

# SAOIRSE

## IRISH FREEDOM

THE VOICE OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT



UIMH 253 BEALTAINE — MAY 2008 <http://saoirse.info> 1.50 (£1stg, USA \$30 p.a.)

### SEÁN Mac DIARMADA COMMEMORATION KILTycLOGHER, CO LEITRIM



SUNDAY, MAY 18

Assemble at Church, 3 pm

Speaker: John Joe McCusker  
Organised by the Leitrim Commemoration Committee

**Defend sovereignty -  
neutrality - democracy**

# Vote NO

As we approach the 26-County referendum on the Lisbon Treaty on June 12 it is becoming clear that a broad swathe of the Irish people are prepared to reject it.

From political activists and trade unionists to farmers and business people a groundswell of opinion is growing in opposition to this attempt to foist the EU Constitution — a constitution already rejected by the people of France and Holland in 2005 — on the people of the 26 Counties.

On May 5 the Technical Engineering & Electrical Union one of the largest craft unions in the 26 Counties (TEEU) called on its members to reject the Lisbon Treaty, the *Sunday Business Post/Red C* Poll of April 27 showed that farmers are opposed to the treaty by 43 per cent to 29 per cent, with 28 per cent undecided.

The *Irish Times* on May 3 reported that a survey conducted for the Irish Small and Medium Enterprises Association (ISME) showed that the number of owner-managers intending to vote No had doubled compared to results of a similar survey in January, 73% said they intend to vote No against 27% in favour. The *Sunday Business Post/Red C* Poll revealed that the lead of the Yes camp over the No had fallen dramatically from 19% to only 4% with just six weeks to the referendum.

A leaked memo (see page 8) from the 26-County Foreign Affairs Department to the British Embassy published in the *Irish Daily Mail* on April 14 showed that the 26-County administration are intent on a campaign of mis-information, giving the reason for setting a date in June for the referendum, senior 26-County Foreign Affairs official Dan Mulhall writes:

“A date in October would have been easier from a procedural point of view, but the risk of unhelpful developments during the French presidency — particularly related to EU defence — were just too great. Sarkozy was completely unpredictable.” The memo also states: “other partners — including the commission — were playing a helpful, low-profile role. Vice-President Margot Wallstrom, who had been in Dublin yesterday and today, had told Dermot Ahern (16-County Minister for Foreign Affairs) that the commission was willing to tone down or delay messages that might be unhelpful.”

Once more the 26-County administration in collaboration with the EU political elite are

attempting to fool people into surrendering their last vestiges of sovereignty and neutrality and walk blindly into a militarised superstate.

The Lisbon Treaty is in reality the EU Constitution under another name. The Lisbon Treaty implements 96% of the legal content of the ‘Constitution for Europe’. The reality is Lisbon gives the EU the constitutional form of a supranational European Federal State and turns the 26-County state along with the other member states into regions or provinces of this federation.

If the Lisbon Treaty is passed member states including the 26-County state would have the same relationship as the state of California vis-à-vis the United States or Bavaria vis-à-vis Federal Germany. The EU would assume all the normal powers of a Federal State except the power to force its member state to go to war. However the Lisbon Treaty does contain a ‘mutual defence’ clause committing all member states to assist by “all means in their power” any EU state which is “the victim of armed aggression on its territory”. This is a significant step towards the full militarisation of the EU.

The Lisbon Treaty or EU Constitution lays the basis for the creation of a European superstate. As Republican Sinn Féin point out in their



• 26-County troops deployed in Chad — one of the military tasks the Dublin Administration will be expected to perform.

pamphlet: (see page 8) “Already 80% of 26-County domestic law is subservient to EU laws and directives. Under the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution the power of the unelected Commission would be further increased whilst the 26-County state for five years out of 15 will have no representative on the EU Commission. Under the qualified majority rule power and decision making be vested in the hands of the big states such as Britain, France, Germany and Italy.”

