

An Chartlann Náisiúnta
National Archives

Reference Code:	2021/51/599
Creator(s):	Department of Foreign Affairs
Accession Conditions:	Open
Copyright:	National Archives, Ireland. May only be reproduced with the written permission of the Director of the National Archives.

RA

AMBASÁID NA hÉIREANN
TELEPHONE: (202) 462-3939
FAX: (202) 232-5993

EMBASSY OF IRELAND
2234 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008

Pages: 2

Date: 13 February, 1997

To: A-I Division **From:** Washington

For: Secretary O hUiginn **From:** Adrian O'Neill

C/C: ***Mr McIntyre (A-I Division); Mr Wrafter (London); Mr Brangan (NY); Consuls General***

Re: Statement by President Clinton on Bessbrook killing

Attached for your information is the statement issued this morning by President Clinton concerning the killing yesterday of Lance Bombardier Restorick in Bessbrook.

END

©DFA/2021/51/599

The White House Briefing Room

February 13, 1997

KILLING OF BRITISH SOLDIER IN NORTHERN IRELAND

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

For Immediate Release

February 13, 1997

KILLING OF BRITISH SOLDIER IN NORTHERN IRELAND

I am grieved and outraged by the callous killing of a British soldier in Northern Ireland yesterday. The First Lady and I extend our deepest sympathy to the soldier?s family and to the British government and people on the loss of this young man. We wish the authorities success in bringing the murderers swiftly to justice.

All those who care about the future of Northern Ireland must join me in condemning this cowardly crime. I remain convinced that the people of both of Northern Ireland?s traditions want to take the path of peace and reconciliation, not hatred and violence.

The Belfast talks chaired by Senator Mitchell continue to have my full support. I urge all those taking part, who share a commitment to democratic values, to move as rapidly as possible into substantive negotiation about the future of Northern Ireland.

The loyalists and their leaders have shown great courage and restraint in not allowing themselves to be drawn into an escalating spiral of violence. I urge them to remain steadfast.

# # #

©DFA/2021/51/599