

Republican killings

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In this article republican killings from 1969 until the end of December 1990 have been split into those carried out by the IRA, by the PLA/INLA/IPLO, and by the official IRA; it has been nearly always possible to know which of the three groups carried out a particular killing. This is in sharp contrast to killings carried out by loyalist military activists where on many occasions it has been impossible to ascertain which loyalist group carried out a particular killing.

1. IRA killings (Total 1614) See Table 1

1.1 British forces (Total killed 966)

British Army (BA) in Ireland.....	407	Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC)	253
BA outside Ireland	50	Former members of RUC	12
Former members of BA	5	British police.....	5
Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) ...	177		270
Former members of UDR	34		
	673	Prison guards	21
		Former prison guards	2
			23

1.2 Civilians, who the IRA allege, worked for British forces (Total killed 76)

Informers	48
Civilians working directly for British forces	6
Contractors to British forces	14
Legal persons (includes 3 judges, 4 magistrates (inc 2 JP's), and 1 Senior DPP official)	8

1.3 Loyalist Military Activists (Total killed 25 + 1 civilian)

Members of Ulster Defence Association (UDA)	14
Members of Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF)	5
Loyalists (precise organisation not known)	6
Civilian killed during an attack on a Loyalist Military Activist	1

1.4 "Protestant/unionist/loyalist" politicians (Total killed 7 + 1 civilian)

Members of Ulster Unionist Party (UUP)	4
Members of Ulster Clubs	1
Member of Ulster Democratic Party (formaly Ulster Loyalist Democratic Party)	1
Member of Loyalist Association of Workers (LAW)	1
Civilian killed during an attack on a unionist politician	1

1.5 Civilian accidents (Total killed 221)

(a) Civilians killed during attacks on British forces, or who were mistaken for British forces. (Includes 11 outside Ireland.)	139
(b) Civilians killed during bomb attacks on commercial property, because of inadequate warning given. (Includes 3 outside Ireland, and also includes 6 civilians who were killed by the IRA for attempting to stop a bomb attack.)	82

1.6 Sectarian (Total killed 118)

Deliberate killing of "protestant" civilians

The IRA and other republican military groups have not always claimed responsibility for this type of operation, particularly, during the early and mid 1970's. If no group claims a particular killing, and after further research it is certain that it was carried out by a republican group, but it is not known which one, then it will be placed in this group. The IRA are by far the largest republican military organisation, and

they would have carried out the majority of this type of killing. The IRA use a "nom de guerre" - Republican Action Force (RAF) - for some of these killings during the 1970's.

1.7 Premature bomb explosions (Total killed 110)

Members of IRA (includes one in Britain)	95
Civilians	15

1.8 Britain (Total killed 47)

(a) "Prestige" British civilians:	
Christopher Ewart-Biggs (aged 54), British ambassador to Ireland, and his secretary (21st. July, 1976).	2
Richard Sykes (aged 58), British ambassador to the Netherlands, and his valet (22nd. March, 1979).	2
Lord Louis Mountbatten (aged 79) and his entourage (27th. August, 1979).	4
British Conservative Party annual conference in Brighton (12th. October, 1984).	5
Ian Gow (aged 53), British Conservative MP (30th. July, 1990).	1
(b) Civilians deliberately killed in Britain. Includes 21 people killed in bomb attacks on two public houses in Birmingham (21st. November, 1974); all the other 12 killings were carried out in London between 17th. July, 1974 and March, 1976.	
	33

1.9 Others (Total killed 42)

It has not been possible to place these killings into any of the above categories.

Killed by IRA during republican feuds (2 OIRA members, 5 Republican Clubs members (now Working Party), and 5 civilians).	12
Allegedly involved in crime.	8
Civilians killed at IRA road blocks.	3
Business people, killed during a short campaign launched by the IRA during early 1977, against prominent individuals in the business community.	3
Civilian witness to an IRA operation	1
RVC applicant	1
Members of Garda Siochana, killed in the Irish Republic	2
Billy Fox, Fine Gael senator, killed in the Irish Republic	1
Unknown reason for the killing.	11

1.10 Table 1: IRA killings, 1969 to 31st. December, 1990.

Year	British forces	Civilian British forces	Loyalist military activists	Loyalist "politicos"	Civilian accidents	Sectarian	Premature explosions	Britain (See below)	Others	Total
1969	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1970	2	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	3	11
1971	59	1	0	0	21	0	6	0	2	89
1972	133	3	1	2	41	10	41	0	7	238
1973	79	6	3	0	15	5	18	0	1	127
1974	68	7	1	0	16	10	11	23	5	141
1975	32	0	5	0	5	36	6	8	8	100
1976	57	3	2	0	18	45	11	4	4	144
1977	48	6	0	0	7	2	0	0	5	68
1978	34	1	0	0	18	0	0	0	1	54
1979	72	2	0	0	8	1	2	6	0	91
1980	32	3	0	0	3	1	4	0	0	43
1981	44	4	0	2	7	0	0	0	0	57
1982	40	3	1	0	5	0	0	0	2	51
1983	37	1	0	1	9	1	0	0	0	49
1984	29	2	0	0	3	0	2	5	2	43
1985	30	7	0	0	4	0	1	0	2	44
1986	24	8	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	37
1987	29	6	4	0	14	0	3	0	0	56
1988	45	5	1	1	11	1	3	0	0	67
1989	38	3	1	0	4	5	1	0	0	52
1990	34	5	0	1	8	1	0	1	0	50
Total	966	76	25 (+1 civilian 1975)	7 (+1 civilian 1976)	221	118	110	47	42	1612

Britain: Includes "Prestige" British civilians, and civilians deliberately killed in Britain.

