



• Bobby Tohill, the Belfastman abducted and seriously assaulted by men he believed to be Provos on February 20 last.

THE culmination of an ongoing crisis in the failed Stormont Agreement was surely indicated by the call on March 7 by the British supremo in the Six Counties, Paul Murphy, for people "to bombard heaven with prayer" for the revival of the current "process".

He said he had seen many crises in the Six Counties but that this was "a real one". The current crisis has seen the abduction and serious assault of Belfastman Bobby Tohill on February 20 last by a group of men who told him they were from the Provos and were going to kill him. Significantly, the Provos stated publicly that the abduction was "not sanctioned by HQ" but did not deny they were involved.

Equally significantly in the context of the current "process" is that the charges of membership brought against four men arrested at the scene were withdrawn when they appeared in a British court.

The political outcry by the Establishment in London and

Dublin over the Tohill abduction was hypocritical in the extreme when you consider the lack of protest from the same quarters in relation to the cases of Joe O'Connor, shot dead by the Provos in Ballymurphy in October 2000 and the "disappearing" of Armaghman Gareth O'Connor in May 2003.

All these cases are part of what the Provisionals' Gerry Kelly has called their "responsibilities" (see page 16) as part of this surrender process. The Provisionals' role is to suppress genuine Republicans who continue to oppose British rule in

Ireland. They are doing what Conor Cruise O'Brien has called on them to do — to "take out these people".

Also, the current heave against the UUP's David Trimble is the most serious one to date. Lining up against him are three heavyweights in the party organisation — David Burnside, Lord Killeeney (John Taylor) and Lord Molyneux — who have all endorsed Reg Empey to succeed Trimble as leader.

It is estimated that between 10 and 12 out of 24 UUP Assembly members at Stormont would vote against Trimble as he

faces into his annual Ulster Unionist Council meeting on March 27 next.

The DUP's demands on February 6 for the abject and total surrender of the Provisional Movement as the price for the "privilege" of administering British rule in Ireland shows the real agenda of the current process. It is not about achieving a just and lasting settlement to the conflict in Ireland but rather the surrender of all active resistance to British rule.

Meanwhile, as already reported in the January edition of SAOIRSE, pressure is being put on Republicans prisoners and their families who oppose the

current "process". The British government's new law, which will come into force this year, allows them to exile Republican prisoners in the Six Counties to jails in England, Wales and Scotland.

Fr Raymond Murray, long-time campaigner for human rights and former chaplain to Armagh Women's prison, has described the new power as another "draconian" law to hold over prisoners' heads as a threat.

"A person can be entirely innocent and awaiting trial, yet the [British] secretary of state will have the right to transfer him to Britain against his will," he said on March 4.

## Oppose Bush visit on June

**IN A statement on February 26 Republican Sinn Féin Vice-President Des Dalton said that Republican Sinn Féin "rejected totally the assertion by 26-County Premier Bertie Ahern that the visit of US President George Bush to the 26 Counties in June was 'an honour for the Irish people'.**

"In fact such a visit is an insult to the Irish people, the vast majority of whom opposed the illegal Anglo/US invasion of Iraq last year. This latest statement from Bertie Ahern, along with his call for no protests to the visit, simply highlights the slavish and immoral attitude which has been adopted by the 26 County government. Not only have they given US warplanes the use of Irish airspace but have also provided landing and refuelling facilities.

"Those that have protested at this flagrant breach of neutrality such as Mary Kelly, currently awaiting a second trial, the jury having failed to reach a verdict in her first trial, on charges of disabling a US warplane in Shannon, have had draconian bail conditions imposed on them, restricting their freedom of movement, banning them in this instance from entering Co Clare, which violates their rights as Irish citizens.

"One of the anti-war protesters Eoin Rice, refused to accept such conditions and as a result was imprisoned in Limerick where he has been on hunger strike for the past 14 days, he has also taken a case before the Dublin High Court.

"Republican Sinn Féin deny any attempt by the 26-County government to associate the Irish people with the continued Anglo/US occupation of Iraq, an occupation which is opposed by the vast majority of the Iraqi people and breaks international law. George Bush is not welcome here and we will be calling on all of our members and supporters to protest at his presence here on June 25/26."

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### APPLICATION FOR SPEAKERS

at County Easter Commemorations should be sent to:  
An Rúnaí, Coiste Cuimhneacháin Náisiúnta  
223, Sraid Pharnell, BÁC 1

List of Easter Commemorations inside, p 7

## Dublin bombings relatives angered by breach of faith

**RELATIVES of victims of the Dublin and Monaghan bombings have said on March 3 they were on the verge of walking out of Leinster House parliamentary committee considering the Barron report into the atrocities after what they claimed was an "incredible breach of faith".**

The Justice for the Forgotten group expressed outrage that two independent British lawyers called in to address the sub-committee were not given all relevant documents to consider before making their submissions.

The sub-committee of the Leinster House Committee on Justice is expected to decide in the next week whether there should be a public tribunal of inquiry into the Dublin and Monaghan bombings.

The sub-committee was addressed today by Antonio Bueno QC and Michael Collins SC who claimed that under the Human Rights Act, Britain may have a moral obligation to carry out an investigation into the bombings with a focus on possible collusion by British state security forces in the bombings in the 26 Counties.

However the lawyers had not been presented with oral statements and submissions

made by the families of victims.

Solicitor Greg O'Neill, representing the families, said they had participated in the process in good faith and expected to be treated in the same way.

"What has happened is a fundamental breach of faith as far as we are concerned," he said.

"We were on the brink of leaving and will only be persuaded to stay if the process is conducted with basic standards of fairness. If the families of Omagh were treated like this there would be an international outcry. This wouldn't be allowed to happen. If it was not so important

it would be a farce."

The subcommittee, which was due to end its deliberations on March 3, will now reconvene on March 8 after the two lawyers have been provided with all relatives' written statements and oral submissions.

Their report is due to be published in the second week in March when they will recommend whether or not a public inquiry should be established.

The Dublin bombs on May 17, 1974, killed 26 people in three streets, including a pregnant woman. The Monaghan bomb on the same day killed seven people.

## Provo attempt to exclude RSF

**IN A statement on February 23, the Francis Hughes Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Glasgow said:**

"Our Cumann was invited by the Scottish Republican Socialist Movement to read out a message of solidarity at the annual Massacre of Glencoe Rally, which took place on February 15, 2004. However, we were informed by the organiser of the Commemoration on the day prior to the event, that we would not now be permitted to have our statement read out.

"The reason given was

that the Pollok and Thornliebank Republican Flute Band was instructed by the Provisional organisation that if there was an RSF speaker, the Band would be put off the road, and would never be allowed to play at another SRSM event.

"We find it outrageous that the Provisionals' political machine should interfere with the organising of a Scottish Republican event in this way.

It was intolerable that the SRSM organiser should have been placed in such an unacceptable situation, and we regret that he felt he had no option but to give in to this unacceptable pressure.

"The SRSM has an excellent track record of support for the Irish freedom struggle and refuses to align itself to any one organisation in Ireland. It has stated that it will never permit itself to be put in this position again.

"During the course of the war in the Six Counties

Counties the Provisionals correctly condemned the attempts by the British State to impose various forms of censorship on them, including attacks on *Republican News* and the banning of their spokespersons from the waves.

"Finally we would call upon the Scottish Republican Socialist Movement, the WOSBA and the James Connolly Society to refuse to engage in this shameful form of political censorship. Let the British State do its own dirty work against Republicans."

## Clondalkin anti-bin tax protest

**On Saturday, February 14 last, approximately one-hundred people marched, with placards, and behind three anti-bin tax banners, from the Oakfield Lodge Hotel in Clondalkin, to the nearby Offices of South Dublin County Council.**

John Horan, PRO, Dublin Republican Sinn Féin, said in a statement on February 14 that the protest

marchers took over one half of the Ninth Lock Road on their way to the Council Offices.

The organisers of the protest march, from the local community, had two loud-hailers and a number of whistles, which helped, in a light-hearted manner, to get attention from passing pedestrians and motorists.

On arrival outside the Council offices, the protestors assembled on the plaza, outside the main doors (which were locked) and dumped dozens of bags of

household rubbish at the Council doors.

The protestors were observed by at least five men, Council employees (probably Litter Wardens) but no attempt was made by these on-lookers to interfere with proceedings.

One of the protestors said, "If the Council can find anything in my bin that I have not already paid tax on, I will pay the charge."

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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 . . .

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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 . . .

## Gearrsc alta Baldonnell being used by US military

**IN A statement by Republican Sinn Féin Vice-President Des Dalton said on March 8 that it would now appear that the 26 County government has given its blessing to the US military to transport munitions through Baldonnell aerodrome.**

"This when taken into the context of the continued use of Shannon by US warplanes highlights the level of collusion with the illegal Anglo-US occupation of Iraq being engaged in by the 26 County State, in clear breach of neutrality. Only recently US Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld was allowed to use Shannon for a propaganda stunt, whilst Irish citizens such as Mary Kelly and Eoin Keen are not even allowed to enter Co. Clare.

"Despite the recent arrogant call by Bertie Ahern that there be no protests to the Bush visit in June, the Irish people should take this opportunity to take to the streets and declare before the world their opposition to the continued Anglo-US occupation of Iraq and that they reject the slavish stance being taken by the 26 County government."

## RUC/PSNI changes are merely cosmetic

**IN A statement on February 17 Ruairi   Br adaigh, President, Republican Sinn Féin said that the dropping of all charges on Monday, February 16 against Fermanagh teacher Emmet Lavelle after he had spent eight months in prison indicates that nothing has changed with regard to the nationalist population in the position of the RUC other than a change of name.**

The statement went on: "His father and mother are still on bail on conspiracy and other charges and these should be dropped in their case also.

"The RUC is still the RUC, which is the old RIC with just the alteration of a word. No fundamental change in its function can be expected short of a British withdrawal from Ireland.

"Meanwhile its top priority will be to uphold English rule here and Republican families like the Lavelles can expect no justice from this arm of the British government. Cosmetic changes are meaningless."

## New voting and nomination restrictions undemocratic

**"THE introduction of electronic voting coupled with new restrictions for independent candidates have placed serious question marks over the electoral process in the 26 Counties," Des Dalton, Vice President, Republican Sinn Féin, said on February 5.**

"The new electronic voting system, which is to be extended to all constituencies in the 26 Counties for the forthcoming Local and European elections has two fundamental flaws. In forcing a person who wishes to spoil their vote, to inform the returning officer, violates the right to a secret ballot as well as denying people a legitimate means of registering protest.

"Secondly, the system lacks any transparency. It gives people no paper record that their vote was cast as they intended, such a record could be kept and checked in the case of a challenge. This is to ignore the serious concerns of the international computer science community who are calling for the introduction of a voter verified audit trail."

## Posting ban an attack on democracy

**REPUBLICAN Sinn Féin joined in the criticism of the recent Dublin City Council move to ban poster advertising. The Irish Anti-War Movement said on March 2 that it would defy the ban to publicise a forthcoming anti-war demonstration on March 20.**

RSF Assistant PRO Se n McGoldrick said that they were also concerned about the ban and viewed it as another attempt to prevent large public demonstrations in the City centre.

"The new ban is being touted as an environmental issue. However there is already a well-established practice by groups in Dublin such as Republican Sinn Féin of removing posters following the advertised events," Se n McGoldrick said. "The real agenda here is to prevent large public demonstrations in the city. The Corporation failed to insure public protest out of existence and they are now taking another approach."

Under the (Litter Pollution Act 1997) Act it is not an offence to exhibit posters relating to a public meeting (other than an auction) or a Presidential election, General Election, By-Election, a Referendum, a Local Election or an Election to the European Parliament. It is an offence, however, not to remove such poster within seven days of the meeting or Election/Referendum taking place.

