiary devices in cigarette packets and a nail bomb.

Shortly after midnight a soldier home on leave from the 3rd Parachute Regiment was slightly injured in a shooting incident at Patrick Street. He was wearing civilian clothes at the time.



Saturday 5th June 1971
Army vehicle in crash – man killed
A Newtownabbey man was killed this morning in a road accident at Toombridge. He was Mr. Ralph Crook and died when his Ford Anglia car was in collision with a seven ton Army ambulance. The occupants of the Army ambulance, a corporal and private, of the 1st battalion Royal Scots, were taken to Massereene Hospital in Antrim. Their injuries are not believed to be serious.

Saturday 5th June 1971
Falls committee appeals to gunmen
Imaginative new initiative from Westminster and Dublin to "arrest the slide towards despair and disaster" are called for by Falls Road Central Citizens Defence Committee. It states: "Those of us who have held out hope, who urged the minority to be patient and give the reform package a chance, are fast running out of hope."
The committee appealed to gunmen and bombers to " spare us death, destruction and humiliation of your activities," and to Republicans to "provide leadership based on intellect and morality." While appreciating the awareness of the Roman Catholic hierarchy and "census" priests, middle class and professional Catholics should not leave the cause of justice to be borne by the working classes, who needed influence. The committee warns Mr. Faulkner that if he kept on appeasing bigots in his party they would devour him as they had his predecessors. Westminster is told in the statement the province could be engulfed in horror if they were preoccupied with keeping Mr. Faulkner in power. And to Mr. Lynch, the committee says: "You solemnly and voluntarily accepted the role of second guarantor of our rights. The time for you to redeem your pledge must be at hand."

Saturday 5th June 1971
Experts probing fire in Crumlin
Police and forensic experts are probing a huge blaze, which almost

TOP - Troops rush into Artillery Flats during disturbances in the New Lodge area of North Belfast
MIDDLE - A group of men, including the areas MP, arrested by the army on the New Lodge Road
BOTTOM - Army riot squad at the bottom of the New Lodge Road

destroyed a big garden warehouse in the centre of Crumlin, County Antrim and caused damage, which may reach the £40,000 mark. Firemen expect to be on duty for another 24 hours at the Rotomar Agencies, in Mill Road, was discovered at about 11 o'clock last night. Firemen from Antrim, Lisburn, Aldergrove and Crumlin rushed to the scene but the blaze fed by fertiliser and aerosols had a firm hold. At the height of the blaze a 15-foot wall crashed outwards, the roof of the premises collapsed and telegraph wires were brought down. Six families had to be evacuated.

Monday 7th June 1971
RUC appeal:
Help us find the Bombers

The RUC have appealed for the public to help in the hunt for the people responsible for the bomb at Roden Street police station. Anyone with information should contact detectives at Roden Street, Springfield Road or any RUC barracks.

Monday 7th June 1971
RUC barracks and transformer attacked

A series of bomb blasts carried out this week end began at 7.57 pm on Saturday when two to five pounds of explosives damaged an electricity transformer at the junction of Dunbar Street and Talbot Street, off Corporation Street. The four occupants of a passing car were taken to hospital and treated for cuts and shock. They were later released.

Just over two hours later a five to 10lbs charge of gelignite ripped through Roden Street RUC station blowing a large hole in a wall. The bomb had been placed on a window beside the front door of the street.

At 12.40 am yesterday an attempt was made to blow up an Army Land rover patrol when an estimated 5 lb charge was electronically detonated within yards of the vehicle on the Whiterock Road. No one was injured. Just after one o'clock a wine store on the Albertbridge Road was slightly damaged in a minor explosion. Shortly afterwards a house at Maryville Street in the Donegal Pass district was petrol bombed, but no damage was caused.

In a different type of incident a public house at Northumberland Street, which runs between the Falls and Shankill was attacked and damaged. The RUC said that a large quantity of liquor was carted away by the crowd from the Cumberland Inn.

In Portadown on Saturday night, after reports of shots being fired, a civilian with a starting pistol was found by the security forces.

At 5.am today a team of Army experts dismantled a bomb placed at a public house at Church Place in Lurgan

Yesterday, in a cement sack, soldiers found one .33 rifle, three magazines for a Thompson sub-machine gun, about 500 rounds of assorted ammunition, four detonators and 23 feet of fuse wire. The sack of arms were found hidden in a hedge at Bulls Hill.

Monday 7th June 1971
Ex-IRA chief lashes plan to celebrate 1921 truce

General Tom Barry, the former IRA leader in West Cork, yesterday described the Dublin Governments plans to celebrate the Truce of July 1921 as spitting on the Irish Nation. He condemned suggestion made two years ago about sending the Irish Army into the Six Counties as "talk of unthinking fools", for the Army could not have invaded "even the Arran Islands" at that particular time. The occasion of General Barry's remarks was the unveiling of a memorial near Westport, County Mayo, commemorating an ambush of Crown forces there 50 years ago by members of the West Mayo flying column. "I don't know who started this racket about celebrating the truce", he said. "But they should ask themselves what did it bring to this country. The answer is death, executions and counter executions in a civil war that brought the country to the verge of destruction".

Tuesday 8th June 1971
Five soldiers miss death in border blast

Five soldiers had a miraculous escape from death when a mini car packed with explosives was blown up as their Land Rover passed it on a routine patrol along a lonely road near the Fermanagh border. The bomb, estimated at 10-15 lbs, was detonated electronically from a ditch 50 yards away from the Brookeborough Road, three miles from Rosslea.

The mini was blown to smithereens by the force of the powerful charge. Only a few minutes earlier a bus packed with school children passed the booby-trapped vehicle. The jeep was holed in several places as it was hit by flying parts of the car. Some fragments were found as far as 200 yards away in surrounding fields. Another jeep travelling in front of the one hit by the blast was undamaged and the soldiers inside unhurt.

Tuesday 8th June 1971
British envoys car attacked

Demonstrators in Waterford attacked the car of the British Ambassador to Ireland, Mr. John Peck, when he visited the city to open an export exhibition. As the Ambassador drove away from the City Hall three men tried to throw themselves on the car. As they raced after it they were brought down by police who dived on them. In the struggle the police lost their capes.

Earlier demonstrators removed the





TOP - Troops seal off the New Lodge Road during disturbances in the area.

BOTTOM - A man flees from an army snatch squad on North Queen Street

British flag from the City Hall and there were more struggles with police. The police discovered slogans daubed in white paint over the bridge over the river Suir. The slogans declared "British Ambassador go home" and "Release Irish prisoners in British jails."

Members of Sinn Fein went to the Tower Hotel where the Ambassador attended a reception. They issued a statement condemning the Waterford Junior Chamber of Commerce for inviting the Ambassador. The statement added that the junior chamber represented no one but itself and the big business interests of the city

Tuesday 8th June 1971
Twenty bungalows destroyed at Whiterock
Temporary emergency accommodation provided at a cost of £20,000 by shelter, the charity housing organisation, for the victims of Belfast riots has been destroyed by vandals. Twenty centrally heated two and three bedroomed bungalows at Whiterock have been looted and burned to the ground. As the tenants moved out to new accommodation provided by Belfast Corporation vandals moved in. Windows were smashed, floorboards and walls ripped apart and doors taken off their hinges. Only four of the original 25 bungalows remain occupied by tenants anxiously awaiting alternative accommodation.

Tuesday 8th June 1971
Booby trap bomb in Christian Place
An attempt to mine an Army patrol in West Belfast was foiled because troops arrived too early on the scene. The patrol had been lured to Christian Place off Albert Street, by an anonymous report received shortly after midnight that there had been a stabbing in the area. Within minutes, four Land Rovers of soldiers of the 1st Battalion Green Jackets arrived and found a paper parcel in the road with wires leading from it to six batteries on the opposite side of the road. The parcel contained 10lbs of gelignite and is thought to have been intended as a land mine but the early arrival of troops from opposite directions seems to have surprised whoever was getting it ready to set off," said an army spokesman.

Earlier there were two explosions in which damage was caused but no injuries. The first was at McNulty's clothing shop at Smithfield Market where an estimated two pounds of explosives placed at the front door broke windows in the premises and surrounding buildings. An RUC spokesman said that two youths were seen running away from the scene.

Thirty minutes later the door of an electricity transformer at Milewater Street, off York Road was blown off and many windows in the area were damaged by the explosion. An estimated 5-10lb of gelignite was used but the operation of the transformer was not affected. The blast left a six square feet crater in the pavement.
Six people were arrested, four of them Juveniles, following stone throwing incidents at the junction of Finaghy Road North and Lisburn Road. An RUC spokesman said the situation appeared to have arisen over "horseplay."
Troops on Routine patrol last night found six rounds of .30 ammunition and 13 rounds of .45 ammunition in a derelict building outside Brookeborough, County Fermanagh.
Early today two shots were reported to have been fired at a UDR post at Victoria Bridge, Tyrone. They were believed to have come from an old Morris Oxford car, which headed off in the direction of Strabane. No one was injured.

Tuesday 8th June 1971
Mystery explosion
The RUC today said that the loud bang heard in County Down was Concorde during a test flight.

Tuesday 8th June 1971
New UDR Unit?
Mr. Gerry Fitt, leader of the Social Democrats says that while he is completely opposed to the concept of a full time battalion within the Ulster Defence Regiment, he accepts the assurances of the GOC that if such a unit is formed it would not be used for riot or crowd control duties.
Mr. Fitt, who had talks lasting 90 minutes with General Tuzo last night, said today "I think a new force would be entirely unnecessary and would not contribute anything to peace-keeping in Northern Ireland. If it is recruited it is bound to have a sectarian tinge."

Wednesday 9th June 1971
Arms find in England has no Irish connection
Three hundred sub-machine guns and a number of pistols and 20mm cannons were seized at a factory near the Ascot racecourse last night and sparked off a search throughout Britain. First fears were that the guns might have found their way into the hands of Irish extremists. But it was learned this afternoon that Ulster was not connected in any way with the haul.

Wednesday 9th June 1971
Union Jack incident
It had been planned to hoist the Union Jack on the Walker pillar which overlooks the Bogside while the Grand Lodge of Ireland met in the nearby Apprentice Boys' Memorial Hall in Derry today, but soldiers on duty on the city walls refused permission. An official said later that a subsequent telephone call from the security forces had granted permission for the flag to be flown.

Wednesday 9th June 1971
Sir Norman Strong retire from Black Institution
Sir Norman Strong, the former speaker of the Ulster Commons, is to retire as the head of the Black Institution, it was learned today. Sir Norman has held the position of Sovereign Grand master in the Order since 1947, when he succeeded Sir William Allen. No reason was given for his decision to stand down, and Sir Norman, who is in London at the moment, was unavailable for comment. His successor will be elected at the annual meeting of the imperial Grand Chapter in Omagh on June 19.

Wednesday 9th June 1971
Machine gunners attack army post
Four men armed with sub-machine guns shot up an Army post in Andersonstown last night wounding two off duty soldiers. Troops were unable to return fire because women and children were in the firing line. Today a spokesman at Army headquarters said that the gunmen had obviously taken advantage of the presence of women and children.

Security forces are still looking for two men who ran from an empty house on the Falls Road, a quarter of a mile away from the shooting, after laying a 10lb booby-trap. The attack on the off duty soldiers, men of the 1st battalion Welsh Guards, took place as they stood outside their regiments post at Andersonstown bus station. Police in the area said that there were sustained bursts of firing and it appears that between 40 and 50 rounds were discharged. As the gunmen raked the troops position at the bus station the women were standing outside in panic. An NCO, who was off duty tried to get the girls to move back out of the line of fire, and while doing so, was struck twice in the thigh. An officer was struck in the leg.



After the engagement was over, the gunmen fled down the Falls and are believed to have escaped through the Falls Park. More than 200 troops were drafted into the area and roadblocks were set on all major roads out of the city.

Wednesday 9th June 1971
50% of Catholics back Republican aims says Tuzo

Perhaps as much as half the Roman Catholic community in Ulster is in sympathy with Republican aims, the GOC, General Harry Tuzo, said last night. And a quarter of the sympathisers were prepared to lend passive or active assistance to the IRA or similar organisations. It would not necessarily volunteer aid, but would be ready to help if given the opportunity.

The general, speaking on the BBC's 24 Hours programme said that the Army could achieve gradual military ascendancy over the IRA that would allow the politicians to work out a settlement. He added: "I don't think we can achieve a permanent solution by military means. You can only defeat him if you are given a completely free hand but for an obvious and entirely proper reason we are not given a free hand. We operate under the law in every respect."

Wednesday 9th June 1971
No decision on Paisley men as chaplains

A motion that Free Presbyterian ministers be included for selection as chaplains was debated by the Grand Orange of Ireland in Derry today. In the early stages of the debate it was thought that the proposal would be rejected but eventually an amendment was put that the mater be referred back to No 6 District, Belfast, which had moved it, for clarification. It is expected the matter will now come up before the December meeting of the Grand Lodge, which will be in Belfast.

Wednesday 9th June 1971
Army victims: Ulster to give £10,000

The Government is to make an immediate payment of £10,000 to the Army Benevolent Fund for the benefit of dependants of soldiers killed in battle against subversives in the province, the Prime Minister, Mr. Brian Faulkner announced at Stormont.

Thursday 10th June 1971
Two RUC barracks attacked

Eight people including four children were rushed to hospital, after the second explosion of the day. The first wrecked Hastings Street police barracks, and this afternoon another bomb went off at the back of Springfield Road barracks. The second blast came as shortly after 2.30 as troops were reviewing security at the Springfield joint police-army base. A wall at the rear in Cavendish Square was wrecked and windows in houses broken.

Roadblocks went into place for the second time today. After the 7.10 am blast in Hastings Street in which no one was injured, morning rush hour traffic came almost to a halt. A 20lb bomb was left at the Barracks door and said one Army officer: The station would have been demolished if sandbags and other equipment had not been there. The bomb, heard outside the City boundary, wrecked the station, blew a crater in the pavement; blew the front door through the corridor in the building and out of the back for a distance of 70 yards; nearly lifted the roof of a primary school opposite and badly damaged several cars

Thursday 10th June 1971
Army tells: Why we had no sentry

No soldiers were on duty outside Hastings Street RUC Barracks this morning because the bullet proof shelter had not been completed, the CO of the 1st Battalion Royal Green Jackets said this afternoon.

The Lieut. Col. Agreed that it was the Army's responsibility to guard the barracks. However he could not put a man on stationary guard duty outside the barracks without protection. A proper bullet proof shelter was under construction but they were waiting for the concrete on the fortifications to set.

FACING PAGE - Military patrol on North Queen Street

TOP RIGHT - A youth is arrested by an army snatch squad during rioting in the New Lodge area.

BOTTOM RIGHT - The mother of shot IRA member, Billy Reid, is arrested during disturbances in the New Lodge area

Thursday 10th June 1971
Double blasts in Armagh

Shots were fired at troops in Army Land Rovers at Portadown in the early hours of today. They were on their way to Armagh where an explosion wrecked two cars outside the prison.
And Irish Army explosive experts are investigating an explosion at a high tension transformer in Letterkenny, County Donegal, last night, which cut power supplies to five towns for a half hour.
The two Army Land Rovers were fired on twice in Portadown. The first shot came as the patrol was passing along Armagh Road, and appeared to come from the vicinity of the railway bridge. The second shot came from behind a hedge on the Armagh side of Shamrock Park, more than half a mile further on. This time a soldier in the second Land Rover fired a shot in reply. The attackers were not seen and no bullets stuck the Land Rover, which did not stop.
The explosion at Gaol Square happened shortly before 1.30 am. Between 10-15lbs of gelignite was placed in the rear of two cars parked against the perimeter wall of the prison. The charges were detonated simulta-





neously. Both vehicles were wrecked and two craters blown in the roadway. Only superficial damage was done to the prison wall but a door of a nearby house was blown in and the blast broke many windows in the area. No one was hurt.

Nitro-glycerine was used in an explosive device planted in the yard of a public house in the Markets area of Belfast. It did not go off. The parcel containing about one pound of nitro-glycerine and a quantity of shrapnel was found at the pub in McAuley Street.

The Letterkenny blast happened about 6 pm and put one of two transformers in a sub station on the Ballybofey Road out of action, and power supplies to Letterkenny and four other towns in the area were interrupted for about half an hour. A Garda spokesman said today that the damage was estimated at between £10,000 and £20,000. Garda were called out immediately after the explosion and road blocks were set up on the Derry-Donegal border

Thursday 10th June 1971
Army stops Joe Frazer at checkpoint
World Heavyweight Champion, Joe Frazer was stopped twice in his Rolls Royce by troops in Belfast yesterday and searched. The boxer's troubles stated early yesterday when he was behind schedule leaving Derry. He was two hours late arriving in Belfast and his driver "avoided an Army roadblock" entering the city. However, the car was spotted and a radio alert went out to troops to stop the car.

After the search at the Ulster '71, during which Frazer was said to be "amiable and co-operative," the car was allowed to go on. But troops at the second roadblock hadn't been told that the car had been "cleared" and stopped the Rolls again.

