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BRITISH EMBASSY WASHINGTON

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BRITISH EMBASSY #2

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06-15-97 02:05PM FROM SENATOR KENNEDY

TO 95887859

from the office of
Senator Edward M. Kennedy
of Massachusetts

**STATEMENT OF SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY
ON TODAY'S MURDERS IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

For Immediate Release
June 16, 1997

Contact: Kathy McKiernan
(202) 224-2633

I am sickened and outraged by today's murders by the IRA. There is no justification whatever for these continuing atrocities.

For many months, the British and Irish Governments and friends of Ireland in the United States have been working in good faith to achieve negotiations that would include Sinn Fein, on the basis of an unequivocal restoration of the IRA cease-fire.

Sinn Fein's improved showing in the recent elections in Northern Ireland and Ireland was a vote of confidence in the peace process and an end to violence in Northern Ireland, not a vote for the IRA's track record of terror.

Sinn Fein and the IRA cannot have it both ways. It is up to the advocates of the peace process within the Republican movement to face up to their responsibility and bring about an immediate restoration of the cease-fire. Failure to do so means either they support the violence, or they are unable to prevent it.

Now is the moment of truth for Sinn Fein. They must produce a cease-fire, or else join in condemning the violence and disassociate themselves completely from all those who continue to commit or condone those wanton acts of terrorism.

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