

# 20 YEARS OF TERRORISM

## The IRA's mainland bombing campaign

The Irish Republican Army began its mainland bombing campaign in London in March 1973. Since then police figures show that the IRA has been linked to 487 bombings and 28 shootings on the mainland, killing 115 people and wounding 1,626

**1973** IRA car bombs explode outside London's Old Bailey court killing 1 person and injuring 250. Over the year 16 bombs – including letter bombs – explode or are defused injuring a further 70 people

**1974** 53 bombs and a number of shooting incidents. 328 injured and 33 killed – 21 in Birmingham and 5 in Guildford pub bombings. Guildford, Birmingham and M62 coach bomb convictions later quashed

**1975** 22 terrorist incidents kill 8 and injure 124

**1976** 19 terrorist incidents, including seven letter

**1977** 13 bombs explode. No injuries

**1978** 7 bombs planted. 10 injured. 1 policeman shot

**1979** 24 bombs – mostly letter bombs to politicians or businessmen. 10 injuries. MP Airey Neave killed by car bomb while leaving House of Commons

**1980** 3 bombs. 7 injured

**1981** 7 bombs – 41 injuries – 2 people killed by nail bomb at Chelsea barracks. Bomb disposal officer dies in Oxford Street

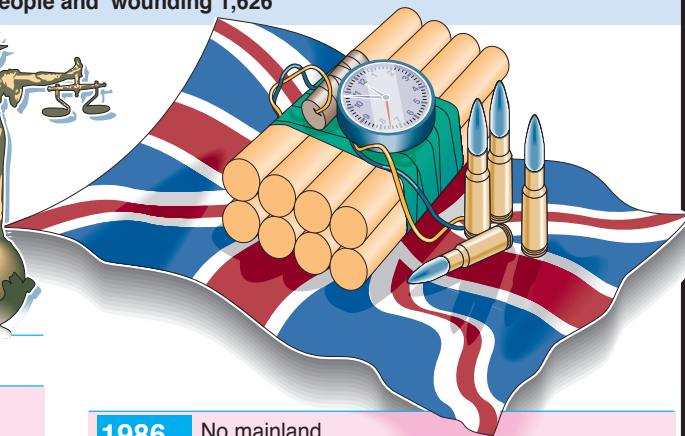
**1982** 3 bombs, including Hyde Park and Regent's

**1983** Christmas car bomb outside Harrods department store kills 6 and injures 80. 3 other London bombs injure 7



**1984** Explosion at Grand Hotel, Brighton, during Tory Party Conference. 5 deaths, 34 injuries

**1985** London hotel bomb defused. Planned blitz on



**1986** No mainland

**1987** 5 letter bombs sent to civil servants. Arms

**1988** 1 soldier killed, 9 injured in explosion at North

**1989** 11 Marine bandmen killed, 21 injured in Deal

**1990** Over 12 bombs as campaign escalates. MP Ian Gow assassinated. 1 soldier killed and 2 injured outside Wembley army recruiting office. Explosions at Carlton Club and Stock Exchange

**1991** Mortar bomb attack on 10 Downing Street narrowly misses cabinet in session. 1 killed at Victoria station. 2 terrorists killed planting bomb in St Albans. Christmas fire-bomb attacks in London, Manchester and Blackpool. Bombs on rail and tube networks cause chaos



**1992** 100lb bomb devastates City of London, killing 3 and injuring 91. 15 other London attacks, including taxi bomb in Whitehall. 2 bombs in Manchester injure 64. Special constable shot dead in Yorkshire

**1993** January – 5 firebombs in central London stores. Bomb explodes in litterbin outside Harrods, several injuries. February – 2 bombs on rail and tube network. Warrington gasometer devastated in huge explosion. Policeman shot and civilian kidnapped during suspects' escape attempt. Camden High Street