Thursday 10th June 1971
Acker Bilk requests to visit sappers
Jazzman Acker Bilk, here to entertain troops, has made a request to visit sappers at Long Kesh airfield, because he was once a sapper himself. It is hoped that he will visit 21 Engineer Regiment who are stationed on the airfield, this afternoon. Acker Bilk arrived yesterday for the start of an Ulsterwide tour and gave his first show for security forces at Ballykinlar camp in County Down. This evening Acker Bilk is to entertain troops at the Wellington Hall, in Belfast. Appearing with his Paramount Jazz Band are the Avons, Harold Berens and Stella Starr.





TOP - Troops make arrests during disturbances in the New Lodge area
BOTTOM - An army snatch squad arrest a rioter during disturbances in the New Lodge area

Thursday 10th June 1971
Soldiers waved flags claim
Republican Labour MP, Mr Paddy Kennedy said at Stormont yesterday that soldiers had driven round the Ballymurphy and Whiterock areas of Belfast last Saturday waving Union Jacks from the ends of their rifles. He said it had been a deliberate provocation and had created tension in the area. A member of the Police Authority, who is a Belfast city councillor witnessed the incident and had contacted the RUC but was himself threatened with arrest, added Mr. Kennedy.

Replying, the Minister of state for Home affairs, Mr. Taylor said he was aware of the incident but was advised it had provoked no major reaction at the time or since. However, the Army was investigating the allegations.

Thursday 10th June 1971
Arms amnesty in South?
The Irish Minister for Justice, Mr. Desmond O'Malley, said in an interview on his proposed 14-day arms amnesty that if people held guns illegally and wanted to hand them in they could make arrangements with the Guards who, he thought, would "use their discretion." "I don't think people have too much to fear." He had been asked if a member of an illegal organisation who went to the Guards and handed in the arms would be prosecuted. The minister emphasised, however that ordinary law would continue to operate regarding illegally held arms.

Friday 11th June 1971
Hidden guns to guard stations
Armed troops will be guarding some RUC stations from hidden vantage points as part of a new security clampdown following yesterday's bomb attacks in Belfast. The new move means that a rifle could be pointing at the bombers and gunmen without them knowing. Final details of the "undercover" Army guards plan are being hurriedly drawn up, with stations in troubled areas getting priority.
Meanwhile a tour of police stations in Belfast today revealed the extra security precautions already in force. This was the picture in and around Belfast:
Glengormley: Seven soldiers with rifles stood guard while their comrades were obviously strengthening security precautions inside the building.
Greenisland: A lone Army sentry armed with a high-powered rifle stood guard in a gateway.
York Road: Again an armed soldier stood guard while other troops worked inside the building.
Glenravel Street: Armed Soldier on Guard inside sand bagged construction. Barbed wire roadblocks set up in street.
Donegall Pass: A soldier carrying a rifle patrolled on the footpath outside the station.
At other stations in the city armed RUC men themselves were on guard duty.

Friday 11th June 1971
Blast at Catholic Church hall
A building at Dundonald which is being used temporarily as a Catholic Church was bombed as well as a police barracks in Lurgan.
The first attack came just before midnight when a pipe bomb containing less than 1lb of explosives was placed at the back of St. Michael's Community Hall at Dundonald. An attempt was also made to set the building, a temporary Catholic Church, alight but little damage was done, either by the bomb or the arson attempt. No one was injured.
Then at 1.20 am a plastic bomb exploded at the back of Lurgan police station in the centre of the town. No damage was done and no one was hurt.
Meanwhile in Derry, five incendiary devices were discovered in unoccupied Army quarters at Clooney Park South. Two of the devices had ignited in adjoining houses but no damage was caused.
A joint Army-police team searched the Manchester to Belfast flight at

Aldergrove last night in a bid to catch arms smugglers. An Army spokesman said today: "The operation took about 20 minutes and the passengers were friendly and co-operative. Nothing was found."

Friday 11th June 1971
Guard couldn't shoot bomber
The man who bombed Springfield Road RUC Barracks yesterday afternoon was sighted by an armed guard at the barracks, Mr. John Taylor, Minister of State for Home Affairs, told MP's at Stormont. Mr Taylor said that not only had protective measures been taken at the station " but there were armed guards both on the roof of the station and outside on the ground at floor level. Indeed the terrorist was sighted by one of these armed guards but unfortunately the circumstances of the situation were not conducive to him being shot on the spot. Some information is available and inquiries are proceeding." He was replying to Ian Paisley, Protestant Unionist, Banside.

Saturday 12th June 1971
Bombers target Academy Street
Explosions ripped through two buildings in Belfast city centre last night as crowds of people were masking their way home from pubs and clubs. The first bomb went off shortly before 11.30 pm at the Belfast Education Authority's offices in Academy Street. The caretaker and his wife were treated for shock. The 5 to 10lb charge had been placed on the doorstep and the blast damaged parked cars and windows in surrounding buildings. An electricity transformer was slightly damaged but power supplies were not affected.
While troops and police were still at the scene of the Academy Street blast, another explosion occurred at the nearby College of Art at York Street. The caretaker's wife was taken to hospital and treated for shock. It is understood that she is suffering from a heart condition.
A 10lb gelignite bomb had been placed at a door leading to the college's central heating plant. It caused structural damage, blew in the door and shattered windows in nearby buildings. Premises in Donegall Street, Academy Street also felt the blast and many windows in the vicinity were broken. An Army spokesman said it is hard to say if both explosions had been planned to go off together or separately.

Saturday 12th June 1971
Fined for cursing at soldiers
Two 19-year-old youths who cursed at soldiers after they were searched were each fined £20 at Belfast Magistrate's Court for being disorderly. An RUC inspector told the court that the pair had been searched by soldiers at Castle Street, following the two explosions in Belfast city centre. After they had been let go they both cursed at the soldiers.

Saturday 12th June 1971
Republicans fight Glen Road plan
Two Republican Clubs were among representatives who opposed a Housing Trust Application for a vesting order to develop about 21 acres of land on the Glen Road for housing, at an inquiry.
Both the George Plant and the Wolfe Tone Republican Clubs were represented at the inquiry held at Transport House. Addressing the inquiry, the representative from the George Plant Republican Club said that he was worried about jobs in the area. He said that in 1966 the population of Suffolk and Andersonstown area was 26,000 and that there were only 2,470 jobs and that since then things had gotten worse. He added, "Will housing not aggravate employment problems." The inquiry inspector will submit his findings to the Ministry of Development who will announce the decision later.

Monday 14th June 1971
Dramatic escape from Belfast jail
A man awaiting trial on petrol bombing charges made a daring escape from Crumlin Road Prison last night when he sawed through the bars of his cell and slid down a rope made of sheets. He is James McCann, who is described as an unemployed salesman. He was to be tried on charges connected with the bombing of Queen's University on March 30th. The man, who escaped sometime during the night, got away in the classic escape manner. He sawed through some of the bars and loosened others. He then climbed down a rope made from a number of sheets, which he hung from the first floor cell. He then scaled an internal wall and ran along the top of it until he reached the perimeter wall. From there he jumped to the ground and disappeared. A Ministry of Home Affairs spokesman said today that early investigations showed no evidence that the man received outside help to make his break. As soon as he was discovered missing, troops and police set up road blocks around the city. Traffic on the Crumlin Road was stopped and motorists questioned.

The last escape from Crumlin Road was in December 1960 when a man serving a sentence for offences connected with the IRA got away. He too sawed through the bars of his cell and lowered himself off a rope made from electrical flex, pieces of blanket and sheets. He was never recaptured.

Monday 14th June 1971
Scuffles as men are searched
Scuffles broke between Republicans and troops as security forces carried out a massive search of 2,000 Ulster Republicans returning from a Wolfe Tone rally across the border.

Eight buses and 34 cars carrying supporters from a 10,000 strong rally in Bodenstown, County Kildare, yesterday were stopped by troops and police between Dromore and Banbridge. Men in one bus refused to be searched. After two hours armed troops boarded the bus and after scuffles the bus was searched.





Army snatch squads in action during disturbances in the New Lodge area





TOP - A soldier injured in North Queen Street is carried away by his comrades

BOTTOM - Shattered offices of the Northern Spinning Mill in Northumberland Street. The target was an army post on the roof of the building

Monday 14th June 1971
Census form defaulters

Less than quarter of one percent of the entire population of the North did not fill in their census forms said the Registrar General. The names of those who have not returned their forms are now being compiled, and will be sent to the Crown Solicitor within the next few days. The maximum fine for not answering the 27 compulsory questions on the form is £270. Dozens of Catholic priests and schoolteachers are among those who said they would not fill in their forms as a protest over the legal system in the North.

Monday 14th June 1971
Blasts in Belfast and Derry

A Bomb blast at Unity Flats and an attack on the RUC living quarters in Derry were just two of the attacks carried out in the North over the weekend.

At Unity Flats an Army post at the rear of a shop was badly damaged when a 5lb charge of gelignite blew the steel lining of the rear door 25 feet into the front of the shop. No one was hurt in the blast, which occurred before 1.30 am, but some residents in adjoining flats received treatment for shock. Windows were broken and ceilings damaged by the blast.

A short time earlier two explosions extensively damaged a former RUC driving school at Springfield Parade. About 25lbs of explosives was used in the blasts and windows in nearby houses were broken. No one was injured.

In Derry, an RUC man was slightly injured when a blast, caused by a time bomb, ripped through the front door to the RUC single men's quarters in Queen Street. Four members of the RUC were asleep in the building at the time and one of the men slept through the explosion and had to be awakened by his colleagues.

A Belfast shoe shop was badly damaged by fire, believed to have been started by an incendiary device, on Saturday night. Six fire appliances fought the blaze at Eastwoods shoe shop at Upper North Street. Firemen, many of whom wore breathing apparatus, prevented the flames from spreading to adjoining premises, including the Old Naval Comrades Club, next door.

Earlier at 7.30 pm two minor fires were started by incendiary devices at the British Home Stores, Castle Place. The second device ignited while firemen were dealing with the first.

On Saturday night a temporary Customs Post at Killeen, near Newry, was blown up for the second time. In the latest incident three men, two of them armed, entered the post carrying a cardboard box. Shortly afterwards the post was blown up and the building went on fire. The wooden structure was completely destroyed.

Early on Sunday morning two nail bombs were thrown at an Army foot patrol at the junction of Verner Street-Stanfield Street in the Markets area. One of the bombs exploded but did not injure any of the soldiers. The other failed to go off. Soldiers fired a total of ten shots at men who ran away. Later the occupants of a Republican Club were searched in Verner Street.

Nail bombs and sticks of Gelignite were also found at the junction of Pound Street and Cullingtree Road. Elsewhere a biscuit tin full of assorted ammunition was found on the Ormeau Embankment.

Monday 14th June 1971
Arrests as Orangemen attempt to break parade ban

Troops and RUC personnel clashed with Orangemen in Dungiven during an unsuccessful attempt by Orangemen to break the Government's ban on their parade there. Three people were arrested including the Rev. William McCrea, minister of Magherafelt Free Presbyterian Church. Four soldiers were slightly injured in clashes on the narrow bridge leading to the predominately Catholic town. Troops fired 14 rubber bullets and four canisters of CS gas before the marchers and their supporters finally dispersed.

Monday 14th June 1971
Bernadette Devlin gets death threat

Anonymous phone calls to Dublin and Birmingham newspapers threatened the life of Miss Bernadette Devlin, but a meeting at which she was the main speaker in Birmingham passed off peacefully. The call to the Dublin newspaper, said the Independent MP

for mid Ulster at Westminster, would be shot and the other call threatened that a bomb would explode in the Digbeth Civic Hall. The meeting was organised by Clann na hEireann to demand the withdrawal of British troops from Northern Ireland and the release of political prisoners.

Monday 14th June 1971
1,000 at loyalist rally

Over 1,000 people attended a rally in the Market Square, Dungannon on Saturday night under the auspices of the Dungannon branch of the South Tyrone Loyalist and Protestant Association. There was scathing criticism of the Government by the three Presbyterian ministers over the way the law and order situation is being handled by the security forces and also because of the banning of the Dungiven parade. Criticising the Prime Minister for imposing the ban on the Rev. William McCrea, of Magherafelt, said it was time to take the sash off Brian Faulkner.

Monday 14th June 1971
New CS weapon '10 times tougher'

A new weapon for use in riots in Ulster- a rubber CS Gas grenade which bursts on impact was revealed by the Army today. The grenade is fired from a special discharger mounted on Army vehicles and is ten times more efficient than the previous CS cartridges fired from a handgun. Dozens of armoured personnel carriers and land Rovers are to be fitted with the multi-barrelled thrower, which has its own searchlight and can fire four grenades almost simultaneously.

The grenade itself, about nine inches long and made of rubber apart from its detonator contains about 400 pellets of gas. As the grenade flies through the air it swells to the size of a small football before bursting and throwing the burning pellets in a 20-metre area. An officer on the operations staff at Army headquarters in Lisburn said this morning the new weapon did not mean an increase in the use of CS gas. But if it was used, and this was up to company commanders on the ground, it would be much more efficient.

The officer said: "The rubber grenade can be thrown from a discharger or by a man, but it is completely different from what has gone before. Unlike the old grenade, gas does not seep from holes – pellets are ejected over a localised area. Officers said that people are able to throw the old grenades down drains and make them ineffective, but that this was impossible with the new weapon, as it discharges its burning pellets and there is an immediate pall of gas. Troops using CS gas found that people were able to run away from both the cartridge and grenade, but officers at headquarters said: "They won't be able to run away from this."

Monday 14th June 1971
Ban the glass milk bottle?

A proposal to ask dairies throughout the North to use unbreakable containers instead of milk bottles because of the present situation and loss of life, was turned down at the 64th annual Irish Co-Operative Women's Guild at the Belfast Co-Operative Hall, York Lane, Belfast. The resolution put forward by Somerton branch of the guild said: "In view of the situation at present in the country, the loss to human life and the expense of renewing milk bottles, the various dairies, including the Co-Op should consider supplying milk in unbreakable containers. The resolution was defeated.

Tuesday 15th June 1971
Former mill bombed

The North was comparatively quiet last night with the only incidents reported being an explosion at the disused mill offices in the Falls area of Belfast and isolated stone throwing attacks in Derry. Shortly before midnight a shopkeeper saw three men walking in Northumberland Street. They pushed some boards aside covering the windows of the former Northern Spinning Company, which adjoins the Falls Road and threw in a duffle bag. Shortly afterwards there was an explosion which caused extensive damage to the office and smashed windows in a wide area. An estimated 10lb of explosives was used in the attack. Soldiers billeted in Northumberland Street, 100 yards away from the explosion were unhurt and no civilian injuries were reported. The Army said that there was no confirmation that shots were fired in the area







TOP - Roden Street Barracks after a bomb attack
MIDDLE - Hastings Street Barracks after a bomb attack
BOTTOM - Orangemen attack troops at the River Roe after one of their parades was banned

before the blast. This mill was burned down by rioters in August 1969.

Wednesday 16th June 1971
Hi-jack bus is set on fire in Derry
Trouble continued in Derry last night when a crowd of youths hi-jacked a bus in the Bogside area and set it on fire. The two passengers and driver were ordered out of the vehicle, a single decker Ulsterbus had been stopped by a human barrier. It was then driven to Rossville Street and set alight. As soldiers and firemen arrived on the scene they were stoned. After the fire had been put out the vehicle was dragged to waste ground and the road was reopened to traffic. No one was injured in the incident and no arrests were made.
Three incendiary devices were found in a field at Carnaghlass, some distance from Ligoniel. Two of the devices had ignited but no damage was caused. A fire in the headmaster's office at Springhill Primary School, in Belfast did little damage last night. The RUC said today that one of the doors into the building had been forced and an attempt made to fire some furniture.

Thursday 17th June 1971
Andersonstown RUC barracks attacked
Two Army sentries returned fire when gunmen opened up with sub-machine guns on Andersonstown RUC Barracks. This latest attack on a city police station came at 11 am. Four men in a white 1100 type car, opened up on the barracks with two bursts from sub-machine guns. Immediately two Army sentries posted outside the station returned fire. Army headquarters at Lisburn said they fired two shots, one of which is believed to have struck the gunmen's car.

An RUC spokesman said the raiders fired 13 shots in all. One of these went through the kitchen window, but there were no reports of anyone having been injured. Security at RUC barracks in the Belfast area was tightened up considerably following bomb attacks on Springfield Road and Hastings Street. Sandbag emplacements have been built outside several stations and permanent guards kept watch. The guard is mounted by both the RUC and Army and in addition, hidden Army marksmen keep a close watch on some of the stations in more vulnerable areas.

The shots fired at Andersonstown traced a line along the wall and sandbag emplacements on the Falls Road side of the building. At least two of the shots crashed through a kitchen window about six inches above the heads of some members of the Welsh Guards, who were having a cup of tea. An Army sentry on the roof of the nearby Corporation bus depot got off one shot at the speeding car and is believed to have hit the rear of it. It sped from the city centre direction up the Falls Road and into Andersonstown.

