Narrow Water Massacre

The Narrow Water massacre was a [guerrilla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guerrilla_warfare) attack carried out by PIRA terrorists on The British Army on 27th August 1979, 41 years ago today. The IRA's [South Armagh Brigade](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Armagh_Brigade) ambushed the [British Army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Army) with two large roadside bombs at [Narrow Water Castle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Narrow_Water_Castle) (near [Warrenpoint](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warrenpoint))

The first bomb targeted a British Army convoy and the second targeted the reinforcements sent to deal with the incident. IRA terrorists hidden in nearby woodland also allegedly fired on the troops. The Narrow Water castle is on the banks of the [Newry River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newry_River), which marks [the border](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic_of_Ireland%E2%80%93United_Kingdom_border) between Northern Ireland and the [Republic of Ireland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic_of_Ireland).

Eighteen British soldiers were killed and six were seriously injured, making it the deadliest attack on the British Army during [the ‘Troubles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Troubles).’ An English civilian was also killed and another injured when British soldiers fired across the border after the first blast.

The attack happened on the same day that the IRA killed [Lord Louis Mountbatten](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Louis_Mountbatten%2C_1st_Earl_Mountbatten_of_Burma), one of his twin grandsons Nicholas (14) and local boy Paul Maxwell (15)

The clear intent of the day’s outrages was to create maximum propaganda for the terrorist organisation striking at the heart of the ‘British Establishment.’