



# While English rule remains in Ireland . . .

# Queen of England not welcome



• *The Commander-in-Chief of the British army — British rule in Ireland will never be either normal or acceptable.*

Northern Ireland" there were protests. The Dublin-Belfast railway line was severed by an explosion at Kilnasaggart Bridge just north of the border in Co Armagh. One of the few public showings by BBC television in Dublin was interrupted and the television smashed. Private showings of the event in various parts of the 26 Counties were interrupted by protests. Cinemas in Newry and Banbridge Co Down which screened the event were wrecked by explosions.

In June 1937 when George VI was crowned 'King of Great Britain and Ireland' there were protest meetings in Dublin's O'Connell St on successive nights. Shots were fired in the air and baton charges took place. Prominent Republicans Tom Barry and Frank Ryan led those protests and both appeared on the platform on the second night with bandaged heads. Shop windows in Cork city which featured the occasion in displays were smashed by bricks. In 1911 and 1900 Republicans also staged protests at the visit of British monarchs.

The meeting of loyalist Willie Frazier with senior 26-County police on June 21 to clear the way for another attempt to force a loyalist march through the centre of Dublin, after a similar attempt in February 2006 had to be abandoned due to the scale of the protest, is very much part of the same normalising agenda (see statement on page 3).

The lesson of Irish history is that continued British rule is the source of conflict in Ireland and the policy of normalising it, including a visit by the Queen of England, will be opposed by Irish Republicans. British rule in Ireland will never be either normal or acceptable.

## THE re-establishment of the Stormont Assembly on May 8 has been followed by two significant events.

Firstly the 26-County administration leader Bertie Ahern's address to the British Houses of Parliament on May 15. Secondly the announcement by the President of the 26-County State Mary McAleese on June 18 during a visit to the Six Counties that the circumstances "are probably now getting to the point where they are as close to right as they have ever been", for a visit to the 26 Counties by the Queen of England.

Both are a clear signal that the process of normalising English rule in Ireland is moving up a gear.

Speaking on the *Last Word* programme on Today FM on June 19 Republican Sinn Féin Vice-President Des Dalton said that Republicans would actively oppose any visit by the Queen of England.

"We view it as part of an orchestrated campaign by both the British and 26-County administrations to deny the reality of the British occupation and partition of Ireland," he said.

"British occupation has always been and remains the cause of conflict in Ireland, whilst that occupation continues relations with England can never be normal. A visit to the 26-Counties by the Queen of England is part of the process of bedding down the institutions of partition and British rule in Ireland."

In a statement on June 26 Republican Sinn Féin Vice-

President Cathleen Knowles McGuirk said that: "Republicans throughout Ireland were strongly opposed to the impending visit" of the head of the British State.

"There remains one huge obstacle to reconciliation between us and Britain and that obstacle is partition. Part of the process of putting the past behind us and moving forward would be the removal of the illegal and unjust border that divides our country and our people." Republican Sinn Féin "reject the fraudulent claims of the English Queen to be 'Queen of Northern Ireland'," she said.

Today Irish Republicans are determined to resist all attempts to normalise British rule, as they have in the past. In June 1953 when Elizabeth Windsor was crowned "Queen of Great Britain and

Annual H-Block  
HUNGER STRIKE  
Commemoration  
Bundoran, Co  
Donegal  
Saturday, August 25  
Assemble:  
East End, 3pm

*Speakers:*

Cathleen Knowles McGuirk  
Ruairi White



## British must pay RUC members compensation

ON June 29 Belfast High Court judge Patrick Coughlin opened the door to individual claims for compensation from members of the RUC when he ruled following a marathon action by more than 5,000 serving and former British police that there had been "systematic failures" in the way they were treated.

This could cost the British Government up to £100million (€148.3m).

The group action alleged RUC members endured anxiety and depression because of the violence and claimed successive Royal Ulster Constabulary Chief Constables and the former Northern Ireland Police Authority were negligent in their duty of care by failing

to provide proper facilities to deal with their mental anguish.

Whether there should be compensation in individual cases will have to be decided, he said, and will rule next week on 10 sample cases put forward during the hearing.

The judge said there was a watershed when the then RUC set up an occupational



health unit to deal with officers' mental problems. It opened in 1986 and he said it had not done enough or been properly resourced. Problems over alcohol were recognised by the

welfare branch in 1980 and by 1983 force orders had been published which recognised problem drinking and alcoholism as being a medical problem and disciplinary action was only considered as a last resort.

Thousands of people were traumatised by the actions of the same RUC who thought nothing of torturing, and indeed killing, nationalists and Republicans. Should the British taxpayer compensate them now just because they find it hard to live with their conscience?

different in Ireland. Furthermore the 1998 Stormont Agreement served to institutionalise sectarianism.

"The only viable solution to the cancer of sectarianism is a full British withdrawal from Ireland over a stated time-frame. Republican Sinn Féin's ÉIRE NUA programme provides for a federation of Ireland's four Provinces, including the nine counties of Ulster, offering maximum decentralisation of power to local communities and in accordance with local majorities.

"This would truly realise the vision of the Father of Irish Republicanism, Theobald Wolfe Tone, 'to substitute the common name of Irishmen in place of the denomination of Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter'."

## Sectarian divisions among Six-County children

IT was reported in a survey published on June 18 that Protestant and Catholic children in the Six Occupied Counties are living parallel and separate lives divided along sectarian lines 10 years on from the second Provo ceasefire.

A poll of 667 children chosen randomly from 35 schools across the Six-Counties showed Protestants were more likely to define themselves as British and Catholics more likely to see themselves as Irish.

The survey revealed:  
• More than four-fifths of Protestant children (84%) believed Belfast was the capital of their country compared to 39%

of Catholics.

• Catholic children (51%) were five times more likely to see themselves as Irish compared to Protestant children (10%).

• When children were asked if they were 'Northern Irish', there were roughly similar results - 53% of Catholics said they were and 49% of Protestants.

• A third of Protestant boys (33%) were likely to choose a

photograph of a child wearing a Rangers football shirt. Almost two-fifths of Catholic boys (39%) chose a photograph of a child wearing a Celtic shirt.

Reacting to the survey Richard Walsh, RSF Ard Chomhairle and PRO of Comhairle Uladh (Ulster Executive) said on June 18 that the findings of the BBC's "State of Minds - The Children" programme that sectarianism is rife amongst children was unsurprising within the context of continuing English rule in Ireland.

"The English government has always sought to divide and conquer, and this has been no



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I would like to join Republican Sinn Féin

Ba mhaith liom bheith i mo bhall de Sinn Féin Poblachtach

Ainm .....

Seoladh .....

Tel: ..... Age (if under 21) ....

Send to:

Teach Dáithí Ó Conaill  
223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1  
Tel: 01-872 9747; Facs: 01-872 9757.

or 229 Falls Road, Belfast

e-mail: [saoirse@iol.ie](mailto:saoirse@iol.ie)

<http://rsf.ie>

or contact your local paper seller for details



**For a full British withdrawal from Ireland**

**OUR AIMS**  
For a full British withdrawal from Ireland . . . The establishment of a true 32-County FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST REPUBLIC . . . The establishment of a new all-Ireland parliament, completely outside the present partitionist set-up, to oversee the running of the new neutral non-aligned Ireland . . .

**OUR HISTORY**  
Formed in 1905 . . . We are the oldest political organisation in the country . . . Organised throughout the 32 Counties . . . We have continuously rejected the failed political entities of the Six and 26 Counties in existence since the British partitioned our country . . .

## Gearrscéalta CIRA attack RUC/PSNI in Armagh

ON June 9 it was reported that an RUC/PSNI Land Rover had been targeted in a blast bomb attack on the Ring Road in Armagh City at 11.30pm.

Eye-witnesses claimed that the blast bomb made a direct hit on the bonnet and exploded on impact. The Land Rover left the scene at great speed having sustained significant damage.

It was also reported that the local priest's house received a coded telephone call stating that the Armagh Brigade of CIRA had claimed the attack. Local people in the surrounding area stated the explosion could be heard over a mile away.

A coded claim from the CIRA was received by the *Irish News* newspaper in Belfast.

**Lurgan Republicans pose 'highest threat' to British rule**  
IT was reported on June 27 that the British colonial police, the RUC/PSNI, believed Republican forces in Lurgan, Co Armagh posed the 'highest threat' to British rule in the Six Occupied Counties.

The threat is so high that the RUC were forced to patrol the town in body armour and armoured vehicles. Evidence of the threat had come in recent attacks on Brownlow RUC/PSNI barracks and finds of arms and explosives in the town.

RUC/PSNI Chief Superintendent Alan Todd said he still had concerns about the threat posed and that was being taken into account in planning and patrolling.

## RUC call and cancel community meeting

A MEETING advertised in the RUC/PSNI barracks in Coalisland, Co Tyrone as a community policing event for June 18 saw the RUC arrive in seven Land Rovers and seal off the area to ensure the safety of the RUC members who attended. However the meeting was called off due to bomb warnings. Local residents were annoyed that not only were they not informed that the meeting was cancelled but they were not even informed of the bomb warnings for their own safety.

## Six-County nationalists still more likely to be unemployed

ON June 20 official figures revealed that nationalists were still more likely to be unemployed in the Six Occupied Counties.

Fifty-four per cent of the working-age population in the Six Counties is from the unionist community and 46% from the nationalist community, but 76% of unionists have jobs, compared to just 67% of nationalists. The difference is even more marked in the female population, with just 58% of nationalist women in employment, compared to 71% of unionists.

## Classroom assistants pay cut by Provo minister

CLASSROOM assistants were reported on June 25 to be preparing for industrial action to defend their pay.

Their employers, the Education and Library Boards, acting under the direction of Provo Crown Education Minister Catriona Ruane, are proposing to cut their pay by as much as 79p an hour. The move comes at the end of years of negotiation by the main trade unions representing Classroom Assistants, NIPSA and UNISON.

To force the employers to return to the table with a serious offer the unions must make it clear that they intend taking serious action; a one-day strike would have no effect. What is required is extended action that gives the employers no way out. A properly organised strike would have serious repercussions in almost every school in the Six Counties.

With up to 7,000 Assistants involved, schools would close for weeks. This action can force the employers to make a real offer and engage in meaningful negotiations.

## Results of Dublin raffle

JUNE results: 1st prize ticket no 244; 2nd prize no 586; 3rd prize no 461; 4th prize no 554; 5th prize no 614; 6th prize no 591; 7th prize no 390; 8th prize no 413.

**SAOIRSE August edition published 1/8/2007**



## Gearrscéalta

### RSF will oppose loyalist march

**REACTING** to the announcement that loyalist Willie Frazier was meeting with senior gardai in the 26-County government buildings on June 21 to seek permission for a loyalist march and rally in Dublin, Republican Sinn Féin immediately pledged to protest at such an event.

In February 2006 a previous attempt by loyalists to march through O'Connell St had to be abandoned due to massive protests.

In a statement the Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin Des Dalton said:

"Just as we organised a protest at the last attempt to impose a loyalist march on the people of Dublin we will oppose any future proposed loyalist march. Every year nationalist people throughout the Six-Counties are terrorised and imprisoned within their own communities by sectarian and triumphalist orange marches, whilst homes, churches and schools are regularly targeted for attack by loyalists.

"Just like a proposed visit to the 26-Counties by the Queen of England we would view the imposition of a loyalist march in Dublin as an attempt to normalise British rule in Ireland."

### Comhairle Ceantair Luimnigh

**DELEGATES** from three Limerick Cumainn, Brugh/Sabhat, Hurson/Sands and Smith O'Brien/Con Colbert held a meeting in Broadford, Co Limerick on May 16, 2007 and set up Comhairle Ceantair Luimnigh. Officers elected were: Cathaoirleach: Séamus Ó Súilleabháin; Leas-Chathaoirleach: Joe Lynch; Rúnaí: Joseph Daly; Cisteoir: James Daly and delegate to Comhairle na Mumhan: Tim O'Donnell. Everyone present recognised the benefits a Comhairle Ceantair would bring to advancing the cause of the Republic in Limerick city and county. It was agreed to hold meetings every three months.

### North-West Comhairle Ceantair reorganised

**THE** North-West Comhairle Ceantair of Republican Sinn Féin has been reorganised and has resolved to seek the expansion of the Organisation in Counties Derry and Donegal and West Tyrone over the coming months. A programme of action has been devised and will be pursued in the immediate future. We call on residents of the North-West to join with us in promoting the Republican ideal.

### Tom Maguire ceremony

**THE** former chairman of Longford Co Council, Seán Lynch, delivered a short oration at the annual Comdt-General Tom Maguire wreath-laying ceremony on July 5 in Cross Cemetery at 9pm. A colour-party led the attendance to the graveside on the 14th anniversary of the death, at the great age of 101, of the hero who led the South Mayo Flying Column at the Kilfoyle and Tourmakeady ambushes and represented South Mayo-South Roscommon in the Second (All-Ireland) Dáil 1921-22. The commemoration drew the usual good attendance from Mayo, North Galway and Roscommon.

### Washington invite to Orange Order sparks protests

**THE** decision of the organisers of the Smithsonian Museum's Folklife Festival in Washinton DC to invite a delegation from the Orange Order to participate in the festival, which runs from June 24 to July 8, has sparked protests from a range of groups on both sides of the Atlantic.

In a statement the Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin Des Dalton said that the Orange Order would be out of place at a festival celebrating cultural diversity: "The Orange Order espouses a philosophy of hate, religious bigotry and intolerance.

"It is ironic that the organisers of the Folklife Festival see fit to issue an invitation to a sectarian organisation like the Orange Order whilst the US State Department enforces a ban on members of Republican Sinn Féin, including our President Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, travelling to the US to promote our programme for a new Ireland, ÉIRE NUA, based on the principles of All-Ireland democracy, inclusive of all of the Irish people 'Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter' to quote Theobald Wolfe Tone."

Jack Meehan, the national president of the AOH in the U.S., also hit out at the Orange Order's intention to participate in the Smithsonian Museum's 2007 Folklife Festival.

During an interview with the *Irish Voice*, Meehan outlined his objection to the visit: "You can only imagine our shock and dismay when we learned that the Orange Order, the most bigoted, anti-Catholic, anti-Irish organization in Ireland had been invited to participate in this folk festival sponsored by the Smithsonian on the national mall in Washington, D.C.," Meehan said.

## Finucane decision: 'Justice is not served'

**IN** A statement on June 27, Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, President, Republican Sinn Féin said that the decision of the British Public Prosecution Service not to prosecute members of the British forces, including the RUC, in connection with collusion in the murder of solicitor Pat Finucane was a political one.

"The reason for this ruling is the fear that such proceedings would expose the chain of command right up to the political control which provided direction and funding for such undercover activities.

"The motivation given by the PPS is that sufficient evidence is not available. This is so because those involved were careful not to keep records of their secret doings. "Justice is not served by this development.

Also on June 26 Republican Sinn Féin Publicity Officer Ruairí Ó Brádaigh said that the decision clearly illustrated that the nature of British rule in Ireland had not changed. "The leopard does not change his spots."

"Despite findings by the Steven's Inquiry that there was collusion between loyalist death squads and the British state no prosecutions have been brought against British crown forces members. It has also emerged that a gun handed back to RUC informer and UDA member William Stobie by the RUC was used in the murder of a nationalist man in December 1991 and in the murders of five nationalists at Seán Graham's bookmakers on Belfast's Ormeau Road in February 1992.

"British rule in Ireland is by its very nature undemocratic and based on violence and fear. Republican Sinn Féin join the Finucane family in calling for a full public inquiry into Pat Finucane's murder, we share their view that the terms of the present inquiry will prevent the truth from being established. Ending British rule and creating a New Ireland based on the principles of All-Ireland democracy is the only means of ending the cycle

Lambert, despite evidence from Britain's once most senior policeman Lord Stevens implicating them in both murders.

On June 25 the PPS confirmed for the first time that UDA 'quartermaster' Billy Stobie, who would later

he said.

The PPS decision was also criticised by Human Rights Commissioner Monica McWilliams, Amnesty International, British/Irish Rights Watch, Relatives For Justice and the Pat Finucane Centre.



• **Geraldine Finucane, widow of murdered Belfast solicitor Pat Finucane, with her son John.**

of conflict which is caused by English occupation."

Meanwhile on June 27 it was reported that the families of five men killed in a UDA gun attack will launch civil actions after a decision that no current or retired RUC/PSNI member will face prosecution despite the RUC having provided the murder gang with its weapons.

Maria Sykes, whose 18-year-old brother Peter was among those killed at Sean Graham bookmakers in south Belfast in 1992, said she was "sick with anger" at the British Public Prosecution Service (PPS) decision.

The PPS also ruled-out prosecutions against British Crown Forces members and soldiers suspected of involvement in the murders of solicitor Pat Finucane and Protestant teenager Adam

be implicated in the Finucane and Lambert murders, handed over five weapons to his RUC Special Branch handlers in 1989.

However, weeks later the weapons were handed back to the UDA.

In December 1991 one weapon was used in an attack on the Devenish Bar in west Belfast, killing Catholic man Aidan Wallace.

Three months later the same weapon was used in the UDA's gun attack on Sean Graham's bookmakers which killed three men and two teenage boys.

Pat Finucane's son John described the PPS decisions as "weak" and "cowardly".

"This is an insult to my family and proves that we were right all along in refusing to have anything to do with what has been proven to be a charade from start to finish,"

Mark Thompson, of Relatives for Justice (RFJ), pointed out that it was six years since the European Court of Human Rights found that British investigative mechanisms, including the PPS, did not meet international standards of impartiality, accountability and transparency.

