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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

STATEMENT BY THE PRESS SECRETARY

The United States condemns in the strongest terms yesterday's barbaric attack on the military base at Lisburn in Northern Ireland, which injured over 30 people. Now the Irish Republican Army has claimed responsibility for this deadly criminal act. These men of violence are acting against the interests and hopes of the people of Ireland, North and South, who want a just and lasting peace. We hope the authorities will swiftly bring those responsible to justice.

These acts of terrorism must not be allowed to derail the important work of peace occurring in Belfast under the chairmanship of Senator Mitchell and his two colleagues. The United States stands with the British and Irish Governments in their determination to see the voices of peace prevail. We hope that the representatives of the people participating in the talks will redouble their efforts to achieve a sustainable settlement. We continue to underscore our support for the courage and determination the loyalists have shown in resisting provocation and refusing to be drawn into the spiral of violence.

The United States will continue to support the British and Irish governments and all those who search for peace.

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8 october 1996