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PRESS RELEASE BY CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE, EMBARGOED
UNTIL NOON ON 17 OCTOBER 1989

WOOLWICH/GUILDFORD BOMBINGS

In January this year the Home Secretary referred to the Court of Appeal under Section 17 of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 the convictions of Paul Hill, Gerard Conlon, Carole Richardson and Patrick Armstrong for murder arising out of the Guildford and Woolwich pub bombings which occurred in October and November 1974 respectively. Circumstances have recently come to the notice of the Director of Public Prosecutions which have caused him to conclude that it would be wrong for the Crown to seek to sustain the convictions. The Court was informed yesterday evening and ordered an expedited hearing. It will now take place on Thursday 19 October at the Central Criminal Court. The reasons for the Director's decision will then be given.

17 October 1989