"The PPS has made a great many disquieting decisions over the years in relation to cases involving loyalist paramilitaries but protests have been ignored. It must be made accountable.

"Only an independent public inquiry can satisfy the concerns of my family and the wider public about the existence of collusion between the British army, the RUC and security services in the murder of Pat Finucane and many others."

## Destruction of Tara continues

**THE** inclusion of Tara on the World Monuments Fund list of 100 most endangered sites in the world was welcomed by the conservationist group TaraWatch on June 8.

Group spokesman Vincent Salafia said the Green Party had given commitments to re-route the M3 motorway, which it now appears to be reneging on. He said the listing of Tara as an endangered heritage site would remind members of the potential 26-County administration of the significance and international interest in Tara.

The Heritage Protection Alliance of Ireland also marked the listing of Tara by

issuing a call for new heritage legislation to be introduced by the incoming 26-County administration.

Conservationists opposed to the route of the M3 motorway expressed disappointment after they failed to meet newly-appointed Green Party 26-County Minister for the Environment John Gormley at the Custom House in Dublin on June 25.

The conservationists said they were told that Gormley,

one of two new Green Party members of the 26-County Cabinet, would not meet them and they were informed that gardai would be called if they refused to leave the building.

Tara Watch said that it had called a meeting at the Custom House on June 26 to demand that the John Gormley halt works on newly discovered sites along the route of the M3 motorway.

Tara Watch said that the monuments were a stone underground chamber and an underground stone passageway with wooden entrances.

Two stone souterrains, or underground structures, have been uncovered, approximately 10 meters apart. Capstones have been removed and it is possible to see down into one of the chambers.

A souterrain refers to an underground chamber, often found in the late Iron Age. There may be many more underground chambers and passages as the area is only being excavated for the first time.

Activists have secured the area, and will protect the sites (by forming a circle around the sites).

# For The Record

**MON. MAY 28:** Mike Jackson, former head of the British army in the Occupied Six Counties and member and regimental adjutant of the Parachute Regiment on Bloody Sunday, January 30, 1972 when 13 civilians were murdered by the Paras at a civil rights march in Derry, admitted for the first time that “innocent people died on Bloody Sunday”.

**TUES. MAY 29:** Statistics published by the British Department of Education in the Occupied Six Counties for the 2005/06 show that “more Catholic than Protestant children are leaving school without a single qualification”.

John Kelly, brother of Michael murdered on Bloody Sunday, January 1972, said that “the truth was the fifteenth victim of Bloody Sunday.”

Stephen Byrne, Chief State Solicitors’ Office said that an independent inquiry is unlikely into the circumstances surrounding the death in custody of Brian Rossiter (14) on September 11/12, 2002 in Clonmel Garda station.

Members of the Choctaw nation based in Oklahoma and Mississippi, who are on a visit to Ireland, took part in the Afri famine walk in Louisburgh, Co Mayo over the weekend. Gary White Deer and Janie White Deer, along with others, also met protestors from the Shell to Sea campaign and visited Gaelscoil Cholmille, Santry, Dublin. In 1847 the Choctaw [native] Americans collected \$710 for famine relief in Ireland. Details of the donation are contained in the Arkansas Intelligencer of 1847.

**WED. MAY 30:** The inquiry into the murder of loyalist LVF leader Billy Wright opened in Banbridge, Co Down.

Fewer nationalists are now serving in the higher ranks of the RUC/PSNI than in the RUC’s last days, according to a report by outgoing Commissioner Al Hutchinson.

Dr Karl Grey, a forensic pathologist who carried out an independent post-mortem on Terence Wheelock, will not be allowed to give direct evidence at the inquest into his death. Terence Wheelock died in hospital three months after being found unconscious in Store Street garden station, Dublin in 2005. He never regained consciousness.

A Saudi Arabian detainee was found dead in Guantanamo Bay camp, Cuba.

Three thousand, two hundred women have been murdered in Guatemala since 2000. Jorge Valasquez is in Ireland to highlight the murders, one of whom was his daughter Claudia Isabel.

**THURS. MAY 31:** Taoiseach Bertie Ahern, 26-County Administration, rejected the suggestion that US military flights through Shannon be ended. The Green Party signed a pledge prior to the general election that it would not go into coalition government with any party supporting the use of Shannon by the US military on their way to Iraq.

**FRI. JUNE 1:** Pro-Palestinian activists demonstrated outside the office of the European Union, Molesworth Street, Dublin in protest at the continued Israeli occupation — for the last 40 years — and the EU sanctions on the Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

Queen Elizabeth of England visited the Occupied Six Counties.

**SAT. JUNE 2:** Nationalists in Ballymena complained of RUC/PSNI heavy-handedness towards them at a loyalist march in which 40 bands took part. Loyalist flags were carried and bands played *The Sash* in contravention of a ruling by the Parades Commission.

Civil Liberties groups in England are concerned that Gordon Brown’s new proposed legislation designed to “clamp down on terrorism” and warned that extending the detention period to 90 days would amount to “internment”.

**SUN. JUNE 3:** A protest took place in Germany against the forthcoming G8 summit. Sixty-three people were arrested and up to 520 demonstrators were injured along with 400 police.

**MON. JUNE 4:** Several dozen Palestinian TV journalists attended a protest in Gaza city calling for protection from the group The Sword of Islamic Truth who threatened to behead female news presenters who do not dress according to a strict Islamic code.

**TUES. JUNE 5:** Five members of the Shell-to-Sea Campaign were arrested after they blocked the entrance to the plant at Bangor Erris to deposit peat from the Shell E&P site at Bellanaboy refinery site.

**WED. JUNE 6:** A prisoner held in the Republican wing in Maghaberry jail, Terry McCaffery, was sentenced to eight days in solitary confinement in the Special Supervision Unit (SSU) after he refused

‘to wiggle his toes’ during a strip search. The incident happened as he was being transferred back to the wing having spent five days in the SSU for wearing an Easter lily. He was charged, under prison rules, with refusing to obey a direct order. Republicans claim that the controlled movement regime being operated in the wing is being used to harass and humiliate the Republican prisoners.

A senior official in the Department of Justice in the 26 Counties admitted that ‘there is a need for real change in the way immigration is managed here’.

The World Environmental Day (today) slogan for 2007 is ‘Melting Ice – a Hot Topic?’ aimed at



• Hamas fighters celebrating after taking control of Fatah’s Preventative Security HQ in Gaza on June 15 last.

highlighting public concern about climatic change and its likely consequences.

Anti-terror laws are having a ‘chilling’ effect on the rights of people to campaign and stage demonstrations against government policies, according to British comedian Mike Thomas in a speech to the GMB.

**THURS. JUNE 7:** TDs who lost their seats in the general election will get tax-free lump sums and pensions.

Amnesty International and five other groups have identified 39 people who are believed to have been held in secret custody and whose current whereabouts remain unknown. The report, *Off the Record: US Responsibility for Enforced Disappearances in the War on Terror* lists ‘disappeared people’ from various countries including Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Spain, and are believed to have been arrested in countries including Iran, Iraq, Pakistan and Sudan. The list also names relatives of suspects who were themselves detained in secret prisons, including children as young as seven. Family members were detained in an apparent attempt to obtain information on the ‘suspects’.

**FRI. JUNE 8:** John Kenneway, convicted of the murder of Billy Wright in Maghaberry jail in 1997, was found dead in his cell in Maghaberry. He was returned to jail after allegedly breaking his conditions of release under the Belfast Agreement.

Historical documents covering the 1923-1933 period were transferred to the National Archives in Dublin. The files, over 190 in all, include information on the execution of Kevin O’Higgins, Free State minister for justice, in 1927 and reports on the activities of the Republican forces [the IRA]. The files can now be accessed by the public.

The first trial involving 26 defendants, believed to be CIA agents with one exception, opened in Italy without any of the defendants present. They are accused of kidnapping Osama Moustafa Hassan Nasr, an alleged Egyptian ‘terrorist suspect’ in Milan in 2003.

The listing of Tara on the World Monuments Fund was welcomed by all those campaigning for the rerouting of the M3 Motorway away from the Tara/Skryne Valley.

The ‘political control of the Garda Síochána’ was criticised by Prof Dermot Walsh, new chair of law at the University of Limerick.

**SAT. JUNE 9:** Protests took place in Rome against the visit of George Bush.

Renewed calls for an independent inquiry into the death of Terence Wheelock came after hundreds of people gathered outside Store Street garda station, Dublin.

Clashes between Shell to Sea demonstrators at Pollathomas Pier left 20 local people and two gardai injured.

**SUN. JUNE 10:** Fighting between Hamas and Fatah intensified in Gaza.

**MON. JUNE 11:** A report by the 26-County Health Research Board shows a ten-fold increase in the number of people seeking help for cocaine use. This

comes a week after the Dublin county coroner Dr Kieran Geraghty issued a similar warning about the dangers of cocaine use following the deaths of five people whose cases came before the coroners court the week previously.

A suspect device was found in Friary Road, Antrim.

Former Derry GAA manager Éamonn Coleman died in Derry. He was the first manager to lead Derry to an all-Ireland football title.

**TUES. JUNE 12:** The Real IRA admitted the murder of Danny McGurk in Ross Road in the lower Falls in August 2003.

The family of John Kenneway found dead in

for the Environment in the 26 Counties, said he would not be overturning his predecessor Dick Roche’s decision to allow the M3 motorway to be built through the historic Tara site in Co Meath.

**SUN. JUNE 17:** An air strike by US soldiers in eastern Afghanistan near the Pakistan border region on a Mosque/school killed seven children.

**MON. JUNE 18:** An estimated 100,000 trials that took place at the Old Bailey, London between 1674 and 1834, among them of many Irish men and women, can now be accessed online at [www.oldbaileyonline.org](http://www.oldbaileyonline.org).

Mary McAleese, president in the 26 Counties, speaking in Lisburn, Co Antrim said that the time was right for a visit from Elizabeth Windsor, Queen of England.

**TUES. JUNE 19:** BBC *Spotlight* programme interviewed two men allegedly involved in the death of Capt Robert Nairac, an SAS British soldier, in south Armagh 30 years ago. Nairac was drinking in the nationalist area and was taken from the carpark of the Three Steps pub and shot in Ravensdale. His body has never been found.

Unemployment among Catholics in the Six Occupied Counties is twice that for Protestants according to the latest edition of the British government’s *Labour Force Survey Religion Report*.

According to the *Irish News* not one of up to 1,000 Poles who applied to join the RUC/PSNI have been accepted.

In the six months since they became law the Gardai have not sought any Anti Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) against individuals.

**WED. JUNE 20:** Darryl Hewitt, Portadown district master said the Orange Order was ready for ‘unconditional dialogue’ on Drumcree with nationalist residents.

Two men from Ballybeg in Waterford appeared before the non-jury court in Green Street, Dublin charged with membership of the Irish National Liberation Army (INLA). John O’Donoghue and James Butler were remanded in custody.

**THURS. JUNE 21:** ESB trade unions are opposing plans by the company to close four power plants over the next three years.

Willie Frazer, organiser of the aborted ‘Love Ulster’ parade in Dublin in 2006, held talks with the Gardai in Dublin to discuss the possibility of holding a parade later this year. Forty two people were charged with arson, criminal damage, looting and public order charges after a riot prevented the parade from going ahead in February last year.

The British government appointed Robin Eames and Denis Bradley to draw up proposals as to how the Occupied Six Counties “should come to terms with its past”.

**SAT. JUNE 23:** A referendum will be held in the 26 Counties later in the year on the ‘new’ redrafted and renamed European Treaty.

The Board of Tallaght Hospital in Dublin agreed to a co-location private hospital at the site of the present hospital.

**SUN. JUNE 24:** The British military as in Bessbrook, south Armagh closed its doors. Operation Banner was the longest single campaign in British military history going back to the early 1970s. However the ‘last British soldier is moving just five miles up the road’ as the number of British troops in the Six Occupied Counties will stand at 5,000.

Three people were injured as the door of a British RAF helicopter fell off during an air show in Salthill, Galway. Anti-war protestors staged a demonstration against the participation of US and British warplanes in the air show.

**MON. JUNE 25:** Tony Blair was appointed as ‘the special representative’ to the Middle East for the UN, EU, US and Britain. He will have responsibility for ‘preparing the Palestinians for negotiations with Israel’.

**TUES. JUNE 26:** Former RUC Detective Trevor McMillwrath, who interviewed Ken Barrett in 1991 and Mark Haddock in 1993 and was central in exposing collusion in the murder of Pat Finucane and Sharon McKenna, criticised the decision of the Public Prosecution Service not to prosecute members of the RUC or British Army who were identified by John Stevens as having been involved in collusion with the loyalist death squads.

**WED. JUNE 27:** British Secretary of State in the Occupied Six Counties Peter Hain ordered a review of the UVF’s “commitment to peace”. The status of the Continuity IRA, the RIRA and the LVF will also be reviewed.

**THURS. JUNE 28:** Seán Woodward was appointed as British Secretary in the Six Occupied Counties.

Rotimi Adebare was elected mayor of Portlaoise, Co Laois. He is the first black mayor in Ireland. He was born in Nigeria and now lives in Portlaoise.

**FRI. JUNE 29:** Campaigners on behalf of the ‘undocumented’ Irish in the US are campaigning for a special immigration deal after the Senate rejected a reform Bill that would have legalised 12 million illegal immigrants.

John Gormley, the new [Green Party] Minister



# POW protest in Kilkenny

**ON Saturday June 2 the Sands/ Lynch Cuman, Mooncoin, Co Kilkenny and Cumann Pádraig Ó Pearaill, Loch Garman, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, held a successful political status picket outside the gates of Kilkenny Castle.**

Great interest was shown by the passing public and especially the tourists visiting the castle, with many stopping to take photos of the banners. When they spoke among themselves, in their own language, the words Bobby Sands were very frequent.

Ger Foran, Kilkenny, read out the following statement from both Cumainn:

"We gather here today under the banner of truth and that banner is Republican Sinn Féin! We would like to make the people of Kilkenny aware that there are still Republican POWs held in Ireland by the British at Maghaberry prison, Lisburn, Co. Antrim. As long as there are British soldiers, the RUC/ PSNI or any form of British rule in Ireland there will

be POWs.

"The British State brands these Irishmen criminals! They are not criminals they are political prisoners of a political war against the occupying British State. RSF calls on the British government to restore political status to these POWs, political status that was signed away by Adams and his band of merry men in 1998 under the surrender terms of the Stormont agreement. RSF would like to send a clear message to the Brits that Irishmen and women's fight for Irish unity will never be branded a criminal act.

"Why should we, the Irish people, allow the British to interfere in our affairs? Why should we live with their army occupying our country? The

## Portlaoise must be demolished now

**POLITICAL prisoners continue to be held in conditions already condemned as unfit, the chairman of the Munster executive of Republican Sinn Féin said on June 25.**

Des Long from Corbally, Co Limerick said that already sections of Portlaoise prison have been described as unfit to hold prisoners yet men as still placed there.

"In principle there is a decision that the entire prison will be razed but according to the Inspector of prisons it will take years," he said. "While there are plans to replace the E Wing which has been condemned, there

seems to be a delay in new building work."

In fact the Inspector of prisons comments as follows: "The future plan for the D Wing appears uncertain and it is in a worse state of repair than E Wing so its present existence should be decided and either replaced or relocated."

This is where the CIRA prisoners are being held and it is my view that these awful conditions impose an

additional punishment on these men.

It is obvious that the Inspector is working to improve the conditions under which prisoners are held but an average of half of his recommendations are accepted by those who run the prison system.

The treatment of political prisoners is one of the last unspoken aspects of Irish life and then the truth about the awful conditions in which these men are held finally emerges, it will rival the recent Church and Garda scandals.

POWs in Maghaberry have been dealt the same hand Bobby Sands received, violent beatings, constant strip searches, locked in their cells between 16 and 19 hours a day, access to a doctor only once a week and being severely punished for wearing an Easter lily. The men in Maghaberry fight the same fight, feel the same pain, fear the same fear, and believe us these men refuse to be criminalised.

"Their spirit will not be broken by the screws or their masters the British state. We call on you to support their five demands: Right to free association, End to controlled movement, Right to full time education, Separate visiting facility, and the right to organise their own landings.

"The time for the British to go home is well overdue. Go home, and leave us to ourselves. No compromise with the English on the question of Irish unity!"

## White-line protests held in Lurgan, Newry

**THE Republican prisoners Action Group (RPAG) held a white-line protest in Lurgan on June 2. Over 60 people turned out to support the POWs on protest in Maghaberry Jail more than 900 leaflets were handed out. A lot of interest was shown by the passing public.**

Lurgan has been at the centre of a heavy-handed British military campaign over this past year. A number of local Republicans have been arrested and held in Maghaberry Prison on trumped-up charges. This is an effective form of internment without trial as these prisoners

### Maghaberry POWs

**CONDITIONS** in Maghaberry prison have not improved substantially since the POWs suspended their protest inside the prison to allow for negotiations to take place. The only change that has come about is that the men are allowed to eat their meals in the canteen.

The 12 men are on two landings, six on the top landing and six on the bottom. It is only at Mass time that the 12 men can associate and occasionally they meet on visits. Their only other means of communication are through the windows. Both landing have different yard times and different meal times also.

One worrying aspect is the number of non-political prisoners who are being brought on to the landings. This situation could lead to overcrowding and ultimately to cell sharing which is not acceptable to the POWs.

Petty rules and restrictions are also being imposed on the men. For example the green felt and some paint used in the making of crafts have been removed from them. Irish classes are being run in the prison but only one POW was accepted to the course.

However if the authorities think this will sap the spirit of the men they are sadly mistaken. Morale is high and the men will continue to fight for political status.