The sentry who was standing in the sandbagged emplacement outside the barracks ducked when the gunmen opened up and the shots hit the building. He rose again and he too got one shot at the car before it was obscured by traffic.

Thursday 17th June 1971
Interim award for soldiers widow
The Deputy Recorder of Belfast has awarded the widow of a young soldier shot during rioting in the New Lodge Road area last February, an interim payment of £500. The court was told that Mrs Curtis is expecting a baby in September, and that under these circumstances it wasn't possible to go into the matter fully or estimate a likely claim.

Thursday 17th June 1971
Customer clubbed in raid on wine shop
A customer was clubbed over the head and shot in the leg when two masked men raided an off licence in Ligoniel. The raid happened shortly after 11 pm. The two men, one of them armed, knocked on the door of the Wine Lodge in Legann Street, and when it was opened they forced their way inside. The raiders, who said they were from the IRA, took between £10 and 12 from the till and three bottles of whisky before making off in a cream coloured car.

In the fifth successive night of trouble in Derry, men of the royal Green Jackets foiled attempts to hijack two buses. Stones and several petrol bombs were thrown at troops by youths in the Rossville Street area. Snatch squads made four arrests, and one juvenile was later released. One soldier received slight injuries.

Thursday 17th June 1971
Use of CS gas is against 'Geneva protocol'
A research worker at the Royal College of Surgeons in London has said that he would not classify CS gas as safe. He said he was particularly concerned about the effect on innocent bystanders in trouble spots and in an article in the New Scientist magazine he says that there is a slight risk that "sub-lethal" concentrations of cyanide in CS gas could permanently damage the brain. He reported last December that cyanide could be found in the bodies of mice injected with CS gas. Now he says that his latest findings firmly establishes the gas as a poison and brings it within the scope of the Geneva protocol.

Friday 18th June 1971
Three blasts at power station
A series of explosions have extensively damaged an electricity sub-station due to come into operation later this year at Hannahstown on the outskirts of Belfast. Troops, RUC and firemen who went to the plant after the first blast at 5.25 am were still on the scene were still on the scene when two more bombs went off an hour later. The security forces think that the delayed series of explosions may have been a booby trap, but no one was injured.
One transformer was destroyed, a second extensively damaged and other equipment wrecked. An RUC spokesman said that it was an expert job. A fire broke out after the first blast caused by more than 20lb of explosives and firemen were still fighting the blaze at 6.20 when more blasts occurred in another part of the plant. Army experts put the total amount of gelignite used at about 30lb. Earlier in the night at 1.23 am, a pipe bomb was thrown over the wall of Gallaher's Factory Henry Street. The device containing between 1-2 lb of explosives shattered windows in the canteen but did not do any damage to two nearby oil tanks.

Friday 18th June 1971
Sentries shots did not hit raid car
Shots from an Army sentry didn't, after all, hit the car used by gunmen in their attack on Andersonstown. Forensic experts and detectives have examined the vehicle found near Casement Park, but there was no bullet marks on it. One of two soldiers who opened fire said that he thought he hit the vehicle, a white 1100 type saloon. A similar car, which police believe is the same vehicle, was found at Mooreland Park, near Casement Park GAA Ground. It had been stolen and fitted with false plates.

Friday 18th June 1971
Arms hauls
Between 1st January 1970 and 31st May 197, 12 machine guns, 329 other guns, over 80,000 rounds of ammunition and over 1,000 lbs of gelignite, together with other items have been found in searches throughout the North. This information was announced by the Under Secretary (Army) in the Commons at Westminster.

Friday 18th June 1971
New weapon used against soldiers
Troops in Derry came under attack from a new type of weapon – beer cans stuffed with gelignite – in the sixth successive night of violence in the Bogside. A hi-jacked motor van was set alight and 12 petrol bombs and other missiles were hurled as troops fought running battles with a crowd of about 60 youths near the Rossville Street-William Street junction.
Incendiary devices caused fires in three buses parked in the Ulsterbus depot in Foyle Street. One of the vehicles was severely damaged. Staff dealt with two other minor outbreaks. One soldier was slightly injured during the disturbances and one arrest was made.

Friday 18th June 1971
Citizen's body hits out at bombers.
The Central Citizens Defence Committee has described the present campaign of bombing and shootings as "immoral and cowardly and without any regard for Christian or democratic principles." In a hard hitting statement in which it outlines some of the destruction to lives and property the committee made this plea: "On behalf of our people, mothers and children we appeal again – stop, stop, stop." The CCDC said it was time to count the cost, "Whether these bombs are being exploded in the name of a united Ireland or of a union with Britain, those responsible must be made aware that their wickedness is held in universal contempt. No one wants to live in a society fashioned by men who have no regard for human life or the moral law." The committee says dozens of people have been taken to hospital as a result of the outrages. A widowed mother of four children is in a serious condition in a cardiac unit.

Four families have had to live through the recent heavy rains with only a tarpaulin as a roof, sleeping in their kitchens. Families are still picking splintered glass out of bedclothes and furniture. A whole weeks wages have been lost in the destruction of food and household goods.
The committee stresses: "The psychological effects are even worse and indeed cannot be measured. The toll taken by tension, anxiety and strain is enormous. Residents know that they walk in constant danger of being killed or maimed; they know that their children are not safe on the streets or even in their prams or cots."

Saturday 19th June 1971
Ammunition find
The Army has reported two small finds of ammunition in Belfast. Troops found 47 rounds of .25 ammunition in Whitworth Street at 11.20 am and a short time later a child handed in a plastic bag containing between 25-30 rounds of .22 ammunition which she said she found in Mayo Street.

Saturday 19th June 1971
Soldiers unhurt as car explodes
Eight soldiers in an Army patrol escaped injury when terrorists blew up a parked car on the Whiterock road. An Austin A40, stolen in the Belfast area, exploded as two vehicles of the 2nd Parachute Regiment passed it at 1.20 am. The blast wrecked the car but the patrol vehicles were undamaged. Two men were seen running away after the explosion and the area was sealed off as the hunt for the bombers was carried out. An Army spokesman said the device was electrically detonated; it was a fairly powerful explosion."

Saturday 19th June 1971
New weapon in riot control
As more than 500 troops are drafted into the North for the start of the marching season, and with possibly up to another 1,000 arriving before the 12th July the Army has unveiled its latest riot control weapon; the introduction of yellow, blue, mauve, and violet "rainbow dyes." Army officers in Belfast said that they were convinced the dyes would not only be effective but would be an immediate deterrent. The Dyes, food colouring, will be added to the water carried in water cannons and will not easily wash off, although some clothes will be more easily cleaned than others. It is now immediately available to all units and could well be used over the weekend if trouble breaks out – and it will mean that nobody, who has a trace of dye on their clothing, will have any excuse if they are arrested.

The Army have always pointed out that there is no such thing as an innocent person in the middle of a riot. Whether they are throwing missiles or standing still they are still part of an unlawful assembly.
The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers have just arrived in the North on their third tour of duty. They are being stationed at Long Kesh with 21 Engineer Regiment and will be held in case of trouble.

Saturday 19th June 1971
Woman's lucky escape
A Belfast woman had a lucky escape when she kicked a parcel she found at work, a parcel, which turned out to be a stick of gelignite. She found the parcel when she opened the doors of the Tower Clothing Company. "I came in the back door and went to open the front door from the inside," said the woman. When I looked for the mail there was this parcel. It didn't hit me for a minute then I saw that it was badly taped with yellow tape. An attempt had clearly lit the bomb because the lino was burnt and there was a strong smell of cordite. An Army spokesman said the parcel contained an eight once stick of gelignite.

Monday 21st June 1971
Bombs found on busy rail line
Four gelignite bombs were discovered under both tracks of the main Belfast-Dublin railway line near Lurgan today only minutes after a crowded express train passed over the spot on its way to Dublin. A party of Belfast school children were among the hundreds of passengers on the train, which left Belfast at 8 am. The attempt to blow up the line was discovered by a railway worker shortly after 8.15 am. The four separate charges were wired together with Cortex and placed under the tracks at Silverwood Bridge near the Goodyear factory, but the bombs failed to explode because the timing device did not work properly. At least five other passenger trains had also passed over the spot before the Enterprise, but it is not certain when the charges were laid.

Monday 21st June 1971
Provo tactics are brutish says Tuzo
Director of Security Operations in Northern Ireland, Lieut-General Harry Tuzo has described the Provisional IRA as a brutish and purposeless organisation whose tactics only serve to make their defeat more certain.
In a statement General Tuzo declared: "They are dictating their own down-fall and increasing the contempt in which they are held by the vast majority of the population." He added: "So far from hastening the departure of the British Army, the tactics of the Provisionals only serve to make their defeat more certain and to strengthen the determination of all security forces to effect their defeat decisively and quickly."
The Generals statement followed yesterday's broadcast by Radio Telefis Eireann of an earlier interview in Belfast with two Provisional IRA leaders who accepted responsibility for the majority of recent shootings and bombings in Belfast.

Monday 21st June 1971
Black Watch in flag incident
Protestants in the Lough Fea area, near Cookstown, were angry when a Union Jack flying on a small island in the lough was removed by a patrol of the Black Watch from Armagh using a boat. Following protests by local Orangemen the Army returned five hours later and replaced the flag which had been hoisted on the island for many years. It is understood the army removed the flag as the result of a complaint.

Monday 21st June 1971
City Centre bombs
The first of the two-city centre blasts broke many windows at Smithfield Square. The 5lb bomb had been placed at an electricity transformer at the GPO sorting office in Garfield Street. The front door of the transformer was blown off.
The second bomb, which exploded a short time later, broke dozens of windows in Rosemary Street and wrecked the door of the Masonic Lodge. The RUC say that between five and ten pound of gelignite had been used.
Earlier two civilians were injured and three RUC men badly injured when a bomb rocked Lurgan Police Station. The 10lb bomb exploded shortly after it was thrown at the station.
Other attacks have taken place. An explosion in Derry has been finally traced to a pumping station at the Creggan reservoir. The station was badly damaged but water supplies were not disrupted. Another gelignite charge exploded on waste ground at the Whiterock Road in Belfast and firemen rushed to Kennedy's filling station on the Upper Newtownards Road after two incendiary devices were thrown at the building.

On Saturday, city centre traffic was thrown into chaos as firemen tackled blazes caused by incendiary bombs in several stores. The most serious of the damage was caused to the High Street branch of Millets, which was completely gutted. While firemen were still at the scene, incendiary bombs started another fire at premises in Upper North Street and for a time Belfast Fire Brigade was stretched to its limit. The fires destroyed eider downs at McMurray's drapery shop causing hundreds of pounds worth of stock was damaged in Stewart Johnston's tailoring shop in Royal Avenue. Another device was found at Sinclair's shop in Royal Avenue as storeowners searched their premises in response to RUC appeals.
A soldier fired a shot at a man near Ballymurphy Crescent when he failed to stop after a challenge. The Army said the man, who appeared to be carrying a gun disappeared in the darkness.

Monday 21st June 1971
Men shot in Republican feud
Dozens of shops and business premises were damaged by two bomb explosions only hours after two men were gunned down in Belfast. The men, aged 44 and 21 are believed to be the victims of the continuing conflict between the two rival IRA factions. They were standing near the corner of Gracehill Street. And the Oldpark Road when gunmen apparently using a shotgun and an automatic weapon opened fire from a passing car.

Other men on the scene dived for cover as the car sped away.
Local people claimed a car had driven past the scene earlier and the occupants had shouted anti Catholic remarks. The RUC are investigating reports that the attack was the work of the Official wing of the IRA.

Tuesday 22nd June 1971
Deadliest booby trap foiled

One of the deadliest booby-trap bombs so far devised was found behind a hedge in County Armagh after a number of bogus callers tried to lure the RUC to the scene. A Special Patrol Group unit from Armagh went to the spot shortly after 4.30 pm and found wires leading off the Armagh-Blackwatertown road into a hedge. An army bomb disposal expert dismantled the bomb.

The RUC said the bomb consisted of a gas cylinder with its bottom removed and packed with 16 lb of gelignite. And almost 7 lbs of nuts, bolts and nails. "It was obviously designed to blast the nuts and bolts into someone," said an RUC spokesman.

The RUC are still trying to trace one of the two blasts, which occurred in Belfast shortly before midnight. And was heard in the city centre.

A nail bomb exploded at Henrietta Street in the Markets area shortly after midnight but no one was injured.

Ten pound of Gelignite and a quantity of fuse wire was found by an Army foot patrol on routine duty at Browning Drive-Limavady Road junction in Derry. The explosives were made safe by an Army expert,





Wednesday 23rd June 1971
Man hurls bomb into field

An attempt to bomb a public house in County Antrim was foiled today when a man grabbed the sparking bomb and hurled it into field. The man who wants to remain anonymous saw the bomb as he drove up to the Store Bar at Lylehill, Templepatrick shortly after midnight. The device, which had two burning fuses, had been planted on the front windowsill.

And in Armagh the RUC have found a second deadly booby trap near the spot where a similar one was discovered on Monday. The RUC said the Claymore type device was found embedded in a bank during a search of the Armagh-Blackwatertown Road.

Thursday 24th June 1971
Bomb is flung over wall

Three people including an elderly couple were taken to hospital in Belfast early today after a gelignite bomb exploded in the back yard of a neighbours' home. The bomb was lobbed over the rear wall of the house in Mountcashel Street off the Springfield road at midnight. An Army spokesman said five pounds of gelignite was used.

Friday 25th June 1971
Machine gun attack on Land Rover

A machine gunner in a speeding car opened fire on two RUC men investigating a road accident in Andersonstown. It was one of the first incidents of a night during which bombs went off at a public house and a hotel, more gelignite was found near the Newry border post and the Army broke up a fight between rival gangs by using rubber bullets. Four youths were arrested when the Army broke up a fight in the Suffolk Road area.

Shortly after midnight two to five pounds of gelignite exploded at the Raven Bar in Ravenhill Road. The door was blown in and windows in neighbouring houses were broken.

A fire gutted Lavery's public house on the Lisburn Road in Belfast. The RUC believe that the fire may have been caused by a petrol bomb, but the scene is still to be examined by experts.

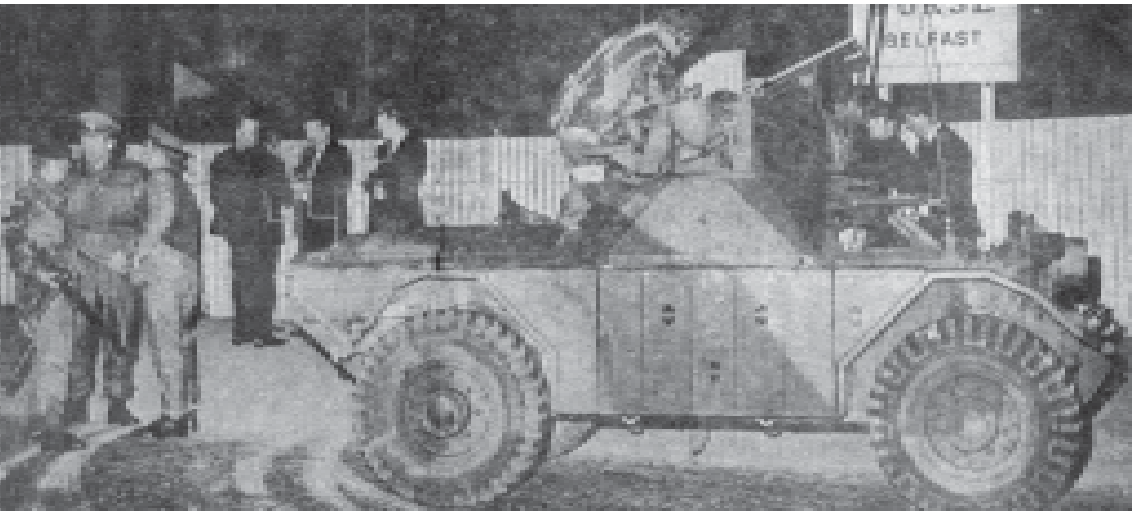
The 21 Engineer Regiment have made another big explosives find near the custom's clearance post at Killeen outside Newry. They found a suitcase containing 45 lbs of gelignite with fuses and detonators lying in a field. They found 90 lbs of explosives in the same place two days ago.

Friday 25th June 1971
Mother and Daughter escape death

A Belfast man described today how his wife and 14-year-old daughter had an almost unbelievable escape when the bullets from a machine gun fired at a police vehicle passed between them in their living room in Bernagh Drive. The bullets passed through the window and lodged in the wall after ricocheting off the above the fireplace. The machine gun attack happened after two RUC men from the Andersonstown station were called to an accident at Bernagh Drive. One of the RUC men was standing at the Land Rover and the other at the scene of the accident when a car approached from the Glen Road. An occupant opened fire on the Land Rover with an automatic weapon and six tore through the empty but the constable beside it was not hit. Three of the rounds hit a nearby house. The RUC said that they did not return fire.