In 2002 the City Manager said "It is not legally possible to introduce Bye-Laws that would conflict with the provisions of primary legislation, in this case the Litter Pollution Act."

## Results of Dublin raffle

**FEBRUARY Draw results were as follows: 1st prize ticket no 345; 2nd prize 140; 3rd prize 381; 4th prize 149; 5th prize 244; 6th prize 269; 7th prize 294; 8th prize 034.**

**SAOIRSE April edition  
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# 26-County Local Elections, June 11, 2004 . . . 26-County Local Elections, June 11,

## Geallúintí briste i dtaobh Ros Muc, Ros a Mhíl

TÁ tacaíocht geallta do Mhuintir Ros Muc in a n-éileamh go dtógarfáir Ionad Oidhreacht a Phiairsigh i mBliana, ó Tomás Ó Curraoin, a bhéas ag seasamh do Shinn Féin Poblachtach i dghocháin ag Meitheamh 11 i dMhí Chomhinnh i gConamara.

"Tá sé náireach," a dúirt Tomás Ó Curraoin, "dhá bhlaian tar éis do na h-Airí Éamonn Ó Cuív agus Síle DeValera a fhógairt go dtógarfáir an t-Ionad Oidhreacht, go bhfuil stáit-seirbhísi sinseiracha ag rá nach féidir barántas ar bith a thabhairt mar gheall ar an obair.

"Seasfaidh mise le muintir Ros Muc ina n-ágoir ar Dhomhnaich Céasa: seasfaidh Poblachtánaigh an Chondae leao; agus seasfaidh go leor de mhuintir na tíre leo freisin," arsa Tomás Ó Curraoin. "Tá oidhreacht na bPiairsach ró-thábhachtach don tír uilig le go ndéanfar fáillí orthu agus ar mhuintir Ros Muc."

Tá Sinn Féin Poblachtach ag éileamh ionad den tsaghas seo i Ros Muc ó 1994, nuair a bhí sé ar chlár toghcháinacha an Pháirtí do Thoghcháin Urdáris na Gaeltacha.

Thagair an Curraioineach freisin do chás Chalafoirt Ros a Mhíl. "Rinneadh geallúintí an t-am céanna dhá bhlaian ó shin (aimis toghcháin, dár ndoigh) go ndéanfaí forbairt mhór ar Chalafoirt Ros a Mhíl, agus mar aon le cás Ionad Oidhreacht a Phiairsigh, níl pingin rua caite air go dtí seo. Sampla é seo de gheallúintí briste an Rialtais," a dúirt Tomás Ó Curraoin.

"Beidh seans ag an bprobal a ndéanfaidh féin a nochtdar ar an Rialtas sna toghcháin áitiúla," a dúirt sé.

**Restore Moyross bus service**  
A decision by the management of Bus Éireann to halt a bus service to the Pineview area of Moyross on the Northside of the city was criticised by Republican Sinn Féin local election candidate Mick "The Quill" Ryan from nearby Ballynanty who said on March 5 that the curtailment of the service was now affecting elderly people and depriving them of a regular public transport service to town.

"While the decision was taken for reasons of safety according to the bus company, the fact is the only people now suffering are their long time customers," he said.

"Whatever difficulties the company had in relation to the service in Pineview, it does not justify imposing hardship on elderly people.

"The fact is that the senior citizens in Pineview are deprived of a service to their area. Instead they have to trudge all the way down to the Moyross church to catch a bus into town.

"This added journey is placing a tremendous strain on many elderly people in frail health and it is time that the decision to curtail the Pineview service was reviewed by

## 'Planning levies will force young families from the countryside'

THE proposed €8,000 planning levy on new houses being discussed by Galway County Council today (Monday) is a direct result of Government policy, and will force young families out of the countryside and into Galway City, said local election candidate, Tomás Ó Curraoin on February 23 last.

Tomás Ó Curraoin, who is standing for Republican Sinn Féin in the Connemara electoral area in the June elections, said that the proposed levy will put the cost of building a house out of reach of most young couples

in County Galway, and would force them into rented accommodation in Galway City, leaving the countryside depopulated and its services under threat.

"This levy has been forced upon

## Support for N9 spur route proposal for Athy

"FOR too long the people of Athy have been kept in the dark as to the options open to them in terms of alleviating Athy's traffic congestion," Des Dalton, Republican Sinn Féin Vice-President and Athy Town Council Candidate said on February 4 last.

"It now emerges that the estimated 20 million euro needed for the proposed inner relief road project, will not be released by the National Roads Authority, a project which runs counter to Kildare Co Council's own development plan, which pro-

poses the by-pass of all major towns in the county. This opens a window of opportunity to push for the extension of a spur road from the new N9 road to Waterford to serve as a by-pass of Athy.

A by-pass of the town is the only



• Tomás Ó Curraoin

councillors by the Minister for the Environment, Martin Cullen, and it is wrong in principle to ask young couples starting off in life to bear such a huge burden of the cost for the provision of basic services such as water, sewerage and roads," said



• Des Dalton

Tomás Ó Curraoin.

"These services should be paid for by general taxation as they always have been — these levies are more of the stealth taxation that allows the FF/PD coalition to claim that we have low taxes in Ireland — whereas in reality taxes are increasing all the time and services decreasing," he said.

Tomás Ó Curraoin also criticised recent statements by Fianna Fáil and Progressive Democrat councillors and candidates for Galway Co. Council, claiming to oppose the new levies.

"The Fianna Fáil and PD coalition is forcing councillors to impose these levies on new housing — the councillors from the Government parties are simply crying crocodile tears and pretending they are on the side of the people — will they stand up and be counted at today's meeting of Galway County Council and reject these levies completely?" he asked.

logical and sane solution to Athy's traffic problems, a by-pass would take 40% of traffic out of the town centre, unlike the proposed 'inner relief' road which would serve only to further clog the heart of Athy.

"A by-pass would give Athy the space it so badly needs to develop. With the present Town Council hopelessly divided on the issue, it is clear this will be a central issue in the forthcoming local elections in June.

"The views of the people of Athy were ignored following the last local elections, regarding their opposition to an inner relief road. The incoming council must not flout local democracy in the same way, but must be united and focused on securing for Athy this much needed by-pass."

## Urgent safety review needed

IN A statement on February 2, the Seán Sabhat Cumann of Republican Sinn Féin called for an urgent safety review of high-rise cranes in Limerick following an accident in Dublin on February 1.

Republican Sinn Féin community affairs spokesperson and local election candidate Seán O'Neill from Prospect said that there are many tall cranes now in Limerick and in view of the Dublin accident a safety review must be undertaken.

"Already residents in the area near Adapt House in Rosbrien have expressed concern in relation to the crane at work in the vicinity," he said.

"At present there is also some unseasonable weather with high winds and naturally the local



• Seán O'Neill

people are concerned about their

homes and any potential danger from these cranes.

"In view of the accident in Dublin the safety aspect must be uppermost and while no causal of the accident has yet emerged, we should take all necessary precautions to prevent a similar accident in a built up residential area in Limerick.

"I am now calling on the Health and Safety Inspectorate to undertake an immediate and urgent inspection of cranes in Limerick and especially those working in residential areas where there is potential for a major disaster."

## Misleading question on EU Constitution

ON February 11 the National Platform EU research and information group issued a statement following a poll in the Irish Times of February 9 which said that Irish voters favoured a new EU constitution.

The statement said: "The opinion poll question eliciting this response was misleading, so the headline reporting it was misleading also."

"The question asked by the Irish Times/TNS-MRBI poll was: 'The Irish Government as President of the European Union, is trying to revive negotiations on a new constitution for the EU. Are you in favour or against such an EU Constitution?'"

"Firstly, the question mentions a 'new' constitution for the EU, as if the EU already has an 'old' constitution, when the fact is that the EU does not have a constitution at all."

"This mention of a 'new' EU constitution in the intro to the question could be expected to lead some respondents who were opposed to further EU integration to say to themselves: 'The EU is bad enough with its old constitution. It cannot but be better with a new one.' Just as a new car must be better than an old!"

"Secondly, the introductory sentence says to those interviewed: 'The Irish Government is trying to revive negotiations as President of the EU.' This would carry the implicit suggestion to many: Who could be so hard-hearted or unparitac as not to wish Messrs. Aherm, Cowen and Co. success in trying to 'revive' something? In their role as EU President mover, where surely all but the most wicked must wish with them."

"If the question had been less slanted, the responses might be very different. Suppose the poll had put the question on these lines: 'Up to now the EU has been founded on treaties between its Member States. Are you in favour or against these treaties being repealed so that the EU can be founded on its own Constitution, just like one of its Member States?' That way of putting it would have signalled the reality to those being interviewed:

• That a Constitution is fundamen-

tally different from a Treaty;

• That the EU Constitution, although it is proposed to adopt it by means of a treaty, would repeal all the existing EU treaties from the Treaty of Rome to the Treaty of Nice and give legal personality and an independent corporate existence to the EU for the first time, making it legally separate and distinct from its Member States;

• That this EU Constitution will moreover have primacy over the Irish and other national Constitutions in ALL AREAS OF GOVERNMENT, including foreign policy and justice and home affairs, and not just in the mainly economic areas already covered by supranational EU law;

• That the political/legal reality of this EU Constitution is that it is a further giant step towards turning the EU into a centralised pan-European State under Franco-German hegemony, with its own Political President, Foreign Minister, Public Prosecutor and greatly increased powers, as well as a flag, an anthem, a motto and an annual "national" day just like other States;

• And that this is really far more than the modest 'tidying up operation', that Bertie Aherm has called it."



• Mike 'The Quill' Ryan

the company.

"We are now calling on Bus Éireann to restore the Pineview service and ensure that the bus goes into Pineview and offers an adequate public transport service to all sections of the Moyross community."

# ÉIRE NUA — the key to a New Ireland

**DES Dalton, Vice-President, Republican Sinn Féin, in reply to an article by unionist spokesperson Roy Garland in the Belfast Irish News, said in a letter to that paper on February 5:**

"Roy Garland in his 'Monday Column' (*Irish News*, January 19) fails to grasp the essential meaning of the **ÉIRE NUA** programme and the philosophy which underpins it. **ÉIRE NUA** is about providing a framework within which all of the Irish people can contribute to and participate in the decision making process, from national to provincial right down to regional, local and community level.

"**ÉIRE NUA** does not 'sacralise an Irish nation', rather it recognises the reality that Ireland is and always has been a nation with a distinct history, culture and language.

Far from making people feel "affronted by something that threatens their hopes for a better future," as Roy Garland writes, **ÉIRE NUA** is the key by which the Irish people can unlock the shackles of a failed and troubled past, allowing them to break out of the British imposed partitionist structures which have delivered only increased sectarianism, repression and conflict for all the Irish people.

"Sadly Roy seems to have a very pessimistic view of the people of Ireland's ability to negotiate their future together, free of the interference of Westminster or indeed Leinster House. He seems to

suggest at one point that a tiny 'and relatively powerless' minority leads to a 'muted' sectarianism, this attitude is in stark contrast to **ÉIRE NUA** which seeks the active participation and empowerment of all our people.

"He then goes on to speculate that a new post — British withdrawal Ireland 'could' and 'might' lead to "confrontation" and "more sectarianism". Which is to ignore the sectarian reality of the Six County State, which in its 82 year history has not only institutionalised sectarianism, discrimination and inequality, but has also provided the theatre for a British sponsored campaign of sectarian terror and murder which has been directed at the nationalist community.