Protests and pickets on the outside will also continue until full political status is restored.

could be held for up to three years. At a rally following the

white-line protest, people gathered for a rally. Brendan Magill called on the British to

show us why these men were being held and said their incarceration was because they were true Republicans who would not bend the knee.

A statement was read out on behalf of the Officer Commanding, IRA Prisoners in Maghaberry who condemned the attempt to criminalise Republican Prisoners by placing non-political on the same wing as them and warned the British the prisoners would resist the moves with everything at their disposal.

Tony McPhilips gave the main oration and said he was very glad and very proud to be addressing the Republican people in Lurgan and called on them to support the IRA Prisoners in Maghaberry Jail and called on every one to help raise the protest on the outside now the prisoners had temporally suspended their own.

On Saturday June 30 the Republican Prisoners Action Group (RPAG) held a very successful white-line picket in Bridge Street, Newry. The general public were very receptive and a large crowd stopped to give their support.

Leaflets were handed out and a collection taken up in aid of the POWs in Maghaberry Goal. The picket was well attended by members of the RPAG and Republican Sinn Féin from Dublin, Derry, Tyrone, Armagh, Fermanagh and Down.

Following the picket a rally was held. It was chaired by Noel Boyle, Fermanagh. Packie Carty, East Tyrone was the main speaker and in the course of a very fitting speech he paid tribute to the ten brave men who died on hunger strike in 1981.

He also paid tribute to the Republican POWs now incarcerated in Maghaberry Goal and pointed out that the demands for which Bobby Sands and his comrades died were signed away by Adams and his lackeys in the Provisionals.

Solidarity greetings were read from the CIRA POWs in Portlaoise prison who have been protesting with their comrades in Maghaberry.

The picket was well observed by the RUC/PSNI/Provos.

Proceedings closed with the playing of Amhrán na bhFiann.

### Development Fund Special Appeal Republican Sinn Féin

We are embarking on a development and modernisation programme for our organisation. This will include recruitment, publicity, upgrading our technology, and office accommodation. This will cost a considerable amount of money.

However, we know we can call on you for your support and we will



contact all who support our aims and objectives with details of our plans and how they can help to attain our goals, in due course.

All subscriptions, large or small, can be sent to the treasurer of the Republican Sinn Féin Development Fund at Head Office or made payable to:

**Republican Sinn Féin  
Development Fund, AIB, Capel Street, Dublin 1.**

**Account number: 15411-097.**

All donations will be appreciated and acknowledged.

## McAliskey extradition delayed

**A BID to extradite Roisín McAliskey to Germany has been put on hold to allow her lawyers time to prepare an abuse of process application.**

The daughter of former MP Bernadette McAliskey is wanted for questioning about a Provisional mortar bomb attack at a British army barracks at Osnabruck in 1996.

Roisín McAliskey, a 35-

year-old mother of two, is out on bail after being arrested at her home in Coalisland, Co Tyrone, in May. It is the second time the German authorities have sought her extradition. The first bid was abandoned in 2000 when the

British Crown Prosecution Service in England ruled she had no case to answer.

Defence solicitor Peter Corrigan claimed at Belfast Recorder's Court that the case had been "politically motivated" at the highest level of the Six-County Northern Ireland Office.

Peter Corrigan said he required time to get evidence

to support an application for abuse of process and would also be relying on the undue delay by the British authorities in acting on the German warrant, which was received last October.

Civil rights lawyer Gareth Peirce is now assisting Roisín McAliskey's legal team in her fight against extradition.

# Book launch in Cyprus

A NEW book published in Cyprus was launched in Nicosia on April 19 last. The book concerns itself with the solidarity of Cypriot and Irish prisoners in the prisons in England in the 1950s both in Wormwood Scrubs prison in London and in Wakefield prison in Yorkshire.

The revolt against British rule in Cyprus began in 1955. Organised by EOKA (The Organisation of Cypriot Fighters) and under the political leadership of Archbishop Makarios, the rebellion quickly drew the support of the population. The British response was both bloody and ruthless. The death sentence was imposed upon anyone found in possession of arms, and these executions provoked widespread rioting in Nicosia Central prison. The British reacted to these prison riots

by exiling many of the EOKA prisoners to jails in England.

The author, Vias Livadas, who was one of the leading figures in the EOKA uprising against British rule in Cyprus was transported from Nicosia Central prison to England together with a number of other EOKA leaders. In Wormwood Scrubs prison, which was their first destination, they first came into contact with three IRA prisoners already there, Seán Mac Stíofán, Donal Murphy and Manus Canning, and the

newly-transported EOKA men found kindred spirits who shared their anti-imperialist aspirations. A friendship of fellow fighters was formed which is still fondly remembered in Cyprus.

Vias' book is dedicated to the memory of Nicos Ioannou. This was the young man chosen by EOKA to meet with the IRA in Dublin, and who was killed by the British intelligence services in England on his return from this meeting.

Present at the book launch was Séamus Murphy, who had been imprisoned in Wakefield with Vias. Also in attendance was Séamus Grealy and Pat Farrelly who had been involved in a joint IRA/EOKA prison break

from Wakefield, and the

three Irishmen were presented on the night with a plaque commemorating the solidarity of Irishmen and Cypriots in the struggle against British imperialism

fifty years ago.

An English translation of the book is currently being prepared and will be launched in Dublin later this year.



• Séamus Murphy, Pat Farrelly and Séamus Grealy were presented with a plaque commemorating the solidarity of Irish Republicans and Cypriots in the struggle against British Imperialism 50 years ago at the recent book launch in Cyprus.

## Guth na Mumhan: Inniu is Inné

TÁ sé ar intinn ag Comhairle na Mumhan alt a foilsíú i Saoirse gach mí as seo amach. Ba mhaith linn cúrsaí na cúige, idir polaitíocht, cultúir, ceisteanna sóisialta is an troid náisiúnta a coiméad ós comhair an phobail.

Beidh tagairt don stair freisin, cathanna, luíocháin, díshealbhú is sléacht, is an troid fhada uasal a rinneadh Gael ar son saoirse na hÉireann. Leanúnachas na staire á n-eirdear chun Éire Nua, Éire Saor is Éire Gaelach a baint amach. An Phoblacht Abú.

### LIAM SCULLY COMMEMORATION

Republicans from Cork, Kerry and Limerick attended the annual Liam Scully commemoration on Sunday, May 27, at Templeglantine graveyard in south west county Limerick.

Organised by the local

Smith O'Brien / Colbert cumann, the ceremony began with a parade, led by a colour party to the Republican Plot. Cathaoirleach, Séamus Ó Súilleabháin welcomed all who attended and John Mangan, Tralee recited a decade of the rosary in Irish. Mike Scully of Croagh, county Limerick, a blood relation of the fallen hero laid the wreath. A very fine oration was given by Liam Mac Coitir of Tralee who traced the fate of the Republic from Easter Week 1916 through the attack on Kilmallock RIC barracks where Liam Scully was killed to the present day.

The actions of the Provisionals since 1986 were strongly condemned.

Liam Scully was born into an Irish speaking home in Glencar, south Kerry. He dedicated his life to the cause of Irish freedom and travelled through Munster teaching Irish and organising the volunteers.

He was working in county Limerick following the beginning of the war at Soloheadbeg, county Tipperary on January 21, 1919 and as a member of the IRB attached to the Galtee battalion, IRA, he helped spread the fight into Limerick.

He took part in the destruction of Ballylanders RIC barracks on April 27, 1920 when seven rifles, five revolvers, grenades and ammunition were taken following the surrender of the garrison. He was given the task of scrutinising the captured papers, books and notebooks of the enemy post, which was the first

RIC barracks to be attacked in county Limerick.

One month later he was part of the much more ambitious attack on the strongly fortified Kilmallock RIC barracks which had a garrison of twenty eight men on the night of the attack. Picked men from the IRA battalions of east Limerick, south Tipperary, west Limerick and east Clare formed the thirty man attacking party.

They were armed with rifles and a good supply of ammunition. In support were forty volunteers who were armed with shotguns and revolvers and who secured the approach roads to the town. The RIC refused to surrender despite the burning of their barracks and retreated to a fortified blockhouse in the rear before the roof of the barracks collapsed.

As dawn broke the IRA commander, Brigadier Sean Forde ordered his men to

retire. Fear of army reinforcements from Limerick, Tipperary or Buttevant barracks and shortage of ammunition forced the decision. Liam Scully remained for a few minutes individually engaging the enemy and was fatally wounded.

The dying man was placed in a motor car on top of the rifles which had been used in the attack and driven to Tournafola in west Limerick where a coffin was made in the local creamery. He was buried in Templeglantine graveyard with full military honours.

Following the funeral the east Limerick men, under the command of Donnchadh O'Hannigan and fully armed, marched more than thirty miles home in broad daylight. The success of this operation led to the formation of the first Active Service Units which later became known as the Flying Columns. A participant in the attack on

Kilmallock barracks, Michael Quirke wrote in his account of the fight 'Ireland has bred no more fearless, loving or faithful son than Liam Scully'. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal.

### LIMERICK CITY

Republican activists from the two city cumainn, Brugh/Sabhat and Sands/Hurson take a leadership role in the defence of their communities against government neglect and social disintegration. Derelict local authority housing and recently boarded up homes are magnets for those involved in anti-social behaviour.

The lives and property of nearby families are put at risk from their activities and from the frequent burning of these houses. We intend to give a fuller account of the RSF response to these attacks on the people of Limerick in another issue.

## IMEACHTAÍ

### POLITICAL STATUS PICKET

GOREY, CO WEXFORD  
AT THE 1798 MEMORIAL  
SATURDAY JULY 21, 1pm - 2pm  
Organised by Wexford and Kilkenny  
Republican Sinn Féin

### PAT CANNON COMMEMORATION

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1pm  
Assemble Balgriffin Cemetery  
Organised by Republican Sinn Féin, Dublin

### BALLAD SESSION

FRIDAY AUGUST 3  
IRISH NATIONAL FORESTERS (INF) CLUB  
NORTH STREET, LURGAN  
Admission £7. Doors open 9pm  
Music by the Foggy Dew.

### ROGER CASEMENT

WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY  
AUGUST 5, 3pm  
MURLOUGH BAY, BALLYCASTLE, CO ANTRIM

### GOSS & GAUGHRAN COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 12  
ST PATRICK'S CEMETERY, DUNDALK  
Assemble: Cemetery gates, 3pm

### ÉAMONN CEANNT COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19  
Assemble: Superquinn, Sundrive Road, Dublin, 1pm

### BOBBY SANDS LECTURE

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 7pm-9.30pm  
WYNN'S HOTEL, DUBLIN  
Theme: *The Fenians and the Manchester Martyrs*

### EDENTUBBER MARTYRS COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4  
Assemble: The Border Inn, 2.30pm  
Speaker: Ruairí Ó Brádaigh

### O'SULLIVAN/ENRIGHT CUMANN

Republican Sinn Féin, Listowel, Co Kerry  
Anyone wishing to join should contact 086-1204592

### KERRY COMHAIRLE CEANTAIR REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN

can be contacted at:  
<http://www.freewebs.com/republicansinnfeinkerry/>

### ROGER CASEMENT/FRANCIS HUGHES CUMANN

Republican Sinn Féin, Dún Laoghaire/Rathdown  
Anyone wishing to join should contact Ard-Oifig, 223  
Parnell Street, Dublin 1

### Mac CURTÁIN / Mac SWINEY CUMANN

Republican Sinn Féin, Cork  
Anyone wishing to join should contact 086-3352006 or visit  
our website [www.rsfcork.com](http://www.rsfcork.com)

### BRUGHA/SABHAT - HURSON/SANDS CUMAINN

Republican Sinn Féin, Limerick  
Anyone wishing to join should contact Ken at 087-9531249  
<http://www.freewebs.com/republicansinnfeinlimerick/index.htm>

### COMHAIRLE CEANTAIR ÁTHA CLIATH REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN

Anyone wishing to join should visit our website:  
[www.freewebs.com/rsfdublin](http://www.freewebs.com/rsfdublin)

### JAMES MCDAID CUMANN, REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN

Anyone interested in joining in the Midlands, England,  
should contact: Ard Oifig, 229 Parnell St, Dublin 2, Ireland,  
Dublin 8729747 or saoirse@iol.ie



# SECTARIAN ATTACKS CONTINUE

## A Belfast Chronology

**Thursday, May 31, 2007.** Both Provos and loyalists attended the new 'teaching project' entitled R-Past which was launched in Belfast. The project aims to inform young people on 'the military history' of Ireland.

Martina Anderson, Daithí McKay and Alex Maskey of the Provisionals took their seats on the policing board in Belfast.

**Friday, June 1, 2007.** Twinbrook man, Kevin Doherty, was told by the RUC/PSNI that if he agreed to become an informer they would 'forget' he was driving while banned. He was erecting a memorial at the spot where his daughter Bronagh died a few weeks previously.

**Saturday, June 2, 2007.** Nationalist residents lodged complaints with the Parades Commission after what they allege was 'threatening and abusive behaviour' by supporters of a loyalist band parade in the Suffolk estate of west Belfast. Up to 40 bands and several thousand supporters were bussed into the small Suffolk estate. Loyalist flags were carried by several bands in contravention of a ruling by the Parades Commission.

**Monday, June 4, 2007.** A bomb was found shortly after 6am at a telephone substation at Primrose Hill in the Four Winds area of south Belfast. The British army bomb disposal unit removed the bomb.

According to a report in Belfast's *Irish News*, a committee, chaired by DUP Jeffrey Donaldson is to consider devolution of policing and justice powers to the Stormont Executive.

**Tuesday, June 5, 2007.** A court in Belfast stayed the extradition of Róisín McAliskey on a warrant issued by the German authorities in October 2006. Her solicitor Peter Corrigan

questioned the delay in executing the warrant and said that the case against his client was "politically motivated".

**Wednesday, June 6, 2007.** A security alert closed the Woodstock Road for most of the day. Two suspicious objects were declared hoaxes.

Cormac Ryan and Scott Masterson, both from Dublin, appeared in court in Belfast in relation to the protest at the opening of the Stormont assembly on May 8. They were charged with assault and disorderly behaviour and will appear in court again on June 29 along with Dominic McGlinchey. All three were remanded on bail.

**Thursday, June 7, 2007.** The Coroner's Court in Belfast was told that 19-year old Ciaran Cummins was murdered in a sectarian shooting by a motorcyclist on June 4, 2001, claimed by the loyalist group the UFF, using the name the Red Hand Defenders.

**Saturday, June 9, 2007.** The Irish language group Pobal held a march in Belfast to highlight their campaign for official recognition of the language.

In a sectarian attack two teenagers and a man in his 20s were attacked by a gang of up to six men at Carnamore Park in west Belfast. The three suffered injuries to the face and sustained cuts and bruising.

The home of a nationalist man was also attacked in Alloa Street.

**Sunday, June 10, 2007.** The restored memorial to Roddy McCorley was unveiled at the headquarters of the Roddy McCorley Society (who organised the restoration) at Moyard House, Glen Road, west Belfast. Roddy McCorley was the son of a Presbyterian minister — himself a member of the secret society the Defenders — who was deported. Roddy was 19-years-old



• British army bomb experts examined two suspicious objects, causing the closure of Woodstock Road for most of June 6. They were later declared to be a hoax.

when he was hanged at Toomebridge for his part in the 1798 Rising in Antrim after a so-called trial in Ballymena. The limestone Celtic cross which marked the place of his death was badly damaged in a loyalist bombing in 1969.

**Monday, June 11, 2007.** A number of sectarian attacks took place in the Belfast area over the weekend of June 9 and 10. In the Cliftonpark Avenue area George Bradley was attacked by a gang wielding a metal bar and shouting 'Fenian bastards' leaving his elbow smashed in several places. Another man from the nationalist community was struck with a golf club on his back. It was also reported to a local newspaper that a man brandishing two swords entered the fray.

Dunloy Orangemen David Tweed and several other members of the LOL 496 applied to the High Court in Belfast for a judicial review of the

demonstration after restrictions were placed on the parade on Easter Sunday 2004.

**Monday, June 18, 2007.** Alex Salmond, Scotland's First Minister, met with Ian Paisley at Stormont and also addressed the Assembly.

**Tuesday, June 26, 2007.** Nationalists residents in Springfield Road, Belfast are seeking leave to appeal against a ruling banning them from holding a protest on Saturday, June 30 during the loyalist Whiterock Parade. The Parades Commission ruled that members of the No 9 District LOL to walk through a security gate at Workman's Avenue interface and along the nationalist Springfield Road.

John Mains from the Glencairn area of Belfast was convicted of attempted murder of members of the RUC during the loyalist Whiterock rioting in September 2005.

**Wednesday, June 27, 2007.** Nuala

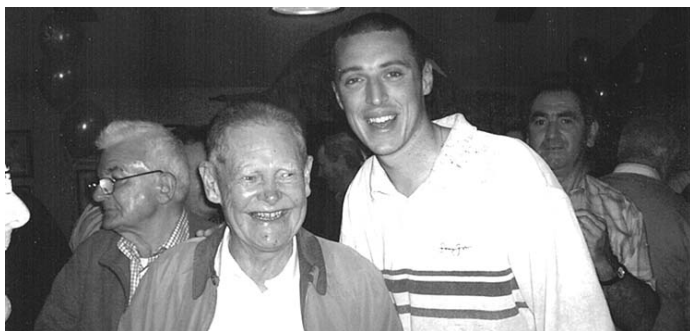
O'Loan is investigating an incident in Chichester Park South, north Belfast in which the RUC opened fire on a car.

