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# Six dead, four wounded since IRA campaign began

THE latest development in the Provisional IRA's campaign of violence began last summer, when bombs were planted in the homes of two prominent company directors in the solidly Protestant Finaghy housing estate in south Belfast.

Mr. William Maginness was unhurt, but his home was badly damaged in the blast. The second victim, Mr. George McCartney, was less lucky: he was shot in the head and chest and seriously hurt; several RUC personnel and military policemen were injured when the bomb exploded some time later without warning, and the house was wrecked.

Some months before this had come a curious spate of bomb attacks on wealthy homes in the south and north of the city, which may have been a "dry run" for the subsequent campaign against businessmen. The Provisionals admitted responsibility for the blasts and explained at the time that the rich should understand that they were considered "legitimate targets" as long as the British Army continued to raid the homes of the poor.

Two days after the Finaghy incidents, Mr. C. O. Eaton, the 42-year-old production director of a large bakery in the Springfield Road, west Belfast, was shot in the head as he sat in his car outside the premises. Mr. Eaton was killed instantly. He had been a member of the Northern Ireland Police Authority until the time it was reconstituted a few days before his death.

At the time there was a short controversy over the publication by *Fortnight* magazine of a business directory which named the North's 300 top businessmen and gave home addresses as well as their commercial interests. McCartney, Maginness and Eaton all figured in the list, although the latter had moved to Belfast from the Derry address given in *Fortnight*.

The magazine pointed out at the time that all the details published were available in Companies House; addresses could also be checked in street directories or through other easily available sources. And none of the subsequent victims were named by *Fortnight*.

For five months there followed a lull in the campaign until last December 23rd, when Mr. Joseph Glover (60), a Derry company director and a member of a well-

known Unionist family in that city, was shot dead on the doorstep of his home.

The next killing, and the most widely publicised to date, took place on February 2nd when Mr. Jeffrey Agate, a 58-year-old Englishman, who ran the large Du Pont petrochemical complex, was gunned down at the gate of his home in Derry.

Eight days later, Mr. Alastair McManus (31), a director of the Ulster Shoe Company, was wounded in the neck, but not seriously, when gunmen called to his home in Wellington Park, in the exclusive Malone Road residential area of Belfast. Further to the south, shots were fired into the house of Sir William McKinney, CBE, a member of the Northern Ireland Hospitals Authority, who is also associated with the Belfast Savings Bank.

Then on February 13th two youths pulled up on a motorcycle at the upper Antrim Road home of Mr. Abraham Herbert, a wholesaler and a well-known member of Belfast's Jewish community. They fired three shots into the livingroom and fled; later a small bomb was found on the doorstep. It exploded, causing some damage but no casualties.

On February 23rd the attacks continued with the killing in Derry of Mr. Peter Hill (45), a businessman and a serving major in the local Ulster Defence Regiment. On the Antrim Road, in north Belfast, another Jewish businessman, Mr. Leonard Steinberg, was wounded in the thigh when shots were fired through his front door. Mr. Steinberg, a bookmaker connected with the Stanley chain, is known to have been connected with the Unionist Party in a fund-raising capacity in the past.

Last Saturday a retired Newry businessman, Mr. Robert Mitchell (70), was shot dead in the hallway of his home. On Tuesday Mr. Walter Whitten, aged 67, was seriously injured in the head and chest by gunmen who attacked him near his home in Portadown, Co. Armagh. Both Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Whitten were JPs and prominent members of the Orange Order. The Portadown man's brother, Mr. Herbert Whitten, was an Official Unionist MP and member of the former Convention.

The most recent shooting which saw the death yesterday of Mr. Donald Robinson, brings to six the number of victims killed. Four others have been wounded in the attacks.