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Promises made in the wake of the bombing

([Irish News](#))

Taoiseach Bertie Ahern

"We have to make sure we do every single thing we can do to make sure the people involved in this are crushed.

Whatever resources are necessary to crush this organisation [Real IRA] will be given.

"We are determined to defeat this campaign in short order. Whatever is necessary to do that we will do that."

Mr Ahern pledged to "ruthlessly supress" the killers:

"The government is determined to do everything in our power, working closely with the British government, to defeat and supress this murderous conspiracy against the people of Ireland.

"The Irish government has decided to implement the most draconian package of security measures in the history of the state which will significantly improve the capacity of the Garda to deal decisively with those who organised and carried out the murderous attack on Omagh."

British prime minister Tony Blair

"We must and will take whatever sensible security measures we can to crush the rump of dissidents and we will take them with the British and Irish together."

Mr Blair promised to do "whatever is necessary" to ensure the perpetrators of the Omagh bombing were taken off the streets:

"We will take whatever measures we can properly and legitimately to bring those responsible to justice."

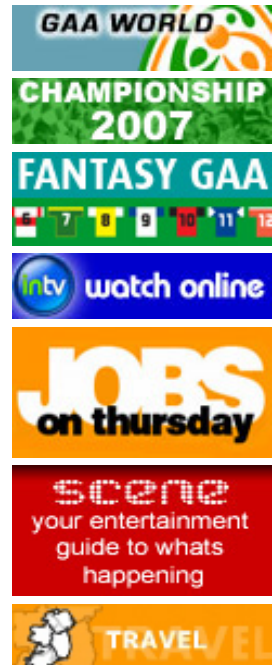
Deputy First Minister Seamus Mallon

"We must not and will not allow them to deny the people of Northern Ireland the future they voted for overwhelmingly."

President Mary McAleese

"They absolutely have to be stopped. They have to be stopped

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now."

RUC chief constable Sir Ronnie Flanagan

"We have been able virtually to reconstruct the timing power unit that was used in this bomb. I have no doubt that this, together with all the other lines of inquiry we are pursuing, will lead us to the people who detonated that device with such devastating effect in Omagh.

"We are determined to bring to justice the people who carried out this atrocity and we are determined to leave no stone unturned."

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