**Thursday, June 29, 2007.** The Belfast Fire and Rescue service appealed to young people to stop attacking fire crews after the fire service was called out to 13 fires in north Belfast over the last few days. Bricks and stones were thrown at the crew. Over 12 wheelie bins were set on fire and pushed on to the road.

**Saturday, June 30, 2007.** Nationalist residents held a peaceful protest outside their homes on the Lower Springfield Road against an Orange march which passed through a security gate and along the nationalist Springfield Road. They had been banned by the Parades Commission from holding the protest but went ahead. Fifty Orangemen were allowed to parade through the Lower Springfield Road.

## Vincent Fuller

THE death took place at his residence Woodlee, Tralee, Co Kerry of Vincent Fuller after a short illness on June 6, 2007.



• The late Vincent Fuller pictured with Kerry football star Kieran Donaghy.

He was survived by his wife Colette, daughters Alice and Josephine, brothers Paddy, David and Bill and sister-in-law Alice, grandsons and sons-in-law.

Vincent was a lifelong Republican and was one of the original members of the Ballyseedy Memorial Committee. Born at Grenoe outside Listowel. His family were steeped in the old Republican tradition of North

Kerry.

They had seen what the Black-and-Tans and the Free State had inflicted on Republicans during their reign of terror in the early 1920s. As far as Vincent was concerned it was 32 Counties, no Leinster House or Stormont for him. He was also a stalwart of the Kerry Supporter's Club and travelled the length and breadth of Ireland to cheer on his beloved Kingdom.

His funeral took place to St Brendan's Church on June 8 and he was buried in Kilfeighney Cemetery, Lixnaw on the following day. A lone piper and guard of honour from

Sinn Féin Poblachtach accompanied his remains to his last resting place beside the uncompromising Tom Falvey.

Liam Cotter delivered a fitting oration, in which he said Vincent was true to faith, family and fatherland. He extended sympathy to all the Fuller family on behalf of Sinn Féin Poblachtach. The piper played a lament and also Amhrán na bhFiann bringing proceedings to a close.

## 'RUC/PSNI have treated us like mugs'

THE families of the six men murdered in Loughinisland, Co Down in 1994 by the UVF are angry at the lack of progress made in finding their killers — despite the killers clothes being found within days and a hair sample found at the scene.

Dan McCreanor, Adrian Rogan, Barney Green, Eamon Byrne, Malcolm Jenkinson and Patsy O'Hare were killed when two men burst into the Heights Bar in Loughinisland and opened fire June 18, 1994.

Three years ago the families asked the Office of the Ombudsman to investigate their concerns over "serious flaws" in the original investigation. One of their main concerns is the fact the RUC destroyed the car used by the two UVF men, the car had been in the possession of Terry Fairfield, an RUC informant, days before the

murders. He denies any involvement and said he sold the car on the day of the murders.

However Fairfield was 'best friends' with Mark Haddock, another RUC informer who, it emerged earlier this year, had been involved in 16 murders but was protected by the RUC.

DNA test on the killers clothes were not carried out for 11 years and it emerged that the murder weapon was smuggled into the Occupied Six Counties from South Africa by Brian Nelson — another RUC informer. Speaking to the *Irish News* on

June 18, Clare Rogan, widow of Adrian, said: "Until last year we said nothing because the police told us they know who the killers were and they were close to catching them. Very senior police officers asked us not to speak to the media."

Her daughter Emma, who was eight at the time of her father's murder said: "Our families deserve the truth. We will fight on until we get justice for the six innocent men who were killed for no reason other than they were Catholic."

Barney Green's niece Moira Casement said the families felt betrayed: "We feel the police treated us like mugs. There is incontrovertible evidence of collusion in the Loughinisland murders and that informers were protected."

## Mick Costello

REPUBLICANS in the west of Ireland were saddened by the death of Mick Costello of Dunmore, Co Galway on June 20 in Roscommon Co Hospital.

Mick would have been 90 years in this month of July. A quiet and unassuming Irishman from a staunch Republican family, he had been active with the

Movement from the 1940s. He kept going to the very end and remained faithful to the All-Ireland Republic to the last.

Following Mass in

Dunmore Church on June 22 the coffin was draped in the Irish Tricolour. A Guard of Honour under Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, Uachtarán, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, provided an escort to the local cemetery.

Sincere sympathy is extended to his brother Jim, his sister Phil and all his extended family.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.



# ‘Republicans here

**ON Sunday, June 10 Republicans gathered in Sallins, Co Kildare for the annual Wolfe Tone commemoration to the grave of Wolfe Tone at Bodenstown.**

As usual Republicans were subjected to harassment and intimidation by a large number of 26-County political police, the Special Branch. Everyone had their name and address taken and in one case, a young member of Na Fianna Éireann, who

conclusion by delivering a spirited message to the many Special Branch policemen present and to the Dublin and London Administration that true Republicans would continue the struggle for Irish freedom until it was achieved.



• Cathleen Knowles McGuirk, Leas-Uachtarán, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, delivering the oration at Bodenstown on June 10, with Tomás Ó Curraoin, Cathaoirleach.

gave his name in Irish, was arrested for not giving it in English. He was handcuffed and held in a police car for a short time before being released. An 84-year-old Veteran Republican member of Cumann na mBan was also verbally harassed by the same Special Branch man but gave better than she got.

The parade, led by a long piper, the National Colour Party carrying the Tricolour, the Starry Plough and the flags of the Four Provinces, and by contingents from Cumann na mBan and Na Fianna Éireann, marched in brilliant sunshine along the mile-and-a-half road to the cemetery. Chief Marshall was Seosamh Ó Maoileoin, Co Iar Mhí.

Proceedings in the cemetery were chaired by Tomás Ó Curraoin, Co na Gaillimhe who welcomed all those in attendance before calling on Brookeborough raid Veteran, Seán Scott from Galway, to lay the wreath on behalf of the Republican Movement.

He then handed the microphone to the Chief Marshall who brought the parade to attention for the Dipping of the Flags. Following this Tomás called on Peig Galligan of the National Graves Association to say a few words. The National Graves Association are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the monument and grave at Bodenstown. Peig spoke about the contribution of women to the Republican cause throughout the years before calling on those present to support the NGA in their work in maintaining the graves of our patriot dead.

Tomás Ó Curraoin then called on Cathleen Knowles McGuirk, Leas-Uachtarán, Sinn Féin Poblachtach to deliver the main oration.

Tomás Ó Curraoin brought proceedings at the monument to a

The parade then formed up and marched back to Sallins where Amhrán na bhFiann was played and the parade dismissed.

*Below is the full text of Cathleen Knowles McGuirk's oration:*

“A comrádaithe agus a chairde go léir, táim an-bhródúlach a bheith anseo inniu ag uaigh Thíobóid Wolfe Tone, athair an Phoblachtachais in Éirinn.

We are assembled here in Bodenstown churchyard to commemorate Theobald Wolfe Tone, the greatest of the Republican leaders of the eighteenth century, and the most visionary Irishman of his time or any other time. Historians consider him to have been the first true Republican and this view of him is surely incontestable. I believe that today I am addressing Republicans whose dedication to a free and democratic Ireland has left them uncorrupted, people who have no price so therefore cannot be bought.

In the past we have had Republicans, both men and women, who possessed unshakeable ideological principles and because of that they survived all the suffering that was meted out to them. They lived to fight another day. I believe that there are among us in the Republican Movement men and women of the same calibre. This annual commemoration is the most important event in the Republican calendar, not least for its continuity of the Irish Republican thinking since Tone first espoused his philosophy of separatism.

Tone, a Protestant, was born in Dublin in 1763 into a large family of which only five survived. His father Peter, a coachbuilder, had inherited

property so Tone's early life was one of financial ease. He was educated privately. In his early twenties he met a young girl named Matilda Witherington. Tone was essentially rebellious by nature so, risking his father's disapproval, they eloped and married. Matilda Tone stood by her husband, through exile in America and France, through long periods of absence and finally through capture and death. She deserves to be remembered by history. Although Tone's ambition was to be a soldier his father had other ideas for him. He was an outstanding student at Trinity College and graduated with a law degree in 1787. He was also an accomplished debater and won three medals from the College Historical Society. These accomplishments were to stand him in good stead in later years when he was in France to negotiate an invasion of Ireland with the French Directorate.

Tone's Republicanism developed over a period in the 1790s. He hoped for a political career and began writing pamphlets as each one was published we can see how he had become more radical as his thinking developed. The 18<sup>th</sup> Century Enlightenment Movement, with its focus in Paris, had begun to affect Irish thinking. Social improvement, freedom of conscience and religious tolerance was advocated. Much of the Irish radicalisation of the 1780s and 1790s derived from this influence and from the publication of Thomas Paine's *Rights of Man*, which Tone said was regarded as the Koran of Belfast among Presbyterians. Catholics and Presbyterians, or Dissenters as they were called suffered under the Penal Laws, which had created a Protestant ascendancy. Tone's analysis of the basis of government in Ireland led him to conclude: “...that Ireland would never be either free, prosperous or happy until she was independent and that independence was unattainable whilst the connection with England existed”. This conclusion prompted Tone to write an astounding pamphlet in 1791 entitled *An Argument on behalf of the Catholics of Ireland* which evoked the sympathy of the Northern Dissenters for the Catholic cause by pointing out similarities between their respective grievances.

Wolfe Tone's radical nature and his serious questioning of the benefit if Ireland's relationship with Britain brought him into contact with like-minded radicals, among them Thomas Russell, a Cork man and a soldier, recently returned from India. A strong bond of friendship was forged between the two men and through him Tone met Henry Joy McCracken, Samuel Neilson and others in Belfast. He was appointed secretary of a reform body, the Central Catholic Committee, in 1792 where he resolved to become a ‘red-hot Catholic’. The constant topic of conversation was the French Revolution from which Tone was to inspiration. He had become interested in the democratic principles behind both the French and American revolutions. With Russell, McCracken



• A section of the crowd marching to Bodenstown on June 10.

and Neilson, Tone set up the Society of United Irishmen under the banner of ‘Liberty, Equality and Fraternity’ with the objective of breaking the connection with England. In 1794, fearing that the Society would undermine the privileged position of the Protestants, the government proscribed it, thus forcing them into becoming an underground revolutionary movement. The seriousness of the ‘the Oath’, which continued to be administered secretly was acknowledged when in 1795 at a special event on Cave Hill, the leading figures of the United Irishmen made a solemn vow “never to desist in our efforts until we have subverted the authority of England over our country and asserted her independence.”

Tone's egalitarian ideas in an Ireland wracked by distinction of class and religion and his articulation of Irish nationality led to his acknowledgment as one of the greatest political thinkers of his time. In the same year, 1795, to counter the growing strength of the United Irishmen, the English government promoted the establishment of the Orange Order, a sectarian and exclusively Protestant secret society with the objective of maintaining the Protestant ascendancy. It was then, as it has been ever since, their policy of ‘divide and conquer’. While Tone, as a member of the United Irishmen, avoided the charge of treason, he was forced to leave for America. He now saw that nothing short of a social and political revolution, as had been accomplished in France, would suffice if Ireland were to break the connection with England. He was soon to put his daring plan into action.

While England and France were at war, Tone saw his chance to assert Ireland's independence by seeking help from France for an invasion of Ireland. In time he sailed for France where he met with the revolutionary



• The Colour Party leading the parade to Bodenstown on June 10.

leaders. Impressed by his courage and sacrifice they were eventually convinced that there was widespread support for a rising. They dispatched 14,500 troops on 43 vessels, commanded by General Hoche to Ireland in 1796. Tone accompanied a French fleet to Bantry Bay believing that such a large force could more easily overthrow British Rule, but bad weather foiled the proposed invasion.

In the year of Rebellion in 1798 the French were persuaded once more by Tone to help him. This time the expedition consisted of none ships and 300 men. The English knew they were coming and that the much sought after Wolfe Tone would be among them. His brother Matthew had landed with General Humbert but was arrested,



# for the long haul'



Adams and company left the Republican Movement to enter Leinster House? How could they have been so blind as to think they could do any better than former Republicans who thought that they could fight for a free Ireland by entering the very Assembly set up by Britain for the purpose of maintaining their power in Ireland. At a time when the national struggle was at the height of its power Adams and McGuinness were plotting behind the scenes to manoeuvre Republicans into accepting Leinster House. What foolish notions took possession of them? Was it because they were never Republicans in the first place? This is the conclusion we must draw since all they have come out with at the end is 'civil rights' under British rule.

They have since abandoned the national struggle and accepted a partitionist assembly, they have decommissioned their volunteers, and buried their weaponry under concrete, all under the watchful eyes of two international supervisors who then reported to General John de Chastelain, whose parents were spies for MI5 during WWII. **This was not just shameful it was base. And it was planned and brought about when the Republican struggle was at its zenith. Yet despite this, most of the post-Provo elements blindly followed Adams and McGuinness in whatever unprincipled U-turns they made.**

The media in their rush to support the Belfast Agreement actually referred to these U-turns as "pragmatic shifts". But not all spectators of the Stormont hype see it that way. "Peace has been bought in Northern Ireland by perjury, fraud, corruption, cheating and lying" said Bernadette McAliskey in a recent report. And Eamonn McCann had this to say: "In endorsing the principle of consent (which means the Unionist veto) Provisional Sinn Féin has ditched the ideal that lay at the heart of its own tradition and that provided the justification in political morality for the campaign, indeed the existence of the IRA".

When the Provisional leadership agreed to accept the RUC under a new name of PSNI did they seriously think that those men in RUC uniform who murdered Catholics on the streets of Derry, who are proven collaborators with the British-backed death squads of the UVF, could now be sweet and loving and neighbourly village 'bobbies'?

It was this atrocious decision of the Adams leadership that finally lifted the veil from the eyes of at least a section of their followers who resigned immediately. And do they really believe Tony Blair when he said that there would be no interrelationship between the police and MI5? Do they not know of the long history of British intelligence in Ireland and do they think that they are about to end their operations now? No, Brigadier Kitson and his catchism of psy-ops are alive and well in Ireland. True Republicans will never accept either a British presence or any involvement one way or the

other in the Six Occupied Counties. Never!

Because of our political stance further overtures have been made to the Republican Leadership from British agents in various guises, including the Provisionals, to try to

have of being sucked into a society in the 26 Counties, governed by self-serving and corrupt politicians were put to rest.

Today in Maghaberry prison a struggle for prisoner of war status for the prisoners continues. Prisoners



• **Veteran of the Brookeborough raid, Seán Scott, Galway, laid the wreath on behalf of the Republican Movement.**

get us to change our minds so that we will agree to a continuance of British rule in Ireland. The Leadership has stated that it will not yield to any such agents and that this message should be understood by all our members and supporters. Attempts also to associate the Republican Movement with drugs, criminality and recent murders in Belfast are nothing less than an attempt to besmirch the organisation. The Leadership has categorically denied any involvement.

Allow me to quote a short passage from an oration given here in Bodentown by Frank McCarron of the Glens of Antrim, almost twenty years ago: "It is on the basis of the armed resistance to the British armed occupation of Ireland that we lay claim to Irish nationhood and Irish nationality. The day that the armed struggle died, never again to be rekindled, than that day the Irish nation dies and our claim to Irish sovereignty dies with it."

Not one of England's Treaties with Ireland or any Agreement or any Declaration was ever about her leaving us in peace but rather they have been about perpetuating her power in the Six Counties and always at the expense of Irish democracy. It is the ideal of the Republican Movement that Ireland will see self-government by a national parliament, representative of all the people of the nation. Republican Sinn Féin is the only political organisation with a stated policy for a New Ireland – **ÉIRE NUA**.

It sets out a programme for strong provincial and local government in a federation of the four provinces designed to ensure that every citizen can participate in genuinely democratic self-government. The adoption of this policy would also ensure that the fears of Unionists may

have engaged in 24 and 48-hour fasts to attempt to obtain this and for better conditions because of the deprivations they suffer. That phase of the prison protest, we are happy to say, has been suspended for the time being. We send solidarity greetings and our congratulations to them on their principled stand. To the prisoners in Portlaoise we also send solidarity greetings with the hope that conditions are more favourable with them.

In this year of 2007 we commemorate the 50th anniversaries of the deaths of Séan Sabhat, Fearghal O'Hanlon and the Edentubber Martyrs and the 20th anniversary of the Loughgall Martyrs who belonged to the IRAs East Tyrone Brigade, one of the most active over the course of the last 30 years. Their deaths are an incalculable loss to the Republican Movement. Do they owe their deaths at the hands of the SAS to a tout or British spy? We may learn the truth some day. But we know that they served the cause with determination and gave their lives for that cause.

Finally I must mention the Republican Sinn Féin candidates who stood for election in the Six County Westminster elections with their hands tied behind their backs because of the outrageous censorship by the media on both sides of the Border. In each of the occupied Six Counties we had a candidate.

"They deserve our congratulations for putting themselves before the electorate despite the muddying of the waters by the Provisionals who have long since moved away from the ideals of Theobald Wolfe Tone. They should therefore now stay away from this holy spot lest they desecrate his grave with their hypocrisy. We Republicans are here for the long haul – we haven't gone away you know! An Phoblacht Abuí!"



**arade from Sallins to Wolfe Tone's**

taken to Dublin, tried and hanged. In Lough Swilly, the French came up against a hugely superior English fleet and were defeated despite the fact the Wolfe Tone and his comrades in arms fought bravely until the end. He was taken ashore with the other prisoners. In chains he was taken to Dublin where he was tried and found guilty of treason. Still wearing the uniform of a French Colonel he was decided a soldiers execution and died before the execution could take place.

The 'jury is still out' on who was responsible for his death. Wolfe Tone's long held ideal of 'breaking the connection with England, the never failing source of all our political evils', and 'to substitute the common name of Irishmen in place of the

denominations of Catholic, Protestant and Dissenter', were denied him.

