

## IRA admits to bombing British complex

**The outlawed group breaks a ceasefire made in 1994.**

By SHAWN POGATCHNIK  
Associated Press

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — The Irish Republican Army admitted today that it carried out the bombing of the British army's headquarters here, wounding 31 and threatening to catapult Northern Ireland back into bloodshed.

A telephone caller using a recognized codeword told the Dublin newsroom at RTE, Ireland's broadcasting network, that IRA volunteers detonated two 800-pound bombs at the army complex in Lisburn, southwest of Belfast, on Monday night.

The IRA statement said the target had been personnel connected with the

barracks and said injuries to any civilians were regretted.

It was the outlawed group's first bomb attack in the British-ruled province since mid-1994.

The government had already indicated it believed the IRA was responsible.

The bombings were "certainly consistent with a terrorist organization that declared an end to a ceasefire which it had proclaimed in 1994," Northern Ireland Secretary Patrick Mayhew told reporters.

The admission ends a policy observed since the IRA cease-fire ended in February to confine attacks to the British mainland, in order to avoid retaliation from militant Protestant groups. Those groups have already indicated they were on the verge of returning to arms—and the British-ruled province to bloody conflict.

The bombings raise the likelihood that pro-British gunmen will break

their cease-fire and retaliate against the IRA.

"We're in a grave situation. I don't think any of us underestimate the impact of what happened yesterday," Michael Ancram, the No. 2 British minister in Northern Ireland, said today.

Ancram joined the chorus of politicians appealing to the province's pro-British groups to maintain a truce.

But Gary McMichael, leader of a party linked to the biggest such group, the Ulster Defense Association, said pressure was building to retaliate.

"There's not much point in holding onto the moral high ground when your country's burning down around you," said McMichael.

The blasts at Thiepval Barracks, headquarters for the British army in Northern Ireland, injured 21 soldiers and 10 civilian employees. Twelve people remained hospitalized today.

The bombings inside Thiepval—with its single heavily guarded entrance

“There's not much point in holding onto the moral high ground when your country's burning down around you.”

GARY McMICHAEL  
leader of the Ulster Defense Association

—seemed unthinkable until Monday. The first blast in a parking lot was followed 20 minutes later by a second near Thiepval's medical center, catching the foot traffic of panicked personnel and medics.

"It is the worst security lapse that has ever happened," said Col. Mike Dewar, a former army officer in Northern Ireland and an expert on terrorism.

The bombers most likely "forged or stole a pass and doctored it, and actually penetrated the perimeter," Dewar

said. As a bloody gesture against British rule of Northern Ireland the attack's timing seemed obvious: The annual conference of Prime Minister John Major's governing Conservative Party opened today in southern England.

The Dublin office of Irish Prime Minister John Bruton said the blasts were aimed at undermining ongoing peace talks.

Talks on Northern Ireland's future began in June involving nine local parties.

## Vice presidential candidates prepare to field questions

Gore, Kemp expect issues to mirror those from presidential debate

BAL HARBOUR, Fla. (AP) — When asked about the possibility of running for president in four years, Al Gore hastens to end the line of inquiry. Jack Kemp shakes his head and wags an admonishing finger at the same question.

As they prepare for tonight's debate, the candidates for vice president are trying to keep the focus on Bill Clinton and Bob Dole.

"It is not Al Gore vs. Jack Kemp," the GOP vice presidential nominee said Tuesday.

In pre-debate interviews with The Associated Press, Gore and Kemp predicted their 90-minute, prime-time debate would closely follow the themes of Sunday's encounter between Clinton and Dole. That exchange focused on tax policy and the state of the economy, education, welfare and other social policies, and on the U.S. role abroad at the close of the 20th century.

Gore, for example, said he was determined to reinforce Clinton's argument that the GOP ticket's \$548 billion tax-cut plan would require devastating cuts in Medicare and education spending.

Kemp, for his part, said Dole had scored points in casting Clinton as a liberal hiding behind conservative election-year promises. Kemp promised to follow up by taking issue with a new Clinton campaign ad in which the president says he views his job as "taking care of the American people."

As they discussed their expectations for the debate and outlined their views of the vice presidency, the former House colleagues voiced friendship and respect for each other and predicted their encounter would be a civil affair.

"You can disagree without being disagreeable," Gore said.

As Clinton's vice president, Gore has taken a lead role in environmental and technology policies, as well as in U.S.-Russian relations. He said he could not think of anything he would like to add to his portfolio in a second Clinton administration.

"Truthfully, my expectations have been exceeded," he said of his partnership with the president in the first term.