The voting weight of the 26 Counties would be reduced from 2% to 0.8% whilst that of a big state like Germany would increase from 8% to 17%. Lisbon introduces a clause which gives the EU Council of Ministers the right to extend its powers. This can allow for the removal of a national veto in all areas with the exception of defence. Under Lisbon another 49 policy areas will no longer be covered by a member state veto. This will also remove the requirement for any further extension of EU power to be voted on by the Irish people in referenda if the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution is passed.

“Whilst health services such as cancer care in the 26 Counties face huge cuts in essential funding, provision is being made in the Lisbon Treaty for increased military spending.”

The nature of the military tasks which the 26-County state will be asked to perform is highlighted:

“The presence of 26-County troops in Chad, supporting a French colonial proxy war with China — the regime in neighbouring Sudan is being propped up by China — over oil reserves, highlights the nature of the military ‘tasks’ that the 26-County State will be expected to perform. Almost 100 years after the First World War, is yet another generation of Irish people to be sacrificed on foreign battlefields in the interests of European capitalism and imperialism?”

The Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution attacks fundamental political social and economic rights of working people in pursuit of a neo-liberal economic agenda. “Public services such as water, (the current water rates levied

on schools is an example of EU imposed policy) electricity supply, waste disposal, health care, the provision of social housing and education, postal services, public transport, are some of the vital areas which are categorised as “services of general economic interest” by the EU.

This means states cannot block the privatisation of such services.” What this means in effect is that the best public services will only go to those who can pay the most whilst the needs of the ‘market’ are set above the right to a job, a decent living wage or the right to strike.

By voting NO to the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution you are opposing the creation of an undemocratic superstate, increased militarisation, the erosion of neutrality, the privatisation of public services and unfettered capitalism.

### CABHAIR

Irish Republican  
Prisoners Dependants  
Fund  
ANNUAL  
TESTIMONIAL  
DINNER  
& REPUBLICAN  
REUNION

Royal Dublin Hotel,  
O’Connell Street,  
Dublin  
Saturday, May 17, 2008

Dinner €30  
Music: Celtic Mist



Honorees:  
Seamus Murphy  
(Leinster)  
Paddy White (Ulster)  
Micheál Ó Ceallaigh  
(Connacht)  
Liam Heaphy  
(Munster)  
Thomas Hosie (USA)



Wolfe Tone Commemoration,  
Bodenstown, 2.30pm, Sunday, June 15,  
Sallins, Co Kildare; Orator: Dan Hoban, Mayo  
Buses: Aston Quay, Dublin 12.45pm, Fille: €10

## Paisley not welcome in Cork

**FOLLOWING** an invitation to Ian Paisley by the Cobh, Co Cork Chamber of Commerce to speak at the 50th Anniversary Dinner and Civic Reception organised by Cobh UDC, Cumann Mac Curtáin/Mac Suibhne, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, under its Cathaoirleach Donal Varian, distributed 2,000 leaflets door to door in Cobh.

The leaflet called on the public to protest against this invitation; by phone to the Chamber of Commerce and Cobh UDC, and to join a public protest on April 18 at the Commodore Hotel, Cobh.

Representation was made by the 26-County Special Branch to Donal Varian prior to the protest.

On 96FM local radio after much discussion during the week a debate took place between Joe McCoitir, Chairman, Chamber of Commerce and Donal Varian. At the end of the debate Niall Prendiville, presenter, held a text poll for and against the proposed visit of Ian Paisley. The result of this was a resounding 83% of texters saying NO to Paisley. Niall

experienced such a high poll in such a short time.

A large force of gardaí and a dog handler were present on the night. RSF members from Clare, Kerry and Limerick supported the picket as did other groups and members of the public. Placards were

Administration in Ireland' and 'No Collaboration with British Forces of Occupation'.

For an hour-and-a-half the protesters marched up and down and chanted slogans and gave a rousing Republican welcome to Ian Paisley, his minders (our local "Lickers



• Members of Republican Sinn Féin taking part in the protest in Cobh, Co Cork against the visit of Ian Paisley on April 18.

Prendiville remarked that the station had not previously

carried calling for 'No Allsorts') and the paying guests.

## Charlie Kerins – the documentary

**AT the outset TG4 has to be congratulated for their production and screening on the life and execution of patriot Charlie Kerins.**

If there is any criticism about the show, it has to be the time factor, as 30 minutes seems very short, especially when interviews with his late sister Elsie and the late Liam Burke of Belfast who also had a bounty on his head were readily available.