The Rebellion had failed but the English knew they had had a lucky escape. Wolfe Tone did not die in vain but passed on a legacy and a torch of freedom to his successors. This, a chaired agus a comradaithe, is the political philosophy that we too have inherited and it is a heavy mantle that we wear but wear it we will until the day when Emmet's epitaph can be written.

Wolfe Tone believed in the cause of Irish freedom and he also served that cause courageously. We come here every year to give our allegiance to the Republican ideal of which Tone was the founding father but it must be a persistent allegiance.

Despite Wolfe Tone's sacrifice and Robert Emmet's, and the Young Irelanders, the Fenians, the Volunteers of 1916 up to 1923 and beyond, we are today living in a two-state Ireland, a colonial Six Counties, and a neo-colonial 26 Counties because of the 1920 Government of Ireland Act which partitioned the country. Partition was, and remains, the greatest evil that he British ever inflicted on Ireland. It has been the cause of conflict since 1921 and remains the stumbling block in any attempt to secure the restoration of the All-Ireland Republic.

It is still the cause of conflict! Britain's continuing strategy of returning the failed entity that is referred to as the "north" to normality has shown that they lied (no surprise) when they said back in the early 1990s that the British had no economic, strategic or selfish interest in Ireland. How then can they justify their continued occupation of the Six Counties? Britain's interests in Ireland, selfish or otherwise, shall always be served until the connection is broken.

How can anyone begin to understand the thinking in 1986 when

## ETA ends ceasefire with Spain

THE Basque separatist group ETA ended its ceasefire with the Spanish state at midnight on June 5.

In March 2006 it declared a “permanent” ceasefire and had insisted it still held despite a bomb that killed two people at Madrid airport in December. After the Madrid airport attack, Spain’s Socialist government broke off peace talks.

In a message, printed by the Basque newspaper Berria on June 5, ETA said “minimum conditions for continuing a process of negotiations do not exist”. It said that from June 6 it would defend the Basque country “with weapons and on all fronts”. The group has fought a four-decade campaign to set up an independent state in the Basque country.

The latest statement blamed Zapatero, saying the Spanish government had responded to its ceasefire last year “by pursuing detentions, torture and persecution”.

The atmosphere was further soured by the Spanish authorities’ exclusion of pro-independence politicians from local elections in the Basque country in May. ETA’s political wing, Batasuna, remains banned.

At the beginning of June ETA sent letters to Basque businesses urging them to help finance “the liberation and construction of Euskal Herria (the Greater Basque Country)”, according to a Spanish media report.

## US court admits Guantanamo cases

IT was reported on June 29 that the US is facing growing calls to close down Guantanamo Bay. The US Supreme Court has agreed to hear an appeal by Guantanamo Bay detainees that they be allowed to challenge their confinement in federal courts.

The move reverses the court’s decision in April, when it refused to rule on whether the men had a right to take their cases to federal courts. This latest move is a blow to the US government, which wants the cases to be dealt with by military tribunals alone.

Hundreds of men have been held without charge for years at Guantanamo Bay. The treatment of the men has been heavily criticised by international human rights bodies and foreign governments, including some allies of the US.

Allegations of abuse have dogged the camp, many of whose inmates were captured in 2001 and 2002, in the early days of the “war on terror”.

The government last year pushed a law through Congress that prohibited Guantanamo Bay detainees from challenging their confinement in federal courts. In February this year, an appeals court hearing in the District of Columbia upheld this law. In April, the US Supreme Court rejected the detainees’ request to hear an appeal on the February ruling.

The detainees’ lawyers said dismissing the cases would be a “profound deprivation” of the prisoners’ rights and urged the Supreme Court to reconsider its decision — a request that has now been granted.

The court is expected to hear the detainees’ cases when it begins a new term in October.

Earlier in June judges at the US detention camp at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba dismissed all charges against the only two captives currently facing trial.

However Canadian-born Omar Ahmed Khadr and Salim Ahmed Hamdan from Yemen will remain in legal limbo in southeast Cuba along with 380 other detainees.

Omar Ahmed Khadr, from Toronto, was just 15 when he was captured in Afghanistan. He is accused of killing a US army medic. Salim Ahmed Hamdan has previously admitted being a driver and bodyguard for al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden.

In both rulings, the judges found that they had no jurisdiction to proceed, as neither man had been classified as an “unlawful enemy combatant” as required by a recent US law. The strict definition was passed by US Congress last year.

## Swiss call for closure of Guantánamo Camp

JUNE 26 last was World Day for Victims of Torture. On that day an appeal was sent to the US Parliament by the Swiss Section of Amnesty International, calling for the closure of the Guantánamo Detention Camp. It was signed by 100 Swiss parliamentarians.

The appeal was worded as follows:

“Berne, June 2007

For more than five years now, approximately 770 men have been detained without process and in total disrespect of international law and human rights, in the Guantánamo detention camp. Almost 400 among them, of more than 30 nationalities, were still incarcerated at the beginning of 2007. The majority of them have been tortured, and all are victims of bad treatment. Not one Guantánamo detainee has been found guilty of a penal offence by an American court. The Guantánamo detention camp has become the symbol of injustice; it is undermining human dignity and rights.

# WORLD NEWS

## 100 parlementaires suisses appellent à la fermeture de Guantánamo:

Berne, juin 2007

Depuis plus de 5 ans, environ 770 hommes ont été détenus sans procès, et dans un non-respect total du droit international humanitaire et des droits humains, dans le camp de détention de Guantánamo. Près de 400 d'entre eux de plus de 30 nationalités étaient toujours incarcérés début 2007. La plupart d'entre eux ont été torturés, tous sont victimes de mauvais traitements. Aucun détenu de Guantánamo n'a été reconnu coupable d'une infraction pénale par un tribunal américain. Le camp de détention de Guantánamo est devenu le symbole de l'injustice; il porte atteinte à la dignité humaine et à l'état de droit.

C'est pourquoi les membres ci-contre du Parlement appellent le gouvernement des États-Unis à fermer sans délai le camp de détention de Guantánamo, à libérer sans conditions les détenus ou à les inculper et à les juger devant une juridiction civile, conformément aux normes internationales d'équité.

Cet appel sera transmis au Parlement des États-Unis le 26 juin, Journée mondiale en faveur des victimes de la torture.

Amnesty International

Amnesty International, Section suisse  
Case postale, 3000 Berne  
Tél. 031 267 20 20

## • One hundred Swiss parliamentarians signed an appeal which was sent by the Swiss Section of Amnesty International to the US government, calling for the closure of the Guantánamo Detention Camp.

For this reason the members of Parliament listed opposite are calling on the US Government to close the Guantánamo detention camp immediately, to release the detainees unconditionally or to charge and judge them before a civil jurisdiction, according to international norms of equity.”

This is a clear and powerful demand. Can we imagine 100 Irish parliamentarians having the courage or sense of justice to sign such a public demand?

Earlier, on June 7, Swiss senator Dick Marty issued his second report, accusing the Polish and Romanian authorities of having participated in a network of illegal prisons set up by the CIA in Europe.

Mr Marty has prepared his reports for the Council of Europe. “What were previously allegations are now a certainty”, he declared.

## Pro-Palestinian activists oppose EU sanctions

PRO-PALESTINIAN activists gathered to protest against the Israeli occupation of Palestine at the European Union office on Dublin’s Molesworth Street on June 1.

The protest also highlighted what the activists see as unfair EU sanctions on the Palestinian people in the territories that have been occupied for 40 years.

Michael Youlton of the Irish Palestine Solidarity Campaign said: “We are protesting because financial support and aid to Palestine has stopped. The EU does not recognise the elected Palestinian government and they continue to give preferential treatment to Israel, which is wrong.”

The 25-person protest was peaceful, but supporters were unable to carry out their plan to occupy the EU offices for a symbolic 40-minute period, one minute for every year of the Israeli occupation. Instead a small group protested inside the offices for 20 minutes and others gathered outside for a brief rally.

## ‘Everyone has the right to life in security ...’

BELOW is an edited version of an address by His Beatitude Michel Sabbah, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem on a visit to Dublin. He addressed a public prayer service for peace and reconciliation, hosted by Trócaire and Christian Aid, in the Pro-Cathedral, Dublin on June 5.

“Today – June 5, 2007 – marks the 40th anniversary of the occupation of the whole of Palestine by the Israeli army during the 1967 war.

“The occupation and all that it implies – the restrictions on our freedoms, the “security” wall, the military checkpoints, the Israeli

soldiers who, at any time, enter our Palestinian cities, kill people, take prisoners, uproot trees and destroy houses.

“This [the wall] restricts their [Palestinians] ability to make a living, their freedom of movement and their ability to practise their faith freely.

“Many injustices have to be reversed, not least the restoration of land to lawful indigenous owners and the demolition of the so-called security wall.

“It [the wall] severs Palestinian lands and villages and causes severe hardship and poverty for people in the West Bank. I have seen people deported from their homeland, houses sealed or demolished, and whole families left without shelter. Economic sanctions continue to add to the hardship of life; water resources

are seized, land is expropriated, trees are torn down, crops are destroyed, access is denied to markets and high taxes are imposed in an arbitrary manner.

“Consider the many refugee camps – enormous cages for human beings. Their very existence is a continuous appeal for justice, freedom and human dignity; while at the same time they bear witness to the determination of a people to survive and find their own place among the people of the world.

“The steady disintegration of the economic, agricultural and educational infrastructures is leading to the destruction of the social fabric in Palestinian areas.

“There are no legislative, executive and judicial channels, no institutions commanding the respect of the people as belonging to them.

“Within this conflict we Christians are both Palestinians and at the same time Christians.

“No one, for religious or political reasons, should be subjugated by another.

“Everyone has the right to live in security and to choose their own type of independent government.

“Israelis and Palestinians alike are entitled to security and peace. That will come through the dismantling of the wall, an end to occupation and a just and lasting peace.”

## Israeli support for Abbas

ACCORDING to a report in the *Irish Times* on June 26 Ehud Olmert, Israeli prime minister, said he would release 250 Fatah members who are imprisoned in Israeli jails in a move to support Mahmoud Abbas in the wake of Hamas’s takeover of the Gaza Strip.

However the imprisoned men “must sign a commitment not to return to violence,” he said.

Israel also signed over some of the hundreds of millions of dollars in custom duties it collects on behalf of the Palestinian Authority which it froze after Hamas won the election last year.

## Chavez rallies troops

PRESIDENT Hugo Chavez urged the Venezuelan army on June 25 to prepare for a guerrilla-style war against the United States.

He said the US government was using psychological and economic warfare as part of an unconventional campaign aimed at derailing his government.

“We must continue the resistance war, that’s the anti-imperialist weapon. We must think and prepare for the resistance war every day”, he said.



## WHAT THEY SAID

The show ["The Pirate Queen" (Gráinne Mhaol)] on Broadway, New York) is Riverdance with a dramatic plot about English oppression of the Irish.

There is one scene in the Second Act that is my favourite and sets the scene for over 400 years of agony. The scene is called "Surrender" which depicts the chieftains taking the Queen's shilling. Eerily similar to what happened in the north of Ireland recently.

— Carn (*Journal of the Celtic League*), Spring/Summer 2007, review of "The Pirate Queen".

On the historical and cultural level the play is homage to a strong leader from Irish history and makes use of the Irish language, portrays customs based on Brehon Law and sensitively treats the systematic destruction of feuded Irish society by the Elizabethan regime. Bringing these topics to the Broadway stage is a significant feat.

— Review of the "Pirate Queen".

The SNP (Scottish National Party) emerged as the largest party in the Scottish Parliament at the end of two chaotic and tense days of voting counting and confusion.

The SNP won 47 of the 129 seats at Holyrood, with Labour one behind on 46. The Conservatives were third, with 17 MSPs, while the Liberal Democrats took 16. The Greens were down to two MSPs with one Independent.

— Carn, "Alba" section. The Liberal Democrats refused to form a coalition with the SNP, unless the latter dropped its proposal to hold a referendum on Scottish Independence. The SNP refused to do so and formed a minority government.

The shape of Scotland's town halls also changed dramatically over the course of the election. Labour lost what was left of its grips on Scotland's councils and now controls only two of the country's 32 local authorities.

— Carn, "Alba" section.

They [the Stormont Executive] are an administration. They administer the bloc grant transferred from Westminster with a bit of cash from Dublin's National Development Plan next year. They can't raise taxes, thank God.

We all know they can't even vary corporation tax, which they've been begging to do for months. They can't join the euro. All they can do is fiddle around with the money they're given.

Unlike the Scottish Parliament they can't pass primary legislation that would have an impact on people's lives here to make them measurably different from the lives people live in England and Wales.

— Irish News, May 16, 2007, Wednesday column by Brian Feeney.

The [Stormont] executive and assembly control the Northern Ireland civil service but have no control over the (British) NIO which is the

balliwick of the British proconsul for the time being. The NIO plays the role of what used to be known here as the imperial civil service.

— Wednesday Column, headed "Assembly is merely a twig on the NIO branch".

Why are the Provo prisoners forbidden to participate in any form of protest? Is it a case of we will use the memory of the hunger strikers for a, b and c, but when it comes to the five demands give it a miss.

Gerry Adams knows if any trouble arises in the jail, for example a hunger strike, it could bring down Stormont.

— Ex-SF voter Ormeau Rd., North Belfast News, June 2, 2007, letter to Editor.

Bethany, once bustling with pilgrims and tourists, is dying, as are most West Bank towns.

— Irish Times column by Michael Jansen in Jerusalem, June 4, 2007.

Israel's settlements and barriers have chopped up the occupied West Bank into tight compartments, obstructing the freedom of movement and 2.4million Palestinians and plunging the Palestinian economy into freefall.

According to the UN Office for the Co-Ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), there are 161 full-scale Israeli settlements, 96 settler outposts and 27 military bases in the West Bank.

— Michael Jansen

To protect these settlements, which are built in violation of the fourth Geneva Convention and international law, Israel has constructed 549 roadblocks and checkpoints and is in the process of completing its 720km (450-mile) wall and fence complex, which runs the length of the narrow West Bank and juts deep into the territory to encircle and separate Palestinian towns and villages.

— Michael Jansen.

The number of physical obstacles has increased from 417 a year ago. In addition to checkpoints and sections of the main wall, these include roadblocks, metal gates, trenches, barriers and earth mounds.

— Michael Jansen.

... Palestinians are denied access to 45% of the West Bank and are not allowed to build on another 15%. In the remaining 40% Palestinians are confined to well-defined squares which the Israeli military can isolate or besiege at any time. Palestinian movement is restricted to 1,600km (990 miles) of Palestinian-only roads while Israeli settlers can drive almost anywhere along networks of highways and settler-only road.

— Michael Jansen.

In a 45-page report entitled *Enduring Occupation: Palestinians under Siege in the West Bank*, Amnesty also put forward two rare but important demands: an end to the demolition of Palestinian homes and payment of reparations to Palestinians whose homes have been destroyed.

— Irish Times, Michael Jansen, Jerusalem correspondent June 5, 2007.

Since the commencement of the 1967 occupation of the Palestinian territories, 18,000 Palestinian homes have been demolished by Israel. The first 500 to be bulldozed were in the historic Mughrabi quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem on



• Pro-Palestinian protesters outside the EU office in Dublin on June 9.

the night of July 11th, as Israel's six-day offensive against Egypt, Jordan and Syria was winding down. One hundred and thirty-five Palestinian families, mostly refugees from territory captured by Israel in 1948, were ordered into the streets where they watched as their homes and two mosques were brought down.

— Michael Jansen.

Amnesty's call is timely because the Israeli Committee against Home Demolitions (ICAH) is set to announce, on July 11, exactly four decades after the Mughrabi quarter was demolished, a year-long campaign to rebuild every home Israel destroys.

— Michael Jansen.

Controversial provisions aimed at controlling the price of building land, proposed by the Kenny report in 1973 and more recently by an Oireachtas Committee, would fall to constitutional challenge, a leading barrister has suggested.

Speaking at the conference on the Constitution at the weekend Donal O'Donnell, senior counsel, said the proposals in the Kenny report that local authorities could compulsorily acquire land at existing values plus a premium of 25 percent were economically unworkable and old-fashioned.

— Irish Times, June 11, 2007, report by Martin Wall. Similar proposals to the Kenny report were Republican Sinn Féin policy in the late 1960s. They were called "socialism" and "communism" by the big parties at a meeting of Galway County Council.

He [Peter Berry, later secretary of the Department of Justice] wrote that "about a week after Fianna Fáil won the 1932 general election, [Garda Commissioner Eoin] O'Duffy ordered the destruction of all IRA records and military intelligence reports in public custody and the 'burning of the files took several days'."

— Irish Times, June 11, 2007, Andrew Bushe on previously secret files that were made public in the National Archives on that day, June 11.

A service aimed at helping homeless children keep up with their education has uncovered an alarming number of young people coping with abuse, neglect and violence in the home.

— Irish Times, June 11, 2007, Carl O'Brien, Social Affairs correspondent.

An independent review of the service [the Schoolmate project operated by Focus Ireland and funded by the AIB] has found most of the children it supports are in families where there are drug or alcohol problems (52 per cent) or violence in the home (30 per

cent).

— Carl O'Brien.

The official British government is that negotiations with republicans (sic) became possible only after the Provisional IRA and (Provisional) Sinn Féin dropped their "impossible" (sic) demand for British withdrawal from Northern Ireland.

— Irish Times, June 12, 2007, Frank Millar, London Editor, under headline "Hain urges Britain to learn 'lessons' from North".