"The evidence of this col-

lusion between the British state and the sectarian death squads is daily becoming clearer, with independent reports such as the Cory Report calling for investigations by the British Government into a series of murders such as those of nationalist solicitors Pat Finucane and Rosemary Nelson, the recent call by police ombudsmen Nuala O'Leary for an investigation into the PSNI/RUC's handling of the murder of GAA official Sean Brown, whilst the 26-County Government's Barron Report does not rule out such collusion in the Dublin/Monaghan bombings of 1974, which resulted in the single biggest loss of life in the present conflict.

"The Stormont Agreement has served only to further exacerbate the polar-

sation of both communities, with the resultant increase in sectarian tension and hostility. All of which points to the fact that the Six-County State is part of the problem rather than the solution of conflict in our nation.

"Equally Republican Sinn Féin views the 26-County State as a flawed state, a travesty of the pluralist and non-sectarian Republic envisaged by the men and women of 1916. Like the Six County State, it is a progeny of the failed Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921, and so likewise it too forms an obstacle to any just and lasting settlement in our country.

"**ÉIRE NUA** as its name suggests is about creating a New Ireland in which all of our people would have a

stake. In *An Address to The People of Ireland* issued by the Ard Chomhairle of Republican Sinn Féin last year we make this appeal:

"The unionist people have been placed in a trying situation as the nationalist population and vote continues inexorably to increase. This demographic trend hangs like the sword of Damocles over them and the humiliation long endured by the nationalists could well be experienced by the unionists before too long. This can be averted by anticipating the likely result of the present trend and choosing a third way, neither London rule nor Dublin rule, but a new democracy in a New Ireland."

"**ÉIRE NUA** is about engaging with people in a straightforward and meaningful way."

**THE annual commemoration to honour the 'Clonmult Boys' took place in the Republican Plot at the Church of the Holy Rosary and Vol Seán Deasy at John the Baptist Church, Midleton, County Cork on February 22.**

Wreaths were laid by Kitty O'Brien on behalf of Cumann na mBan, Donal Dennehy (great-grand-nephew of Vol Dennehy) on behalf of the Clonmult Boys, by Tom O'Connell, Munster **CABHAIR** Honoree, 2003. A decade of the Rosary was said and a lament was played by a piper.

The oration was given by Republican Sinn Féin Vice-President Des Long from Limerick said that said that the men died for the ideal of a united Ireland — an Ireland free from the British presence — an Ireland where Irish men and Irish women ruled themselves without the foreign interference of an imperial power.

"Today the dream of the men who died at the ambush by British forces

at Clonmult near Midleton for a free 32 County Ireland is still not realised! The foreign presence is still in the occupied Six Counties where the imperial power has enlisted the assistance of former comrades to help administer British rule in Ireland!

"The Provos can no longer call themselves Republican — they have disgraced the memory of the men who died here by taking the Queen's Shilling — like to many traitors before who have done the Crown's dirty work in time they too will be judged and condemned by the Irish people!

"Today the police and military forces of Dublin, Belfast and London are determined in their attempts to impose and normalise British rule



• The parade makes its way through Midleton, Co Cork, led by a Republican Colour Party.

through the Stormont Agreement and to have former Republicans administer British rule to ensure that the age old aspiration of the Irish people to a new and united Ireland is smashed, frag-

mented, vilified and forgotten.

"However I have news for the British the Free State and the Loyalists — for as long as we gather at the graves of the dead soldiers of the Republic, the

aspiration to a united Ireland will never be abandoned."

Led by piper and a National Colour Party and members of Cumann na mBan the commemoration marched to the graveside

where ceremonies were chaired by Donal Varian, Midleton and a number of wreaths laid. The Last Post and Reveille was sounded and a decade of the Rosary recited as Gaeilge.

Following the ceremony at another venue, attended by a large gathering of comrades and friends, a presentation was made to Veteran Republican Tommy O'Connell, Midleton. Tommy was a Munster Honoree for the 2003 **CABHAIR** Testimonial Dinner but was unable to attend because of ill-health. The award was presented to him by Des Long on behalf of the Republican Movement. In response he said:

"The Republican road is a long and hard road. Adams and Co think they were the last to walk on it. . . I have news for them, there's a new generation of young people coming up who will continue the struggle to victory."

## For The Record

**TUES. FEBRUARY 3:** Loyalists were said to be responsible for a shotgun attack on a man at Hazeldene Drive, Bushmills, Co Down. The man had arrived at the address to collect a colleague for work when a number of shots were fired into the car. He was hit in the shoulder and arm but was not seriously injured.

**WED. FEBRUARY 4:** John Hume said he would not contest the next European or Westminster elections.

**MON. FEBRUARY 9:** An eight-day search by British Crown Forces at the Back Lower Road in Ardboe, near Stewartstown, Co Tyrone, on the shores of Lough Neagh, ended with nothing having been found. The British army was accused by local farmers and fishermen of concocting "suspicious activity" and said that damage had been done to their land, livelihoods and property during the search. An RUC/PSNI described the search as a "rural rummage".



• Michael McGonigle lays a wreath at the memorial to Derry Republican leader Seán Keenan in the Bogside during the Republican Sinn Féin commemoration in the city on March 7.

**WED. FEBRUARY 11:** People in Omeath, Co Louth said that a patrol of British soldiers

and RUC/PSNI crossed over the Border into Co Louth and spent about an hour there.

**MON. FEBRUARY 16:** Emmet Lavelle, a 27-year-old school teacher, walked free from Fermanagh court when charges of conspiring to cause an explosion and membership of the Continuity IRA were withdrawn by the British Crown. He was arrested in February 2003 and spent eight months in custody before being released on bail. His parents, Michael and Mary Lavelle were also charged at the time and the charges have not been dropped against them.

**WED. FEBRUARY 25:** It was reported that the British colonial police, the RUC/PSNI had placed newspaper advertisements for a supplier for CS gas spray holsters, storage containers, transport boxes and digital weighing scales, as well as other related materials.

A number of houses across the Six Occupied Counties were searched by the RUC/PSNI and a computer and other items were seized.

It was also reported that the [British] Police Ombudsman Nuala O'Loan had found that the RUC/PSNI were right to fire almost 30 baton rounds during rioting in east Belfast in August 2002.

**TUES. MARCH 2, 2003:** Cormac McAnallen (24), of Bannry, Dangan, Co Tyrone, captain of the Tyrone Gaelic Football team, current All-Ireland champions, died suddenly at his home.

## Ciarán Mac Anailí

Bhí an-bhrón ar a lucht aitheanta ar chloisint dóthú gur bhásáigh Ciarán Mac Anailí, atur-nae, in Oshuidéal Thombhlachta i mBaile Átha Cliath ar Feabhra 23. Bhí an ceithre scór roisnte aige.

Ciarán will be sorely missed by those who worked with him and indeed everyone who knew him. Not alone was he a respected constitutional lawyer in his own right but he gave his services free gratis to the Republican Movement down the decades.

Born in the Innishowen area of Co Donegal, he went to

secondary school in Derry city in the early 1940s where he came into contact with the movement for the first time.

In the 1940s he served his apprenticeship as a solicitor in Castlebar, Co Mayo and was very active with Caimhinn Mac Cathmhaoil agus Seamus Ó Mongáin in the Movement.

At the 1950 Ard-Fheis of

Sinn Féin — Margaret Buckley's last as President — Ciarán gave an address on the two aspects of Passive Resistance which are Non-Cooperation and Civil Disobedience on which he was very well informed.

Later he developed a practice in Dublin with offices at 36 Wicklow St. and was Dublin agent for Caimhinn in Mayo and Galway and Paddy McCrory in Belfast. The latter distinguished himself at the Gibraltar inquests in 1988.

For four decades Ciarán represented Republican prisoners, including extradition cases, wrote articles for newspapers and many "Letters to the Editor" on Republican topics.

His spirited defence of the IRA freedom fighters in 1957 and of Dolours and Marian

Price and their comrades during their prolonged hunger

strike in 1973-74 came to mind.

Ciarán was the solicitor in the first Irish case to be taken to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg in 1957, when he was part of the legal team representing Gerry Lawless, an internee at the Curragh Concentration Camp.

He also worked closely on the development of ÉIRE NUA, in particular its Dail Uladh aspect, with both Dailhí Ó Conaill and Ruairí Ó Bráidigh. Many long hours he spent in his offices after his days work devoting himself to this cause.

He visited Dailhí in the Curragh Military Hospital and helped him draw up his will during the 1977 hunger strike. When the Free State Army officer who escorted him into the prisoner asked him for a guarantee that he would urge

Ó Conaill to abandon his strike, Ciarán gave him a point blank refusal.

Mar Ghaelgeoir liofa do labhair sé go poiblí ar ardán Poblachta ó am go chéile. Bhí sé ar dhúine de bhunaitheoirí Ghluaiseacht Chearta Sibhialta sna Sé Chontae in 1967. Bhí sé i láthair ag an geárd chruinnúil i deach Kevin Agnew i Machaire Rátha i gCo Dhúiche.

In the post interment period of the 1970's in the Six Occupied Counties, Ciarán saw his ideas on Non-Cooperation and Civil Disobedience put into practice. It was more than twenty years after he first enunciated them to the Ard-Fheis of 1950.

He will be remembered as an Irishman of great integrity who was devoted to principle and never accepted recompense for his many professional services to the Republican

Cause. He was in indifferent health in recent years.

Ciarán was predeceased by his beloved wife Mary ad his brothers Jim and Ray. The latter was, of course, the well-known actor of stage and screen.

He is survived by his sister Imelda, his daughters Máirín, Bairbre and Emer, sons-in-law and grandchildren.

Knownles McGuirk represented Republican Sinn Féin at the removal from Carnegies funeral home, Monkstown to St John the Baptist Church, Blackrock. After the ceremony, his daughter Bairbre and grand-son Shane addressed the large turn-out.

The funeral took place the next day to Deans Grange Cemetery, Co Dublin.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis calma.

## IMEACHTAÍ

### SEÁN KEENAN COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, MARCH 7

SEÁN KEENAN MEMORIAL, BOGSIDE, DERRY 3pm

\*\*\*\*

### PARLE/CREAN/HOGAN COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

REPUBLICAN GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE WEXFORD TOWN, 3pm

\*\*\*\*

### O'SULLIVAN & ENRIGHT COMMEMORATION (DRUMBOE MARTYRS)

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, LISTOWEL, CO KERRY,

Assemble: Nolan's Carpark, off Charles Street, 3pm

\*\*\*\*

### BALLAD SESSION

THE ARENA, OAKFIELD LODGE HOTEL

CLONDALKIN, DUBLIN

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

Music by the Noel Warfield and the Freewheelers Doors open 9pm

Admission £10 (includes free raffle ticket)

### WAR IN IRAQ DEMONSTRATION

WORLD DAY OF ACTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE US EMBASSY, 12.30-1pm

ASSEMBLE, PARNELL SQUARE, DUBLIN, 3pm Organised by the Peace and Neutrality Alliance (PANA)

\*\*\*\*

### O'SULLIVAN/ENRIGHT CUMANN

REPUBLICAN SINN FEIN, LISTOWEL, CO KERRY

ANYONE WISHING TO JOIN THE ABOVE CUMANN SHOULD CONTACT: 087-2113130

\*\*\*\*

### REPUBLICAN SINN FEIN

ANYONE WISHING TO JOIN THE ORGANISATION IN ENGLAND SHOULD WRITE TO: BM 1798, LONDON WC1N 3XX

\*\*\*\*

Join

CUMANN na mBAN



For details contact Máiréad Ni Chaoimh c/o 223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1

## JOIN FIANNA ÉIREANN



For information on joining apply to <http://fiannaeireann.com>

## Tom Kelly

REPUBLICANS were saddened to learn of the death of Tom Kelly of Ballygar, Co Galway, a life-long adherent of the Republican Movement, on February 25. He was 85.

