



THE OFFICIAL IRA

This was made up of most of the older veterans of the IRA border campaign of the 1950's.

This group sought to achieve a United Ireland but its use of violence was more contained

They followed **MARXIST (communist) ideas** which suggested that they should not fight against Protestants to achieve their aims.

They declared a **ceasefire** in 1972

The tensions of the Summer of 1969 had created deep tensions in the republican movement.

The organisation had been caught off guard and **unprepared**. Many nationalists wrote murals **IRA:I Ran Away**

Humiliatingly it was none other than the **British army** that seemed to come to the rescue and protect Catholic communities. The tensions created a major split in the IRA

PROVISIONAL IRA

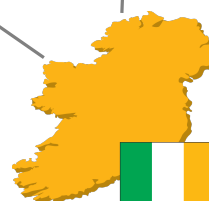
- This group broke away from the Official IRA in 1969.

- It was made up of **younger and more militant members** - They wanted to **fight** using every means to achieve independence and a **United Ireland**.

THEIR GOALS

- **To protect Catholic communities from attacks**
- **To achieve civil rights for all**
- **They wanted to destroy the Unionist government at Stormont**
- **They aimed to remove British Imperialism from Ireland by any possible means**

- their campaign of violence would rage for more than 30 years and kill hundreds. They were supported in their aims politically by **SINN FEIN**



IRA SPLIT



RISE OF THE PARAMILITARIES



BRITISH MILITARY REACTION



LOYALISTS

Loyalist groups **grew rapidly** fed by **fear** of the IRA and the growth of civil rights. Many unionists felt **deeply threatened** by events

Killings by the **UVF** grew as they aimed to match republicans



In **1971** the **UDA Ulster Defence Association** was set up. It attracted over **30,000** members- this was **too big to ban** as it would instantly fill and overwhelm the court system and prisons



FALLS ROAD CURFEW 3-5 July 1970

One of the key targets for the British army to look for weapons and suspects was inevitably the **Falls road** in west Belfast.

The searches caused a great deal of **destruction** and led to very serious **rioting**. IRA guns were discovered but not in huge quantities. The British army had to use **CS gas** in large quantities to try and control the situation. In the end they resorted to a **36 hour curfew** imposed on residents.

4 civilians were killed in this action and over **300** arrested

The **damage in terms of relations between the British army and catholic community** was **incalculable**. It turned nationalist opinion heavily against the British army. It was now viewed both as an occupying army and a **legitimate target** for the PIRA.

IRA Membership in the area **soared** from only **100** to **800**

It was a **key turning point** in the Troubles.

The split in the IRA sparked a **change in strategy**. The British army were now clearly **targets** of the IRA.

In response the British army decided to be **proactive** and tried to **remove weapons** before they could be used. This however required **raiding catholic homes** .. a tactic which would **backfire** hugely

The British military were initially **welcomed** into nationalist areas with tea, sandwiches and cheers in 1969. They **stopped the attacks** from loyalist areas and **protected catholic** neighbourhoods.

However, it was noted by the military commander at the time that this arrangement would not last forever and a **political solution** would have to be found quickly before the army began to be **part of the problem** and not the solution.