Policy differences aside, Kemp said he was impressed with the Clinton-Gore partnership and predicted he would have a similar bond with Dole, even though the two were political adversaries before their 1996 alliance.

"Bob Dole would want me to help be the point guard for this whole idea of reforming this tax code for the 21st century," Kemp said. He also pledged to continue his efforts to court black support for the Republican Party.

## Clinton, Dole build momentum, resume campaigns after debate

MILLTOWN, N.J. (AP) — Hustling back to the campaign trail after their first debate, Bob Dole pressed his comeback quest Monday by insisting he's the candidate voters can trust; while President Clinton pursued support in states that normally vote Republican.

Both candidates claimed they tried to build on momentum from Sunday's showdown in Hartford, Conn. Early polls, however, suggested the debate produced little movement in the race.

Dole pressed his plan for a 15-percent tax cut by campaigning with Republican Gov. Christie Whitman, who upset Democratic incumbent James Florio in 1993 largely on the

promise of a big tax cut. In Stamford, Conn., Clinton accepted the endorsement of 2,500 corporate leaders, many of whom already were known as Clinton supporters.

The president, with the luxury of a big lead, was also campaigning in historically Republican Maine and New Hampshire.

Clinton's political aides asserted that Clinton did well enough in the opening debate to fortify his standing in the polls—and that he would spend less time in traditionally Democratic states like New York and Massachusetts where he has built huge leads.

## Couple focuses on auctions, subway fares to earn Nobel economics prize for groundbreaking studies

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — A retired Columbia University professor and a British political economist won the Nobel economics prize today for explaining how information—or lack of it—shapes business decisions.

William Vickrey, an 82-year-old naturalized American, and James Mirrlees of Cambridge University shared the \$1.12 million prize for groundbreaking studies in an area of economics called "asymmetric information."

Asymmetric information refers to when both sides don't have the same facts. The buyer of a house or a used car, for example, doesn't have all the information the seller does. Without the same facts, the seller has an advantage over the buyer, who must spend

time and money to learn more. Although their separate studies focused on relatively specific areas such as auctions and subway fares, their work has led to a better understanding of economic activity ranging from insurance and credit markets to tax systems, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said.

Joergen Weibull, a member of the prize committee, said a basic example of "asymmetric information" would be an employer assessing an applicant: The employer does not know what kind of people the applicants are, how hard they will work or even much about the prospective worker's health.

"This information is instrumental in deciding on social security, job insurance and other factors in society," Weibull said.

## Affidavit says man alone killed Bush four years ago

OMAHA (AP) — The two men charged with the murder of Kenyatta Bush planned that day to "rape a female," police said in an affidavit filed in Douglas County Court.

On Sept. 23, 1992, Adam Barnett and Jeremy Sheets "forcibly abducted Bush from North High School," Detective Felands Marion wrote in a Sept. 29 affidavit used in obtaining a warrant for Sheets' arrest.

Barnett, 21, and Sheets, 22, have been charged in the abduction, rape and slaying of Bush, a former honor student and homecoming queen candidate.

The affidavit said Sheets alone killed Bush.

Authorities have said Barnett, of Omaha, aided and abetted Sheets.

Both men are charged with first-degree murder. Sheets, a former Omahan who had recently joined the Navy, also is charged with use of a knife to commit a felony.

Last month, four years after Miss Bush was killed, a relative of one of the people involved in the conversation about the Bush killing told police that she had information about the case.

The relative was interviewed later by Sgt. Michael Butera, who obtained information that led to Barnett and Sheets.

## Omaha man arrested after appearing in Christensen ad

OMAHA (AP) — A young man who denounced gangs in a campaign commercial for Rep. Jon Christensen, R-Neb., has had another brush with the law.

Gustavo Flores, 19, was arrested Monday after police found a handgun under the passenger seat of the car he was driving. Three passengers in the car were known gang members, police said.

Flores was wounded last month in a drive-by shooting that police described as gang-related.

Christensen said Tuesday he was "profoundly disappointed," but he was not going to give up on Flores.

"I'm going to continue to work with him and stick with him," Christensen said. "The will and desire to change is going to have to come from

Gustavo." Christensen said he did not know if Flores was a gang member. Flores has said repeatedly he is not, Christensen said.

"I'll tell you this," Christensen said. "I know he's not hanging around with the right people."

Flores also was ticketed for negligent driving. Police said the car he was driving spun out on Interstate 80.

On Sept. 14, Flores was one of four people shot in a drive-by shooting in Bellevue. His cousin, Rodolfo, was killed. No arrests have been made in the shooting.

The commercial talked of Christensen's efforts to help get Flores out of the gang and into Boys Town. This fall, Flores started classes at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

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