Tom was a firm supporter of the Republican prisoners and an activist on their behalf. Each year he attended the Testimonial Dinner organised by CABHAIR along with members of his family.

He sold national draw

tickets for Republican Sinn Féin and prisoners' dependants tickets for the local Comhairle Ceantair. He also distributed Easter Lilies and was a subscriber to SAORISE.

Of a quiet and unassuming

## Maitiú Ó Cinnéide

I REILIG Thigh Meaíóg i mBaile Átha Cliath ar an Déardaoin 5ú Feabhra cuireadh faoi fhód Maitiú Ó Cinnéide, 84 bhliain, múinteoir, Gaeilgeoir, file, fear teaghlach agus Poblachtach dílis go lá a bháis.

Ba as an Chroch, Contae Luimnigh Maitiú a chaith seal sna Bráithre Chríostaí agus míneadh i Scoil na mBráithir i Muineachán mar an Bráithir Peadar. Ar fhágáil na mBráithre dó phós sé Deirdre Ni

Dhongeallha (nach maireann), cailin de theaghlach Poblachtach as an bhaile sin.

Ansin chuaigh sé go Baile Átha Cliath an áit ar chaith sé an mhórchuid dá shaol ar Bhóthar Pheadair, Baile

Uaileín. Bhí sé tar fíche bliain mar Phríomh Oide i Scoil Bhóthar Mhór sa cheantar, áit áit a raibh an-mheas ar na páistí agus na tuismitheoirí air.

Ba mhinic é cur i dtigh Uí Dhonghaile i Muineachán agus ba mhór a mheas ar na hOghlaigh a throid ar sun bunasoir a thair na blianta.

Bhí sé i gconair réidh le cuidiú le 'Gluaiseacht na Poblachta agus chreid sé go diongbhála i gcuspóirí An Phiairsigh d'Éire Saor agus Gaelach.

daughter Catherine's house in Ballygar. The funeral the next day was to the local cemetery.

Ruairí Ó Bráidigh, a long time friend and Seán Scott of Bailiúrann represented Republican Sinn Féin at the obsequies. He is survived by his son, Michael, and daughter, Catherine, Mary, Pauline, Ellen and Bríd, daughter-in-law, sons-in-law and grandchildren.

May God rest his gentle soul. He was faithful to the end.

Ni socrathas sasanach nó Stormont a bhí sé a lorg ach saoirse iomlán dá thír ó Choptaigh go Málaín. I gceantar Bhaile Uaileín thug sé an-chuid i gconair a dhéanóid carthanachas agus crothnófar go mór é. Dá theaghlach Donnach, Bláthnadh, Máire, Fearghal, dá gharclann, a dhearbhaireacha, a ghaolta, a chairde agus a chomrann go leir ghnímh fíor-chomhbhrón.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam suas.

## Condolences on death of Cormac McAnallen

"FOLLOWING the tragic and untimely death of TYRONE player and Captain Cormac McAnallen, Republican Sinn Féin extends its deepest sympathy to the McAnallen family and indeed the GAA community throughout Co Tyrone," Des Dalton, Vice-President, Republican said in a statement on March 2.

"The dedication and commitment shown by Cormac in every aspect of his life both on and off the field of play provides young Irish people with an example and a standard to which they should aspire."

## James Supple

IT WAS with a feeling of sorrow and regret that I heard of the death of my old friend and comrade James Supple, Ballyduff, Co Kerry. Jim was 91 years old with his brave heart failed to respond.

His commitment to a free and independent Ireland spanned close to 80 years. He has now gone and joined his old comrades in a land where there will be no parting, no exile. Liam Cotter, Tom Falvey, John Joe Martin, Eoin McNamara, Paddy O'Mahony and Michael Flannery have welcomed him. To his beloved widow Mary and family we extend our condolences.

The best tribute we can offer Jim is to complete his unfinished work.

We will say nothing else except to repeat what we said for others — no goodbyes, just a reluctant so long Jim.

— George Harrison



Local areas are asked to write to Republican prisoners in Portlaoise, Maghaberry and Magilligan prisons, in particular those from their own province, not forgetting prisoners from the other provinces.

CABHAIR continues to support all true Republican prisoners and their dependants in Irish jails within the 32 Counties.

With this in mind we ask for local areas to form Finance Committees. Help and advice will be given by the Central Committee. All contributions should be sent to:

Central Committee  
CABHAIR  
223 Parnell Street  
Dublin 1





# 1916 Easter Commemorations



• *Easter Sunday commemoration at the Republican Plot in Milltown Cemetery, Belfast, 2003.*

## ANTRIM

Belfast, Easter Sunday, Republican Plot, Milltown Cemetery, 12 noon.

## ARMAGH

Camloch, south Armagh, Easter Saturday, 6pm; Easter Sunday, Newry, 10am; Wreath-laying ceremonies at Cullyhanna, Crossmaglen and Mullaghbawn.

Armagh city, Easter Sunday, Sandyhill Cemetery, 3pm.

Lurgan, Easter Sunday, Wreath-laying ceremony at Republican Plot, St Colman's Cemetery.

## CAVAN/ FERMANAGH

Details in April SAOIRSE.

## CLARE

Easter Sunday, Drumcliff Cemetery, Ennis, 3pm.

## CORK

Assemble at Wilton Roundabout, 2pm Easter Sunday. Parade to Republican Plot, St Finbarr's Cemetery.

## DERRY

Cúchulainn Memorial, City Cemetery, Derry City, Easter Sunday, assemble at 12 noon.

Wreath-laying ceremonies at the following on Easter Sunday morning: The Loup Cemetery, 9am at the grave of Brigadier Seán Larkin; and the grave of Tommy Toner in Dungiven, 10.15am at the graves of Vols Kealy, O'Carolan and Kilmartin and hunger striker Kevin Lynch.

## DONEGAL

Holy Saturday, Doneyloup, Castlefin 7.30pm. Clady Bridge, 11.30am. Drumboe Easter Sunday, assemble Johnson's Corner 2.30pm.

## DOWN

Easter Sunday, Newry, 10am, St Mary's Cemetery.

## DUBLIN

Assemble Garden of Remembrance, 11.30am for march to GPO, O'Connell Street, Dublin, Easter Sunday.

Wreath-laying ceremony at Glasnevin Cemetery, Easter Sunday 1pm. Easter Monday, commemoration at Deansgrange Cemetery, 1pm.

## GALWAY

Assemble at Cathedral for parade to Liam Mellows Memorial, Eyre Square, Galway city, Easter Sunday, 11am.

Republican Plot, Donaghpatrick, Headford, Easter Sunday, assemble Quella's Cross, Cahirlistrane, 3pm.

Wreath-laying ceremonies at Uachtarárd, grave of Vol Séamus O Múille, 7pm, Saturday, April 22; Easter Sunday 12 noon, wreath-laying ceremony at the grave of Fr Michael Griffin, Cathedral, Loughrea.

Tuam, Easter Sunday, 2pm wreath-laying ceremony, Workhouse Memorial.

## GLASGOW

Easter Sunday commemoration and function. Details from SAOIRSE sellers.

## KERRY

Cahersiveen, Easter Sunday, assemble 2.30pm Fair Green and parade to Killavarogue Cemetery. Wreath-laying ceremonies at 3rd Kerry Brigade memorial in Church Street along the route.



Eddie Carmody Memorial, Ballylongford, wreath-laying ceremony, Easter Sunday 11.30, followed by wreath-laying ceremony, Republican Plot, Listowel 12.15.

Tralee, Easter Sunday, assemble at Denny Street at 2pm parade to Republican Plot, Rath Cemetery. Killarney, wreath-laying ceremony at Republican Monument.

## KILDARE

Easter Sunday, at the grave of Christy Kelly, Rathangan, 12 noon. Easter Monday, April 12, Connor/Lacey memorial, Barrowhouse, Athy, 12 noon. Wreaths will be laid throughout the county.

## LAOIS/OFFALY

Easter Monday, Commemoration, Republican Monument, Portarlington, Co Laois, 12 noon

Easter Sunday, Wreath laying ceremony, grave of Walter Mitchell, Clara, Co Offaly, 12 noon.

## LEITRIM

Details in April SAOIRSE.

## LIMERICK

Easter Sunday, assemble Munster Tavern, Mulgrave Street, 2.45pm for parade to Republican Plot, Mount St Lawrence Cemetery.

## LIVERPOOL

Easter Sunday, wreath-laying ceremony at the Fenian Monument in Ford Cemetery.

## LONDON

Easter Monday, 1pm, in Hendon Cemetery at the grave of

Paddy Hartigan. Wreath-laying ceremonies at Leytonstone at the grave of Terry Dunne and City of London Cemetery at the grave of Michael Barrett.

## LONGFORD

Easter Sunday, Clonbroney Cemetery, 3pm. Assemble at cross-roads and march to grave of Brigadier Seán Connolly and Lieutenant Tommy Kelleher.

## LOUTH

Dundalk, Easter Sunday, assemble Adelphi (old cinema now closed) at 1pm for parade to Republican Plot, St Patricks Cemetery.

## MANCHESTER

Easter Sunday, Commemoration, Manchester Martyrs monument in Moston Cemetery. Details in April SAOIRSE.

## MAYO

Kilkelly, Easter Monday, 12 noon, assemble at Church and parade to East Mayo Brigade Memorial on main Sligo-Galway Road.

## MEATH

12 noon, Easter Monday, wreath-laying ceremony at Tom Allen Memorial, Longwood. Wreath-laying ceremonies will also be held at the Séamus Fox Memorial, Drumree, 1pm and at Ardbracken, Navan, 1.30pm.

## MONAGHAN

Easter Sunday, Commemoration, Urbleshanny Cemetery, Scotstown, at grave of Vol Séamus McElwaine 2pm.

## NEW YORK

Easter Sunday Commemoration, Cumann Na Saoirse Naisiunta, Mc Gee's, West 55th St, 11am. An Irish breakfast will be served. For more information go to the [www.irishfreedom.net](http://www.irishfreedom.net)

## ROSCOMMON

Ballinlough, Easter Sunday, 12 noon, parade to IRA Memorial.

Elphin, parade to County Roscommon Memorial after 11.30 Mass.

County Commemoration, 3.30, Arigna, at the graves of Seamus and Michael Cull and Patrick Tymon.

## SLIGO

Sligo Town, Easter Sunday, assemble Sligo Cemetery gates 1pm and march to Republican Plot.

## TIPPERARY

Easter Sunday, commemoration, 10am, Hunger Strike Memorial, Banba Square, Nenagh.

## TYRONE

Carrickmore, Easter Saturday 6.30pm, wreath-laying ceremony at grave of Frank Ward. Aglyharan, Easter Sunday 10.15am at grave of John Phillip O'Donnell.

## WATERFORD

Details in April SAOIRSE.

## WESTMEATH

Details in April SAOIRSE.

## WEXFORD

Republican Plot, St Bar's Cemetery, Crossstown, Easter Sunday, assemble at Crescent Quay, Wexford at 3pm. Wreath-laying ceremonies at the grave of Joe Whitty; and at the graves of Rafer and McCarthy in Morrington Cemetery. Function: 5pm, Tower Bar.

# ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT LOYALISTS DEATH SQ

## A Belfast Chronology

**Sunday, February 1, 2004.** The small nationalist estate Bawnmore, near Newtownabbey in north Belfast, was once again visited by sectarian loyalist bigots..