Palestinians are facing soaring personal debts and three-quarters have nothing left to sell to meet their personal needs, aid agency Oxfam said yesterday, urging donors to resume funding.

In April 2006 the EU, US, UN and Russia suspended direct aid to the Palestinian Authority after Hamas won parliamentary elections.

— Irish Times, June 13, 2007, report by Reuters.

... with one family in 15 owing more than \$25,000 (€8,727) in a society where the average salary is less than \$3,500 (€622) a year according to Oxfam.

— Reuters.

There is a greater duty for an agent of the state to cooperate with an inquiry into a death, irrespective of legal advice.... It [the delay] is an unacceptable situation.

— Irish News, June 13, 2007. Belfast Coroner John Leckey on the inquest into the death of Sean Paul who died after being struck by an RUC/PSNI car on September 14, 2002.

I think there are grounds for concern that two of the potentially most important witnesses who could have given evidence at the Wright inquiry were found dead in similar circumstances inside Maghaberry prison.

— Irish News, June 14, 2007. Jane Winter, Spokesperson for British/Irish Rights Watch on the death in Maghaberry prison on June 9. He was found lying on the floor of his cell with a ligature around his neck according to prison staff. In June 2002 Mark Fulton, member of the UVF, was found dead in his cell in Maghaberry prison with his belt around his neck.

Among the major Green objectives not achieved in the programme (for government with Fianna Fáil) were:

An end to the use of Shannon airport by the US military.

The abandonment of plans to build the M3 motorway near the Hill of Tara.

A ban on corporate donations.

An end to the plan to build co-located private hospitals on public land.

Commitments gained by the Green Party in the Fianna Fáil

programme for government:

Commissions on climate change, on taxation and to examine the financing of the political system.

A carbon tax and targets for the reduction of 3% p.a. in greenhouse gas emissions.

New building standards to reduce the enemy demands of houses.

Accelerate growth in renewable energy sources like wind, wave and tidal power.

Reform of local government with a directly elected mayor for Dublin by 2011.

— Irish Times, June 14, 2007.

Telephone poll on June 16 by TV3 late evening news: "Do you want another loyalist march in Dublin? Result: 95% said "No" and 5% said "Yes".

— TV3 poll, June 14, 2007.

Mr [Roger] Garland (formerly the Green Party's first TD) described proposals for a carbon tax, without a date or an agreed level as "waffle". He said that accepting the continuation of military flights through Shannon airport was "completely against all green principles world peace".

He also criticised the decision to accept the present M3 motorway route through Tara, and the continuation of corporate donations to political parties as being contrary to core Green Party values.

— Irish Times, June 14.

The good news was that it [Lansdowne Market Research poll commissioned by PANA] showed 58% were opposed, 19% were in favour and 23% had no opinion or did not know.

Thus the decisive majority of the Irish people support PANA's opposition to the use of Shannon Airport [by US troops] in the [Iraq] war.

— Press release by the Peace and Neutrality Alliance [Comhaontas na Stochana is Neodrachta] May 19, 2007. Republican Sinn Féin has been affiliated to PANA for a number of years now and has participated in its anti-war demonstrations.

[Provisional] Sinn Féin is in an even more invidious position with just four seats, (in Leinster House) and the party is still coming to terms with the shock of its failure to make gains. A period of soul searching is in store.

— Irish Times, June 15, 2007, Stephen Collins, Political Editor.

It now appears unlikely that Tasers (50,000 – volt stun guns) could be in use in Northern Ireland this year. SDLP Policing Board member Dolores Kelly reiterated her opposition to the use of Tasers by the PSNI.

"The fact is that these weapons have killed at least 15 people in the US and Canada",

she said.

— Irish Times, June 15. Despite several requests from the Sunday Tribune, no one from [Provisional] Sinn Féin on either side of the Border was available for comment on the matter [of proposed visit to Dublin of the Queen of England], but the party is extremely unlikely to oppose the visit.

— Sunday Tribune, June 24, 2007, Suzanne Breen, Northern Editor.

Some were cheering, others protesting, and the rest just observed the show. (The last visit to Dublin by a British monarch in 1911.) They were heady days. A tiny band of republicans, radicals and socialists organised the opposition. Countess Markievitz was imprisoned for addressing a 30,000-strong IRB protest.

The O'Rahilly unfurled a banner across Grafton Street. "Thou art not conquered yet, dear land". James Connolly said the British royal family had "opposed every forward move, fought every reform, persecuted every patriot."

— Sunday Tribune.

There is no good time for the Queen (sic) to visit Ireland. There is no place for a queen in a modern democracy.

The [British] royal family's enormous unearned wealth is on affront to the vast majority of working people struggling to live and put a roof over their heads. The whole notion of an elite, of one family seeing themselves as special, is obnoxious.

— Sunday Tribune, quoting Richard Boyd-Barrett, the People Before Profit candidate in Dún Laoghaire in the recent election.

Lance Bombardier Stephen Restorick was killed by a sniper while operating a security checkpoint in 1997. He was the last of 763 (British) military personnel to die in the North.

— Irish Times, June 25, 2007.

Operation Banner has been the longest campaign in British military history, stretching back more than 35 years to the early 1970s. Where once there were more than 30,000 troops in the North there are currently 5,600 army and RAF personnel. That will be reduced to 5,000 by the end of next month.

— Irish Times. From British troops came on the streets in the Six Occupied Counties in August 1969 is 38 years so far.

At one point, there were 104 military bases in the North. There are now less than 20, and that is also set to fall further in the coming weeks.

— Irish Times.

It [the Provisional Movement] has had to accept the principle of consent [ie the Unionist Veto] and face up to the *de facto* reality that Ireland is partitioned and will be for the foreseeable future. In order to exercise power, it has had to enter the machinery of government in a Northern Ireland (sic) within the UK.

— Irish Times, July 30, article by Noel Whelan, political commentator.

He [Adams] must know that the setback which the past sustained last month in the Republic (sic) has the potential to be also destabilising for the party in Northern Ireland (sic).

— Noel Whelan in article headed "Election performance in South has damaged SF (sic) brand".

## 1975 — Bilateral Truce Not Ceasefire

A chara

In the *Irish News* (Belfast) of June 20, Brian Feeney in his "Wednesday Column" stated that John Major "had been handed something no British prime minister had been given since 1975, a formal IRA ceasefire".

Once more and for the record I wish to repeat that what was announced in February 1975 was a *bilateral truce*, not a "ceasefire", based on a 12-point written document.

It had been negotiated over a three-week period between representatives of the Republican Movement and British government officials. The BBC and ITV television reporter, Peter Taylor, has acknowledged in his book *Provos: the IRA and Sinn Féin* (published London 1997) that it was indeed a bilateral truce. In contrast to John Major's failure to engage in talks in the mid-1990s, political discussions between the RM and British officials began in 1975 within a matter of days.

The Republicans did not seek mere civil rights under British rule; they sought British government disengagement from Ireland. The British had undertaken to discuss "structures of withdrawal" from Ireland and did indeed do so.

They failed to deliver on a declaration of intent to disengage and so the bilateral truce ended.

**RUAIRÍ Ó BRÁDAIGH**  
President  
Republican Sinn Féin

## British Royals Not Welcome!

A chara

The proposed visit by Elizabeth Windsor, the Queen of England is but another attempt to 'normalise' the abnormal. The abnormal situation pertaining in Ireland, ie British occupation and all that goes with it including Stormont and partition, must be addressed before the Commander-in-Chief of the British Army sets foot on our shores.

Elizabeth Windsor represents over 800 years of occupation and the result of that occupation is well documented. But lest the Irish people become complacent and forget their history in this time of the so-called Celtic Tiger, let me remind them that even when all the British military watch towers are dismantled the British Army barracks will still hold over 5,000 soldiers on Irish soil.

Irish POWs are still held in jails controlled by the British and run by the loyalist screws whose treatment of the POWs is documented elsewhere in the paper.

Mary McAleese feels the time is right for a visit by this Commander-in-Chief of the British Army. Well Mary McAleese is wrong, Elizabeth Windsor is not welcome here and she will never be welcome here while one British soldier remains here, while that British soldier can stop, question, and arrest and/or even shoot an Irish

citizen; while Maghaberry holds our POWs; while Stormont implements British rule and while a line across the country axes six of our 32 counties.

Don't be fooled by the hype in the media that all is well and the 'Irish question' is settled once and for all. All nationally-minded people must speak out against this visit. Don't be seen to either physically or metaphorically wave that butcher's apron, the little union jack. Instead let the walls speak: **British royals not welcome here while Britain occupies six counties.**

**JOSEPHINE HAYDEN**  
Dublin

## Boycott Shannon Airport

A chara

While going on a visit to England recently I decided to travel through Shannon airport, something I had not done for many years, though I had travelled through other airports.

On arrival everything was as normal with people coming and going as usual. After a while I decided to go to duty-free and it was then my perception of Shannon changed.

As soon as I went through security I was amazed to find myself virtually surrounded by American soldiers in full uniform. There would have been about 100 civilian passengers like me and at least 200 American soldiers.

I knew that these soldiers were using Shannon but I did not realise that it is virtually turned into a US military airbase. Down to my left there was a large sign over an area which read "YOU ARE NOW ENTERING US TERRITORY" which is scary enough but if that area was to my left I can only assume that all those uniformed US soldiers were on Irish territory.

I was rightly very nervous as I did not expect to be in the middle of America's war machinery and I felt that we could be attacked at any moment.

I am totally against US government involvement in Afghanistan and Iraq and I am well aware of the atrocities they have carried out worldwide but I felt great sympathy for those soldiers who looked barely 18, and innocent of what lay ahead of them as they went down to their plane past the sign which read 'Non-US passengers only'.

The 26-County Administration has endangered Irish citizens on Irish soil by allowing Shannon to be used by America for its war for oil.

Our lives are about as important as the Iraqi people who have continually suffered for decades because of the wealth beneath their soil.

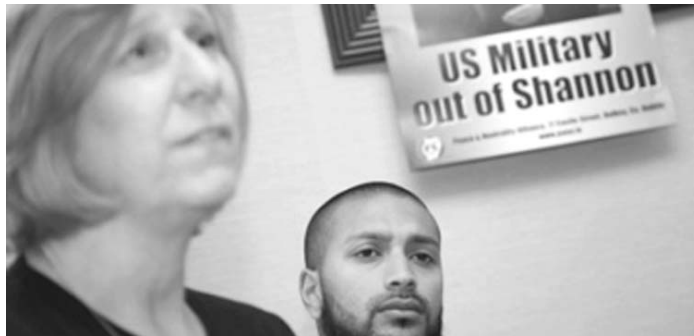
I would ask people to avoid using Shannon if at all possible, for all our sakes.

**GERALDINE McNAMARA**  
Tipperary town

## Flame of Freedom Still Burns at Bodenstown

A chara

I have heard that the US Forces have developed a new munition which burns with a flame more intense than either



• US anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan, accompanied by Ruhal Ahmed from Iraq, speaking at a public meeting opposing the use of Shannon by the US war machine.

phosphorus or magnesium. Once ignited, I informed, this flame cannot be extinguished either by the removal of oxygen nor the addition of a coolant. Even after being subject to explosives the particles will burn. The US Forces triumphantly state there has never been a flame like it before and once ignited it will burn for 'months'.

Well, we all know that there is a far greater flame, a flame which burns far more intensely and cannot be put out, a flame which has burned in the hearts of true Irishmen and women for centuries. I saw that flame on Sunday, June 10, at Bodentown.

I saw it in the faces of young children and I saw it in the faces of the grown ups and in the faces of veterans of campaigns of long ago and despite the age gap, the flame burned as fiercely in each face.

I saw too the Special Branch skulking in the shadows in greater numbers than ever before. Leaning and standing on hallowed graves, showing the same disrespect to the Irish dead that they show to the Irish living.

I saw something in their faces too, not a burning flame but a haunted look, a look of fear, a look of an occupying force that has used every dirty underhand trick in the book to subdue and intimidate and yet realising that despite their threats, beatings and imprisonment, true Republicans will honour their cause until we achieve what we set out to achieve in 1916 and before, a truly united Ireland of Catholic and Protestant, ruled by the Irish people for the Irish people and not the 'buy one get one free' two puppet nations that Britain has put in place.

While Ahern and his gang get fat on English gold, the ordinary people of Ireland suffer as they have never suffered before. Young Irish families live in poverty as property spirals and houses change hands for sums of money unheard of outside of a football pools jackpot prize. Our jobs are stolen as greedy employers turn to exploitation of slave labour from abroad. The countryside is ploughed up by foreign speculators cashing in on the property market.

Once disaffected by money, many Irish people jump on to this London lead bandwagon oblivious to the ruin and destruction it is bringing to this

country. Everything we cherished about our country is changing and Ahern and his gang are laughing all the way to the bank backed up by their storm troopers in the Branch.

But this is yet the Nation that vanquished the Danes. The Nation that has fought the English for eight hundred years. The Nation that has seen the blood of countless generations soak into the green of its land. The Nation that has fought famine and fear. The Nation that will never surrender and will never yield to any oppressor.

Ahern and his gang should beware for that flame which burns so fiercely in the hearts of Irish people of all ages will one day spring to their hands and on that day a revolution as yet unseen in Irish history will explode beneath them and their crumbling ivory tower.

One day the people of this Nation will unite as never before and wasted patience and tolerance will be cast aside in favour of revolution.

And when that day comes, if Ireland burns from east to west and north to south. If nothing familiar remains. If our cities, towns and villages have not one stone standing on another. If not a blade of green remains, then better the honour of that than the brutalised existence we have today, slaves enslaved by slaves, poverty enforced on the masses by the wealthy few and the English stranglehold tighter than ever before.

But from the ashes will rise hope and from that hope will be formed a new Ireland, **EIRE NUA**, a place built on the ideals of 1916, giving freedom, equality and hope for all.

**LIAM Ó CEALLAIGH**  
England

## Fringe Republicans No way!

A chara

Before this is all over we will be called every name under the sun.

In their report on the RSF commemoration in Bodentown the *Daily Mirror* called us "Fringe Republicans".

They can call us what they like but we will never administer the Six Occupied Counties of Ireland or the British

government.

**BRENDAN TOBIN**  
Enniscorthy  
Co Wexford

## Ban Military Airshows

A chara

ever invented. As we wonder about the escalating violence within our own country maybe it is time to send a positive message to our children and start by banning the Military Air-Show. Military airplanes are anything but entertainment

**PAUL O'TOOLE**  
Dublin 5

## Leinster House Protest

A chara

A lone protestor shouted pro-Republican slogans at the assembled Free State politicians and their supporters June 14 outside Leinster House. The member of RSF mingled with the crowd and tight security before shouting 'Free Staters — Irish traitors' and 'our day will come' before making good his escape towards Stephens Green.

**UNREPENTANT  
REPUBLICAN**  
Dublin

## Oppose Sectarian Loyalist March

A chara

Once again the citizens of Dublin are expected to welcome a loyalist orange march through O'Connell Street led by that arch-bigot Willie Frazer and his triumphalist band of death squads. (We will leave the genuine relatives out of that description.)

On the last occasion in February 2006 when the Free State tried to push the march down O'Connell Street they were met with a hail of missiles while the loyalist bands played *The Sash* and unfurled the British flag — despite their protestations that they did not. I was there and saw and heard them myself.

I think we all know the answer to what would happen if a Republican, or even a Free State, march tried to walk up the Shankill Road in Belfast with the Tricolour flying and bands playing Republican songs.

Should the loyalist march again be given the go-ahead I call on people from the 32 Counties to come to Dublin and stand firm with Republican Sinn Féin in opposing this march.