Friday 25th June 1971
Bomb at Dunadry Hotel

A Canadian narrowly escaped death when a gelignite bomb exploded at the Dunadry Hotel near Templepatrick.



TOP - An overturned army Saracen on the Ligoniel Road in North Belfast

MIDDLE - Ward ten of the Royal Victoria Hospital where a man under police guard was freed

BOTTOM - The army arrive at the scene of two explosions at Black's Road, Dunmurray

He was sleeping in a bedroom above the garages at the hotel when the bomb went off. Three cars in the garages were destroyed in the blast.

Saturday 26th June 1971
Arms dump found in East Belfast
As troops uncovered a secret arms dump during a massive search in East Belfast, there was a stream complaints from local people alleging a lack of military protection for their homes in last night's disturbances.
The haul, which includes nail bombs' a grenade, ammunition, military clothing and 50 walkie-talkie sets, instruction manuals and first aid dressings was found in a back yard at the Madrid Street-Woodstock Road junction.

Saturday 26th June 1971
Parade brings Belfast to a halt
More than 5,000 marchers, led by the Rev Ian Paisley, brought Belfast city centre to a standstill this afternoon as they left the City Hall on the Ulster Constitution's Defence Committee commemorative parade to Stormont. Traffic came to a halt and shoppers stopped to watch the parade make its way down Chichester Street on its first leg of the six mile Golden Jubilee walk.

Saturday 26th June 1971
Bombs and shooting in East Belfast
Police and troops mounted a massive search in East Belfast after a number of explosions and shooting incidents in the area. The new Orange Hall at Dungiven was also severely damaged by three explosions.
The trouble in East Belfast, which centred round the Catholic Seaforde Street area, began at midnight when there were several bursts of automatic fire near the Beechfield Street-Bryson Street. It is believed that some of the shots were aimed at police who were in the area, but no one was injured. Some of the shots struck the railings of a school and nearby buildings. Then in an attempt to break the streetlights, a group of youths hurled missiles from Seaforde Street on to the main Newtownards Road. This was followed by another attack from Seaforde Street when three pipe bombs were thrown into Wolff Street on the opposite side of the road.
Each of the pipe bombs, which contained about one and a half pounds of explosives, was followed by a burst of gunfire from Seaforde Street but the shots did not hit anyone. The bombs caused damage to houses in Wolff Street and a number of windows were broken. Shots were also fired at a taxi office at the corner of Seaforde Street. After the shooting a crowd of about 300 Protestants gathered on the Newtownards Road protesting angrily about the attacks. But they dispersed without incident.
Shortly after 2 am a Catholic home in Bryson Street was severely damaged by another pipe bomb lobbed into the rear. The RUC said that no one was in the house at the time of the explosion. Windows in a number of houses were also broken. This attack was then followed by two small explosions in the Bryson Street area, but only slight damage was caused.
Military Police are investigating two discharges of automatic fire by a soldier in Paulette Avenue shortly before midnight. It is understood that the shots were accidental and were not connected with the trouble at Seaford Street

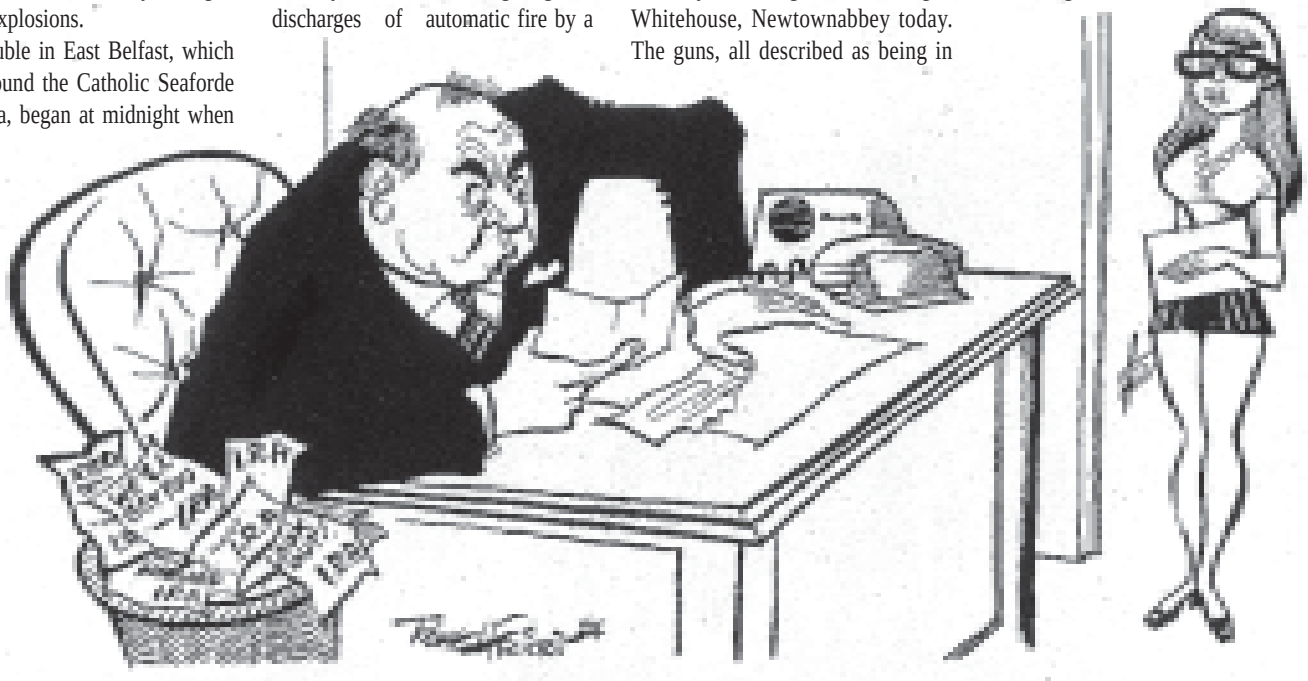
Monday 28th June 1971
Huge bomb factory is found
After a massive dawn operation in the centre of Belfast 200 troops uncovered a bomb factory from which they believe bombers have been drawing from for some time. The search started at 2am when the troops, who are believed to have been acting on information received, soon realised that they had found a major find in a warehouse in Devonshire Street, in the Falls Road area.

Among the items found were a large quantity of gelignite, 200 gallons of acid, 2,000 feet of fuse, 14 complete booby traps, two walkie-talkie radios, 130 detonators, three grenades, four gelignite bombs, a pistol and a rifle. Also found were 3000 rounds of assorted ammunition, a stock of parts for machine guns, a quantity of fuses of various types, some flares and time switches. Three men are helping police with their inquiries. Several boxes of contraceptives used in the making of delayed action fuses for gelignite bombs were also found.

Monday 28th June 1971
Girl finds five guns
Three rifles and two shotguns were found by a school girl in a building at Whitehouse, Newtownabbey today. The guns, all described as being in good condition were wrapped in an old blanket. They were later handed over to police at Whiteabbey. The guns were a .303 Martini rifle, and a .22 savage shotgun, a BSA.22 rifle and a Savage .22 rifle, a .410 shotgun and a 12 bore sawn off shotgun.

Monday 28th June 1971
Shankill robbers get £700
Three men carrying guns and wearing stocking masks over their faces got away with almost £700 from the Long Bar on the Shankill Road. No one was hurt during the robbery. The robbers made their getaway from a side entrance. They walked into the bar by a side entrance and told the barman and manager to lie down on the floor. It is understood that the manager was counting the money at the time and the robbers put him and his assistant in a storeroom before they left. There were no customers in the bar at the time and no one appears to have witnesses their getaway.

Monday 28th June 1971
Hitch-hiker shot and two men tarred and beaten
A Newtownabbey man was shot and two men were beaten up during a restless weekend of bombings and shootings. An Ardoyne man had been admitted to hospital after he was shot in the leg on the Shore Road, outside Whiteabbey. The man, who had been thumbing a lift home from Belfast,



"This one is serious – it's a threat from the Inland Revenue!"

when a car drew up and a man got out and fired a shotgun at him. It is understood that the suspect car, which was without lights then swung round and went back towards Belfast.
Six men are thought to have carried out an attack on two men from the Oldpark Road District of Belfast. Both were beaten and tarred near a hut in Glenpark Street. One of the men was detained in hospital with a fractured leg, the other discharged himself.
Police and troops came under fire from gunmen in several isolated shootings.. Two shots were fired from a passing car at an Army sentry on duty on the roof of Pomeroy RUC Station in County Tyrone. And at Victoria Bridge, near Strabane an Army mobile patrol of the Royal Scots was fired on but the vehicle was not hit. A policeman had narrow escape in another shooting incident. The RUC man was in a traffic control; car at a Balmoral Filling Station in Belfast when a gunman opened fire from a passing van shortly after 4 pm. He was prevented from pursuing the van by the heavy traffic.

Monday 28th June 1971
Soldier dies in gun accident
A 21-year-old soldier died last night as he telephoned friends in Scotland, after his gun went off accidentally. The soldier who died was telephoning from his billet at Gosford Castle, near Markethill, was named as Sapper John Connachan, of Prestonpans, East Lothian.

Tuesday 29th June 1971
Man under death threat is jailed
A man said to be under sentence of death from the IRA was today jailed for eight years. The 49-year-old man from Vancouver Street had pleaded guilty to five charges involving three guns, 5482 rounds of ammunition and various firearms accessories. The court was told how the man had agreed to store weapons for the IRA but when he later became ill he sold the weapons to make up his wages.

Wednesday 30th June 1971
170 fire devices found this year
A total of 170 incendiary devices have been found in 103 businesses this year the Minister of State Mr, John Taylor told MP's at Stormont this afternoon. No prosecutions have yet resulted from the discoveries.

JULY 1971

Thursday 1st July 1971
Bomb explosion on Tyrone border
A bomb explosion has severely damaged a steel land boundary barrier at a customs post on the Tyrone border. The explosion occurred shortly before one o'clock at the Moybridge post at Tully, near Aughnacloy. The barrier is of a new type which has been set up at some border posts. It is intended to stop cars which may be used by persons escaping across the border. The RUC said that another explosion heard in the same area a few minutes later has not yet been traced but it is thought it may have occurred on the southern side of the border.

Thursday 1st July 1971
New explosives "Sniffer" revealed
The Army today unveiled a new "sniffer" which can discover explosives no matter where they are hidden. The device clicks if it sniffs vapour from explosives and an Army spokesman said "If you have handled explosives within the 24 hours before being screened by our machine we will know. It doesn't matter if you've washed your hands."

Thursday 1st July 1971
Dublin bomb attempt is foiled
A possible attempt to plant a bomb in the new headquarters of Roadstone Ltd, at Saggart, County Dublin has been foiled by a security man. Two men, both with northern accents and using a car with a Northern registration were disturbed in the power station of the huge complex by a 51 year old security officer. Police later carried out a search of the building and found a number of fuses.

Friday 2nd July 1971
Blast at Water Plant
A bomb blast damaged a water pumping station and valve chamber being built for Omagh Rural Council, at Killyclougher, near Omagh.

The building, which was under construction, had not been handed over to the council. An Army spokesman said that about 10-15 lb of gelignite had been used in the blast and caused extensive damage to the building, which is expected to be out of order for some time.



Friday 2nd July 1971
Time bomb defused
A gelignite bomb was discovered and defused only a few yards from where an Orange parade was passing through Coalisland. The 5lb bomb was found at a bus shelter. A clock which was being used as a timing device had stopped. But when an Army bomb disposal expert picked it up it began ticking again. The bomb, in a cardboard box, was eventually made safe with 30 minutes to spare. An Army spokesman said there was no way of knowing how long the clock had been stopped and if it had kept going the bomb might have exploded before it was found. The bomb was discovered during a search of the parade route after Dungannon police received an anonymous telephone call saying that a number of bombs had been planted in Coalisland. The caller did not give any details.
During another Orange parade in Lurgan, stones, bottles and petrol bombs were thrown at security forces. The Army fired one rubber bullet and made four arrests
And in Belfast a 15 lb gelignite bomb was fond at the doorway of Connolly's garage in Donegall Pass. The gelignite was found in a paper bag after a passer by had reported seeing a suspicious looking object. The four-foot fuse attached to the bomb had burned itself out only six inches from the detonator.
The trouble in Lurgan began as the parade of 3,000 - 4,000 marchers approached Church Place. A crowd of about 150 youths in North Street attempted to block the route of the parade. Police and troops of 21 Engineers cleared the way and the Army fired one rubber bullet and brought up a water cannon. The cannon contained clear water.

Saturday 3rd July 1971
Loyalist Rally in Carrick
A large loyalist rally in Carrickfergus began minus a huge Union Jack which the organisers had promised to have flying for the occasion. The flag which measures 50 feet by 20 feet is perhaps the biggest Union Jack in the UK, failed to arrive following a row with Unionist Party headquarters. The rally was being organised by Carrick

LEFT - Clear up operation in Belfast's Royal Avenue after a bomb attack

Unionist Division and the speakers advertised for the event were the Rev Ian Paisley, MP, the Rev Martin Smyth and Mr. James Molyneaux, the South Antrim MP at Westminster.

The flag, which was first flown in 1912 at the signing of the Ulster Covenant, is now in possession of the Unionist Party at their Glengall Street headquarters. But today it was learned that Glengall Street has refused to part with it for the Carrick rally. A Glengall Street spokesman said "The flag was offered in the first instance because we understood it was the Official Unionist Division applying for it. But since other people have taken the platform the flag has been refused."

Saturday 3rd July 1971

Six arrested after Lisburn attacks

Six people were arrested and one policeman was taken to hospital during disturbances in Lisburn after fire badly damaged two stores in the town. In Belfast, troops fired rubber bullets to disperse a small crowd of stone-throwing youths on the Crumlin Road as Orangemen paraded less than half a mile away.

The first incendiary device in Lisburn exploded shortly after 6 pm in the hardware store of J. C. Patterson at Market Street but only minor damage was caused. Then while firemen were still at the scene another set fire to the Bow Street store of C & W Titterington, radio dealers. The building was severely damaged before firemen brought the fire under control. Another device was found fifteen minutes later at a hardware shop in Market Square before it ignited. Two devices were then found at the Spinning Mill in Bow Street during a search and were quickly extinguished. Forty-five minutes later fire broke out in another hardware firm, W.J. McCormick in Bow Street and serious damage was caused.

Firemen were called in from Dromore to help local units fighting the fires. More than 20 officers and men were involved. Trouble broke out in the town about three hours later when a crowd of Protestant youths gathered at Market Square and tried to storm St. Patrick's church hall. But quick action by the RUC prevented them from reaching the building where a dance was being held. Police managed to restore peace in the town before 3am.

Earlier two incendiary devices started a fire in the first floor restaurant of the new £2 million Europa Hotel in Great Victoria Street. Four members of staff were injured fighting the fire at the hotel, which is due to open shortly. Three more incendiary devices were later found. A three pound-bomb exploded today on a windowsill of the Farmers Rest public house at Castlereagh Street in East Belfast. Windows of the building at Templemore Avenue were broken but no one was injured.

Monday 5th July 1971

Four injured as Army patrol is attacked

Security chiefs were studying the details of another weekend of shooting and bombing in which two soldiers and two civilians were injured and police were again ambushed by gunmen.

Four people were shot when gunmen sprayed an Army Land Rover with machine gun fire yesterday afternoon in Leeson Street near the junction with the Grosvenor Road. Two gunmen in a white ford Cortina car, which was stolen earlier in the day, followed the military patrol for about half a mile before the ambush. Near the end of the street the gunmen stepped from the car and opened fire with Thompson submachine guns on the patrol of the Royal Green Jackets. One soldier was shot in the elbow while the other received a serious wound to the leg. Two civilians on the Grosvenor Road were struck by bullets as the gunmen continued firing. The gunmen then fled down McDonald Street and the area was immediately sealed off by troops who mounted a search. A fully loaded Thompson submachine gun magazine and empty 9mm cartridges were found in the car. A crowd of over 100 gathered and a near riot developed as troops faced insults and abuse. The local people complained that they had been placed under virtual arrest during the search.

The troops were pulled back but one section of the crowd then tried to cross the Grosvenor Road into the mainly Protestant Malt Street. Two RUC men drew their revolvers and the crowd halted. Shortly after the shooting two nail bombs exploded in nearby Ross Street, but caused little damage.