Back in 1994 Sinn Féin

Poblachtach, Chiarraí, in conjunction with the Charlie Kerins memorial Committee, celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Charlie's execution in Tralee. Ruairí Ó Brádaigh gave a wonderful oration on that occasion. A booklet on Charlie's life was produced; a portrait of Charlie Kerins

presented to the Kerins/O'Rahilly GAA club, a new marble sculpture was erected at Caherina and last but not least, the whole occasion was captured on video.

People came from all over Ireland that day, and in doing so, showed their respect for a true soldier of Óglaigh na hÉireann.

Paddy McGrath, Thomas Harte, Barney Casey, Richard

Goss, George Plant, Maurice O'Neill, Jackie Griffith, Charlie Kerins, Seán McCaughey, to name but a few, may ye all rest in peace.

As Dorothy Macardle, author of *Tragedies of Kerry*, said: "As long as grass grows and water flows" your names will be remembered, long after the name of the quisling de Valera is lost in oblivion.



- is committed to supporting prisoners for which CABHAIR is responsible
- is generating publicity in support of Irish national independence.

**We need your support. Our website address is:**  
**<http://irishfreedom.net>**

I would like to join Republican Sinn Féin

Ba mhaith liom bheith i mo bhall de Sinn Féin Poblachtach

Ainm .....

Seoladh .....

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

Send to:

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

or 229 Falls Road, Belfast  
e-mail: [saoirse@iol.ie](mailto:saoirse@iol.ie)  
<http://rsf.ie>  
or contact your local paper seller for details

## JOIN REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN



## For a full British withdrawal from Ireland

### OUR AIMS

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

### OUR HISTORY

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

## Gearrscéalta

### Prisoners punished for wearing Easter Lilies

**A SPOKESPERSON for Republican Sinn Féin and the Republican Prisoners' Action Group on April 14 condemned the vindictive actions of the prison authorities within the Six Occupied Counties for punishing Republican POWs for wearing the Easter Lily.**

"Republican prisoners in Maghaberry, who sought to honour Ireland's patriot dead by wearing an Easter Lily on Easter Sunday, are currently being kept in solitary confinement for a period of five days each," said Richard Walsh, National Publicity Officer. "Two or three prisoners are being punished at any one time, and once they have been released back into the segregated population another group of prisoners are made to commence the same punishment."

"It remains the case that prison staff and Loyalist prisoners are permitted to wear the British Imperial Poppy, which has been stained by the blood of countless people who sought their country's freedom. And yet anyone who dares honour Ireland's heroic martyrs is punished under Prison Rules. The Easter Lily was created in 1925 by Cumann na mBan to honour those who had died for Ireland, and to raise funds for Republican prisoners and other Republican purposes."

### House damaged in Armagh pipe bomb attack

ON April 26 a house in the Ballynahone Crescent area of Armagh city was damaged in a pipe bomb attack. The device exploded at the front of the house at around 5am. No one was injured in the attack but the blast caused minor damage to the front porch of the house and shattered a number of roof tiles.

### RSF refused entry to Silverbridge meeting

**REPUBLICAN Sinn Féin protesters were refused entry to what was billed as a 'public meeting' at the Silverbridge Resource Centre in County Armagh on the evening of Tuesday, April 22.**

Whilst the protest continued outside the venue, a member of a well-known South Armagh Provo family photographed those protesting in a blatant attempt at intimidation. Three carloads of RUC personnel also drove by in convoy in order to monitor the protest.

The meeting had been arranged in order to bolster support for the Stormont Agreement and the Assembly established by it. Republican Sinn Féin had intended to enter the meeting to voice their opposition to the Stormont Agreement and to the calls for the nationalist population to turn informers for the British Crown Forces. They also sought to point out that Republican prisoners were suffering as a result of the criminalisation policy willingly endorsed by the Provisionals.

A spokesperson for the organisation added that such tactics would not prevent them from confronting the Provisionals and other agents of English rule in Ireland.

