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Scene of bomb

MONDAY
07/04/2008
18:32:20

Families launch Omagh bomb civil action

The families of the Omagh bomb victims have started a civil action against five men they claim were responsible.

A lawyer for the families described the atrocity as a "massacre of the innocents."

No one has ever been charged, but the five men named in the action today were Seamus McKenna, Michael McKevitt, Liam Campbell, Seamus Daly and Colm Murphy.

Michael Gallagher, whose 21 year old son Aidan was killed in the bombing, said the families believe this is their last chance to get justice.

Talking to UTV's Ivan Little, he said: *"I think it's proof of the fact that both governments have failed us in the justice system and it has basically been left up to the victims to seek justice for themselves. But we think it is an important regardless of the outcome of the trial."*

Opening the case, Lord Daniel Brennan QC, said the families had solid wide ranging evidence which would fully expose the workings of the real IRA and their leadership.

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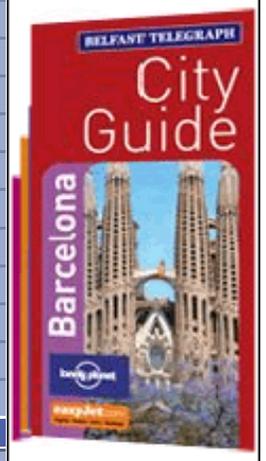
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He said the civil action was certainly unprecedented in the UK and probably around the world.

The five men weren't in court for the hearing which is expected to last up to eight weeks.

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