Monday 5th July 1971

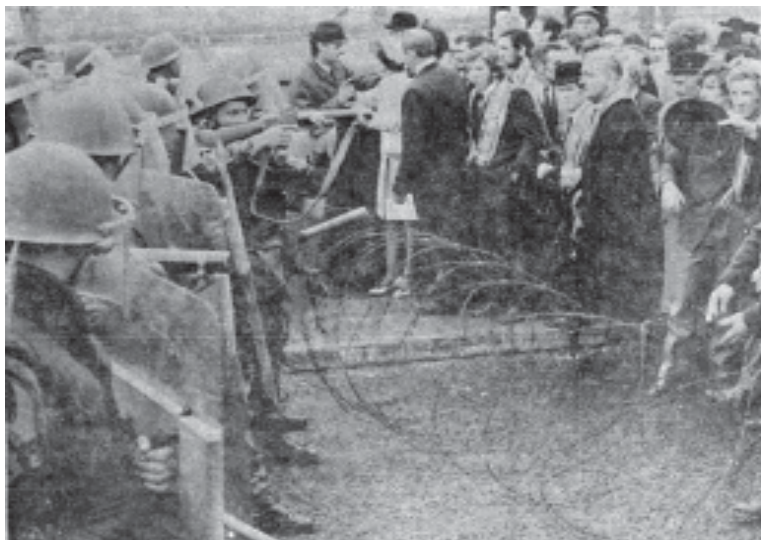
Man critical after 'IRA' mine blast

RUC personnel investigating four explosions in the Republic at the weekend believe that the Official IRA was responsible for most, if not all of them. The Provisional IRA has denied responsibility for the blast which wrecked a transformer at the strike-bound Mogul mines at Silvermines, County Tipperary in which a man was seriously injured. Five armed men held the security staff at gunpoint while explosives were packed around the base of two transformers. Only one of the charges ignited. Later a badly burned man was left at Barrington's Hospital, Limerick, by a number of men who refused to give any details of how he had been injured. His condition is described as critical.

A 7 lb gelignite bomb wrecked the offices of the British Ministry of







TOP - Women protesters on the Shankill Road

MIDDLE - The rear of Springfield Road RUC Barracks after an explosion

BOTTOM - Troops confront Orangemen at a road block in Dungiven

Pensions in Cork. The blast also damaged the offices of the Department of Social Welfare. The Irish Life Assurance Co., and United Dominicans Trust. There was also an explosion in the garden of an Englishman living in Cobh, County Cork. The explosion blew in the door and windows and damaged the roof. The man was not injured. The fourth bomb attack was on the headquarters of the Fianna Fail Party in Upper Mount Street, Dublin at about 4 am. Police investigated and found the door was badly scorched.







Tuesday 6th July 1971
Soldier took part in Orange march
The Army has confirmed that a Paratrooper serving in Northern Ireland took part in an Orange parade last week. He is a private in the Parachute Regiment and is believed to have joined the Orange Order since coming to the North. But it is understood that the soldier, who is English, is not under arrest or on a charge, and his unit commander is dealing with the matter. It is not an offence for a soldier to be a member of the Orange Order as such, but troops are forbidden under Queens's regulations to take part in any political activities.

Tuesday 6th July 1971
80 searched at Aldergrove
Troops searched about 80 passengers and their luggage this morning after they arrived on the 10.10 flight at Aldergrove from London. Nothing was found in the search which lasted about 20 minutes.

Tuesday 6th July 1971
Gun found under seat
Two men were helping police with their inquiries in Belfast today after a gun and ammunition were found by troops under a bus seat. The find was made when the bus on a normal service route, was stopped by soldiers at an Army roadblock shortly after midnight. The soldiers found a .45 pistol and 48 rounds of .45 ammunition when a search was carried out at the checkpoint at the junction of the Woodvale Road and Crumlin Road.

Tuesday 6th July 1971
Machinegun is found after attack
Troops found a Thompson submachine gun and a pistol in Belfast today near the scene of an ambush by gunmen on an Army patrol a few hours earlier. The weapons were discovered lying on a grass embankment at Ballymurphy Road by men of the 2nd Parachute Regiment and they were taken away for forensic examination. The find came during the search for two gunmen who opened fire on a patrol of the same unit in Ballymurphy shortly before 2 am. More than a dozen shots were fired at troops from automatic weapons and a gelignite nail bomb was hurled at the vehicle. The detonator of the bomb came adrift and exploded harmlessly. None of the shots hit the vehicle. As troops got out to chase two men who were seen running away, the patrol commander fired one rubber bullet but the gunmen escaped. It is believed the machine gun and the .38 pistol may have been thrown away by the gunmen.

TOP - Rioting in Derry's Rossville Street
MIDDLE - Detectives dif out bullets fired at Andersonstown RUC Barrack
BOTTOM - Soldiers taking cover after an explosion at armoured cars in Lecky Road, Derry

Earlier in Derry two masked men emerged from the Bogside and fired about eight shots at an Army sentry at Bishop's gate. The gunmen are believed to have used automatic pistols. The shots missed and the soldiers did not return fire. It was the second night in succession that troops were fired on in the city.
An RUC man was taken to hospital in Belfast when his patrol car was attacked in the New Lodge Road area. Police said he was treated at the Mater Hospital for head and arm injuries after an incident on Hallidays Road. Tension remains high in the area after a Union Jack and some Twelfth bunting was pulled down and burned at the Catholic end of Edlingham Street. Stones were also thrown and two large rival crowds gathered. The RUC said that 100 Catholic youths from the Newington Avenue area faced a crowd of 200 Protestants from Lawther Street. But the RUC and troops moved between them to prevent a clash.

There were also more than a half a dozen minor explosions in the Lower Falls area for the third night in succession. An Army vehicle, which went to investigate an explosion at Divis Flats, had a nail bomb thrown at it but no damage was caused. The RUC have described these explosions as being "fairly minor, of nuisance value only." Two small explosion were also reported in the Bogside after youths had stoned buildings in William Street, including Stenenson's Bakery.
Meanwhile in Cork the Official IRA claimed responsibility for the blast which wrecked the office of the British Ministry of Social Security at the South Mall last Sunday. A statement issued by the group said the action was taken "because British Army officers from both England and occupied Ireland have used the facilities and personnel of this office to contact and entice Irishmen who have deserted from the British Army into re-joining."

Tuesday 6th July 1971
Socialists break away
The Derry Young Socialists have disaffiliated from the Northern Ireland Labour Party because of "the ineffectuality of the Labour Party and the apparent desire to pursue a policy of coalition with Tory-Unionists."

Wednesday 7th July 1971
Bomb blast victim was IRA Captain
Mr. Martin O'Leary, the 20-year-old Cork man who died in a Limerick hospital from injuries received in an explosion at a County Tipperary mine was a captain in the IRA, according to death notices published in newspapers. A statement issued by the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau said he had been "engaged on an active service operation against Mogul Mines Ltd." It said: "The operation in which Volunteer O'Leary received his fatal injuries, the destruction of the company transformer, was carried out by a unit of the IRA in defence of the rights of Irish workers." A guard of honour of young men wearing black berets and tricolour armbands was at Barrington's Hospital, Limerick, when the body was removed and brought to the undertakers premises in Cork. When the hearse reached Cork it was escorted by a large group of Republicans, including pipers and flag-bearers.

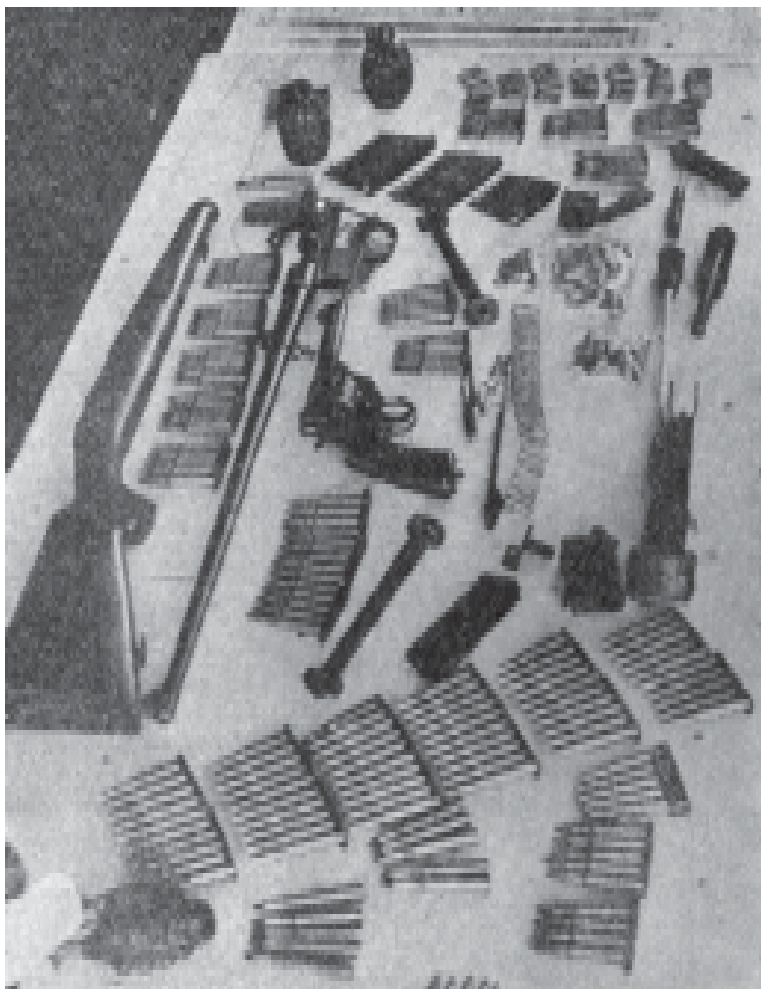
Wednesday 7th July 1971
Five taken to hospital after bomb blast
Five people are taken to hospital in Belfast after a bomb badly damaged a car accessories depot, and in Derry gunmen opened fire on troops for the third night in succession. The blast at the service depot of John Lucus in Glenmachan Street, near the Donegall Road entrance to the M1 motorway, blew a four-foot hole in a wall, wrecked the interior of the building and shattered dozens of windows in nearby homes. Four women and a man, suffering from shock, were taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital. The 20 lb gelignite bomb also caused structural damage to a number of homes and brought a large crowd to the scene, but there were no incidents. An RUC reserve constable on duty nearby saw two men running off after the blast towards the Donegall Road. A search was mounted in the Bog meadows but they were not traced. The men are believed to have been wearing black leather jackets.
Earlier a bomb caused slight damage at the rear of a house in Perth Street off the Old Lodge Road, but the occupants have not been living there for some weeks. Two other bombs were also found and defused
Another bomb exploded at Majorca Street, near Roden Street RUC barracks but only minor damage was caused to nearby houses.
Soldiers came under fire again in Derry after a series of stoning incidents. Missiles were hurled from Long Tower Street into the Protestant Fountain estate and youths were chased back into the Bogside. Army barriers were pulled across the road at William Street by another crowd of Youths.
Six shots were fired from Fox's Corner and almost immediately more than a dozen shots were fired from Rossville Street, but no one was hit. Just before midnight more shots were fired at soldiers at Bishop gate from two cars and again at 1 am. Troops came under attack. None of the shots hit anyone and fire was not returned. The shooting was followed by an explosion at Brooke Park, but no damage was caused. Six youths detained by the Army were later allowed to go.
An RUC sergeant and two constables were slightly injured during the stoning incidents. They were struck when stones were hurled from Long Tower Street into the Fountain Street. Police believe that an attempt was made to burn down Corcrain Orange Hall at Portadown. The caretaker discovered that two curtains and seats were damaged by fire. It is believed lighted newspapers were pushed into the building.

Wednesday 7th July 1971
Irish Army put on guard rail line
Recent attempts on both sides of the border to blow up the Dublin-Belfast railway line have resulted in the posting of Irish Army troops along the southern section of the line. A spokesman for the Government Information Bureau said in Dublin: "In accordance with the policy of providing assistance to the Civic Guard, when so requested, troops are being provided to supplement the police and CIE security elements."

Wednesday 7th July 1971
Intimidation
At the Holy Cross School in the Ardoyne area of Belfast, six Catholic families spent the night in classrooms. They claim they were ordered from their homes under the threat of being burnt out. Their homes are in the Tynedale housing estate and they spent today at the City Hall trying to get accommodation elsewhere.
An RUC spokesman also confirmed that two complaints had been received from Protestant families in Farringdon Gardens. He added: "There has been tension in this area over the last few days between rival factions. There have been allegations and counter allegations." Troops were called into the area on Monday after four Catholic families in Farringdon Gardens asked for protection after UVF slogans were daubed on a house. Threats were allegedly made by men claiming to be UVF members. The RUC have also received a complaint from one Catholic family in the Ardboe Drive estate. The family claims it was forced to leave the house.

Thursday 8th July 1971
Army kills man in Derry
Fresh trouble broke out in Derry as youths protested about the death of a 27-year-old Derry man who was shot dead by an Army marksman in the Bogside. At least four explosions were





TOP - Fire fighters tackle a blaze at the Milletts Store in Belfast's High Street

BOTTOM - A section of the arms and ammunition found in the lower Falls area of West Belfast

heard and there was an unconfirmed report of shooting as troops fought off attacks from a crowd of about 60 youths who hurled missiles at them in Fahan Street. The trouble broke out near the spot where Seamus Cusack, from Derry's Creggan district, was shot dead by the Army marksman. He died in the County Hospital, Letterkenny after being smuggled across the border. The troops forced the rioters down Fahn Street to "Free Derry" corner. The youths had earlier marched from the Bogside to the city centre, carrying a black flag. Five rubber bullets were fired at Butcher Gate shortly before this, blasts were heard at Westland Street.

The Army, which has now amended an earlier report that two men had been shot, said only two shots were fired by soldiers during the trouble. Both these shots said an Army spokesman were fired in Fahan Street. It is still not known whether a youth was also hit when an Army marksman opened fire on a group of petrol-bombers. The Army's "shoot for effect" decision came after troops had been constantly bombarded with stones and petrol bombs – the fourth night in a row that they had been attacked. Police said that the shot fired by the marksman at one petrol bomber missed and he did not fall, contrary to earlier reports. Shortly afterwards, as troops were pelted with stones and missiles in Fahan Street, a man appeared carrying a rifle. When he raised the rifle the Army marksman, for B Company, 1st battalion, the Royal Anglican Regt, fired a single shot. The man fell and was then carried off. When soldiers reached the spot, they found only a pool of blood. The Army said the gunman did not fire at troops. The RUC then began checking on local doctors and hospitals to see if a man had been admitted. It is known that someone called for an ambulance for the wounded man, but when it arrived, the crew was told: "You're too late, he's gone."



Thursday 8th July 1971
RUC issue bonfire warning

The RUC have issued a warning about the traditional 11th night bonfires. It follows the finding of 45 rounds of ammunition in a bonfire at Ulsterville Avenue. Children discovered it while playing. "It is essential that every bonfire is checked thoroughly. This means not just poking through it but taking it piece by piece and moving it to another site to make absolutely sure that there is nothing which could explode in the fire.

Thursday 8th July 1971
Shots fired at Power station

Two shots were fired by members of the FCA guarding a power plant at Ballyshannon, County Donegal this morning. The patrol noticed the lights of a car on the adjoining Ballyshannon-Belleek Road focused on one of the transformers, and on investigation they observed two men in the vicinity. They then saw one man running in the direction of the transformer and fired two shots at him. He was not hit and escaped. No damage was caused to the transformer and a thorough search of the area failed to reveal anything. Security operations have been tightened as a result of the incident. An unsuccessful attempt by the UVF to blow up one of the transformers at Ballyshannon took place in October 1969, when a County Down man died as a result of severe burns.

Thursday 8th July 1971
Nail bomber shot

An Army spokesman said a nail bomber, shot by a marksman, was dragged off by a crowd during trouble in Derry. Some troops were injured by nail bombs.

Friday 9th July 1971
Four lorries hi-jacked in Derry

Four lorries were hi-jacked this afternoon and used as barricades in Derry's Bogside area. The first lorry belonging to United Yeast was used to block the Lecky Road. The second belonging to Northern Ireland Carriers was overturned and used as a barricade at the junction of Laburnum Terrace and Westland Street. A bus was used to block this corner last night. Shortly afterwards a ready mix concrete truck was hi-jacked in Rossville Street and driven further into the Bogside. Then youths forced the driver of a high-sided lorry loaded with stones to drive from William Street-Rossville Street junction towards 'Free Derry Corner.'

Friday 9th July 1971
All night riots after second Bogside death

Sporadic rioting continued in Derry following the death of 19-year-old Desmond Beattie, the second man to be shot in the city's fifth day of disturbances. Beattie, one of a family of 10, was a member of the Brooke Park youth centre, whose construction was completed by soldiers some months ago. Unemployed, he lived with his parents in the Rosemount area of the city. His brother described him as quiet and said he had never trained to be a member of any illegal body. He had had a steady girlfriend for several months.

After trouble flared on the edge of the Bogside yesterday afternoon a lorry filled with stones was used to ram an Army Land Rover. It drove out of a crowd of 200 stone throwers at the junction of Westland Street and Lecky Road, and when the Land Rover crew jumped out they came under attack by nail bombs. Two soldiers fell injured after the explosions and were taken to hospital for treatment.

When troops opened fire, Beattie, who the Army said was one of the nail bombers, was hit and was carried away from the scene by his friends. By the time he reached Altnagelvin Hospital,

he had died of a wound to the chest.
Local MP, Mr. John Hume, has today called for a judicial inquiry into the deaths of the two men in the city. Mr. Hume said the inquiry was necessary because the evidence of so many witnesses was that the men were not carrying any weapons as alleged by the Army.