### Six-County local elections postponed until 2011

LOCAL elections in the Occupied Six-County have been postponed by two years to coincide with the redrawing of local boundaries according to British Six-County Secretary Shaun Woodward. The number of local authorities is being cut from the current 26 to 11 under plans announced by the DUP Minister.

### Details of informers handed to murderer

**THE British colonial police have lost a highly sensitive file containing personal details of more than 40 informants but no members have been disciplined or charged over the blunder.**

Copies of the 'sensitive disclosure schedule' were handed over to a gang charged in connection with the murder of a north Belfast man, Louis Maguire. The RUC/PSNI attempted to retrieve the top-secret material but one full file of names and addresses remains missing three years on.

The RUC/PSNI only became aware of the loss when Maguire handed a page of the file to a senior RUC/PSNI member during a court hearing before his trial for the 2003 murder of David 'Digger' Barnes.

A Belfast Crown Court judge has ordered an investigation.

### Results of Dublin raffle

APRIL results: 1st.prize ticket no 649; 2nd prize no 526; 3rd prize no 258; 4th prize no 066; 5th prize no 466; 6th prize no 262; 7th prize no 427; 8th prize no 129.

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## Gearrscéalta

### Reinstatement of Low Template DNA criticised

**THE announcement that Low Copy Number DNA testing is to be reinstated as an evidential tool was criticised on April 15 by Republican Sinn Féin.**

National Publicity Officer Richard Walsh said: "Low Template DNA analysis falsely linked a Nottingham schoolboy to the bombing. This notoriously unreliable and utterly discredited technique also identifies trace elements of DNA which may have arrived at a given place for entirely innocuous reasons. As such, its use is rejected almost throughout the world as an evidential tool."

"The issues surrounding the use of LCN DNA were never solely related to its handling and storage. It is also unsurprising that the RUC were quick to announce its reinstatement as evidence as a means of removing those whom they oppose from society."

### Workers in Ballymun Plaza Hotel 'kicked out'

**On April 18 workers in the Ballymun Plaza Hotel were given five minutes to vacate the building, likewise the guests.**

Bennett Construction, along with 50 security guards, walked into the hotel, locked the doors and ordered all the staff into the ballroom where they were told to vacate the building immediately.

Bennett Construction owns the building which was leased to John Creed and Nevil Keegan, who run the Tallaght Plaza Hotel in Dublin 24.

According to a SIPTU official no rent was paid to Bennett Construction for the last 18 months so they repossessed the building on April 18.

The workers have received no wages since then. And when they went to claim their entitlements from the social welfare they were told that no tax or insurance contributions have been paid either in the last 18 months. So the workers have to wait six weeks to get their payments from the social welfare. This is a particularly hard blow on those whose wages are the sole income to the household.

On the evening of April 24 the sacked workers staged a protest at the Plaza Hotel in Tallaght demanding the reopening of the Ballymun Plaza and the return of their jobs.

The union has since learned that what Bennetts did was wrong and that they should have informed the minister for employment of their intention to shut down the hotel and throw out the workers.

### British warship docked in Dublin

**ON Sunday, April 27 a British warship, the HMS Tyne, a 'river-class patrol vessel', was observed to be docked at Sir John Rogerson's Quay.**



• The British navy ship Tyne docked at Sir John Rogerson's Quay on April 27.

A small crowd gathered, consisting of the curious and the annoyed, to look at the HMS Tyne, a British navy ship which was built in Woolston Docks, Southampton and which is normally based at HM Naval Base Portsmouth.

There were armed 26-County Special Branch on the quayside and armed British Royal Marines on board the ship which was flying the Union Jack flag in front, over one of its machine guns.

The Tyne is a ship with a bloody past whose crew have been awarded a 'Freedom Award' which they described as "... one of the highest awards that can be bestowed upon a ship of the Fleet. It is a privilege which in days of old formed a contract between the military and the civil authorities of a city or borough such that in exchange for protection the military unit would be able to march freely through the place, bearing arms and flying their colours..."

The Tyne sailed out of Dublin the next day, perhaps knowing that protests were being organised to highlight its presence and history.

