

Protestants bomb Dublin train

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) — Protestant militants claimed responsibility for a bomb that injured two train passengers Monday and said the attack was a warning that Northern Ireland's Protestant majority would not be "coerced, forced or persuaded into a united Ireland."

The attack was the first in Ireland since the Irish Republican Army announced a cease-fire Aug. 31 in its violent 25-year campaign to drive the British from Northern Ireland. Britain and Ireland appealed to the IRA not to retaliate.

The IRA has not avenged three attacks by Protestant militants in Northern Ireland since the cease-fire was announced. Two Roman Catholics died in those attacks.

Protestant extremists fear the evolving peace process will pull

Northern Ireland out of Britain and into a union with Ireland.

Police said a small bomb placed beneath a seat on the morning train from Belfast, Northern Ireland, exploded just as the train arrived at Connolly Station in Dublin. Two women sitting on the seat suffered cuts on their legs.

Irish Rail got a telephone warning at about the time of the explosion, but it was too late to clear the train, spokesman Cyril Ferris said.

Minutes before the explosion, the outlawed Ulster Volunteer Force sent a coded warning to Ulster Television in Belfast.

The Ulster Volunteer Force claimed it had planted bombs at seven other places, including the airport and the city hall. The warning sent police racing across the city, but no other

bombs were found.

In Belfast, the Ulster Volunteer Force said the attack was a warning to the Irish government "that Northern Ireland is still British and will not be coerced, forced or persuaded into a united Ireland."

The Combined Loyalist Military Command, representing the Ulster Volunteer Force and the outlawed Ulster Defense Association, said last week that it would not consider a cease-fire until it sees what plans Britain and Ireland have in store for Northern Ireland.

Just a week after the cease-fire, Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds clasped hands in Dublin with Sinn Fein leader Gerry Adams, in a historic meeting that fed most Protestant fears.

Britain still says it wants as-

urance the cease-fire is permanent before admitting Sinn Fein to talks on the future of Northern Ireland.

In Belfast, Britain's top official in Northern Ireland, Sir Patrick Mayhew, called the bombing "revolting."

Irish Justice Minister Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, in a radio interview, said it was important that "there should be no retaliation from any quarter to what has happened."

"It may well be an attempt to get retaliation," she said.

In Belfast, the small Ulster Democratic Party predicted more attacks in Ireland.

"What we have seen is a very clear message being sent to Albert Reynolds regarding the haste with which he is embracing Sinn Fein," said party leader Gary McMichael.

N. Korea vows to release 14 American remains

PANMUNJOM, Korea (AP) — North Korea, seeking improved ties with the United States, promised to hand over 14 coffins containing the remains of American soldiers killed in the 1950-53 Korean War — the first remains turned over this year.

The transfer Tuesday occurs at a time when the two longtime enemies are moving to improve ties in the midst of the long-standing dispute over the Communist North's nuclear program.

Last weekend, five U.S. diplomats visited the North's capital of Pyongyang for the first time and began talks on exchanging liaison offices, the first step toward normalizing relations.

Simultaneous talks are under way in Berlin to replace the North's old-fashioned nuclear

sites with technology less adaptable to weapons development.

The United States has said resolving nuclear tensions is essential to improving ties with the North, with which it has no formal relations. Another condition is the return of American war dead.

At the North-South border village of Panmunjom, 36 miles north of Seoul, North Korean soldiers are to hand over 14 coffins to U.N. honor guards.

U.S. officials say the remains will be sent to an army laboratory in Hawaii for evaluation and identification.

Tuesday's transfer will bring to 208 the total number of sets of remains returned by North Korea since 1990. U.S. officials say only one set of remains has been positively identified.

Cubans continue to seek visas

HAVANA (AP) — Encouraged by news that the United States will let more Cubans enter the country legally, hundreds of people milled around the U.S. government offices in Havana on Monday, hoping for word on how to get a visa.

A spokesman for Cuba's Interior Ministry said details of the new U.S.-Cuban immigration deal were still being worked out and would be announced in the state media.

"We've just got to be patient and wait," said Olga Rodriguez. "If everything were all right in this country, we wouldn't have to go anywhere."

There were only a couple rafts on the shores of Cojimar. The Havana neighborhood has been a main departure point for thousands of Cuban boat people fleeing hunger and poverty in their Communist country this year.

Under a deal reached Friday, the U.S. administration agreed to allow at least 20,000 Cubans a year to immigrate legally. Cuba promised to halt the flight of rafters and gave them until Tuesday to remove their crafts from the beach.

"I have more faith," said Ricardo Lamonte, a 56-year-old accountant. "But I realize that not everybody can get in."

The United States closed its embassy after President Fidel Castro took power but maintains an interest section in the seafront building that used to house the embassy. The interest section is technically an arm of the Swiss Embassy.

"We'll see how it goes," Sonia Lobo, a 30-year-old school teacher, said. "You can't lose hope but you get fed up sometimes."

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