**ANNA O'BRIEN**  
Dublin

**Letters to the Editor should be as short as possible and written or typed in double-spacing on one side of the page. Name and address must be included, but on request will not be published.**

**Letters printed do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of SAOIRSE. Postal address: 223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1.**

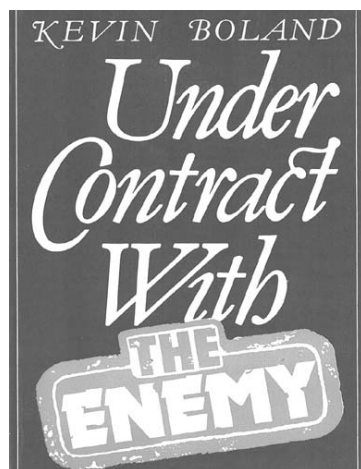
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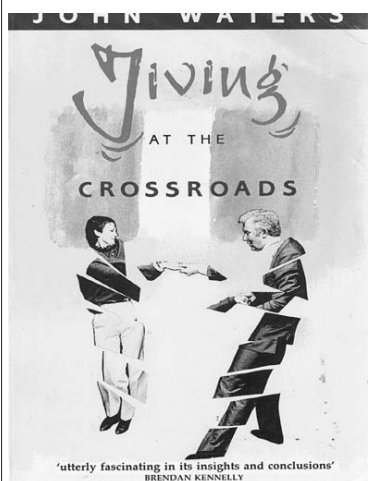


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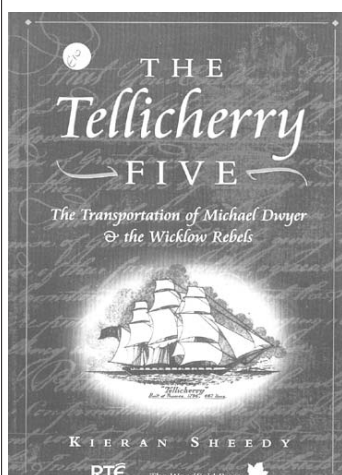
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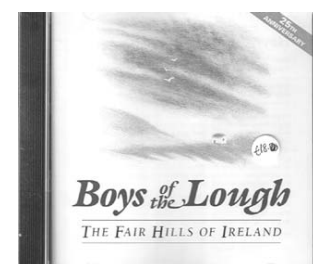
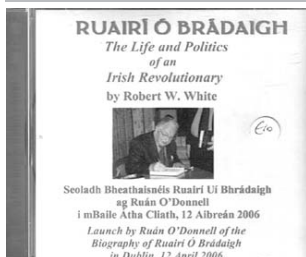
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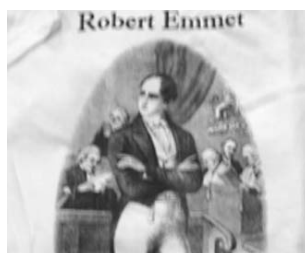
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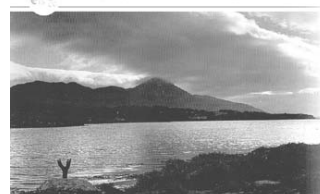
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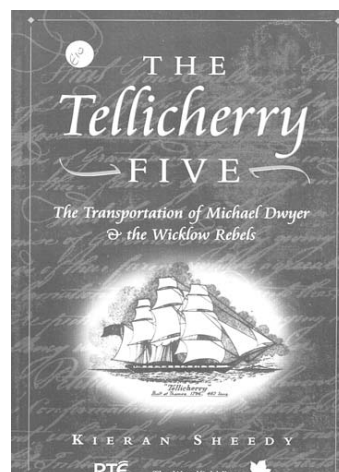
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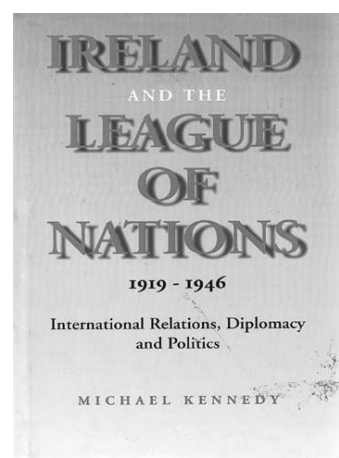
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# CURRAGH CONCENTRATION CAMP RE-OPENED

**50  
Years  
Ago**

ON Saturday evening, July 6, 1957 at 9pm, a party of Special Branch headed by Inspector Philip McMahon raided Sinn Féin Head Office, 31 Wicklow Street, Dublin and interrupted the fortnightly meeting of An Ard Chomhairle.

An tUachtarán, Pádraig Mac Lógáin stated the nature of the meeting. There were cláracha oibre (agendas) on the table, correspondence and the minute book of meetings.

The Branch were not interested in the documentation and simply arrested all twelve men present and conveyed them to the Bridewell prison behind the Four Courts.

The only woman present, Mrs Margaret Buckley, Vice-President, was not taken into custody. She made her way to the *Sunday Independent* offices where she gave a statement to the reporter who interviewed her. The *Sunday Independent* of July 7 quoted her:

"The police gave absolutely no explanation for the incident, and we are completely at a loss to know why our members were taken into custody," she was reported as saying in the next day's edition.

"I am completely mystified by the raid and can think of no reason for the arrests," Sinn Féin, she said, is a civil organisation and has no military commitments. "That is laid down in our constitution. There is nothing secretive about our activities and all our meetings are held openly ..."

The report went on: "A spokesman for the Special Branch – the Garda department which handles all political matters – refused to comment."

Those arrested included the President of Sinn Féin, Pádraig Mac Lógáin; Vice-President, Tomás Ó Dúill; Rúnaí, Michael Traynor; Cisteoirí, Robert Russell and Paddy O'Hagan; Ard-Chomhairle members, Liam Early (a member of Cork County Council); Pádraig Ó Cuanacháin, Cork; Pádraig Ó Ceallaigh, Galway; Antoine Mag Cana, Áth Cliath; Gearóid Ó Broin, Áth Cliath; Seoirse Dearle, Áth Cliath; Éamonn Mac Thomáis, Áth Cliath.

At the same time the office of An tÉireannach Aontaithe/The United Irishman at 1 Gardiner Row, Dublin were raided. Staff, including Seán Dougan, North Antrim and people collecting papers for sale, eg Rory McDevitt, Dublin, were arrested.

Tomás Mac Cúrtáin was arrested in Kent Station, Cork at 9pm as he alighted from the non-stop train from Dublin. Branch men had followed him to Heuston Station, Dublin where he boarded the train at 6pm.

All across the 26-County State homes were raided throughout the night and into the early morning. Key members of Sinn Féin were arrested in almost every county.

Some had just served short sentences in Mountjoy jail. Others were veterans of the struggle since 1916, including Larry Grogan of Drogheda, Martin Whyte of Co Clare and Dan Gleeson of North Tipperary.

Paddy McCallig, Claremorris, Co Mayo, a Republican veteran in his '70s, was taken from his bed at 6am according to the *Irish Press* of July 8, the paper described him as "a member of the well-known firm of McCallig Brothers, general wholesalers merchants".

Others arrested in Mayo included Dan Hoban and Peadar Murray, Newport, John Joe Monaghan, Bart Gormley and Jimmy Deere, Castlebar. Some of the names will be familiar.

In Clare five arrests were made. In addition to the veteran Martin Whyte of Lisdoonvarna, Michael J O'Keeffe, Ennistymon; Flanna Lyons, Martin Finucane and Lot O'Halloran, all three from the Ennis area, were held.

While the majority of the 64 arrests over all were young men of the 1950s generation, a number of 1940s veterans were taken in the round-up.

A notable person to escape was Mick McCarthy, a Co Cork man living in the city. This veteran of the '30s and '40s was holidaying on a beach close to the city with his wife and family.

He was paddling in shallow water with a child held in either hand when a friend told him of the Dublin arrests of Ard Chomhairle members and Margaret Buckley's statement in the *Sunday Independent* that morning.

Mick moved quickly, went "on the run" and evaded the indiscriminate net of the Leinster House Special Branch for 15 months.

Councillor Liam Earley of Cork was driving to the



• 26-County police lorries taking Sinn Féin prisoners to the Curragh Concentration Camp on July 8, 1957.

Ard Chomhairle meeting when, passing through Naas, Co Kildare, he noticed local Republican veteran Frank Driver cycling by.

Late, in the Bridewell, he heard Frank Driver's voice and considered that if people from country areas were also being arrested, then it was not just the Ard Chomhairle that was being "detained". It was a round-up.

There was much speculation in the press on Monday as to the purpose of the arrests – the figure was given as a total of 63. However, this was soon dispelled as the 48-hour detention period allowed under the Offences Against the State Act 1939 neared expiration.

About 6pm on the Monday, lorries moved into position near the Bridewell, the prisoners were loaded into them and taken under escort to the Curragh "Glasshouse".

People outside (60 or 70 reported the *Irish Times* July 9) sang *A Nation Once Again* and the prisoners responded with "Up the Republic" and "Remember Skibbereen". The military prison at the Curragh got its name from its glass roof – the same as in the Aldershot military encampment in England.

In a special issue of *Iris Oifigiúil* the Dublin government's gazette, on the Monday, an official proclamation was carried announcing the establishment of internment camps at the Curragh and Athlone military barracks.

Part II of the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act 1940 – a wartime measure – was to be brought into operation. Twelve years subsequent to its closure in June 1945, the Curragh Concentration Camp was to be opened again. The Leinster House Dáil had adjourned for three months two days before.

Early on the morning of July 4 an IRA active service unit in South Armagh attacked an armoured patrol of the British Forces of Occupation. The column had been seeking a British army target but when they made contact it was with an RUC Commando unit from Belfast.

The scene of the attack was on "a lonely stretch of road between Forkhill and Crossmaglen", the *Irish Times* of July 5 reported. It went on: "The police concerned were part of a Commando force from Belfast. It provides patrols, which always return to Belfast after scrutinising roads and fields in the Border area."

One RUC Commando was shot dead and another was wounded. "British military and police, with tracker dogs, converged on the area." The column withdrew successfully and empty shells of Bren and Thompson machinegun ammunition as well as a butterbox packed with gelignite were found.

A familiar sequence of events followed. Mr Topping, Stormont Minister for Home Affairs stated that under the Special Powers Act prisoners could be flogged or even sentenced to death for possession of arms or indeed lesser breaches of these coercive Acts.

In the British House of Commons, Prime Minister Macmillan stated that "the British Ambassador in Dublin has already taken up the matter with the Government of the Republic (*sic*)" (*Irish Times*, July 10).

Resistance activity in the Six Occupied Counties was usually followed by diplomatic pressure by England on the Dublin administration which in turn engaged in collaborative coercive action against Republicans.

Sinn Féin protests got scant coverage in the national press and none on radio. There was no television service. North Tipperary Co Council protested against the internments. Longford Co Council rejected a resolution condemning the requirement for written undertakings by Republicans

in public employ by eight votes to six.

Clann na Poblachta councillor Patrick M Farrell had proposed and Seán F Lynch (Independent Republican) supported. Brian Kiernan (Fianna Fáil) seconded. Others in support were Cllrs Browne (FG), Dowd (Indpt) and Heaney. Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael generally joined forces to defeat the motion (*Longford Leader*, July 13).

Sixty people were held for 48 hours in the Six Counties from July 11 to 13. Twenty men were from Belfast, another 20 from Fermanagh and the remainder from Tyrone and Down. One woman was "detained", Bridie O'Neill (28), from Belfast. Her brother Liam was an internee since December 1956.

At the July 12 celebrations, de Valera was praised for his action in opening up the Curragh Concentration Camp and for his condemnation of the Fethard-on-Sea, Co Wexford boycott of Protestant-owned shops.

Next day, July 13, fifteen men – members of the Pearse and Teeling Columns – were due for release from Mountjoy. They included Ruairí Ó Brádaigh TD and Dáithí Ó Conaill. However, they were taken from their cells at 5am, placed in lorries surrounded by Special Branch and taken to the Curragh Glasshouse.

Parades with bands and protest meetings took place that evening and next day in Mullingar and Longford. Enthusiasm was high in the Longford-Westmeath constituency where a CIE train driver, Patrick Harney of Athlone was also interned without trial.

The Coiste Seasta of Clann na Poblachta issues a statement that day which was carried in the *Sunday Independent* of July 14. "While we hold no brief for Sinn Féin and disagree profoundly with their policy, we must also register our emphatic protest against the action of the Government in raiding their party offices and in imprisoning without charge or trial most of the members of the Sinn Féin Ard Chomhairle," it said.

The statement added: "Whether or not one approves of their policy, the fact remains that their candidates polled 65,640 votes at the last elections and that four of their candidates are now elected members of Dáil Éireann (*sic*)."

It could have added that in the last election north of the Border, Sinn Féin had polled 152,310 votes and had two candidates – in Mid-Ulster and Fermanagh-South Tyrone.

In the Curragh Glasshouse, Tomás Mac Cúrtáin was elected O/C and a Camp Council chosen by the internees was formed. The small internment camp where German prisoners were held during WWII was prepared hurriedly and the internees from the Glasshouse were moved down to it.

Larry Grogan of Drogheda had been there before, as had quite a number of others, in the 1940s. Larry had been in Ballykinlar Camp, under the British, in 1920-21. Now he was joined in the Curragh, at the age of 56, by his son Tommy.

Paddy Mac Lógáin had been in the Curragh in the '40s and before that in the '20s. Earlier he had been in Belfast jail and in 1917 had been in Mountjoy and on the famous hunger strike there when Tomás Ashe of Kerry died.

Outside the war of words was fought between Sinn Féin and 26-County government agencies. May Smith of South Armagh (married in December 1956 to Robert Russell) was the other general secretary of Sinn Féin and she rose valiantly to the occasion.

New members were co-opted by the few Ard Chomhairle members free to do so. They would fill in until the Ard-Fheis in the autumn.

De Valera said that "whatever the nature of the

present Sinn Féin organisation, no one was interned because of membership of it". Sinn Féin responded that Sinn Féin was the same as when de Valera was president of it 1917-26; that he had deserted it in 1926 to form Fianna Fáil and seek power in the Free State Parliament.

In an interview with the *New York Herald-Tribune* (*Irish Independent*, July 29) de Valera alleged that of the 12 men arrested at the Ard Chomhairle meeting in Dublin, 11 were interned. Those held included "the co-called Chief-of-Staff and the so-called Adjutant-General, as well as other members of what they call the Army Council". No names were given.

Now the names can be revealed. Paddy O'Hagan, Mullaghbawn, Co Armagh was one of the Treasurers and he was released. Tony Magan was the Chief of Staff and Robert Russell was Adjutant-General. None of the other nine Ard Chomhairle members interned were members of the Army Council.

Magan and Russell were living openly and could have been arrested at any time. They were not. The Ard Chomhairle was the target and the intention was to behead the Sinn Féin organisation and to cripple it by arresting and internment key members throughout the State.

The Sinn Féin reply carried in the *Irish Times* of July 29 concluded: "Have the people been asked to decide on the present attack on Sinn Féin? Have the people been asked to decide on the setting up of concentration camps and summary arrests without benefit of trial or charge?"

"When did Mr de Valera get a coercion mandate from the Irish people? We challenge Mr de Valera to bring this whole issue before the Irish people NOW – and then we'll be in a position to speak about the people's will."

"Will Mr de Valera do that?"

There was no reply, of course. The question of dealing with Republicans or coercive legislation or internment without trial was never raised by either Fianna Fáil or Fine Gael during the election campaign in February or March.

But Sinn Féin was not beheaded. Vice-President Margaret Buckley, Ard-Rúnaí May Smith and Cisteoir Paddy O'Hagan were at liberty. They and the few members of An Ard Chomhairle who were absent from the July 6 meeting met and filled up the vacant places.

The interned members were quickly replaced at local level. Then it was business as usual for Sinn Féin.

GHQ staff members Seán Cronin and Charlie Murphy had escaped the net and were "on the run". They reorganised the Headquarters Staff and soon the IRA was back in business. The knockout blow aimed at the Republican Movement had failed.

What was more, public opinion was now largely opposed to internment. There was a great forward momentum in support for the Movement.

In particular the people who had endured the jails and concentration camps with their dreadful conditions in the 1940s remembered their ordeal and rallied in supporting the new generation in its hour of need.

(More next month. Refs. *Sunday Independent*, July 7 and 14; *Irish Times*, July 5, 8, 9, 10 and 29; *Longford Leader*, July 13; *Irish Independent*, July 29.)



# Fenian Notes

## From our Washington Correspondent

**F**EAR is a terrible thing, but it is the reality of American society and though 9/11 has brought a new round of fear, it has had many episodes. Under disgraced US President Richard Nixon, Americans lived under fear of being subject to investigation if you were an enemy of Nixon which included all who disagreed with him.

This was also true under President Ronald Reagan. Fear lets people's normal humanitarian concerns suffer and good people accept the abuse of power and domestic intelligence harassment as necessary to combat real and imagined enemies.

The 9/11 crime was bad but the reaction by the Bush Junta against innocent Americans is the real tragedy of the incident. One arm of the US Government that has been on the front lines of fear-mongering is the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). We all know the FBI is the political police force of the United States.

In other words, an instrument of the ruling administration that is used to pursue any dissenters of its policies. Most regimes have used it to pursue radicals, dissenters and political enemies. The conduct of the FBI has been and still is inexcusable.

Nixon had his enemies' list and those who opposed his policies were suspect and found themselves in permanent FBI files with the resultant harassment and intimidation. Their aim was to put a chill on legal political activity which might make the President look bad.

Ethnic communities were targets of the FBI under Nixon. The FBI monitored Italian, Irish and Black communities. He also had anti-war protesters scrutinised and those in organised labour that were anti-Nixon. Many of these overlapped.

### FILE-STUFFING

Misuse of the FBI became notable under Nixon and his Watergate fiasco. People involved in controversial

issues feared their public words and image would bring on FBI investigations, which did happen. People did not fear per se that their legal activity was public, but what they feared was file-stuffing.

File-stuffing meant writing allegations of activities that never happened and inserting them in files as if they were gospel truth. The FBI has a reputation for creating its own truth and getting government leaders to spin lies to put groups and individuals on the defence and creating negative images for public consumption.

Nixon saw the FBI as his elite guard to protect him and his administration and to spin his transgressions as legitimate. Then, Americans were put under the delusion that if the FBI did it, he must be lawful. The FBI image was spun by the late Director, J Edgar Hoover. He developed the FBI into a political police force.

Hoover protected his political friends because they continued him on as director, a mutually beneficial arrangement. Hoover died in 1972 after 50 years as director, but had he lived, he would have protected Nixon from the Watergate scandal. Hoover got dirt on everyone and created even more and this tactic kept him in power until his death.

Since the Nixon era, the FBI has had to be more discreet about its involvement in politics, but this has not stopped them from it under the guise of law enforcement. It is a creative organisation that constructs its pursuits to satisfy those in power.

When those in power are right-wing, the FBI becomes empowered with its pseudo-political version of law enforcement. It was quiet under Jimmy Carter who was into human rights which is not in the FBI's vocabulary, but was rejuvenated under Ronald Reagan who used them to pursue the left which included the Irish.

Fear is again on the rise under



George Bush and the FBI has been given draconian power to pursue political. Recently, the latest abuse of power by the FBI has been exposed with the revelation of internal FBI and Justice Department regulations as the FBI sought personal records of US residents by use of **National Security Letter**, an ominous instrument.

The use of NSLs has grown since 9/11, but they have been used before. Nineteen thousand were issued in 2005. The letters enable an FBI field office to force the release of private information without the need to get authority of a judge.