## Pat Finucane inquiry secretly blocked by British

**IT was recently revealed that the public inquiry by the British government into solicitor Pat Finucane's murder has been secretly blocked for nearly two years. Preparations for an independent inquiry into the murder in February 1989 - by loyalists acting in collusion with British state agencies - have ceased.**

The British Northern Ireland Office (NIO) blamed the family because they would not co-operate with the holding of an inquiry under the controversial British Inquiries Act, which empowers the British government to withhold information and any findings from the public domain on grounds of so-called British national security.

Geraldine Finucane has argued for the inquiry into her husband's murder to be held under existing less restrictive legislation. She claims that a tribunal under the Inquiries Act would not be sufficiently independent of the British government. In a statement Geraldine Finucane publicly doubted if an independent public inquiry would ever be

held.

She accused the British government of misleading the people of Ireland and of wishing to hold a type of inquiry that British ministers can control "from behind the scenes".

"I have long doubted whether the British government had any real intention of ever establishing a genuinely independent public inquiry into Pat's murder," Geraldine Finucane said. "They have misled my family, the Irish government (sic) and they have misled the European Court of Human Rights."

Peter Madden, representing the Finucanes, has written to Shaun Woodward claiming that "no reasonable explanation has been provided



• Pat Finucane

as to why it is considered possible to conduct the Rosemary Nelson inquiry, which also covers issues of the alleged involvement of members of the British Army and Secret Intelligence Services, while it was claimed that new legislation had to be enacted before a Pat Finucane inquiry could be established".

In a statement on April 26 Des Dalton, Vice-President of

Republican Sinn Féin said that the fact that the British government were not prepared to accede to the calls of the Finucane family as well as Judge Peter Cory — who carried out an investigation into collusion in a number of murders between British state forces and loyalists — for a full public and independent inquiry into the murder of solicitor Pat Finucane in 1989 should not come as a surprise.

He continued: "As Pat Finucane's wife Geraldine pointed out the British government are only willing to hold an inquiry which British ministers can control "from behind the scenes".

"The murder of Pat Finucane revealed the true face of British rule in Ireland and its collusion with loyalist death squads in a campaign of murder directed against the nationalist community. It is little wonder the British government do not want any light shed on such matters."

## Rossiter death not 'fully investigated'

**THE inquiry into the arrest and detention of 14-year-old Clonmel schoolboy Brian Rossiter found that his detention was unlawful and not in accordance with the Criminal Justice Act 1984. Brian Rossiter was arrested by gardaí for an alleged public order offence in Clonmel on September 10, 2002.**

Hugh Hartnett SC, who headed the inquiry, who considered evidence from 99 witnesses, was critical of the Garda investigation saying that all the circumstances were not fully investigated and all witnesses were not interviewed. He noted that were it to happen now, the investigation would be by an independent body.

"The documentation produced in the course of the investigation into the death of

Brian Rossiter and the evidence heard at this inquiry does not show any indication of there being any real investigation in relation to the possibility of Brian Rossiter having been assaulted or his having received a fatal injury while in custody," he noted.

The inquiry found that medical evidence on injuries noted at the youth's post mortem by State Pathologist Dr Marie Cassidy was



• Brian Rossiter

complicated by the fact that he had suffered injuries during an assault by Noel Hannigan on September 9th - over 36 hours before his arrest.

Hugh Hartnett said forensic pathologist for the inquiry, Prof Anthony Busuttil and

forensic pathologist for the Rossiters, Prof Christopher Milroy, both believed an extradural haematoma to Brian Rossiter's head had most likely been caused about the time of his arrest.

Irish Council for Civil Liberties director Mark Kelly said Hugh Hartnett's report clearly showed a violation by gardaí of Article 2 of the European Convention of Human Rights due to the absence of an effective Garda investigation.

The report concluded it was "not satisfied" that the youth was assaulted by gardaí either during his arrest or subsequent detention in Clonmel Garda station.

## 'Ordinary workers did not gain from boom'

**ORDINARY working people should not be faced with pay cuts because they did not benefit from the huge economic growth of the past two years, a SIPTU conference was told by SIPTU'S head of research, Manus O'Riordan on April 14.**

"The people who made the profits, the people who made the super incomes, are the people who should accept the adjustments, not ordinary working people, and we'll be delivering that message to Government."