Three nationalist friends were walking towards the Boundary Bar around 7.30am when a car drove up to them on the Shore Road. The car, a white Vauxhall Astra, stopped, two men alighted from it and stabbed one of the three men with a knife, slashing his hand as he put it up to defend himself. It is clear that this attack was intended to kill rather than injure.

One of the men, Liam Hughes (24), a father-of-one, was knifed in the hand as he tried to defend himself from a man who attempted repeatedly to stab him with a machete-type knife with a blade around 10 inches long.

Before Christmas 2003 another nationalist was attacked by loyalists at the Boundary Bar and was so badly beaten he lost an eye and was close to death. These attacks in Bawnmore are nothing new. In this recent attack the loyalists were able to make good their escape.

**Wednesday, February 4, 2004:** There were reports of a bomb at Maghaberry jail, said to have been found in the visiting area. Visits were stopped and the scare was later found to be a hoax.

**Thursday, February 5, 2004.** West Belfast man Freddy Scappaticci, who was named in a number of newspapers as British agent Stakeknife, lost his attempt to get an injunction against the *Sunday Life* paper, who had planned to publish extracts from the book *Stakeknife: Britain's secret agent in Ireland*.

In the evening there were reports that British army foot patrols were on the ground in a number of areas of north Belfast. Occupation forces were seen in the Oldpark and Cliftonville areas.

**Friday, February 6, 2004.** It was reported that the UVF in south Belfast had claimed that one of their top men had been stood down.

The loyalist death squad, better known for their sectarianism against nationalists, have in recent months and weeks been involved in race attacks.

These have become an embarrassment to the UVF's front men in the Progressive Unionist Party (PUP) and this is believed to be the reason the man has been stood down.

**Saturday, February 7, 2004.** A bomb scare in Dundela Avenue in east Belfast caused

the area to be closed off for a number of hours. The scare later turned out to be nothing.

**Sunday, February 8, 2004:** A fire broke out in the Crumlin Road courthouse. When the Fire Brigade and British colonial police the RUC/PSNI went to the scene they were attacked by

Easter Rising 1916, an organisation which has been to the fore in all aspects of the struggle ever since and for Na Fianna Éireann, the Republican Scouting Movement founded by Countess Markievicz in 1909.

Who would be surprised by this, certainly not Republicans. This paper has been an establishment rag since its founda-

around 5am.

There is no doubt that this was an attempt to murder this family, the time picked to find the family asleep.

It was also reported that two youths were seen running into the nearby loyalist Springfield Parade.

**Tuesday, February 17, 2004.** A large crowd of



• (main picture) A paint-spattered resident after the February 18 loyalist attack on nationalist homes in Cliftondene Gardens, north Belfast. 105-year-old Jane Cradden (inset) was hit by a brick in the side after four bricks were thrown through her bedroom window.

loyalist youths. One of them was hit in the head with a bottle.

**Wednesday, February 11, 2004.** The establishment newspaper, the *Irish News*, launched an attack on Republican Sinn Féin. Republicans will always carry the slogan that was painted on the walls during the hunger strikes of 1980 and 1981, "*Irish News*, Bad News".

This establishment paper that has carried advertisements calling on Ireland's youth to join the British Occupation Forces at the behest of the British Establishment, now at the behest of the pro-Stormont parties, the SDLP's Alban Maginness and the UUP's Fred Coburn, launched an attack on Republican Sinn Féin and SAOIRSE-Irish Freedom.

The establishment paper targeted advertisements for Cumann na mBán, formed in April 1914, and whose Volunteers took part in the

tion. **Thursday, February 12, 2004.** It was reported that the RUC/PSNI, the military wing of unionism and now it seems the SDLP, were investigating the Republican Movement's paper SAOIRSE.

While there is little doubt that the British police will head any campaign against the Republican voice and free speech, any attempt to silence the paper will be met with resistance. As has always been the case the Republican voice will be heard.

Nationalists living in the Ardoyne, Oldpark Road, Cliftonville and Antrim Road areas of north Belfast have voiced concern after known loyalists were spotted in these areas over the past number of days.

**Saturday, February 14, 2004.** Loyalists attacked and set fire to a house of a nationalist family on the Springfield Road

Occupation Forces descended into the nationalist Ardoyne area of north Belfast. This force was reported to have been in the area for some time before moving into the back of shops at the Flax Centre in Ardoyne Road. This area was blocked off for a number of hours as Occupation Forces carried out a raid.

Crown Forces later claimed to have found a gun, bullets and pipe bombs and to have arrested one person.

**Wednesday, February 18, 2004.** Loyalists from the Glenbryn area of north Belfast carried out a number of sectarian attacks on nationalist homes in the Cliftondene area of the Oldpark Road.

In one of the attacks the house of a woman aged 105 years was attacked and a number of windows broken. The woman herself was so badly shocked by the attack on her home that she was taken into



• Eileen Morgan and her son Tiernan (4 months) look out of their petrol-bombed home in Clifton Park Ave. attack on February 18. They live opposite the Grids

care overnight. A grandson later said that bricks came through the living room window that was used by his grandmother as a bedroom. Those who attacked the house would have known this as, because of her 105th birthday, the woman had made the news and papers last year. Such a shock could have led to her death.

Across the street a number of bricks were thrown through the window of another nationalist family home. These were followed by a paint bomb which covered most of the living room and everything in it.

A number of other houses were also attacked by the sectarian loyalist bigots who as always made good their escape. The RUC/PSNI patrols, very common in this area, were nowhere to be seen during the attacks.

Later in the night, a bomb scare resulted in parts of Jamaica Street, Etna Drive and Brompton Park in Ardoyne being closed off and people put out of their homes. This turned out to be a hoax.



# ATTEMPTS IN BELFAST BY QUADS AND PROVOS



*months) look through the scorched window Park Avenue, north Belfast after the e the Girdwood British army barracks.*

A number of nationalist homes were petrol bombed by loyalists in the Cliftonpark Avenue area of north Belfast around a mile away from the earlier attacks at Cliftondene.

Earlier a blast bomb was found in the loyalist York Road, north Belfast. Occupation Forces claimed the bomb was ready for use, no doubt against a nationalist target.

**Thursday, February 19, 2004.** It was disclosed that the 105-year-old woman whose house was attacked the previous night was herself hit in the side by one of a number of bricks thrown through her window by loyalists. The original report that Mrs Jane Crudden was uninjured in the attack was untrue.

The attack on Mrs Crudden and her home was only one in a number of attacks carried out that night by loyalists. Seven nationalist homes had been attacked with petrol and paint bombs.

Across the street from Mrs Crudden a nationalist woman was hit by paint bombs which



*• Liam Hughes displaying the hand wound he suffered in a loyalist death squad knife attack on the morning of February 1 last.*

were thrown through her living room window. The paint hit everything in the room and it was clear what the outcome would have been if they had used a petrol bomb.

Also in the Cliftondene area off the Oldpark Road a number of other nationalist homes were hit. The attacks were well planned and orchestrated. Not long after these attacks loyalists carried out attacks less than a mile away. This time a number of nationalist families had lucky escapes when their homes were targeted by loyalist petrol bombers in Cliftonpark Avenue. Here young nationalist families with young children fell victim to the loyalist bigots. It was mere luck that more people were not injured and more damage done.

**Friday, February 20, 2004.** There were reports of a man being kidnapped from Kelly's Bar in Belfast city centre. The RUC/PSNI claimed that an unmarked car rammed a blue van near Millfield around 6pm and found a number of men inside it, one of whom was badly beaten. There were four other men in the van and two others were said to have run off.

The badly beaten man was taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital and the other four were

arrested. Local reports said the badly beaten man was a man who had been threatened by the Provisionals and was named as Bobby Tohill. Other men in the van were said to be wellknown Provisionals. The Millfield area was sealed off by British Occupation Forces.

**Saturday, February 21, 2004.** It was confirmed that the badly beaten man who was taken from a van the previous night was indeed Bobby Tohill who had been threatened by the Provisionals. He had claimed in a number of papers a few months ago that the Provisionals were going to kill him.

Six men were being held by the RUC/PSNI over the kidnapping of Bobby Tohill.

**Sunday, February 22, 2004.** Bobby Tohill, the badly beaten man who was badly beaten by a number of men and abducted on Friday, February 20 claimed that it was the Provos who carried out the attack but stated he would not stand in a British court and point the men out. He was believed to have signed himself out of the Royal Victoria Hospital the previous day.

It was reported that four west Belfast men were to appear in court in relation to the attack

on Bobby Tohill.

**Monday, February 23, 2004.** Four men — Gerard McCrory (32), Liam Rainey (30), Tommy Tolan (32) and Harry Fitzsimmons (35) — appeared at Belfast magistrates' court on charges relating to the kidnapping of Bobby Tohill.

**Tuesday, February 24, 2004.** UDA claims that they are to "extend their ceasefire" were dismissed by nationalists as rubbish. One nationalist living on Alliance Avenue in north Belfast said, "How can these people say they are extending something that never was there to extend in the first place? It's just nonsense! Ask the 105-year-old woman up in Cliftondene about their ceasefire. It's nonsense!"

**Wednesday, February 25, 2004.** A bomb scare in west Belfast turned out to be centred around a WWII bomb. The scare took place near a health centre on the Stewartstown Road. The bomb itself was believed to have been dropped during the Belfast Blitz. British Occupation Forces carried out what they called a controlled explosion.

A pipe bomb was found outside the Alexandra Bar, York

Street in north Belfast around 2am.

Sammy Duddy of the Ulster Political Research Group (UPRG), a front for the UDA, who have an office just across the road where the bomb was found said the bomb was the work of someone not happy with the groups' process along the peaceful route.

It is clear that this attack points to loyalists themselves, just another in a number of such attacks lately.

**Friday, February 27, 2004.** There were reports of a shot being fired at a house in the Lower Falls area in west Belfast. It is believed a bullet went through a back door. No one in the house was injured.

There were also reports of trouble in the Turf Lodge area of west Belfast. Youths were said to have attacked the British colonial police force, the RUC/PSNI.

**Saturday, February 28, 2004.** A former Republican prisoner, now a taxi-driver in south Belfast, said that a loyalist gang tried to drag him out of his car as he dropped off a passenger in the Ormeau Road area. He recognised one of the men as a member of the UDA/UFF loyalist death squad and managed to drive off.

# A wall as a weapon

**IT'S a virtual reflex for governments to plead security concerns when they undertake any controversial action, often as a pretext for something else. Careful scrutiny is always in order.**

Israel's so-called security fence, which is the subject of hearings at the International Court of Justice in The Hague, is a case in point.

Few would question Israel's right to protect its citizens from terrorist attacks like the one on February 22, even to build a security wall if that were an appropriate means. It is also clear where such a wall would be built if security were the guiding concern: inside Israel, within the internationally recognized border, the Green Line established after the 1948-49 war. The wall could then be as forbidding as the authorities chose: patrolled by the army on both sides, heavily mined, impenetrable. Such a wall would maximize security, and there would be no international protest or violation of international law.

This observation is well understood. While Britain supports America's opposition to the Hague hearings, its foreign minister, Jack Straw, has written that the wall is "unlawful". Another ministry official, who inspected the "security fence", said it should be on the Green Line or "indeed on the Israeli side of the line". A British parliamentary investigative commission also called for the wall to be built on Israeli land, condemning the barrier as part of a "deliberate" Israeli "strategy of bringing the population to heel".



• The wall extends Israel's control of critical water resources.



What this wall is really doing is taking Palestinian lands. It is also — as the Israeli sociologist Baruch Kimmerling has described Israel's war of "politicide" against the Palestinians — helping turn Palestinian communities into dungeons, next to which the Bantustans of South Africa look like symbols of freedom, sovereignty and self-determination.

