

# NORTHERN IRELAND

## Army hunts IRA sniper teams

British army troops, Royal Ulster Constabulary patrols and SAS special forces are hunting IRA sniper teams that have killed seven members of the security forces since August 1992. The gunmen are using both Kalashnikov assault rifles and an American-made Barrett Light 50 rifle

### Barrett Light Fifty M82A1 Semi-automatic sniping rifle

Weight (empty): 14.7kg  
Length: 1.55 metres

Effective range with  
telescopic sight:  
1,000 metres

Muzzle velocity: 838m/sec – almost  
three times the speed of sound

Muzzle brake  
reduces recoil  
by 30 percent

Bipod  
required to increase  
accuracy

Magazine  
holds 11 rounds

**PRICE IN U.S.**  
Bolt-action version  
\$3,500  
Semi-automatic  
\$6,000

The Barrett Light Fifty fires the .50 Browning  
heavy machine-gun cartridge: Calibre: 12.7mm,  
total length of round: 137.8mm, weight of armour  
piercing round: 46.5gm

Standard Kalashnikov AK-47 round: Calibre: 7.62mm,  
length: 55.8mm, weight of steel-cored round: 7.9gm

Cartridges  
to scale

### Where the killers have struck

Aug: Sniper rifle seized  
by police in Falls Road

Dec 2: Soldier  
killed with a  
single shot

Jun: Pt John Randall

Mar: Lance Corp  
Lawrence Dickson

Aug 92: Pt Paul Turner  
Feb 93: RUC Constable  
Jonathan Reid  
Jul: Lance Corp  
Kevin Pullin