He highlighted the increased use of agency workers and said employers

were not using these workers for benevolent reasons.

"It is a very deliberate attempt to exploit those people, to undermine the pay and conditions of workers in this country and they are being used specifically to batter down and keep down wages and to undermine what we've achieved."

The meeting also heard a call for the scrapping of benchmarking by shop steward Kieran Allen. He said workers must enter into new partnership talks but must do so "with a very very different spirit".

Kieran Allen said the recession was caused by financial speculators "who've gone around the world, treated the world like a global casino. They're now bringing the world economy down to its knees."

Workers would not "carry the can" for them, and he warned that incoming

Taoiseach Brian Cowen "is not going to bully the trade union movement". Workers were not responsible for higher interest rates, higher fuel and food prices, he said.

Paul Hansard from the Dublin construction branch said conditions on construction sites were now "actually worse than they were before the agreement came into play".

The conference voted to allow SIPTU to enter 'Partnership' talks with the 26-County administration on a new pay agreement.

# For The Record

**TUES. APRIL 9:** The 26-County Labour Party is to spearhead a campaign to ban the use of cluster bombs. (Cluster bombs splinter into smaller bombs on impact).

RUC chief constable in the Occupied Six Counties Hugh Orde backed a British government Bill for longer detention periods than the current 28 days for "terrorist offences".

**THURS. APRIL 10:** Members of the Emergency Response Unit of the Gardaí used a Taser stun gun in the arrest of a man in Limerick city.

Up to 40 gardaí are expected to be called as witnesses in the civil case taken by six of the relatives of the victims of the Omagh bomb against five men they believe were responsible for the bombing in 1998.

A man was arrested in Dundalk after gardaí discovered an Uzi sub-machine gun.

**SAT. APRIL 12:** A petrol bomb and paint were thrown at St Comgall's Church of Ireland in High Street, Newtownbutler, Co Fermanagh. Scorch damage was caused to the building earlier in the month and two lead glass windows in the church were broken.

A Tibetan supporter holding a "Human Rights for Tibet" poster was jeered and jostled by about 100 Chinese people who marched in Dublin in support of the Beijing Olympics. The poster was torn from him but he was unhurt.

The Ireland-Palestinian Solidarity campaign held a demonstration in Dublin to mark the 60th anniversary of the massacre at Deir Yassin where 100 people were killed.

Former president of the 26 Counties Patrick Hillery died.

Up to 10 new golf courses could be opened in Cuba under Raúl Castro's initiatives. At present there is only one in Havana (where Ché Guevara beat Fidel Castro in 1962) and one in Varadero.

A Sudanese detainee in the US detention base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, appearing before the Pentagon's military commission, denounced the trial as illegal, refused to accept legal representation and said he would boycott further proceedings.

**SUN. APRIL 13:** Firemen were attacked in the Dunclug estate in Ballymena, Co Antrim for the fourth night in a row.

Michael Mills, former Political Correspondent of the *Irish Press* newspaper (for 20 years) and the first Ombudsman in the 26-Counties in 1984, died.

President of the World Bank, Robert Zoellick, warned that 100 million people face being pushed deeper into poverty as a result of rising food prices.

**MON. APRIL 14:** Public hearings into the proposal by the Environmental Protection Agency to grant a waste licence to Dublin City Council for the Poolbeg incinerator began.

Lawyers for the five men being sued by some relatives of the victims of the Omagh bombing failed in their bid to have all evidence from the RUC banned from their case.

Over 420 jobs were at risk in Iralco, Collinstown, Co Westmeath as liquidators were appointed to the automotive company.

A prisoner who died in Mountjoy Prison in May 2004, died because he was not given his prescribed medication, according to an inquest into his death.

**TUES. APRIL 15:** Six Linfield fans were arrested in Dublin after the match between Linfield and St Patrick's Athletic, Inchicore in Dublin.

Venezuelan armed forces occupied 32 sugar plantations at the request of President Hugo Chavez whose programme of nationalisation continues.

