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- **Published Date:** 30 May 2007
- **Source:** Foyle News
- **Location:** Derry

'Sunday' victim's brother welcomes 'innocent' admission



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By Staff reporter

A BROTHER of a man shot dead on Bloody Sunday has welcomed an admission by a former head of

the British Army that innocent people were shot that day.

General Sir Mike Jackson made the comments in an interview with BBC Northern Ireland's â€ˆSpotlightâ€™ programme.

He is among former soldiers who gave their views to mark the end of the Army's role in supporting the police in Northern Ireland.

General Jackson, who served in the North for seven years, was a captain in 1 Para which gunned down 13 unarmed civilians in Derry on January 30, 1972.

He insisted that people must wait for the outcome of the Saville Inquiry before drawing any conclusions. Its findings are not expected to be published until at least the end of next year.

"I have no doubt that innocent people were shot," Gen. Jackson said. "We have had two formal judicial inquiries, one of which is yet to report.

"There has been many journalistic examinations of what happened. "(The) Saville Inquiry has been somewhat lengthy, but my goodness it has been thorough, and we will see what it has to say."

Liam Wray, whose brother, Jim, was among those shot dead by 1 Para on Bloody Sunday, said he welcomed the general's admission.

"I think it's significant that the retired top soldier in the British Army has come to the point in time where he is accepting that innocent people were shot on Bloody Sunday," he said.

Regrettable

"It is regrettable that he didn't give that evidence to the Widgery Inquiry in 1972."

Last Updated: 29 May 2007

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