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New welfare for RIR

WEDNESDAY
05/12/2007
11:02:18

Former soldiers to benefit from new welfare service.

A new welfare service worth two million pounds a year, has just been launched in Northern

Ireland.

It will help locally recruited former soldiers and their families, deal with the legacy of `The Troubles.`

The provision of the Aftercare Service for ex-UDR members and home service battalions of the Royal Irish Regiment, which succeeded it, fulfils a government pledge that a publicly funded welfare organisation would be set up.

Its establishment is part of an overall resettlement package provided following the disbandment of the home service battalions of the RIR this summer.

The Aftercare Service will combine existing welfare provision with the offer of medical and vocational programmes in what`s termed a, `whole person,` approach to meet the particular needs the former personnel seeking to adjust to civilian life.

Armed Forces Minister Bob Ainsworth said he was pleased with the rapid progress that had been made in setting up this service.

He said the initiative reflects the government`s obligations to treat these soldiers and their families with fairness and dignity.

The Aftercare Service will be based at Palace Barracks in Holywood.

- £2m welfare service
- Boost for fishing
- Sinn Fein fail to fill posts
- 11 Plus to be scrapped
- 12:13 Social housing at risk
- 11:27 Soldier stabbed
- 11:21 £80,000 drugs seizure
- 08:29 Ministers encourage Trump
- Two die in Donegal sea tragedy
- Car examined after body find
- Soldier stabbed in Co Down
- Man dies after Waterford party
- Firearms seized in Limerick
- Foster in warning to motorists
- Quinn Glass to create 20 jobs
- Coroner to see top secret files
- Labour politician is arrested
- Fire in west Belfast
- Man dies in Co Antrim RTC
- Survey shows concern over games
- Police deliver united message
- Artists save rape crisis centre
- Robinson criticises McGimpsey
- Family criticise sentence
- 11-plus to be scrapped

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FILM: BEE MOVIE

DIRECTOR: Steve Hickner, Simon J. Smith

STARRING: (Voices of)

RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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