Excludes:

- (1) Accidental shootings of IRA members and civilians by other IRA members.
- (2) Killings during rows/fights between individual IRA members, and civilians. (Personal matters.)

2. INLA killings (Total 102) See Table 2 .

2.1 British forces (Total killed 39)

British Army (BA) in Ireland.....	16	Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC)	12
Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR)	6	Former members of RUC	2
Former members of UDR	1		14
	23	Prison guards	2

2.2 Civilians, who the INLA allege, worked for British forces (Total killed 7)

Informers	6
Legal person (magistrate)	1

2.3 Loyalist military activists (Total killed 2)

Members of Ulster Defence Association (UDA)	2
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2.4 "Protestant/unionist/loyalist" politicians (Total killed 2)

John McKeague	1
George Seawright	1

2.5 Civilian accidents (Total killed 16)

All 16 civilians were killed during attacks on British forces, or who were mistaken for British forces.

2.6 Sectarian (Total killed 14)

Deliberate killing of "protestant" civilians

The INLA have also used "nom de guerres" to claim responsibility for this type of killing: People's Republican Army (PRA) and Catholic Reaction Force (CRF).

2.7 Premature bomb explosions (Total killed 1)

Member of INLA	1
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2.8 Feuds (Total killed 15)

Members of official IRA	4
Killed during inter INLA/IPLO feud, December, 1986 to March, 1987	11

2.9 Others (Total killed 6)

It has not been possible to place these killings into any of the above categories.

Alleged by the INLA to be involved in crime	2
Civilian killed during an armed robbery.	1
Members of Garda Siochana, killed in the Irish Republic	2
"Prestige" British civilian: Airey Neave, British Conservative MP (30th. March, 1979) .	1

2.10 Table 2: PLA/INLA/IPLA killings, 1969 to 31st. December, 1990. (Founded Autumn, 1974)

Year	British forces	Civilian British forces	Loyalist military activists	Loyalist "politicos"	Civilian accidents	Sectarian	Premature explosions	Feuds	Others	Total
1975	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	7
1976	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	4
1977	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
1978	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1979	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	7
1980	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	6
1981	6	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	9
1982	17	0	0	1	9	2	0	1	1	31
1983	2	2	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	8
1984	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
1985	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
1986	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
1987	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	10	1	14
1988	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
1989	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
1990	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Total	39	7	2	2	16	14	1	15	6	102

Excludes:

- (1) Accidental shootings of PLA/INLA/IPLO members and civilians by other PLA/INLA/IPLO members.
- (2) Killings during rows/fights between individual PLA/INLA/IPLO members, and civilians. (Personal matters.)

3. Official IRA killings (Total 38) See Table 3

(Ceasefire since May, 1972)

3.1 British forces (Total killed 7)

British Army (BA) in Ireland.....	4
Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC)	2
Former members of UDR	1
	<u>7</u>

3.2 Civilians, who the OIRA allege, worked for British forces. (Total killed 2)

Civilians working directly for British forces	2
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3.3 Civilian accidents. (Total killed 8)

All 8 civilians were killed during attacks on British forces. (Includes 7 civilians killed during a bomb attack on a British Army base at Aldershot.)

3.4 Feuds (Total killed 12)

Members of the Irish Republican Army (IRA)	3
Member of Sinn Fein	1
Member of the Peoples Liberation Army (PLA)	2
Members of the Irish Republican Socialist Party (IRSP)	2
Civilians	4

3.5 Others (Total killed 9)

It has not been possible to place these killings into any of the above categories.

Members of the OIRA killed in premature bomb explosions. (Includes 1 in the Irish Republic.)	3
Ulster Unionist Party Stormont senator, John Barnhill	1
Sectarian killing of a "protestant" civilian	1
Civilian killed during armed robbery	1
Civilian allegedly involved in crime	1
Punishment attack (with intention to wound)	1
Unknown reason for killing	1

In addition there are 86 persons killed in the "killers unknown" category.

3.6 Table 3: Official IRA killings, 1969 to 31st. December, 1990. (No killings since 1979)

Year	British forces	Civilian British forces	Loyalist military activists	Loyalist "politicos"	Civilian accidents	Sectarian	Premature explosions	Feuds	Others	Total
1969	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1970	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1971	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	5
1972	6	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	14
1973	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
1974	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
1975	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	7
1976	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
1977	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
1978	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1979	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Total	7	2	0	1	8	1	3	12	4	38

Excludes:

- (1) Accidental shootings of OIRA members and civilians by other OIRA members .
- (2) Killings during rows/fights between individual OIRA members, and civilians. (Personal matters.)