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NEWS ARCHIVE

- 14:20 Family of Disappeared receive map
- 13:25 Local government workers strike
- 13:21 Tougher sentence for knife crime
- 12:50 More claiming unemployment benefits
- 12:10 Teenager`s jail sentence extended
- 11:10 Man in hospital after assault
- 09:59 Historic coastal towns take a
- 09:53 Is that the way to do it? PM
- 09:15 Three held in dissident probe
- 09:08 Migrants' fund a drop in the
- 01:02 Secret footage of teenager's pleas
- 00:53 Health: Young people urged to have
- 00:53 Middle East: Israel exchanges
- 00:27 Eating too many nuts in pregnancy
- 00:09 Multimillion pound security
- 00:09 Life sentence: Review could set
- 00:09 Genoa riots: 15 guilty of G8
- 00:09 Russia: Medvedev's missiles hard
- 00:09 Quartet: Blair visit to Gaza
- 00:09 Bronislaw Geremek
- 00:03 Football: Hamburg fans stay loyal

YESTERDAY

- 17:09 Baby girl drowns in pool accident
- 16:58 Jetski rescue for capsized canoeist
- 15:33 Police carry out searches
- 14:58 Irish actor named as suspect in
- 14:55 Ryanair cuts Dublin routes
- 14:36 Government apologises over pub bomb
- 13:10 Cowen leaves on official US visit
- 12:22 Maze row jeopardises future plans

WIN

iPOD DOCK

COULD BE YOURS IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE






talkSPORT magazine

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- 12:02 China may veto attempt to arrest
- 10:43 Poetry in motion: over London by
- 10:38 Light fantastic
- 10:02 Obama promises 10,000 more troops
- 09:58 Road safety: Impose total alcohol
- 08:53 Preaching to the converted
- 07:42 US election: 'Terrorist fist bump'
- 03:15 Darwin trial: Missing canoeist's
- 02:33 Middle East: Grave mistake to
- 00:09 Country diary
- 00:03 Background TV is bad for young
- 00:03 Madness or method? Bush actor

YOUR COMMENTS

-  Orange protest in Larne
35 comments
-  Government apologises over pub bomb
9 comments
-  Orange Order attacks Sinn Fein
29 comments

LOCAL NEWS



15 people killed

Tuesday 15 July 2008 14:36

Government apologises over pub bomb `lie`

The government apologised for claiming that one of the biggest massacres of the Troubles was an IRA "own goal".

The bombing of the predominantly Catholic McGurk`s Bar in Belfast in December 1971 killed 15 people, including two children.

In the days following the blast, the Ministry of Defence and government ministers stated that it was caused by the accidental detonation of an IRA bomb - but in fact it was the result of a loyalist Ulster Volunteer Force attack.

Northern Ireland Minister Paul Goggins told MPs:

"We are deeply sorry, not just for the appalling suffering and loss of life that occurred at McGurk`s Bar, but also for the extraordinary additional pain caused to both the immediate families and the wider community by the erroneous suggestions made in the immediate aftermath of the explosion as to who was responsible."

Speaking over the weekend, Northern Ireland Secretary Shaun Woodward said: *"One of the things politicians have to get better at is actually taking on their responsibility and saying 'I'm sorry'."*

In 1977, UVF gang member Robert Campbell was jailed for life over the bombing, but has refused to name anyone else involved in the massacre.

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On 14 Jul at 09:14 - sam millar from Belfast said:

When one thinks of the miles of media footage given to Omagh, and compares it to the scant mention of the atrocity of McGurks bar, it is an absolute disgrace. Everyone knows McGurks bar was blown up by loyalists terrorists and covered up. Will the families find justice? If past experience is anything to go by, the answer will be no.

On 14 Jul at 18:52 - Paul from Toronto said:

Mc Gurks was a coverup by the security forces as was alot of other bombings.This bombing has never been properly investigated.I wonder why?

On 14 Jul at 19:41 - John from Strabane said:

Forgetting something painful may be understandable; pretending it didn't even happen is unforgivable!

On 14 Jul at 22:05 - ernest from newtownabbey said:

ref Sam: do you honestly think that loyalist bombings get less media coverage than omagh as you have pointed out? , well Sam, the ira bombed the heart and soul out of this once peaceful country with their many many cowardly no timed attacks so if you think mcgurks was the only henious crime during the troubles that needs justice for families then a reality check is indeed needed.

On 15 Jul at 02:36 - Conor from Dublin said:

Hopefully the truth will emerge from this. It is disgraceful.

On 15 Jul at 13:04 - lorna from limavady said:

The fact remains if it was loyalists or republicans who slaughtered those people they were not the only ones who died. Why would it matter if the republicans were blamed.

On 15 Jul at 17:40 - Colin from South Down said:

Lorna, it was the Government. That does make a difference.

On 15 Jul at 18:13 - Joe from Belfast said:

The tragedy of the 15 deaths was horrific as was the effect on the local and wider communities. The lies told by the government helped add to the resentment, anger, hurt and distrust and helped prolong The Troubles - more murder, hatred and hurt. This is why the government's response is so inadequate.

On 16 Jul at 00:09 - Unionist from West Belfast said:

In response to Sam Millar from Belfast. Why would you compare one disgusting tragedy like Omagh to another like McGurks unless trying to score political points or justify one sides terrorist actions??? The fact remains that what happened at MCGurks cannot and should not be excused and neither can Omagh nor all the other disgusting acts of terrorism.

VOTING POLL

Thousands of public sector workers across Northern Ireland are going on strike over pay. Do you support their action? Vote and leave your comments.

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