Even before construction of the barrier was under way, the United Nations estimated that Israeli barriers, infrastructure projects and settlements had created 50 disconnected Palestinian pockets in the West Bank. As the design of the wall was coming into view, the World Bank estimated that it might isolate 250,000 to 300,000 Palestinians, more than 10 percent of the population, and that it might effectively annex up to 10 percent of West Bank land.

And when the government of Ariel Sharon finally published its proposed map, it became clear the wall would cut the West Bank into 16 isolated enclaves, confined to just 42 percent of the West Bank land that Sharon had previously said



• Israel's wall is a device to grab more Palestinian land.



• The wall will cut the West Bank into isolated enclaves.

state.

The wall has already claimed some of the most fertile lands of the West Bank. And, crucially, it extends Israel's control of critical water resources, which Israel and its settlers can appropriate as they choose, while the indigenous population often lacks water for drinking.

Palestinians in the seam between the wall and the Green Line will be permitted to apply for the right to live in their own homes; Israelis automatically have the right to use these lands.

"Hiding behind security rationales and the seemingly neutral bureaucratic language of military orders is the gateway for expulsion," the Israeli journalist Amira Hass wrote in the daily *Haaretz*. "Drop by drop, unseen, not so many that it would be noticed internationally and shock public opinion."

The same is true of the regular killings, terror and daily brutality and humiliation of the past 35 years of harsh occupa-

tion, while land and resources have been taken for settlers enticed by ample subsidies.

It also seems likely that Israel will transfer to the occupied West Bank the 7,500 settlers it said this month it would remove from the Gaza Strip.

These Israelis now enjoy ample land and fresh water, while one million Palestinians barely survive, their meager water supplies virtually unusable. Gaza is a cage, and as the city of Rafah in the south is systematically demolished, residents may be blocked from any contact with Egypt and blockaded from the sea.

It is misleading to call these Israeli policies. They are American-Israeli policies — made possible by unremitting United States military, economic and diplomatic support of Israel. This has been true since 1971 when, with American support, Israel rejected a full peace offer from Egypt, preferring

expansion to security. In 1976, the United States vetoed a Security Council resolution calling for a two-state settlement in accord with an overwhelming international consensus. The two-state proposal has the support of a majority of Americans today, and could be enacted immediately if Washington wanted to do so.

At most, the Hague hearings will end in an advisory ruling that the wall is illegal. It will change nothing. Any real chance for a political settlement — and for decent lives for the people of the region — depends on the United States.

— Noam Chomsky

(Published in the *New York Times*, February 23, 2004. Noam Chomsky, professor of linguistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is the author of *Hegemony or Survival: America's Quest for Global Dominance*.)

could be ceded to a Palestinian

# WHAT THEY SAID

If the Irish Government (sic), even with UK support, British support, cannot get Unionists to accept that the Good Friday (sic) Agreement is the way forward they should propose that the British set a date for a withdrawal from the North and initiate discussions on all implications.

— Carn, *Journal of the Celtic League*, article, *Winter 2003/04*.

There was a 63.8% turnout (in the Stormont elections of November 28). While demographic changes have indeed occurred in the North (1971 Protestants 966,000, Catholics 562,500; 2001: Protestants 858,000, Catholics 820,000), that has not happened at such a level on electoral registers as to have any effect on these elections but could indeed be an influence in future ones.

— Carn article. This sectarian headline does not give any political estimates of attitudes and nationalism. Neither does it give the number who did not register as either Protestant or Catholic.

The Secretary General of the Celtic League (Bernard Moffatt) in his concluding remarks to the gathering urged those present to remember those imprisoned today in the Celtic countries and specifically highlighted the plight of the Breton prisoners, some of whom have been in prison for almost four years awaiting trial.

— Carn, *report on the annual Eillean Dhuinn conference at Glengarriff Hill, Isle of Mann* when Nationalists gathered to pay tribute to the seventeenth century (Manx) patriot William Christian executed by the English.

[It the Amendment to the Nice Treaty] stated that if Ireland (sic) were to join a common and defence policy in the EU, it would require a referendum by the people. That and the Madrid Declaration that the Nice Treaty did not impinge on Ireland's (sic) policy of neutrality, a declaration which is not legally binding, were put there to dissuade voters who were worried about neutrality. The Nice Treaty was passed in 2002.

— Carn, *article on Ireland, Neutrality and the UN*.

Last October 2003 [The Irish (sic) Government went to an Inter-Government Conference of the EU to discuss the proposed continuation of the EU. Seven articles in the proposed constitution deal with the EU's competencies on foreign and defence issues.

Article 11.4 allows: "The Union shall have competence to define and implement a common foreign and security policy, including the progressive framing of a

common defence policy." — Carn, *article on Neutrality*. The campaign is calling on the Irish (sic) Government during its term of the Presidency of the EU in the first half of 2004, to introduce amendments (which can be quite simply done) to the Council of Ministers to give Irish the status of an official EU working language.

This is the position which all the 10 entrant states (including Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania etc) will have when they officially accede next year (May 1, 2004)

So Sinn Féin wants to negotiate with the DUP. Will they discuss plans for a united Ireland with the Rev Ian? If they still have a policy on unity, they've been remarkably quiet about it of late.

There is no longer any real appetite for unity even among Sinn Féin's own activists. Of course the flag will be out for commemorative occasions and the old familiar speeches repeated. But these days, getting back into power in the 'occupied six counties' takes priority. We'll see mankind on Mars before Sinn Féin delivers a united Ireland.

— Irish News, *letter to Editor signed Disillusioned Activist*, Dunloy, February 11, 2004.

Mountjoy also has a place in collective political memory. Between 1865 and June 1866, over 60 Fenians convicted of treason felony passed through it, on their way to penal servitude in Australia. This included O'Donovan Rossa and John O'Leary.

When in 1915, O'Donovan Rossa's body was returned to Ireland for burial, it was passed Mountjoy, which at the time contained republicans Sean Milroy, Sean MacDermott and Liam Mellows.

— Irish Times, February 11, 2004. *Colin Coulter, Legal Affairs Correspondent*, writing on the impending closure of Mountjoy prison.

In 1910 Jim Larkin was also sent to Mountjoy on a trumped-up charge of attempting to defraud dock workers in Cork, and during the 1913 lock-out, scores of trade unionists, including James Connolly, were jailed there.

In 1912 it also housed suffragettes Kathleen Houston, Margaret Hasler, Hilda Webb and Maud Lloyd. There they embarked on hunger strike, sparking the first demonstrations to take place outside the prison.

— Carol Coulter.

Following the 1916 Rising, Mountjoy again acted as a clearing house for republicans who were sent to the way to jail in England. However by 1917 they returned and it was in Mountjoy that Thomas Ashe died while being forcibly fed on hunger strike.

Later it was the scene for the first campaign of prisoners' disturbances aimed at securing recognition of the special status of republican prisoners. Kevin Barry was among those ex-

cluded there and during the Civil War, Mountjoy held 300 republican prisoners, including Sean McBride.

— Carol Coulter

George Bush killed my son. I believe my son died for his country but because of our country's lack of a civilised foreign policy...I think the loss of life is obscene, what's being done is obscene. It's more than needless.

— Irish Times, February 14, 2004. *Rosemary Dietz*, *Slavanas* whose son was killed in Iraq.

I will not go there [Iraq] under US Military, and illegal, occupation."

— Irish Times, February 14, 2004. *Denis Halliday*, former assistant secretary general with the UN, who resigned the US invasion of Iraq.

British soldiers stand accused of beating an Iraqi prisoner to death it emerged today. The Iraqi fighter was captured in the southern city of Basra and died while being held by British forces.

Soldiers from the Queens Lancashire Regiment in Iraq and back in Britain by a letter from the Northern Ireland conducted by the Royal Military Police and could face a court-martial.

If one of the soldiers is found to have delivered the fatal blow he could be charged with manslaughter. — *Lincolnshire Echo*, February 15, 2004.

Despite the generally negative view of the North, 68% of the respondents to the British Council and [Dublin] Embassy "Through Irish Eyes" says it all when it looks at attitudes to Northern Ireland.

"Everything is just different. Everything about it: the people, the infrastructure, even their clothes, their way of life. They are different people."

— *Bridget Gadd*, *They (the British Embassy in Dublin) are hoping that, after 800 years existence, Partition is actually working. But we are not people*.

Gerry Adams also began changing his language to take account of this reality many years ago. — *Bridget Gadd*.

— *Bridget Gadd* (Aherli) said he would envisage a united Ireland in his lifetime but that it would occur by consent.

— Irish Times, February 20, 2004. *On his retirement from public life in 1973, de Valera said, at 91 years, that he would see a united Ireland. He died two years later. Whom do these people think they are fooling? Republicans know that if they were to lead them, a free and united Ireland would never come about.*

The [Provisional] Sinn Féin president, Mr Gerry Adams, said last night he was "broadly in agreement" with the thrust of the Taoiseach's speech in Coleraine yesterday where he called on paramilitaries to end violence and unionists to share power with nationalists.

— Irish Times, February 20, 2004, and *British rule is acceptable?*

Do you trust Electronic Voting? 83% said "No" and 17% said "Yes".

— TV3 poll by telephone, February 24, 2004.

Some of his [Bobby Tohill] comments appear to contradict what he told the Sunday World and what he said in an earlier

in January 1999, after the Mod had been informed that the tribunal wanted them as evidence, sparked alarm.

The fact that none of the hundreds of photographs taken by the [British] army photographers on Bloody Sunday were located compounded the dismay.

— Eamonn McCann.

73% voted "no visit" while 2% voted "yes" in response to a telephone Poll conducted by TV3 on February 17 when asked "should the Queen [of England] be invited on an official visit to Ireland (26 Counties)?"

— Poll, TV3, February 17, 2004.

John Hume seemed to cotton on to that the dream of a united land governed from Dublin was just that and started the post-nationalist language years ago.

— Irish News columnist *Bridget Gadd*, February 17, 2004. *As far back as 1971 the Republican Movement proposed a new federation of the four provinces governed from Athlone.*

The recent study focusing mainly on attitudes to the Provisional IRA conducted by the Northern Ireland conducted on behalf of the British Council and [Dublin] Embassy "Through Irish Eyes" says it all when it looks at attitudes to Northern Ireland.

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*Andersonstown News* interview two hours before he was attacked in Kelly's Cellars [Belfast].

Mr Jim McDowell, editor of the *Sunday World*, said that Mr Tohill gave an interview on Saturday, 24, 2004, at that time he was "lucid, if in an emotional state".

— Irish Times, reported by *Northern Editor Gerry Moriarty*, February 24, 2004. In that interview Mr Tohill said his abductors told him, "We're taking you to the Border. We're going to torture you and then we are going to execute you." In September Mr Tohill told the Sunday World that the IRA was planning to kill him.

On Friday night, two hours before the attack, he told the *Andersonstown News* that "certain elements" in the IRA were conspiring with loyalists to have him murdered.

— Irish Times, February 24, 2004.

Four men face charges in connection with the incident and while PSNI (sic) chief constable Mr Hugh Orde has insisted the Provisional IRA was involved, Mr Tohill now says he was not "kidnapped".

— Irish Times.

The family of Mr Séamus Ludlow (47), the Dundalk forestry worker allegedly murdered by loyalists in 1976, yesterday met Mr Justice Henry Barron who told them that his report into the killing would be published later this year.

— Irish Times, February 24, 2004.

Mr Ludlow's family believes he was murdered by a gang of four loyalists, including two members of the UDR, and they have been campaigning for a public inquiry into his death.

— Irish Times.

The purpose of the peace process was to seduce paramilitaries into position. Nobody involved thought it would be clean and finite. The judgement on the ground is that it is gradually working with the Provos but not with the Loyalists. Republicans have only themselves to blame when that focus is blurred.