Friday 9th July 1971
Five soldiers escape death in explosion
Five soldiers escaped death early today when a bomb wrecked their truck on the way to Armagh. Three of the soldiers are being treated in Armagh city Hospital and another is in the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast with a serious eye injury. The fifth soldier was not hurt. The incident happened at Tullymore on the main Armagh-Enniskillen Road. A convoy of four vehicles, two trucks and two Land Rovers, had been on patrol. After the first Land Rover passed, a large bomb containing 25 to 50 lbs of gelignite was detonated electrically and it blew the truck with the five soldiers off the road. The bomb had been detonated from 300 yards away.
Last night in Belfast two attempts were made to blow up Army vehicles in the Grosvenor Road district. In the first incident, a nail bomb was thrown at a mobile patrol in Malt Street but it did not go off. Shots were also fired at the vehicle. The soldiers did not return fire. Later a second nail bomb was hurled at a mobile patrol in Distillery Street. It exploded and troops fired two shots at the man but he escaped.
A blast ripped through the premises of Setright Registers on the Donegall Road. A hole was blown in a wall and the bomb also caused structural damage to the building

Friday 9th July 1971
Immediate repairs for bomb-hit houses
The government has announced a scheme providing for the immediate repair of bomb-damaged houses. It is intended to avoid delay in the repair of houses, which are still structurally sound. By fixing broken doors and windows the majority of these houses can be made habitable again very quickly. The scheme will apply initially to only to Belfast but details will be worked out to extend it to other areas

Friday 9th July 1971
IRA threat of bomb and bullet
A warning that the "Bomb and the bullet" would be used by the Republican Movement to achieve social; aims was given by Mr. Cahill Goulding, Chief of Staff of the IRA. He was giving the oration at the graveside of a 20-year-old Cork man, Martin O'Leary, a member of the IRA who was fatally wounded during a bomb attack on the strike-bound Mogul Mines, near Nenagh, County Tipperary. He described the dead man as "the first martyr of the new phase of the republican struggle that will lead the people of Ireland to be authors of their own destiny and writers of their own history."
A force of 500 police were on duty at the funeral to prevent any arms being discharged. Shots had been fired outside the dead man's house in Cork on Wednesday night. No shots were fired during the burial, but just before midnight a volley was fired outside the graveyard.

Friday 9th July 1971
Chalets bombed in Wicklow
Police are investigating the explosions, which wrecked three chalets being built at Clogga Strand, near Arklow, County Wicklow, believe that members of the Official IRA were responsible. The chalets are part of a holiday complex being built by a Hamburg businessman. The explosions have caused him to have second thoughts about the project. He said: "This senseless act was done by stupid terrorists because I am German. I may have to sell out to an Irish firm."

Saturday 10th July 1971
'Flying columns ' to keep peace
As security chiefs were finalising their plans for mobilising the 15,000 plus soldiers and police to cover the Twelfth weekend, the RUC announced a re-routing order for an Orange parade down the Crumlin Road. The Army have revealed that "hundreds of soldiers in 'Flying Columns' will be placed at strategic points throughout the North."

Saturday 10th July 1971
Bomb in sewer
Army intelligence officers investigating an explosion, which wrecked a house in Belfast, believe an IRA plan to kill soldiers and steal their guns back-fired. They believe that the huge 50lb gelignite bomb, which exploded in an underground sewer near the junction of Crumlin Road and Flax Street, at Ardoyne, was meant for a nearby Army post. But they claim it failed because the men planting it took the wrong turning in the sewers and planted their bomb under the house, which is known as the Crumlin Star Social Club. The Army revealed that if they had gone the correct way they would have been thwarted because the underground sewers are protected by infrared detectors and obstacles. The bomb exploded shortly after 3.25 am fracturing a gas main and setting fire to the house. Dozens of nearby homes were damaged and troops and firemen came under attack from youths who according to the Army appeared from nowhere, ready for action. It is thought that 70 youths were waiting in Flax Street for the explosion at the Army post and were planning to rush in and steal weapons and ammunition. A spokesman said: "It was obviously a contrived job and can only be described as a major offensive against the Military."



Saturday 10th July 1971
Arms found in Newry
Nineteen rounds of .303 ammunition, a quantity of cortex, some tape and a belt were found by the RUC in a telephone kiosk at Abbey Yard, Newry, after an anonymous phone call early today.

Saturday 10th July 1971
Nail bomb in car
A nail bomb was found in a stolen car parked in Queen Street. An Army spokesman said that it has been removed by a bomb disposal expert.

Saturday 10th July 1971
Stones fly after Cusack funeral
Stone throwing broke out in the Creggan estate in Derry just after the crowds dispersed after attending the funeral of one of the men shot dead in Thursdays riots. A group of about 100 began throwing stones at Bligh's Lane after they had spotted two soldiers near a factory there. Between 2,000 and 3,000 people attended the funeral of Mr. Seamus Cusack, a 27-year-old man from the Creggan. Black flags flew from several houses along the route.
The funeral of the second victim, Mr. Desmond Beattie (19) took place from his home in the Rosemount area. Between 2,000 and 3,000 people also attended this funeral.

Saturday 10th July 1971
Soldier loses eye
A soldier who was injured when a mine exploded near an army convoy on Friday has lost an eye. The Jamaican born Corporal was an observer in a personnel carrier, which was the second of three vehicles in the convoy when a mine was detonated electrically.

Saturday 10th July 1971
Bomb attack on Henry Taggart Hall
Two people were treated for shock and a soldier injured by a flying brick after a bomb was thrown from a passing car at a joint police-Army post in Belfast. The bombers misjudged their target and the blast broke windows in a number of homes, including one in which four children were showered with broken glass. About five pounds of gelignite was used and the Army post was damaged but no one was hurt. The soldier was injured when stones were thrown at troops after the blast. He was not seriously hurt.
An attempt has been made to set fire to Aughnacloy customs post at Tully but firemen managed to confine the blaze. Four petrol bombs were found in Clifton Street in Belfast and the RUC are still investigating a report that shots were heard in the Castlereagh Road area.

Monday 12th July 1971
Nine injured in Belfast bombs
Belfast City Centre became one big bomb target just after midnight as a series of explosions extensively damaged a number of shops and injured nine people. Four people two men and two women are today assisting the RUC with their inquiries into the incidents. The overnight explosions throughout the North are seen by the security forces as a deliberate attempt by the IRA to precipitate violence and renewed sectarian strife since most of the Belfast blasts were on the route of the big Twelfth parade to Finaghy.
The crew of an Army Land Rover on its way to the UTV mast on the Black Mountain had a lucky escape when a mine was detonated under their vehicle from about 40 yards away. No one was hurt.
Shots were exchanged between an Army sentry and gunmen during an attack on an Army observation post at Paisley Park in West Belfast. The sentry came under fire from two fast moving cars. The sentry was uninjured.
Irvingstown Orange Hall was destroyed by an explosion and Pomeroy telephone exchange, only 100 yards from the local RUC barracks was attacked. Smaller charges, which the police say were booby traps, went off later. No one was hurt.
At Clady there was stone throwing between rival factions after some Twelfth bunting had been torn down and burned.
The Timetable of the explosions in Belfast was:
11.4 pm – The door of an electricity sub station at Richmond Park, Finaghy, was blown off and a number of windows shattered in the blast in which 5-10 lbs of gelignite was used. An elderly woman was taken to hospital suffering from shock but the station was not put out of action.



A firebomber could be any face in a crowd. Hard to detect — harder to prevent. You can help the security forces by reporting anything suspicious no matter how trivial it may seem. By doing so, you could help prevent a tragedy. When you are shopping — if you see anything you think suspicious — **dial 999 immediately.**

12.00 am – A Welsh Guards Land Rover patrol ran over a land mine which police say was electrically detonated from 40 yards away. The patrol was travelling up a private road leading to the UTV mast at Black Mountain and 10-20 lbs of gelignite was used. A spokesman said that apart from shock none of the crew was injured. The Land Rover was badly damaged.
12.03 am – 5-10lbs of gelignite blew out the front of Robb's, Castle Place. Windows of nearby buildings were blown out.
12.05 am – Two Greek merchant seamen were taken to hospital with slight injuries after an explosion damaged the front of Sinclair's, Royal Avenue. About 10-15 lbs of gelignite was used in the blast and again a number of windows in nearby buildings were smashed.
12.05 am – A 15-year-old girl and her mother were taken to hospital but later released after a charge of 5lbs of gelignite, left at the front of their Bryson Street home, damaged the hallway, roof and blew out windows. About 12 other houses in the street were damaged. The RUC say that the woman was a Protestant living in a predominantly Catholic street.
12.08 am – Two people were taken to hospital after a 5-10lb charge of gelignite damaged the front and interior of a Bedford Street sports shop.
12.30 Three people were taken to hospital after a 10-20lb charge of gelignite, hidden in a kiosk, demolished four kiosks and damaged the front of the GPO headquarters in Royal Avenue.
Bombs exploded at other locations throughout the night:
12.20 am - A 10-20lb gelignite charge badly damaged a bridge at Carnaget, Bessbrook. Police said that members of the local Orange Lodge would have been using the bridge in private vehicles later today.
12.30 am – Bomb explosion at Pomeroy telephone exchange.
2.20 am – Bomb at Irvingstown Orange Hall and 20 minutes later a charge exploded in a nearby sewage works.
4.00 am Macrete Ltd., a concrete manufacturers at Toombridge was damaged in four separate blasts In the first, 10-20lbs of gelignite exploded under a crane; another 10-20lbs charge went off under an oil storage tank and 1,000 gallons were lost. A 2-5lb

charge, which was placed under the tank, went off. The last charge of 15lbs of gelignite, placed in the control room was not detonated as the fuse burned out. No one was injured.

Monday 12th July 1971
SDLP threaten to quit Stormont
The Social Democratic and Labour Party, with six MP's and two Senators, the biggest Opposition group at Stormont, has said it will withdraw from the Northern Ireland Parliament if an impartial inquiry is not set up by Thursday into the deaths of the two young men shot dead by the Army in Derry last week.

And calling for backing from the other opposition group, the SDLP says it will establish its own assembly as an alternative to Stormont.

Monday 12th July 1971
Troops shot at again in Derry
One tyre on an Army Land Rover was burst by machine-gun fire at Hamilton Street in the Bogside area of Derry. This was the third shooting in Derry in a weekend of continuing violence. Two Land Rovers were going along Hamilton Street at 2 am when there was a burst of five rounds from a machinegun. Four rounds hit the leading vehicle and the fifth burst a tyre. An Army Spokesman said there were no casualties and the fire was not returned.

Another shooting incident came 40 minutes later when 11 to 15 shots were fired at an Army post in Bligh's Lane. Again no one was injured and fire was not returned.
At around 7 am a civilian found a grenade at the junction of Foyle Street and Bishop Street. An Army spokesman said the grenade had to be destroyed on the spot, as it was too dangerous to move.
The Army used coloured dye for the first time as rioting continued the Bligh's Lane compound in Creggan Estate. The post has been the scene of nightly attacks and yesterday soon after a Sinn Fein meeting in the Bogside about 100 rioters gathered at the post. Stones and other missiles were again thrown and in an effort to break up the crowd, troops used CS gas and rubber bullets.

Tuesday 13th July 1971
Soldier killed in Belfast
The Provisional IRA has stated that they have killed a soldier, Rifleman Walker, in retaliation for the British Army killing of two civilians in Derry last week and the organisation has warned that further action will be taken. Rifleman David Walker, who was shot at a sentry post in the Lower Falls on Monday, is to have a full military funeral at Staffordshire.

Wednesday 14th July 1971
Second soldier shot dead in Belfast
Private Richard Andrew Barton, the 24 year-old Paratrooper killed in an ambush in Belfast, was due to marry in two months when his regiment finished its tour of duty here.

Barton, who was killed by a single bullet which struck him in the back when gunmen opened fire on an Army Land Rover at Andersonstown, had been with the regiment as a serving soldier for five years. The Army patrol was struck without warning as they approached the junction of the Andersonstown Road and Shaw's Road. The vehicle was caught in a hail of automatic and rifle fire from IRA men who are believed to have consealed themselves in the garden of a house in Kileen Park. The London born Private was killed by a .303 bullet, probably fired from a carbine. He died almost instantaneously. One of the soldiers in the five-man patrol fired nine rounds at a wall where he believed the gunmen were hiding. None of the gunmen are believed to have been injured.

The regimental commander said in an interview that he felt the gunmen were becoming more effective in their attacks because of the training, which he knew they were getting. He said: "We have been subject to over 20 bomb and shooting attacks, some efficient, some inefficient. This is the first time anyone has been killed, and it obviously makes headlines. But I would not say that it marks a particular spot in the campaign." Barton is the tenth British soldier to die in the North this year.

TOP - Troops charge rioters at Fahon Street, Derry
MIDDLE - Troops are attacked at Free Derry Corner
BOTTOM - Troops shelter behind an armoured car at Lone Moor Road

Wednesday 14th July 1971
Rifles found in Belfast
Troops found four rifles, a carbine and 1,8000 rounds of ammunition in an empty house during a routine search in the Donegall Road area of Belfast. The find in St. Katherine Road included three black berets and four commando knives. A spokesman At Army headquarters said the rifles dated from the 1930's but were in good condition.

Thursday 15th July 1971
Single shot snipers in Belfast
Two shots were fired in Belfast as gunmen tried to ambush troops in the Falls and Springfield areas. A single shot was fired at an Army observation post in Albert Street shortly after noon in what is believed to have been an attempt to kill a sentry. But the shot hit a sandbag and no one was injured. The army carried out a search for the gunmen but nothing was found.







In the second shooting incident four minutes later a single shot was fired at an Army patrol near the Monagh roundabout on the Upper Springfield Road. But again the bullet missed its target and none of the soldiers, men of the 2nd battalion, The Parachute Regiment, were injured. The Albert Street incident is being regarded as another attempt to injure or kill a soldier sentry on duty. Rifleman David Walker, who was shot on Monday, was a sentry at a post not far from today's incident.

Thursday 15th July 1971
Rifles found near scene of ambush

Two rifles were found in a house during a joint police and Army search in the Andersonstown area of Belfast. The guns were found in Finaghy Road North, not far from the spot where Private Barton was killed in an ambush. The RUC have said that men of the dead man's unit took part in the search and a .303 rifle and a .22 rifle were discovered.

Thursday 15th July 1971
New troops face siege on their first night

Two bomb explosions in Derry followed another night of vicious rioting in which troops used CS gas and rubber bullets. Men of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots, who moved into the Bligh's Lane compound at Creggan on Wednesday had to face a barrage of missiles. The rioters kept up their attacks until 2.30 am and an Army spokesman said the trouble was more serious than on the previous night.

In Bishop Street, Derry, a large city centre store was extensively damaged by a fire started by an incendiary device. The first of the Derry explosions occurred after 1 am caused only minor damage at the rear of the British Oxygen Chemicals Club in Bishop Street. The second blast, which occurred an hour later, has not been traced.

A fire was also started in the remaining part of the shirt factory owned by Kelly & Sons, which was badly damaged on Monday. Incendiary bombes ignited at Wellworths and another at the Castle Sreet offices of Derry Crown Solicitor Mr. Emerson Babington but it was put out by a member of his staff. Earlier a soldier received slight cuts to the face when a crowd of about 30 stoned an Army Land Rover and smashed the windscreen.

Belfast remained almost trouble free and the only incidents were a bomb blast at a shop and minor stone throwing in the east of the city. Earlier two shots were reported to have been heard from Divismore Way by soldiers at the New Barnsley joint Army/RUC post. No one was injured.



Thursday 15th July 1971
Woman on IRA Charge:

A 51-year-old woman on an IRA charge refused to face the magistrate when she appeared in court. Maire Drumm of Glassmullen Gardens was remanded in custody for one week. She is accused of promoting the aims and objectives of the IRA by encouraging people to join.

Friday 16th July 1971
IRA snatches sick comrade from RVH

An IRA gang armed with submachine guns and revolvers forced their way into the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast early this morning and carried away a comrade who was shot by the Army three days ago. They bound and gagged a night porter and clubbed one of two armed RUC men who were guarding a dangerously ill patient. Four IRA men strolled up to the doors of Ward 10 dressed as doctors, all wore white coats and one with a with a face mask. This is the first time in this campaign that that the IRA have "sprung" one of their own men from a hospital.

Friday 16th July 1971
Derry Bombs discovered

Incendiary devices have been found in two buildings in Derry. The first in the shirt factory of W. J. Lyttle & Co., at Distillery Brae in the Waterside had ignited but burnt itself out causing no damage. Police said it had been pushed through a window. A second device was found in the music and record shop of H. B. Phillips in Shipquay Street. It was removed by the RUC before it ignited.

Friday 16th July 1971
Pubs and shops bombed in Belfast

Two pubs and two supermarkets were blasted in Belfast. The explosions, which came in quick succession, injured one woman, caused extensive damage and were heard in homes all over the city.