**T**HE so-called **Patriot Act** of 2001 eliminated the requirement that the FBI show specific and articulable reasons to believe that the records it demands belong to a foreign intelligence agent or terrorist.

Under Bush, the FBI can go after any innocent American who questions his policies. This law transformed NSLs by permitting clandestine scrutiny of US citizens and visitors who are not alleged to be spies or terrorists. This has given Bush a means to pursue his political enemies.

Now the FBI needs only to certify that the records sought are for or relevant to an investigation to protect against international terrorists or clandestine intelligence activities. This sounds good and it appears the FBI may be doing its job to protect America from the bad guys.

But who have they gone after? An NSL was issued against a man who spoke at a public rally where he denounced the Bush War in Iraq. Is he a terrorist and is he involved in clandestine intelligence activities?

The man does not agree with Bush so he is subject to an NSL. This is where the abuse of obvious and is the real intent of the NSL programme. FBI agents used NSLs without citing an authorised investigation. They

claimed "exigent" circumstances that do not exist in demanding personal records and this was not justifiable.

The FBI has been ordered by the White House to pursue any person speaking out against the President. The FBI is compiling lists of people who they see as dissenters and subject them to NSLs. Never think you are safe.

People who give money to foreign organisations which are legitimate are put on the list of potential targets. Bush's best friend Tony Blair's legacy is his peace process. All groups opposed to that process are enemies of Bush/Blair and their supporters in the US are subject to an NSL.

In their campaign against dissent, the FBI obtained full credit reports using an NSL that is supposed to obtain only summary information. In a plethora of other cases, third parties such as telephone companies, banks and internet providers responded to NSLs with the most detailed information about customers that the letters do not permit release.

### FASCISM

One of the first signs of Fascism is creating a terrifying threat and the state of fear. Could it happen in the US? Let's hope not, but we cannot sit back while people like Bush and his crew take steps in that direction under the guise of fighting terrorism.

The political party of George Bush sent out thugs to the polls in the 2000 election who menaced poll workers counting the votes in Florida which worked and gave the election to Bush. To further harass people, the Bush Administration has created the Terrorist Watch List.

Professor Walter F Murphy, an emeritus professor of Princeton University is one of the foremost constitutional scholars in the United States and author of the classic **CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY**. He is also a decorated former US Marine. On March 1, 2007, he was denied a boarding pass at Newark Airport because he was on the Terrorist Watch List.

An airline employee asked him if he had been in any peace marches because they ban a lot of people from flying because of that type of activity. Dr Murphy had not been to any demonstration, but had given a lecture at Princeton, televised and put

on the web, highly critical of Bush for his many violations of the constitution.

The man told him that will do it. That is the state of the campaign against freedom of speech by the Bush Junta.

Now if Professor Murphy is put on a terror watch list, what chance does an ordinary citizen have who attacks the Bush/Blair peace process in Ireland? Speaking on behalf of a United Ireland is now considered an act of terrorism according to that logic.

Bush has cast dissent as treason and criticism as espionage. He has read about the 1917 Espionage Act during the raids against German, Italian and Irish activists who were arrested without warrants in sweeping round-ups and kept in jail for up to five months and beaten, starved, tortured and threatened with death. It has happened here in the land of the free and the home of the brave. Dissent in America was muted for a decade.

**T**HINK of it, even if you or I are American citizens, and we are completely innocent of what Bush has accused us of doing, he has the power to have us seized as we are trying to board a plane or he may order an NSL issued to get our personal records and we have limited to no recourse to challenge it. Is that democracy or is it a flavour of fascism?

Activity against ordinary Americans has diverted the legitimate pursuit of those who would bomb the World Trade Centre. Not many terrorists have been found, so they have to be created or at least the illusion of the threat of terrorism is created and the diversion from law enforcement does not help.

We must support the real patriots in America who are trying to resist tyranny and keep dissent alive. Dissent is what America is all about. Americans need the help of others in Europe who are willing to challenge Bush because they realise what he can do worldwide, if he can do it at home.

America's founders were the original dissenters and their example should be followed not the distorters of democracy who force conformity.

— Peadar Mac Fhínn

## Comhbhrón

**BURNS**, Deepest sympathy is extended to Kay Davidson on the death of her Mother Kathleen. From the RPAG

**BURNS**, We extend our deepest sympathy to Kay on the death of her mother Kathleen Burns. From the Joe Conway Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Newry, Co Down

**CROWLEY**, Sincere sympathy is extended to the Crowley family, Cork on the death of their mother on June 17. From the Bundoran Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

**CROWLEY**, Sincere sympathy is extended to the Crowley family, Cork on the death of their mother on June 17. From the Republican Garden Committee, Bundoran, Co Donegal.

**CROWLEY**, Sincere sympathy is extended to the Crowley family, Cork on the death of their mother on June 17. From the Cumann Mac Curtáin / Mac Suibhne, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Corcaigh.

**CROWLEY**, Sincere sympathy is extended to the Crowley family, Cork on the death of their mother on June 17. From the Thomas Harte Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Lurgan, Co Armagh.

**CROWLEY**, Sincere sympathy is extended to the family of the late Volunteer Dermot Crowley, Cork on the death of their mother on June 17. From the Republican POWs, Maghaberry Prison, Co Antrim.

**CROWLEY**, Deepest sympathy to the family of THE LATE Vol Dermot Crowley, Cork on the recent death of their mother. From Comhairle Uladh, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

**EDWARDS**, Republican Sinn Féin, Limerick sends deepest sympathy to the family of Paddy Edwards who died recently in London.

**FULLER**, The Ballyseedy Memorial Committee extends deepest sympathy to the Fuller family on the death of Vincent, our esteemed comrade and committee member.

**FULLER**, Sincere sympathy to the Fuller family on the death of Vincent. From Kerry Comhairle Ceantair, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

**FULLER**, Deepest sympathy to the Fuller family and also Bill Fuller in Nevada USA on the death of Vincent. From Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Trí Lá.

**FULLER**, Deepest sympathy to the Fuller family on your sad loss. From Maurice Dowling, Matt Leen and Tom Lawlor, Tralee, Co Kerry.

**FULLER**, The trustees of Ballyseedy Memorial Committee extends sincere sympathy to the Fuller family on the death of Vincent, our esteemed comrade.

**FULLER**, Deepest regrets and sympathy to the Fuller family on the death of Vincent. From Dan Brouder, Jim Scanlon and John Mangan, Tralee, Co Kerry.

**FULLER**, Deepest sympathy in your sad loss. Vincent will be sadly missed. From all his friends in The Rock.

**LAGAN**, Deepest sympathy to Joe Lagan, Belfast on the death of his mother. From the Republican POWs in Maghaberry jail, Co Antrim.

**LAGAN**, Deepest sympathy to Joe

Lagan, Belfast on the death of his mother. From **CABHAIR** (Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund).

**O'CALLAGHAN**, Deepest sympathy to Kitty O'Brien on the recent death of her sister-in-law Bridie O'Callaghan, Cork. From Cumann na mBan.

**O'KANE**, Deepest sympathy to Michael McGonigle and family, Dungiven Co Derry on the recent death of his niece Geraldine O'Kane. From the Ard Chomhairle, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

**O'KANE**, Deepest sympathy to Michael McGonigle and family, Dungiven Co Derry on the recent death of his niece Geraldine O'Kane. From Richard Walsh.

**O'KANE**, Deepest sympathy to Michael McGonigle and family, Dungiven Co Derry on the recent death of his niece Geraldine O'Kane. From the John Mitchell Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Co Derry.

**O'KANE**, Deepest sympathy is extended to Micky McGonigle, Derry on the death of his niece Geraldine O'Kane. From the North West Comhairle, Ceantair, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

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**O'KANE**, Deepest sympathy is extended to Micky McGonigle, Derry on the death of his niece Geraldine O'Kane. From the Séamus McElwaine Cumann, Roslea, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

**O'KANE**, Deepest sympathy is

extended to Micky McGonigle, Derry on the death of his niece Geraldine O'Kane. From Noel Boyle, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

**O'KANE**, Deepest sympathy is extended to Micky McGonigle, Derry on the death of his niece Geraldine O'Kane. From the Republican Prisoners Action Group, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

## I gCuimhne

**HURSON** — 26th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Martin Hurson, IRA, who died on hunger strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh on July 13, 1981. Never forgotten by the Tormey/Hurson Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Westmeath. *Far dearer the grave or the prison, illumined by one patriot name, than the trophies of all who have risen on Liberty's ruins to fame.*

**HURSON** — 26th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Martin Hurson, IRA, who died on hunger strike in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh on July 13, 1981. Always remembered by the Martin Hurson Memorial Committee, Longford-Westmeath. *Not England's false gear we'll wear, tho' by her vengeance bound, her concentrated hate we've had, her justice never found.*

**MAGUIRE** — 14th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Comdt Gen Tom Maguire, Cross, Co Mayo who died at the great age of 101 on July 5, 1993. Always remembered by the Kevin Coen Cumann, west Roscommon, Roscommon Comhairle Ceantair, Sinn Féin Poblachtach and

Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht. **PATRICK** — 90th Anniversary. In loving memory of Captain William Patrick, Irish Citizen Army, Dublin/Ballaghadeereen, Co Roscommon. Always remembered by the Kevin Coen Cumann, west Roscommon, Roscommon Comhairle Ceantair, Sinn Féin Poblachtach and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht.

**RUANE** — 16th Anniversary. In loving memory of a dear father and grandfather, Tony Ruane, Life Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin who died on July 13, 1991. From James and Nuala Nolan and family, Carlow.

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grandfather, Tony Ruane, Life Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin who died on July 13, 1991. From Francis, Joe and family, America.

**RYAN**, In proud memory of John 'The Rebel' Ryan, Kildare Republican, from his friends and comrades in the Kilkullen Cumann.

**WEIR** — 86th Anniversary. In loving memory of Volunteer Edward Weir, Ballintubber, South Roscommon Brigade IRA, murdered by British Crown Forces his home on July 1, 1921. Always remembered by the Kevin Coen Cumann, west Roscommon, Roscommon Comhairle Ceantair, Sinn Féin Poblachtach and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht.

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## Beannachtaí

**GET** well soon to Kitty Doherty, Al Bar, Limerick. From SAOIRSE sellers Joe Lynch and Seán O'Neill.

**GET** well soon to Kitty Doherty, Al Bar, Limerick. From Hammi.

**GET** well soon to Kitty Doherty, Al Bar, Limerick. From Republican Sinn Féin, Limerick.

**BEST** wishes to Tony McPhillips on making a speedy recovery. From Richard Walsh, Derry.

**BEST** wishes to Tony McPhillips on making a speedy recovery. From the Joe Conway Cumann, RSF, Newry.

**BEST** wishes to Tony McPhillips on making a speedy recovery. From the RPAG.

**REPUBLICAN** Sinn Féin, Limerick, wish Tony McPhillips a speedy recovery after his recent accident.

**THE** Republican Movement, Limerick, wish Tony McPhillips, National Spokesperson, RPAG, a speedy recovery after his recent accident.

**THE** Continuity POWs Portlaoise jail wish Tony McPhillips a speedy recovery after his recent accident.

**THE** Rafter/Mellows Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Enniscorthy, Co Wexford wish a speedy recovery to Derek Jordan after his recent run of bad health.

## Wreath laid at monument to Meagher of the Sword

ON a recent visit to Helena, Montana, USA members of Cumann na Saoirse Náisiúnta placed a wreath at the imposing monument of Thomas Francis Meagher that stands in front of the Montana Capital Building. A direct descendant of Meagher was also in attendance.

Thomas Francis Meagher who became known as "Meagher of The Sword" was born in Waterford, Ireland in 1823.

He joined O'Connell's Repeal movement in the early 1840s where his oratorical skills were used to make the case for a sovereign Ireland.

The following brief excerpt from that speech shows why he was called Meagher of the Sword.

"Abhor the sword – stigmatise the sword? No, for at its blow a giant nation started from the waters of the Atlantic, and by its redeeming magic, and in the quiverings of its crimsoned light,

the crippled colony sprang into the attitude of a proud Republic"

Meagher's speech was cut short and the Young Ireland leaders, O'Brien, Meagher, Duffy, Reilly and Mitchell left the hall. Thenceforth "Meagher of the Sword" became the virtual leader of Young Ireland.

He was a founding member of the Irish Confederation in 1846 and in 1848.

He was one of three delegates appointed to present an address of congratulations to the French Republic Government. Upon his return in 1849 he made two famous speeches that were

transcribed in shorthand by English agents. As a consequence he was arrested, charged with treason, found guilty, sentenced to be hung drawn and quartered and his body to be disposed at the pleasure of Her English Majesty.

The colonial governor of Ireland exercised the option of transportation and on the 29th July 1849, he was, along with O'Brien, McManus, and O'Donohue, were sent to Tasmania.

Early in 1852 he made his famous escape from Australia, landed in San Francisco and arrived in New York in the latter part of May.

In September 1855, after preliminary study with Judge Emmet, he was admitted to the New York Bar. In 1856, with the assistance of John Savage and the Labor brothers started the *Irish*

*News*, which continued publication for several years.

On the secession of the Southern States, in 1861, he raised a company of Zouaves for the 69th NY Regiment and at Bull Run was acting Major and organised the Irish Brigade, raising over 7,000 men and was untiring in his support for the Union cause.

On the 18th November 1861, he left New York for Washington with the first regiment of the Irish Brigade and others followed in rapid succession. In February 1862, he was appointed Brigadier General.

At the conclusion of the war, he was appointed Secretary and Acting Governor of Montana.

On July 5th 1887, Thomas Francis Meagher "Meagher of the Sword" allegedly fell into the Missouri River and lost his life.



• Young Ireland leader, Thomas Francis Meagher – 'Meagher of the Sword', .

## Tony Ruane remembered

ON Sunday, June 17 Republicans gathered at the cemetery in Carlow town in memory of Tony Ruane, the Mayo-born Republican who died in 1991.

More than 40 people gathered at the grave, having marched from the gate behind a colour party from Wexford bearing the Tricolour.

### REPUBLICAN GARDEN BUNDORAN CO DONEGAL

Special Appeal for Funds - to pay off our loan of €4,000

THE Committee & Trustees of the Republican Garden are very pleased to announce that the Republican Garden is now open.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who gave donations, big or small.

Without you it would not of been possible, together we can do great things.

1973 - Volunteer Paddy Carty, Bundoran, Dungannon

1973 - Dermot Crowley, Cork City

1973 - Sean Loughran, Dungannon

1984 - Antoine Mac Giolla Bhrighde, Magherafelt

1984 - Ciaran Fleming, Derry City

The Hunger Strikers who died 1974 - 1981

Those who are being remembered all had some connections with Bundoran,

Ballyshannon, Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo areas.

We are asking you to give a donation please to any of the names listed below:

Chairperson: Joe O'Neill

Vice-Chairperson: Jimmy McElhinney

Treasurers: Mick Cullen & Joe Dillon

Joint Secretaries: Mary O'Neill & Phyllis Cullen

Trustees: Pat Barry, Ann Sheerin, Martin McGrath,

Declan Curneen,

Seamus McGovern, Thomas Kelly and Mary Ward.

NB. DVDs and Videos of the opening ceremony are available, price €20.

Proceedings were chaired by Des Dalton, Vice-President, Republican Sinn Féin, who welcomed all present. A wreath was laid on behalf of the organisation by Nuala Ruane Nolan, Tony's daughter, who was present with her family. Brendan Tobin, Enniscorthy, Co Wexford, said a few words regarding the integrity of people like Tony, who as National Treasurer of Sinn Féin, ensured that no money contributed to the organisation ever went astray and compared him to those who are taking the Queen's shilling at Stormont and Westminster.

The oration was delivered by Lita Ní Chathmhaoil, Ard-Rúnaí, Sinn Féin Poblachtach who gave a rundown on Tony's career in the Republican Movement.

She said: "In 1966 he became National Treasurer of Sinn Féin. When the Republican cause was betrayed in 1969-1970 by those who became known as the Stickies, Tony Ruane remained faithful to Republican principles and was one of the Caretaker Executive who reorganised Sinn Féin throughout the country.

"In 1986 when former comrades again sold out the Republic Tony returned to the fray and became again an active organiser for the Movement in so far as he could. In 1987 I served with him and Ruairí Ó Brádaigh on a committee which



• Tony Ruane's daughter Nuala with her husband James Nolan, granddaughter and great-grandchildren at the commemoration in Carlow on June 17.

examined the Sinn Féin constitution and made recommendations to the 1987 Ard-Fheis to ensure that betrayals such as those in 1969-70 and 1986 could not happen again.

"Tony was always good-humoured but never tolerated those who brought the Movement into disrepute or who denigrated it. He was totally clear-minded as to what constituted Irish Republicanism and regarded the Provisionals with contempt. He would not have been surprised at the depths to which they have sunk. He believed that recognising Leinster House was a first step on the road to where they

are now – administering British rule in Ireland, along with arch-bigot Ian Paisley.

"Faithful Republicans will not support English rule in the Six Counties or collaborate with it through the Establishment south of Britain's Border. We will not be co-opted or bought. We continue to be inspired by the memory of people like Tony Ruane, who never compromised or surrendered and who kept the spirit of freedom alive in dark times."

She concluded by quoting Tony's friend and comrade, the late Dáithí Ó Conaill, speaking at the

Wolfe Tone commemoration in Bodenstown in 1970:

" 'We believe in the establishment of a National Parliament representative of the people of Ireland; in an Ireland where social justice is a reality and not a political catch-cry; in an Ireland where our language and culture enhance our life and are not objects of scorn and derision; in an Ireland where past dissensions are a forgotten memory and Irish people, irrespective of creed, live in peace and prosperity.' "

"These words are as relevant today as they were in 1970."



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