— Irish Times columnist *Fionnuala O'Connor*, February 27, 2004.

The father of John Allen, shot dead last November in Loyalist Ballyclare, Co Antrim, accused unionists of double standards. "They weren't jumping up and down when my son was killed," he said, "They should have been."

— *Fionnuala O'Connor*.

The sequence of events bore out what most in Northern Ireland know but some will not admit. Loyalist groups continue to kill and maim, their victims other Protestants but also Catholics, as though in a vacuum.

— *Fionnuala O'Connor*.

The politicians who represent their shared community said throughout the Troubles that loyalists killed because of the IRA, that their violence was "reac-

tive".

Now they mention them only as an afterthought to construct complaints about the IRA. Yet police figures show that loyalist paramilitary beatings and 'punishment' shootings are twice as frequent as those by Republicans of any stripe.

The loyalist pipe bombing of Catholic (sic) targets over several recent years has no republican parallel in speed and duration.

— *Fionnuala O'Connor*.

Mr Finlay Spratt, chairman of the (Six-County) Prison Officers Association said: "I am not convinced we will not go back to the Maze [situation in Long Kesh with full political status]. I believe they have been negotiating with paramilitary representatives. "If you don't want a return to that scenario you shouldn't talk to these people, but they (the British Government) have already gone down that road."

— Irish Times, February 27, 2004.

The significant issue here is not whether he was or was not in the IRA but why he feels the need to deny with vehemence the question of IRA membership.

— Irish News, March 1, 2004, *letter to the Editor from former Stormont member John Kelly*, *late of Belfast and now from South Derry*.

I ask myself if it is now politically and socially fashionable within [Provisional] Sinn Féin to disassociate themselves from physical force republicanism.

— *John Kelly*, *letter*.

As a republican who, along with countless others, was charged with IRA membership (a charge which I did not accept) and convicted and sentenced for IRA membership, I am bewildered, dismayed, disappointed and flabbergasted by Gerry Adams's need to deny disavow the IRA.

— *John Kelly*, *letter*. The Irish News carried the letter first in its letters to the Editor column and headed it "Why is Adams so vehement in denial of IRA?" There was also a front page article headed "Veteran 'dismayed' by Adams IRA denial".

As well as being extremely offensive, Mr Myer's criticism is sloppy and his choice of sources naïve. He seems to base most of his anti-Palestinian, anti-Arab and anti-Arafat rants on information he has received from the Middle East Media Research Institute (MEMRI), which he claims is "invaluable".

MEMRI was co-founded by Israeli-born US academic Mevray Wurmsner, a leading proponent of the figure who is married to a high-ranking Pentagon official, David Wurmsner. The other co-founder of MEMRI is Colonel Jigal Carmel, the former head of Israeli military intelligence.

— *Ali Halimeh, Delegate General of Palestine in Ireland*, in *Letters to the Editor* Irish Times, March 4, 2004. *See also* "Kevin Myer's racist ranting" in *An Irishman's Diary*, March 2.

## Time To Fly The Tricolour

A chara

On February 17, 2004, a British "royal" landed on Irish soil to make an alleged "Irish" person a member of the British Empire. Is this what they call "the peace dividend"? That after nearly 900 years of this great nation refusing to become British we get to become British one by one.

Is this what peace and reconciliation means? That the sovereignty of our Nation, never mind the illusion of integrity of the Free State, is further sullied by Brits handing out Brit honours in Irish jurisdiction. And all State-approved.

Is this why we still have streets named after Cromwell and Churchill and other anti-Irish degenerates? Is this why the Crown is still over the harp in Dame Street and at the Customs House? Is this why the Irish language is not registered as an official European language? Have we left the colonial infrastructure in place because the intent is to slide back into the cess we fought our way out of?

No, as long as one Irish man or woman says no. No, we are not British. It's time to fly the flag and shame the willingly ignorant. We are not the willing slaves. This Easter my house will be dressed in Tricolour bunting, not just to celebrate 1916 but to testify that I am not for turning.

As Republicans we are the true ambassadors of this Nation and so I urge you to express your distinctiveness at all opportunities. It was dark in 1913, it was dark in 1916, but those who were not ashamed to show their Irishness woke the rest up. It is dark now. But I pray that it is slide back into our triumphant silver lining.

FIANN Ó NUALLÁIN  
Crumlin, Dublin 12

## Thanks To all

A chara

Republican Sinn Féin in Limerick would like to thank all those who made our local elections ballad night a huge success especially those who sold tickets, the management and staff at Brannigan's Lounge and the Old Brigade Band, as well as all those who travelled by bus from rebel Cork.

JOE LYNCH  
PRO, Republican Sinn Féin  
Limerick

## Republicans Misrepresented by Establishment

A chara

It seems that the Special Branch, Gardaí and press will stop at nothing in their efforts to entangle Republicans in

the ongoing gangland-style feud in it. Also the political police and their lackeys continue to harass, intimidate and browbeat members of Republican Sinn Féin.

Instead of focusing on the root causes of the anti-social behaviour and gangland crime, the powers that rule try to lay the blame on others as to their own inept ability to stop the violence.

Republicans have repeatedly issued statements stating that they do not support any of these criminal gangs or their elements in the attempts to acquire arms. To continue to assert otherwise is false and dangerous. The 26-County police, press and Special Branch would be better served by ceasing to spread half truths, falsehoods and innuendoes about Republicans and their supporters.

Just last week it was reported that a 500lb cache of explosives they found belonged to a "dissident" Republican group and that a person had been picked up. As it turned out there was no such involvement and the explosives were to be sold to quarry men for personal profit by "the perpetrator". The authorities should focus on curbing the violence not inflaming it.

Voters in the upcoming local elections in the greater Limerick area will have a chance to vote for local working-class candidates who offer positive and realistic change for the benefit of all, represented by Republican Sinn Féin.

Instead of voting for the "pass the buck candidates" or the "blame others" party, look, listen and truly hear what the Republican Sinn Féin candidates' manifesto is. And their solution to curbing crime, drug abuse, anti-social behaviour and the building of a better future for the working-class people of Limerick.

SEÁN Ó LÚBAIGH  
Ohio, USA

## No logic For Provos' Military Wing

A chara

Is it not time for the Provisionals to decommission Mr Hyde and allow Dr Jekyll to get on with helping the unionists to govern this statelet on behalf of the British Government.

Now that they have become part and parcel of the partitionist set up there is no logic for the Provisionals having a military wing. Unless its continual existence arises from the alleged statement of a member of the [British] Policing Board that de Valera knew how to deal with dissidents or dissidents. Thank God that was the fate of young Tholl.

The continual mantra issued by Martin McGuinness of denial, half truths, and untruths is beginning to wear thin and the Provisionals should solidify their embracement of partitionism by standing down their military wing and let authentic Republicans get on with



opposing Partition and the British presence.

The media should also bear in mind that once the Provisionals decided to enter Stormont and Leinster House they are no longer entitled to be called the 'IRA' for the authentic IRA owes its allegiance to the 32-County Irish Republic proclaimed in 1916 and refuses to recognise or participate in the partitionist parliaments.

In conclusion to borrow words from one of the Provisional leaders the authentic IRA has come away.

LIAM O COMAINE  
Derry

## Hot Under The Collar . . .

A chara

Gerry Adams is once again getting hot under the collar and denying that he was ever a member of the IRA. Gerry should not be ashamed of where he came from but he certainly should be ashamed of where he is going.

ANN NOLAN  
Crumlin, Dublin

## The More Things Change . . .

A chara

I am writing this letter to let you know what I think of the repressive legislation that exists in this state.

In the photo in my possession the caption reads: "Easter 1916 equal rights for all, Easter 1966 Offences Against the State".

The photo shows Harry Cremin, Jim Hughes and myself protesting outside the Royal George Hotel in Limerick on Easter Saturday 1966.

This proves that nothing has changed in 38 years as far as Republicans are concerned.

I think my own case would best testament to that. I was one of eight people arrested at a Republican Sinn Féin in Limerick in 2001. I was then charged and convicted of membership of an illegal organisation and given a four-year sentence, all on the word of a police superintendent acting on confidential information supplied by a paid informer.

When asked to disclose the source of his information he refused and claimed privilege, so to this day nothing has changed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my family and friends for their support throughout this time.

PAT O'SHEA  
Republican Prisoner

E4 Portlaoise prison

## Say No to Corrupt Politicians

A chara

Vincent Brown's article on *Irish Times* of February 11 makes interesting reading, especially in light of the present revelations by Tom Gilman to the Mahon Tribunal. Brown highlights some of the "donations" that were made to Fianna Fáil over a number of years and in particular he questions why Bertie Aherne never followed up that money trail — much of which remains unaccounted for.

For instance he points out that: "In 1996 Bertie Aherne 'discovered' that, seven years previously, the developer Mark Kavanagh has made a contribution to Fianna Fáil that was not receipted, Aherne was informed that a receipt, acknowledging a donation of £25,000, was forwarded to the then Taoiseach's office (Charlie Haughey was in power then) but never forwarded to Mr Kavanagh."

"Aherne asked no questions, has he done so he would have discovered, if he had not otherwise known that the size of the contribution was £100,000, and that £75,000 had not been passed to the party."

The Fianna Fáil party head-office knew that in 1989 he (Ray Burke) had got £30,000 from Tony O'Reilly's Fitzwillton ... of which only £10,000 was passed over to the party.

Then it emerged that Mr Burke had got another £30,000 from JSME before the June 1989 election, and £35,000 from Oliver Barry, part of which was also intended for the party.

"And with the £50,000 given in 1989 by Tom Gilman to Pádraig Flynn ... that he intended for Fianna Fáil."

We now read that, according to Tom Gilman, Liam Lawlor received £57,000 from him and monthly payments of £3,500 were paid into Lawlor's bank account from Arlington, Gilman-tin's backers, from June 1988 until at least the following January and possibly until November '89 — this at a time when the average monthly wage was far less for the ordinary worker. (In all these dealings Liam Lawlor represented himself as "the Government's man" who would iron out the wrinkles on development plans.) Lawlor was also paid £33,000 sterling from Arlington without Gilman's knowledge.

Gilman also states that he was asked for a "contribution" of £5million and that he 'claimed to senior officials in Dublin Corporation

about the demands being made on him by George Redmond, Liam Lawlor and other Fianna Fáil figures.

All those allegation, admitted and denied, involve (serving and past) Ministers in the Free State Administration. These are the people who, to all intents and purposes, "run the country" — albeit only 26 counties of it.

These are the people who have screwed not just the worker but our services as well. The health service is in shambles — we even have health workers are forming protest groups. Students applying for second level places cannot be accommodated in some areas. The "so-called" justice system is run on a Stalinist basis, the juvenile mind has burst at the seams.

The politicians thumb their nose at the general public and Bertie has been known to say "so what" in the past, ie the Partnership for Peace.

He and his side-kicks are still saying "so what". Well the local elections are coming and when the current crop of politicians come knocking on the door let us say to them "so what". So what are you going to do about our health service, our education service, facilities for the youth, etc., and above all ask them "so what are you going to do about the corruption that seems to be endemic in party politics in the Free State".

PAUL COYLE  
Tallaght, Dublin

## Whitehall's Kind Gestures

A chara,

I am writing to dispel the myth that we are being espoused by the increasing number of prehistoric Republicans who refuse to accept the Good Friday Agreement for what it is — the best thing to happen to Republicans since Partition. Ooops!! Did I say that? Sorry I meant sliced bread.

(1) The RUC no longer exists — the fact that the name change is a mere cosmetic exercise and that those fine men and women who you allege beat your fathers/mothers/sons/daughters etc for years are still in the same police "force" is an irrelevant detail.