The explosions began in Belfast at 12.25 shattering the Everton Bar on the Crumlin Road. No one was injured when the charge of between 15 and 20lbs of gelignite went off. Troops and Police rushed to the scene and the area was sealed off. Two minutes after this explosion another occurred. This time in East Belfast it was the Primrose Bar, Albertbridge Road that was the target. A girl passenger in a car, which stopped at the traffic lights, got glass splinters in her eye. Only slight structural damage was caused to the bar by the 10lb device. The third and fourth explosions occurred in Ardoyne within minutes of each other. One rocked Lipton's supermarket at Ardoyne Road and the other blasted Stewart's supermarket on the Crumlin Road. Both bombs consisted of between 10-20lbs of gelignite.

In Newry a bomb consisting of between 20-30lb of gelignite exploded wrecking Fisher's garage in Bridge Street. Seconds later a second bomb exploded at Soho car park. Newry fire brigade extinguished the blaze in the car. A third bomb exploded in a disused house in Water Street.

Later in Belfast another bar was targeted by the bombers. The Britannia Bar on the Newtownards Road was severely damaged by a 10lb gelignite bomb. Nearby property was damaged but no one was injured,

Friday 16th July 1971

Troops return fire

Troops shot back early today when gunmen tried to ambush them as they patrolled the border near Killeen. None of the eight-man patrol was hurt and the gunmen escaped. The incident happened at 3am and several rounds of ammunition were exchanged. The gunmen were operating from the Northern side of the border. Thirty minutes later the Army came under fire from machine gunners who opened up on them from the Southern side of the border. No one was injured.

Monday 19th July 1971
'Dummy' weapons stolen in city raid

Thirty-three drill weapons including three submachine guns have been stolen from an Army cadet centre in Belfast in a weekend raid believed to have been carried out by the IRA. The raid was discovered after a man telephoned newspaper offices in the city claiming that an "active service unit" of the IRA had taken the guns from the centre at Knockbreda Secondary School during Saturday night. The missing weapons are 30 .303 Lee Enfield Rifles, two Bren guns and a Sten gun. An Army spokesman said they are dummy weapons, used for drill purposes and cannot be fired.

LEFT - Bomb attack at the telephone exchange at Diamond Gardens, Finaghy

The cost to convert them back to their original state would be astronomical. But the security forces are concerned that the stolen weapons may be used in bank raids. The Army has also admitted that the training of IRA men is taking place and they could find it safer to use the Dummy weapons.

Monday 19th July 1971
Cabinet crisis looming
The Northern Ireland Government is now believed to be in agreement that a grave political crisis is inevitable if the IRA is not crushed within the next few months. This was the interpretation in political circles on the statement by Mr. John Taylor, Minister of State for Home Affairs, that he would find it very difficult to continue in Government if there was not a quick end to terrorist activities.
There was no official comment from Stormont Castle but there is an accepted his views are widely shared in the cabinet, and following last week's daring IRA activity, there will be renewed pressure on the security forces for a breakthrough against them. Mr. Taylor's statement that the Army may need to shoot even more in the forthcoming months has raised a storm in opposition circles, and the now abstentionist Social and Democratic and Labour Party demanded a policy explanation from the British Government.

Monday 19th July 1971
Vietnam jacket for troops
British troops in Ulster may get a new bulletproof jacket similar to the type used by American helicopter pilots in Vietnam. It is understood that tests are being carried out on a new American designed jacket of ceramic material reinforced with plastics. The new jacket is believed to give greater protection than present flack jacket worn by troops in Ulster.
The bullet that killed Paratrooper Barton in an ambush last week passed through his flack jacket, which gives limited protection against shrapnel, but not high velocity ammunition.

Tuesday 20th July 1971
Tar and feathers found in Ardoyne
The Army is trying to trace a Belfast man who is believed to have been tarred and feathered in a street at Ardoyne. Soldiers found a pool of tar and feathers on the pavement at Jamaica Street at 2 am but there was no sign of the victim. A rope and jersey were also found beside a pole.

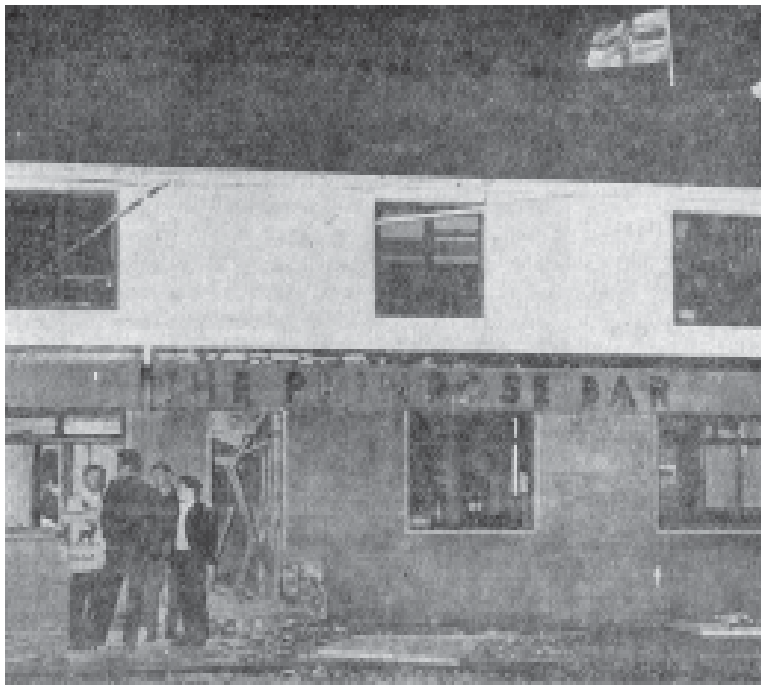
Tuesday 20th July 1971
Another bomb discovered at Daily Mirror plant
A 15lb Gelignite bomb was found in the Daily Mirror's premises at Suffolk outside Belfast three days after it was wrecked by a 20lb charge wrecked the ground floor of the plant. The bomb with a five-minute fuse was meant to explode on Saturday sending thousands of ton of masonry down on soldiers investigating the first blast. If it had exploded it would have brought down huge sections of the first and second floors down on anyone below them.

Tuesday 20th July 1971
Incendiary misfires
An incendiary device that misfired was found in Peel's motorcycle shop, Great Victoria Street, Belfast. No damage was caused.

Tuesday 20th July 1971
Man dies of heart attack after bomb attack
The RUC have said that the Belfast man, whose bed was showered with broken glass after a claymore type bomb blast outside his home, suffered a heart attack before he died. The man was Mr. Henry Cole, a 47-year-old labourer, from the Donegall Road.
He was asleep in his bed when a bomb was thrown at the Army patrol 14 yards away. Police said that all but one of the windows in his home were smashed by the explosion and his bedroom was showered with glass, smoke and soot. He suffered a heart attack about an hour later and died in hospital. Mr. Cole had a history of heart illness.
Earlier a five pound explosive charge was placed at the Belfast Co-Operative Society's store on the Stewartstown Road, Suffolk causing structural damage to the walls and roof. An incendiary device also exploded outside the Northern Bank at the junction of Antrim Road and Atlantic Avenue. No damage was caused.
The Army have said that a .45 automatic pistol and two magazines containing five rounds of ammunition were handed over to the RUC by a civilian who discovered them at Lough Eyes near Enniskillen

Wednesday 21st July 1971
Armed gang robs two banks at once
Armed and masked men carried out a daring raid on two banks on the opposite side of the Main Street of Buncrana, 14 miles from Derry. They burst into the two banks at the same time and scooped money, said to total two thousand pounds from the cash drawers. The cashier from one of the banks, the Hibernian, tackled one of the raiders and ran across the street to the Royal Bank to raise the alarm. But found that when he got there that it too was being robbed. At least six men took part in the raids, most of them were armed.

Wednesday 21st July 1971
Maudling is blocking internment says newspaper
The startling claim that the British Home Secretary, Mr, Maudling, is blocking the introduction of internment has been made in the Daily Mail. It comes in the form of a leading article which claims that a majority of the Cabinet in Northern Ireland were now in favour of internment.



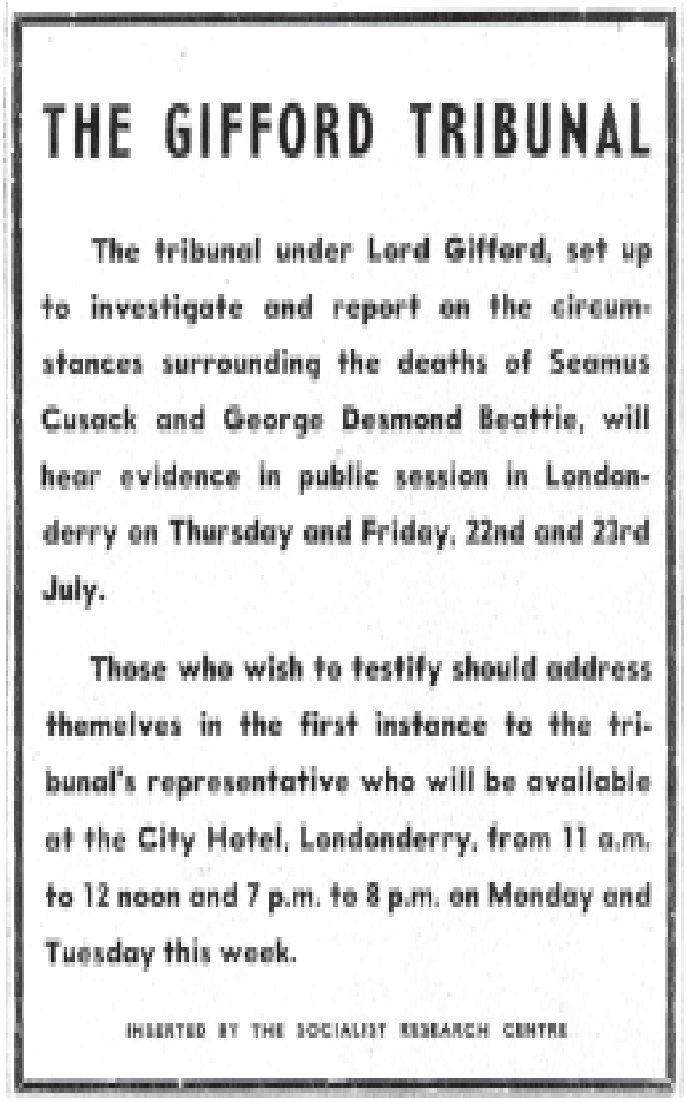


TOP - Bomb attack on the Primrose Bar, Albertbridge Road
BOTTOM - Bomb attack on the Britannia Bar, Newtownards Road

Thursday 22nd July 1971
Internment not ruled out
The Irish Prime Minister, Mr. Jack Lynch, told the Dail today that he hoped that the government would not have to introduce internment without trial. But he refused to "tie his hands" by agreeing to an opposition request that internment would not be introduced without the consent of the Dail.

Thursday 22nd July 1971
Woman and soldier hit by sniper fire
Snipers wounded a woman when troops came under fire during fresh trouble in the lower Falls area of Belfast last night. The woman from Abercorn Street North, was shot near her home and was detained at the Royal Victoria Hospital;. A .45 bullet has been removed from her shoulder and is said to be in a satisfactory condition.. The Army has not released the name of the soldier who was wounded in a gun attack. He is an officer in the 1st battalion, The Royal Green Jackets and he was wounded in the elbow when his unit came under fire from a sniper positioned on the top of buildings on the Grosvenor Road. Fire was returned but it is not known if anyone was hit.

Friday 23rd July 1971
Security swoop – dozens arrested
Three dozen people were taken in for questioning by the RUC and troops in their biggest dragnet since the current troubles began. More than 2,000 troops and RUC men took part in the search of over 100 houses throughout the north. The massive swoop which swung into operation early in the morning and lasted for over six hours yielded a big haul of IRA Documents which Senior RUC and Army officials are studying. It is also believed that the security forces uncovered a plan by the Official wing of the IRA to recruit ex-servicemen and members of the Provisional section of the movement. The authorities have been astounded at the number of documents that have come into their possession as a result of the searches. It is understood that six men are still helping police with their inquiries.
In Belfast the dusk to dawn raids were carried out in Ardoyne, Falls, Finaghy, Ballymurphy, Springfield, Whiterock, the Markets and Stranmillis. In the country houses and other premises in Newry, Lurgan, Portadown, Derrymash, Armagh, Dungannon, Blackwaterstown, Coalisland and


THE GIFFORD TRIBUNAL

The tribunal under Lord Gifford, set up to investigate and report on the circumstances surrounding the deaths of Seamus Cusack and George Desmond Beattie, will hear evidence in public session in Londonderry on Thursday and Friday, 22nd and 23rd July.

Those who wish to testify should address themselves in the first instance to the tribunal's representative who will be available at the City Hotel, Londonderry, from 11 a.m. to 12 noon and 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday this week.

INSERTED BY THE SOCIALIST RESEARCH CENTRE

Cookstown were raided.
As news of the raids spread in Republican areas reports were filtering in of known members of the IRA fleeing across the border. In some Republican areas officials of both wings of the IRA scurried from house to house checking up on who was missing and who had been detained by the security forces. Clearly the whole operation had been planned down to the last detail some time ago.

Friday 23rd July 1971
IRA gunmen take on Army and rival group
IRA gunmen launched an all out attack on troops in the Lower Falls area of Belfast and at one stage fought a battle among themselves. Two civilians, who were not injured by the Army, were admitted to the Royal Victoria Hospital with gunshot wounds after separate incidents. One of them underwent an emergency operation and a .45 bullet, a type used in Thompson submachine guns, a favourite weapon of the IRA, was removed from his body.
The other civilian who had also been tarred and feathered was shot in the leg. It is thought he was thrown out of a car on the road to Belfast airport. He managed to struggle to a nearby public house for help. An Army spokesman said: "A number of shots were fired in the Lower Falls area which were apparently not aimed at us."
During the night 50 more shots were fired at soldiers. Three petrol bombs were thrown in Cupar Street and a nail bomb was also thrown at troops at the junction of Blackwater Street and the Grosvenor Road. At 1.30 am a 10lb gelignite bomb exploded at Cawoods (Fuels), Castle Street. And at the County Tyrone village of Sion Mills soldiers were trying to locate the source of an explosion which was heard early this morning

Saturday 24th July 1971
Riot after child's death in Bogside
Riot troops opened fire with rubber bullets after rioters burnt an Army truck which struck and killed a nine year old child in the Bogside area of Derry. After coming under a fierce bombardment of missiles from rioters, an Army Saracen and soldiers who had gone to retrieve the lorry left the area. The dead boy was named as Hugh Damien Harkin of Gartan Square. An Army spokesman said the accident happened when the three-ton truck skidded on the corner.

Saturday 24th July 1971
IRA factions shoot it out again
Troops again came under fire last night in Belfast; an attempt was made to blow up a fire engine at Newry and rioting broke out in Lurgan.
As on Thursday night the two wings of the IRA besides sniping at soldiers fought a gun battle between themselves in the Lower Falls area of Belfast. Crowds started to gather in the city shortly after eight o'clock in Albert Street and Ballymurphy Road. Both crowds dispersed peacefully. At Malt Street off the Grosvenor Road, troops fired a number of rubber bullets in an attempt to break up a crowd. At about 10.49pm 20 shots were fired in the Lower Falls area but they were not directed at troops. The shooting was an internal struggle inside the IRA. Just before midnight three nail bombs were thrown at a military vehicle at the junction of Leeson Street-Grosvenor Road. There were no casualties in the attacks
About eight nail bombs were hurled at troops by small groups of youths in the streets of the Falls area. The troops also came under fire from stones and bottles. At 2.15 am soldiers in an armoured personnel carrier had a lucky escape from death. As the vehicle was crossing the junction of Donegall Road-Rodney Park, near Celtic Park, about 15 rounds were fired at it. It is thought the shots were fired from St. James' Crescent. At 2.45 a bomb was thrown over the rear wall of Albert Street Mill but it exploded harmlessly. Some five minutes later a nail bomb was thrown at an Army patrol at Monagh Road at Turf Lodge.
At 3.30 two bombs exploded at the junction of the Kashmir Road-Springfield Road and a third bomb which failed to explode was taken away. No damage was caused by any to these explosions.
In Newry six firemen had a lucky escape when a 20 lb bomb was detonated under their fire engine. They had just returned from an outbreak in a container yard at Albert Basin. At

the junction of Omeath Road-Drumalane Road the bomb exploded. It was detonated from a distance of 75 yards. The blast blew a crater in the road 5ft by 6ft and windows in a house 200 yards away were shattered. Three of the firemen were treated in hospital for minor injuries. An RUC spokesman said that a military vehicle passed the spot a short time before the fire appliance and the bombers mistook the fire appliance for an Army vehicle,

Monday 26th July 1971
Massive ambush bomb found
The Army today uncovered an attempt to ambush a military patrol with a massive 240lb booby-trap bomb, hand grenades and pipe bombs near the border. The bomb, the biggest device ever found in the North was discovered by a foot patrol in a road-side bank less than a mile from the Derry Donegal border on the main road to Letterkenny. The troops found a number of oil drums each packed with about 40lbs of gelignite and 10lbs of nuts and bolts, wired together at the roadside near the tiny village of Millbrook Bridge.
A solder spotted a man running away towards the border, they then found some footprints which lead them to a battery pack. The explosives were not fully connected. It is thought that at least half a dozen men may have been involved in laying the ambush, which was probably intended for a two-vehicle patrol which passes the spot on routine duties.

