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**STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND ON  
THE SHOOTING OF A POLICE WOMAN IN LONDONDERRY - 10 APRIL  
1997**

My thoughts are with this brave young woman and her family. I pray she will recover. She was guarding the Courts of Justice. Justice means nothing to the IRA and others like them. Their victims receive no trial and are granted no appeal.

2. This sickening attack is but the latest putting further back the day when Sinn Fein could ever be acceptable as a constitutional party.

fax Howell James

- faxed to the bus  
by Victoria, Political Office  
10/4/97

As promised, text of Paddy Mayhew's statement. I understand the policewoman is not as seriously injured as first thought. The IRA have not (yet) claimed responsibility, but are the most likely perpetrators. I don't think the Prime Minister need make a separate statement, but he can draw on this if asked.

Philip

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