(2) The new police force (PSNI) has a new badge — therefore they can't arrive at your door at 4.30am, knocking it down and trailing you off to some dimly lit room for a "friendly chat" .... or so I'm told.

(3) The new regime is "coming down" extremely

hard on loyalist paramilitaries. Recent statistics show that one of their leaders was cautioned by police recently for... Wait for it! . . . Not wearing a seat belt!! And I have been led to believe alib official sources have not confirmed, that as recently as five weeks ago one of them was given a £60 fixed penalty notice along with three penalty points on his licence for doing 47mph in a 30 zone.

(4) The aforementioned new regime has also allowed Republicans to go up to Stormont and give opinions on TV without their voices being replaced by actors. It also gives them loads and loads of money. So therefore if you saved this you could buy a new suit and tie or a new car or maybe even a little "get-away from it all" condo amongst those other Irish people in Donegal.... Perhaps!!

Now I go on.

Need for your part you have to do to avail of all these kind gestures made by the nice men in Whitehall is (1) give up your right to self-determination (2) give up your right to govern yourself and (3) stop bloody well thinking ill of the British.

So for God sake all you diehards out there wise up and join the "party" at Stormont.... Ooops! I almost forgot. They even have Guinness on draught up here now. If that's not a victory for Republicanism I don't know what is!!!

PS Everywhere I go now people seem to be whistling the tune of "It's time down from the mast" to me. Obviously they realised I have retained my old Republican principles and have not sold out like those beasts in the 1920s.

NEW REPUBLICAN  
Belfast

## 'Racist Muck-Peddling'

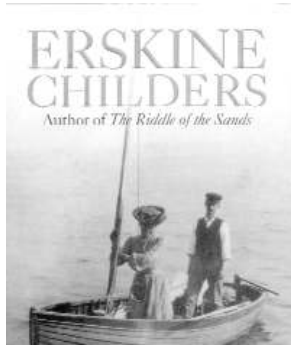
A chara

Irish people will not miss Bob Monkhouse with his constant racism over the years — ironically he was a Jew as indeed was Robert Maxwell who some years ago had published (at Maxwell House, 74 Worship Street, London) the "Official Irish Book" which was ready for St Patrick's Day. It was described by one Irish editorial as "a book whose express purpose is to insult and degrade Irish people everywhere . . . racist muck-peddling".

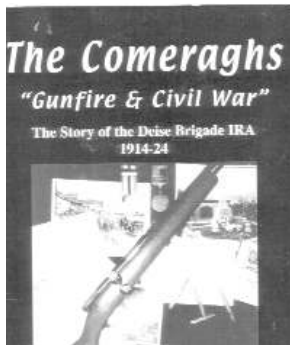
S DAVIN  
London

**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. Letters may also be faxed to Dublin 872 9757 or by e-mail to saoirse@iol.ie

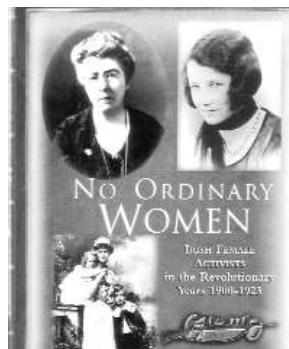
# Selection of goods from Irish Freedom



• *Life and death of Erskine Childers ... Dangerous Waters*, Leonard Piper, h/b, €30.50.



• *The Comeraghs ... Gunfire and Civil War, the story of the Deise Brigade IRA 1914-24*, Seán and Síle Murphy, €15.



• *No Ordinary Women*, Sinéad McCool, h/b €28.



• *Edentubber Martyrs*, framed picture, €25.



• *From Behind a Closed Door, Secret Court Martial Records of the 1916 Rising*, €23.99.



• *Collection of mounted prints*, €7.

## Framed Pictures

<i>Cú Chulainn/Surrender document</i> .....	€35.00
<i>Liberty Hall</i> .....	€25.00
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<i>Signatures (in Celtic script) of Executed Leaders</i> .....	€25.00
<i>1916 Martyrs</i> .....	€45.00
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<i>Assorted Unframed Prints</i> .....	€7.00
<i>Plaque of head of James Connolly</i> .....	€50.00

## CDs

The following is a list of CDs now in stock in Irish Freedom Press. From time to time we carry other artists such as Eire Óg and Shebeen. These are not always available.

*Classic Irish Folk*. 20 traditional songs and tunes, Various Artists. €10.70

*Between the Mountains and the Sea*. Tim Dennehy sings the songs of

<i>Sigerson Clifford (booklet with words included)</i> .....	€20.40
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<i>The Croppy's Complaint. Music and Song of 1798. Various artists</i> .....	€18.66
<i>Brendan Behan Sings Irish Folksongs and Ballads</i> .....	€18.66
<i>The Week Before Easter. Kevin Conneff</i> .....	€16.79
<i>Luke Kelly Album with The Dubliners</i> .....	€15.40
<i>Beyond The Pale. Austin Clarke reads his own poetry</i> .....	€15.40
<i>20 Golden Irish Ballads. Vol 1 and 11. Wolfe Tones</i> .....	€15.00 each
<i>The Lonesome Touch. Martin Hayes, fiddle, Denis Cahill, guitar</i> .....	€17.26
<i>Matt Molloy on flute, Paul Brady on guitar and Tommy Peoples on fiddle. Wonderful collection of reels and jigs</i> .....	€18.66
<i>Songs of Irish Labour. Recorded at DCU 1998. Various Artists</i> ..	€20.40
<i>The Poet and The Piper. Seamus Heaney reading 16 of his poems. Music by Liam Ó Flynn, Rod McVey and Stephen Cooney</i> .....	€17.26
<i>Songs of Erin</i> .....	Derek Warfield. €15.00
<i>Valley of the Heart</i> .....	Sean Keane. €21.46
<i>By Popular Demand. Celtic Mist. Ballad group from Co Wicklow</i> ..	€12.00
<i>Irish Rebel Ballads. The Original Dubliners. 22 great songs</i> ..	€15.85
<i>Legacy of the Famine</i> .....	Derek Warfield €15.00
<i>25 Most Requested Irish Ballads. Vol 1. Various artists including Paddy Reilly, Wolfe Tones etc. Song words included</i> .....	€13.06
<i>Sharon Shannon with various artists including Maire Breathnach, Donal Lunny, Liam Ó Maoínlaí and many more</i> .....	€13.52
<i>Ancient Rite. Eoin Duignan - low whistles and uilleann pipes</i> ..	€16.79
<i>Irish Songs of Resistance. 30 years on. Various Artists</i> .....	€15.00

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# Responsibilities

GERRY Kelly says a deal with the British is possible but with that deal would come responsibilities. It is obvious that the deal does not include a united Ireland. Therefore any responsibilities would be to a new Six-County administration, loyal to Britain and running it on their behalf.

It is clear that the responsibilities Gerry has in mind would be to a British police, administrative and judicial authority.

One was reminded recently on the occasion of Holocaust Remembrance Day of the grave responsibility undertaken by the Jewish Authority and its initially naïve approach to Nazi promises that all would turn out well.

Some years ago now, the Belfast Agreement was signed and we were assured all was well. We have watched the British reel back on that agreement until it is now nothing like it was supposed to be.

One wonders why Gerry should believe that any future agreement with the British would be better implemented.

Which brings us back to what he means by responsi-

bility. Could this responsibility be the policing of a population who oppose any "new" treaty? Could the responsibilities he refers to include the beating up and kidnapping of those who question or physically oppose Britain's motives.

Could the responsibilities he refers to include "disappearing" some political opponents?

Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness were also speaking this week. They responded cringingly to David Trimble's threat to stop speaking to them. Ian Paisley has yet to be heard from. Michael McDowell has stated where he stands and Bertie Ahern accused Gerry Adams of being a member of a "subversive" organization.

It may be an indication of my own political inclination but have Gerry Adams & Co got any friends? Is there any statement that Gerry Adams & Co make or opinion they might express which any one will support them on?

Back to these responsibilities. "The Republic expects and is entitled to the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman ..." That is broad-



ly what the Proclamation of Independence states. I doubt if it is what Gerry Kelly has in mind. "From each according to his ability, to each according to his needs" ... no not that one either.

"Grant unto Caesar what is Caesar's and unto God what is God's ..." Perhaps a little closer. Caesar of course had a colonial governor's residence in Palestine around the time Christ made the latter statement.

Perhaps Gerry Kelly feels one of our future duties might be to give our allegiance to the Queen of England as he appears to have done.

Perhaps our duties might entail disavowing opposition to Britain's military presence in our country as he has done in order to stand in British elections. Perhaps he has in mind that any future "deal" endorsed by him would require a responsibility on him and those who would support him to "enforce" such a deal.

The Palestinian authority is at present under great pressure to police its own population on behalf of Israel and its American allies.

THE American appointed Iraqi Authority is at present helping to recruit a colonial police and military force.

In Haiti we are soon to see a similar authority begin its work on behalf of the western powers.

In Afghanistan a puppet administration exists to oversee the implementation of outsiders wishes.

Does Gerry Kelly and Co see a similar responsibility being imposed on him and his friends. Does he foresee a responsibility to support a colonial power in order to maintain the lifestyle he has become accustomed to?

Which begs the question, how many of us would take on this new "responsibility"? Perhaps that is a more pertinent question for Gerry Adams, Martin McGuinness and Gerry Kelly to ask themselves.

What is for sure is that whatever these new responsibilities entail, requires the tacit co-operation of you and I and the active participation of British collaborators.

Dejá vu.

— Mac Cool

## IRE NUA forum in New Jersey

THE National Irish Freedom Committee (NIFC) organized two very successful ÉIRE NUA presentations on March 4, 2004 in New Jersey. Brian Wardlow representing the NIFC, in conjunction with the Central Jersey Coalition for Peace and Justice, hosted the ÉIRE NUA Forum featuring Des Dalton, Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin, live from Ireland via teleconference.

Chris Dugan, national coordinator for the NIFC ÉIRE NUA Program, in conjunction with the Progressive Student Union of Rowan College, Glassboro NJ hosted the presentation at the Student Union Hall.

Both presentations were well received by those in attendance, and the questions posed demonstrated that a broad spectrum of the American public are deeply concerned about the continued US government support of the British initiated Stormont Agreement

despite the evident violence and the rise in sectarian divisions perpetrated by the principals of the Agreement. In addition, the US policy of denying entry visas to proponents of the ÉIRE NUA Program was discussed, and resulted in the Central Jersey Coalition for Peace and Justice passing a resolution to support the ongoing NIFC Visa Denial Repeal Campaign.

The members of the Progressive Student Union of Rowan College also expressed

interest in supporting the NIFC Visa Denial Repeal Campaign.

Those in attendance agreed that this damaging US policy of denying visas to the proponents of the ÉIRE NUA Program deprives the American public at large an opportunity to evaluate and compare competing schools of thought with regards to the ongoing crisis in Ireland.

Des Dalton who was speaking from Ireland raised the level of interest and was particularly effective in providing unfiltered information about state directed intimidation, harassment and censorship of political activists who seek a peaceful solution that will encompass all communities in Ireland through the ÉIRE NUA Program.

Des used the recent case of the



• Chris Dugan (NIFC) with the student committee of Rowan College, New Jersey.

Limerick Eight as an example of the extent that the state will go in imposing draconian legislation to suppress a Republican Sinn Féin's endeavour to promote a genuine peace through their ÉIRE NUA Program.

These highly successful pre-

sentations demonstrate that the American public, when provided with accurate information about the US government's role in Ireland can be trusted to make an honest assessment of the situation and utilise their democratic rights to seek change.

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