An original copy of the 1916 Proclamation sold at auction in Dublin for €360,000. Seán Mac Diarmada's 1916 Easter Week Combatant's Bronze medal sold for €110,000. The auction of historical Irish documents and artefacts raised over €2 million.

**WED. APRIL 16:** A ledger, worth an estimated £50,000, was withdrawn from auction in Dublin



• On April 28 Shell E&P Ireland rejected the proposal by Erris residents to move the gas refinery to a coastal, rather than an offshore location.

after RUC chief constable Hugh Orde claimed it was his.

Vincent McDermott, Blanchardstown, Dublin was sentenced to nine months in prison for his part in the so-called Love Ulster riot in Dublin in February 2006.

19 Palestinians were killed in an Israeli military air-strike in Gaza. The dead include a Reuters' cameraman.

Irish farming groups are threatening to Vote NO in the forth coming Lisbon Treaty referendum in protest at the treatment of farmers by the World Trade Organisation.

Zanu-PF supporters are using polling results to pinpoint support for the opposition in rural areas of Zimbabwe. Several hundred people were admitted to hospital over a number of days with serious injuries inflicted by supporters of the Zanu-PF party. Many more have been forced from their homes. One man, Tapiwa Mubwanda, was beaten to death as he was allegedly told "It is your own fault voting for the opposition. When we have the run off you will know how to vote."

**THURS. APRIL 17:** New forensic evidence has come to light resulting in a re-examination of the case of Kevin Conway, found shot dead in a disused farmhouse in Co Armagh in 1998. He was from the Kilwilkie Estate in Lurgan.

Shell to Sea campaigners claimed that the new proposed route of the Corrib gas pipeline would cut the village of Rosspoint in half.

Dockers in Cork refused to unload a cargo of timber from the ship *Defender*. The crew of nine claimed they had not been paid since January.

About 60 Republican supporters placed a picket on Ian Paisley when he visited Cobh, Co Cork. Paisley was invited by the Chamber of Commerce to address the 50th annual dinner.

**FRI. APRIL 18:** The families of David McLlwayne and Andrew Robb, two teenagers stabbed to death in Tandragee, Co Armagh in February 2000, reacted angrily to the news that one of the two men accused of their murder has turned supergrass.

**SAT. APRIL 19:** Former unionist lord mayor of Lisburn, Co Antrim, Cecil Calvert told reporters that "Catholics are not being intimidated in Stoneyford, Lisburn" despite evidence that nationalists have been the victims of a sustained campaign of sectarian intimidation and harassment by loyalists since the late 1990s. The attacks include arson, the forced closure of Catholic businesses, Catholic churches vandalised and in 1998 the murder of Ciaran Heffron. Calvert insisted that 'he is the politician in Stoneyford and nationalist politicians are not wanted' and that "it [Stoneyford] is a predominantly Protestant village. It has an Orange Hall and flags. They [people from west Belfast] shouldn't move in if they don't like that."

A billboard was erected in Crossmaglen, Co Armagh to mark six months since the murder of Paul Quinn in Co Monaghan last October. The family claim that members of the Provisionals were involved in his murder.

The Rossiter family in Clonmel, Co Tipperary were 'disappointed' at the outcome of an inquiry into the death of their son hours after being taken unconscious to hospital from Clonmel garden station in 2002. The 14-year-old had been arrested on a public order offence.

In an exclusive in *The [English] Independent*

Israeli soldiers spoke of their 'reign of terror' inflicted on Palestinians in Hebron including beatings, abductions and torture.

Environmentalists called for 'massive fines' to be imposed on property developers after eight protected trees were destroyed at a site in Newcastle, Co Down

**SUN. APRIL 20:** A 14-year-old boy who was attacked by four men in the north Belfast area sustained facial injuries.

The home of four Lithuanian workers was petrol-bombed in Milburn Park, Cookstown, Co Tyrone during the night. This was the third time their home had been attacked.

**MON. APRIL 21:** European directives on data retention have given Gardaí in the 26-Counties extended powers in relation to e-mail and internet data retained by internet service providers.

