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NEWS ARCHIVE

- 12:20 Bus drivers to go back to school
- 12:15 Minister bans Republic officials
- 11:23 More new academies than ever before
- 10:36 Gangland killing in Dublin
- 09:21 Injuries from brutal abuse of baby
- 09:02 Big Bang experiment starts
- 09:00 Bush limits Iraq troop withdrawal
- 08:36 Massive energy price hikes
- 08:26 Service for soldiers is held
- 08:18 Maintenance dodgers under fire
- 07:35 E-squire? US men's magazine woos
- 00:24 Absent Kim fuels illness rumour
- 00:23 The players' player
- 00:23 Arrest in Pakistan that made
- 00:23 Critical report on anti-terrorism
- 00:23 Immigration: Welcome to Britain -
- 00:03 Russia: Wary EU balks at pledge of
- 00:03 Anniversary will highlight inaction
- 00:03 French firm offers trip to
- 00:03 Portrait of a suicide bomber
- 00:03 People

YESTERDAY

- 20:07 Father in court over baby death
- 19:58 Man appears in court on rape charge
- 13:57 Coming to your desktop: virtual
- 11:58 Five held in dissident probe
- 11:27 Group to meet to discuss abortion
- 10:43 Put-upon chimpanzees get by with
- 10:41 `Wanted` suspect charged
- 10:10 One nation under water

- 10:00 Folly of the progressive fairytale
- 09:30 The right conspires to hide it,
- 09:18 One thing is clear from the
- 08:27 Tackling hate crime `a priority`
- 08:11 House sales look set to increase
- 02:47 Reformed Britart rebel takes time
- 00:50 McCain and Palin widen key states
- 00:45 US crime: OJ Simpson trial starts
- 00:11 Oasis offer chance to wannabe rock
- 00:11 Scientists call for huge increase
- 00:11 Country diary
- 00:11 Saving Fannie and Freddie was
- 00:11 Church of Scientology faces fraud

YOUR COMMENTS

-  Massive energy price hikes
4 comments
-  UVF and UDA in peace talks
14 comments
-  O`Neill returns to Tyrone panel
6 comments

LOCAL NEWS



Soldiers honoured

Wednesday 10 September 2008 08:26

Prince of Wales attended service for veterans

The Prince of Wales and Prime Minister Gordon Brown have attended a commemoration for people who served in Northern Ireland during a military campaign which lasted for almost 40 years.

Former Prime Ministers Tony Blair and Margaret Thatcher, Conservative leader David Cameron and Chief of the Defence Staff Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Stirrup were among the dignitaries in attendance at the service at St Paul's Cathedral in London on Wednesday morning.

The deployment, known as Operation Banner, was the Army`s longest continuous campaign and saw more than 300,000 military personnel serve in Northern Ireland.

Troops were first sent in during 1969 as violent unrest escalated on the streets, and over the following decades 763 members of the armed forces were killed by paramilitaries.

Operation Banner formally ended last year at midnight on July 31 and at the time, Armed Forces Minister Bob Ainsworth said: *"The impact of the commitment since 1969 has been considerable on both the military themselves and on the MoD civilians supporting them."*

"They and the community at large have suffered both death and injury."

"We should take this opportunity to remember the commitment, bravery and sacrifice of all those who have served over so many years in helping deliver the current, more settled and more optimistic circumstances."

Following the service, around 700 veterans marched from the cathedral to Guildhall for the reception, hosted by the Prince of Wales and his wife the Duchess of Cornwall.

The Prime Minister said in a statement: *"We owe a debt of gratitude to all service personnel who served on Operation Banner between 1969 and 2007, and especially those who gave their lives."*

"They helped create the conditions for the peace Northern Ireland now enjoys and today we salute their courage."

"It is in their honour and for all the people of Northern Ireland that all those committed to the province`s future must work together to ensure a lasting peace."

The material for this story has been provided by PA

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