Monday 26th July 1971
Widespread rioting
Troops battled with rioters in Lurgan, Derry and Belfast and a bomb explosion wrecked council offices at Castlederg during a weekend of re-newed violence. Ten RUC men and one soldier were injured and a total of ten arrests were made.

Tuesday 27th July 1971
Soldier injured by gunman in Derry
A soldier, a corporal in the Royal Green Jackets was wounded in the leg when a gunman fired three shots at troops on riot duty. He was not seriously injured. The bullet from a .45 pistol struck him above the left knee. The gunman appeared from an entry behind the troops who were facing a 200 strong mob of rioters in William Street. In two other incidents soldiers were shot at on Rossville and Butcher Streets. A total of 15 rounds were fired. The Army did not return fire on any occasion.

Wednesday 28th July 1971
Arms dump found in Dawn search
More arms and explosives were found in dawn searches when troops and police carried out further raids, this time in the Lower Falls area of Belfast. It was the fourth such search mounted in the past six days. About 60 soldiers of the Royal Green Jackets and police took part in the search. Later six men were helping the RUC with their inquiries.
The search party found one M1 carbine, one air rifle, 309 rounds of assorted ammunition, 204 detonators, 200 feet of detonating cord, 80 feet of fuse wire, 20lb of explosives, nine simulated bombs, nine flares, military clothing and equipment and other articles. The Army said the raids were carried out on the basis of information received.

Thursday 29th July 1971
Booby trap bomb
A garage owner had a narrow escape today when he became suspicious of a box lying beside one of the petrol pumps at his Grosvenor Road Petrol Station. He contacted the RUC who called in the bomb squad. An Army spokesman described the device as a particularly nasty device. It contained one and a half pounds of explosives and was fitted with an anti handling device. It also had a burnt out fuse attached to it to encourage someone to think it was safe to handle.

Thursday 29th July 1971
Cinema searched
The RUC said today that in a search of a disused cinema troops found: a .45 revolver, .303 rifle, one hand grenade, 224 rounds of ammunition, 30 detonators, 5lb of gelignite, 100 feet of cortex and 200 feet of fuse wire.

Friday 30th July 1971
More than a dozen hurt in night of explosions
More than a dozen people were injured in a night of explosions, arson and rioting in Belfast, Derry and Portadown. It was the worst night of terror in the North since the Army launched its new search drive against the IRA a week ago.
An estimated 18lb bomb placed in the hallway of the building adjoining the Nite Bite café at the corner of Victoria Street and Ann Street demolished a wall in the café and a block of offices. The building over the café houses the Daily and Sunday Express, The Royal Air Force Careers Office and the offices of two solicitors.
There were five bomb attacks in Derry and troops used yellow dye and rubber bullets against rioters. The first explosion damaged the rear of a library in Spencer Road in the Waterside. It blew out windows and caused some structural damage.
A few minutes later 10lbs of explosives damaged part of a cattle market at Brandywell in the Bogside.
An explosion at 12.10 damaged a customs post at Culmore four miles outside the city. Five pounds of gelignite were used.
A small bomb was reported to have been thrown at the perimeter fence of Bligh's Lane Army post.

Friday 30th July 1971
Booby trap bomb found near City Hall
A 5lb bomb was discovered in the underground toilet in Donegall Square North. The bomb fitted with two separate anti-handling devices was described as one of the deadliest devices ever uncovered. Anyone who picked it up would certainly have lost their life.

It was a comparatively quiet night in Belfast. A torch light vigil was held in the New Lodge Road to commemorate the death of Danny O'Hagan. It passed off peacefully.





TOP - The Daily Mirror plant at Suffolk after being bombed
BOTTOM - The Dunmurray Co-Op after a bomb attack



A war torn Divis Street, West Belfast

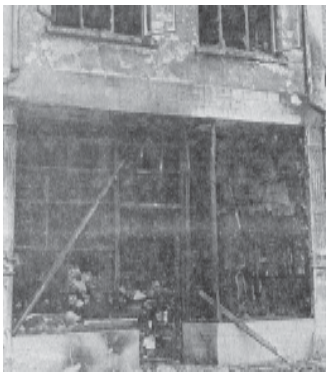
THOSE WHO DIED

ISABELLA McKEAGUE

AGED 67

9th May 1971

Ms McKeague died in a petrol bomb attack on her son's shop on the Albertbridge Road. Her son, prominent loyalist John McKeague, (himself later killed by the INLA) was on holiday at the time. Mr McKeague blamed former associates within the UDA for the attack.



ABOVE - The premises at Albert Bridge Road, where Mrs McKeague died.
BELOW - Mrs McKeague pictured with her son John.



WILLIAM REID

AGED 32

15th May 1971

William 'Billy' Reid was shot dead during a gun battle with troops in Academy Street close to Belfast city centre. Two soldiers were wounded and two other IRA men escaped, one of whom was said to have been injured. Mr Reid received an IRA funeral from his New Lodge home.



Billy Reid



Corporal Robert Bankier

ROBERT BANKIER

AGED 24

22nd May 1971

Mr Bankier was a soldier in the Royal Green Jackets. He was shot dead in the Markets area of Belfast by gunmen from the Official IRA. He had only arrived in Belfast three weeks previously and came from Ipswich.

MICHAEL WILLETS

AGED 27

25th May 1971

Mr Willets was a sergeant in the parachute regiment. He had been standing in the front reception area of Springfield RUC barracks when a car pulled up and a man threw a suitcase through the doors. In the car was a unit from the IRA and in the suitcase was a bomb. Moments later it exploded. Seven members of the RUC, two soldiers and eighteen civilians were injured.

Sergeant Willets was killed in the blast.

BELOW - The funeral of Sergeant Willets passing Springfield Road Barracks where he died.





Sergeant Michael Willets

MARTIN O'LEARY

AGED 20

6th July 1971

Died during a bomb attack at Mogul Mines where an industrial dispute was taking place. From Cork City, Mr O'Leary was a member of the Official I R A .

SEAMUS CUSACK

AGED 28

8th July 1971

Shot dead by British soldiers during riots in Derry's Old Bogside Road. The Army claimed that he had a rifle but local people dispute this.

DESMOND BEATTIE

AGED 19

8th July 1971

Shot dead by the Army in Lecky Road, Derry, shortly after Seamus Cusack. The Army claimed that he was about to throw a bomb but local people stated that only stone throwing was going on at the time.

DAVID WALKER

AGED 30

12th July 1971

A soldier who was shot dead in an IRA gun attack on a look out post on the roof of a mill in Northumberland Street, West Belfast.



ABOVE - Rifleman David Walker
BELOW - The observation post at the junction of Northumberland Street and Falls Road where he was shot



RICHARD BARTON

AGED 24

14th July 1971

A soldier in the Parachute Regiment, he was shot dead in an IRA gun attack on a Land Rover he was driving in the Andersonstown area of West Belfast.



Private Barton

HENRY COLE

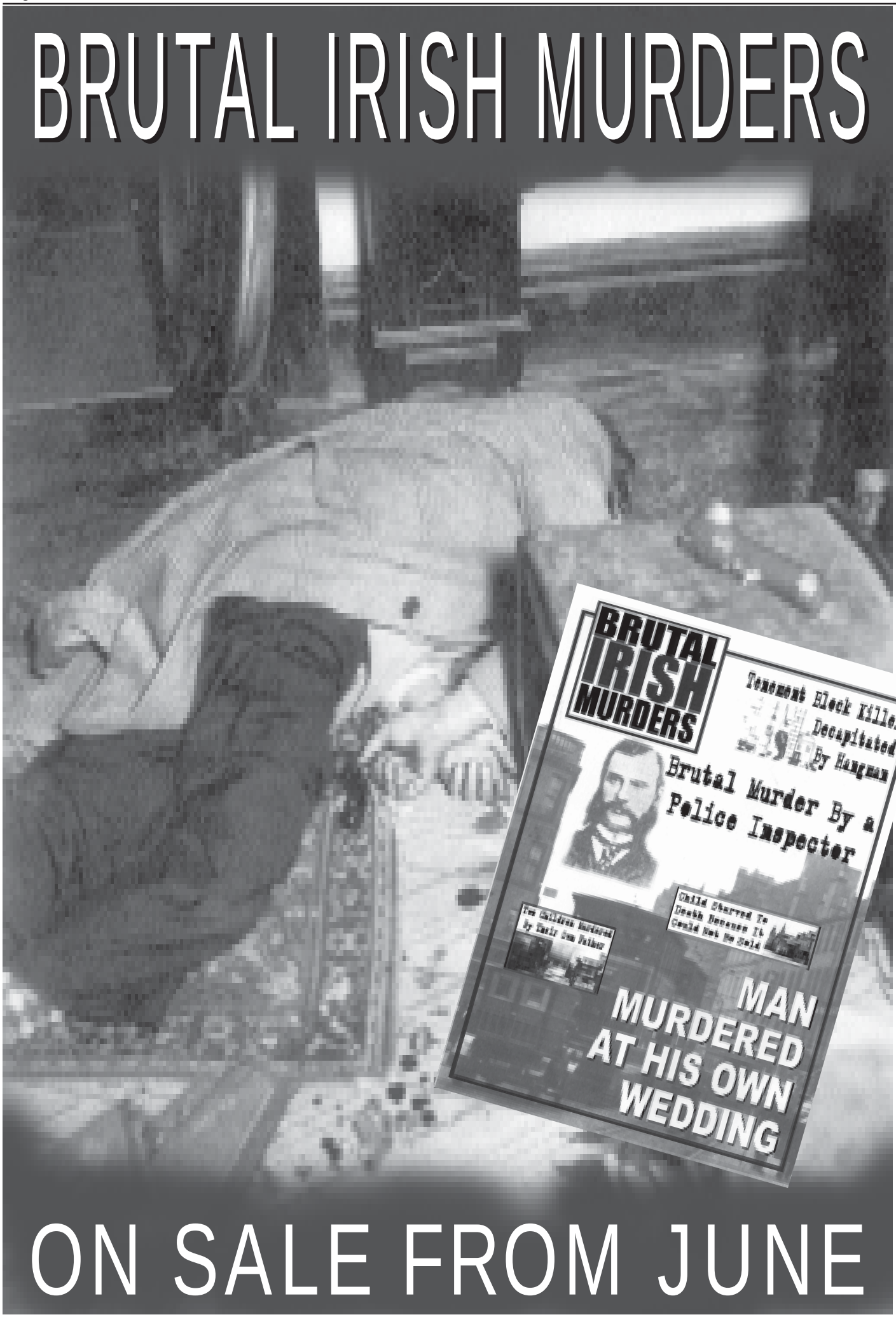
AGED 47

19th July 1971

Died as a result of a bomb attack on a military patrol close to his home in the St James's area of West Belfast.

He had a history of heart disease and police stated that he died of a heart attack at the Royal Victoria Hospital.

BRUTAL IRISH MURDERS



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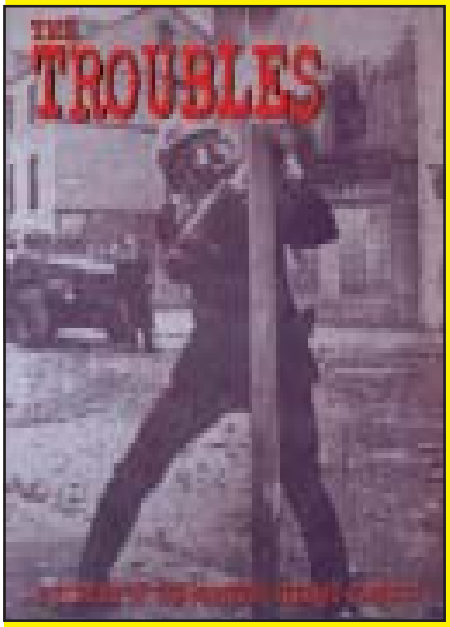

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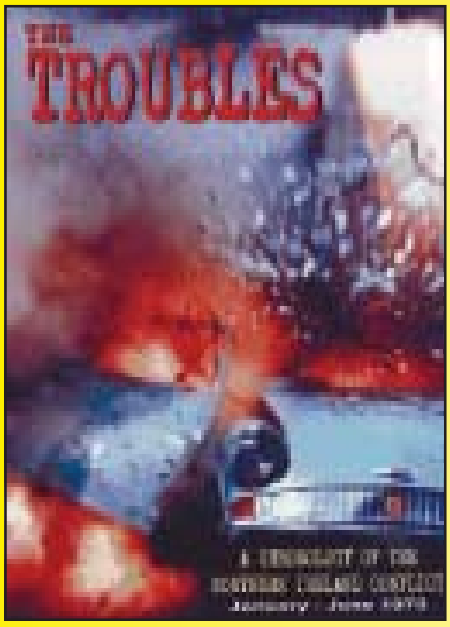

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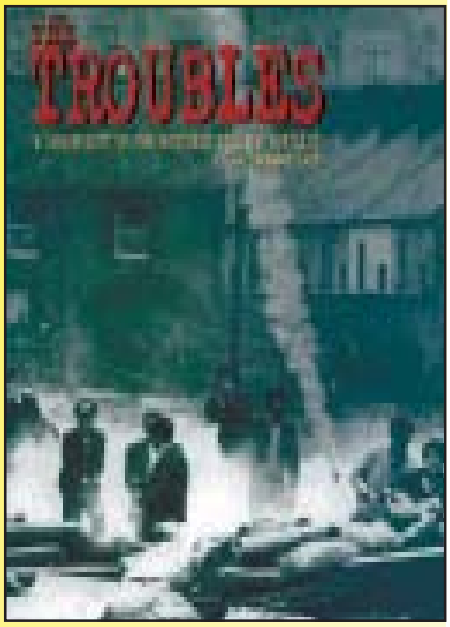

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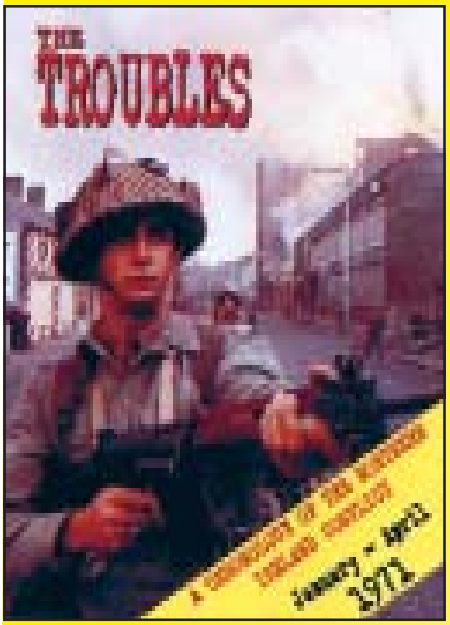

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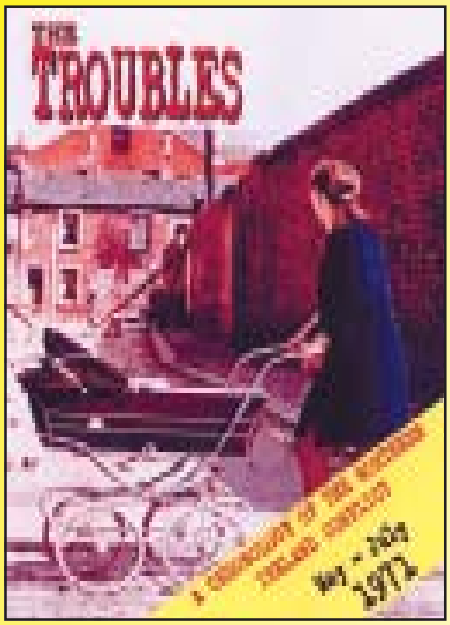

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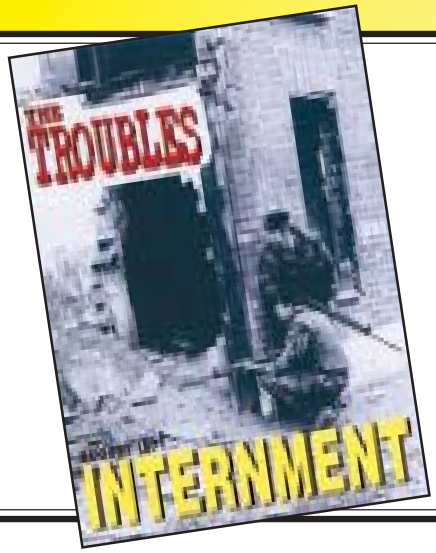

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