A new report on alcohol-related harm highlighted the "increasingly negative role played by alcohol" in Irish society. Among other statistics *Alcohol Related Harm in Ireland* reveals that alcohol was a contributory factor in 36.5% of all fatal crashes and that 465 of those who committed homicide were intoxicated at the time and that alcohol was involved in a quarter of severe domestic abuse.

Martin McGuinness, Provo deputy first minister in Stormont, denied he had prior knowledge of the Enniskillen bombing in which 11 people were killed in 1987. The allegations are contained in *Age of Terror: Ten days of Terror*, a documentary by Peter Taylor on BBC TV tonight.

Dominic McGlinchey jnr turned down an invitation from Gerry Adams for the family to attend a meeting in Toomebridge, Co Antrim. He intimated that the invitation was "a publicity stunt".

Citygroup, the world's biggest bank, announced 9,000 job cuts after losses of €3.2 billion.

**WED. APRIL 23:** Under new by-laws from Dublin City Council the distribution of advertising leaflets and other promotional material will be banned in the city centre in the near future. Pubs, restaurants (particularly takeaways), burger and ice-cream vans will come under the ban.

**THURS. APRIL 24:** The family of murdered Belfast solicitor Pat Finucane still want an independent inquiry into his death despite the actions of the British government in secretly blocking such an inquiry for two years.

**FRI. APRIL 25:** Local council elections in the Occupied Six Counties will not be held until 2011 'to allow for the reduction of the 26 councils to 11'.

The family of the murdered Brazilian Jean Charles De Menezes called for the inquest into his death 'to be as wide-ranging as possible'. They want to include "the police procedures" that lay behind the events on the day of the shooting. Jean Charles was shot dead by the British police in September 2005 as he boarded a train. Police claim they thought he was a bomber but the family say there is no evidence for such a claim.

As the Olympic Torch arrived in Nagano, Japan protesters were surrounded by hundreds of riot police. The protestors carried flags and

placards saying "Stop the Torch".

There were protests outside the Queens County Criminal Courts Building in the Queens' Borough of New York as three NYPD policemen were acquitted of all charges in the killing of an unarmed man in November 2006. Over 50 shots were fired at Seán Bell and two companions as they left a nightclub on the day Bell was to get married.

Tralee Town Council approved and gave planning permission to a multimillion euro retail park on the Austin Stack GAA Grounds. A grandnephew of Austin Stack, one of Ireland's well-known patriots after whom the park is named, was among those who objected to the redevelopment of the GAA grounds.

The Shell to Sea Campaign Group proposed a new location to Shell Ireland E&P for the gas refinery in Mayo and away from the current site at Bellinaboy.

Over 300 people, supporters of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) were arrested in Harare after Mugabe's police raided their party's HQ. They had sought shelter in the HQ after their homes were destroyed by militia loyal to Mugabe.

Israel dismissed a proposal from Hamas for a six-month ceasefire in Gaza and the West Bank.

**SAT. APRIL 26:** The Galtymore Ballroom in Cricklewood London is to close its doors in June after 56 years. It marks the end of an era for the Irish emigrant community, 6,850 of whom turned out to see Larry Cunningham one night in 1967.

**SUN. APRIL 27:** Loyalist feuding was blamed for the shotgun attack on the home of a family in Castlefergus, Co Antrim.

**MON. APRIL 28:** Raymond McCord, whose son Raymond was murdered by loyalists in 1997, is to set up a new victims group. Fr Aidan Troy, Holy Cross, is to join the group.

The Lower Ormeau Concerned Community in Belfast and the Garvaghy Road Residents Coalition outlined their concerns about the Strategic Review Parades Body.

A man died following an explosion in one of the process reactor vessels at the Cordon Pharma Chem factory in Little Island, Cork.

Shell E&P Ireland rejected the proposal by Erris residents to move the gas refinery to a coastal, rather than an offshore location. The cost of keeping the gardaí in north Mayo is running at €800,000 per month.

The new papal nuncio to the 26 Counties is Archbishop Giuseppe Leanza.

Two-thirds of the voters in the 26 Counties do not understand the Lisbon Treaty according to Referendum Commission research.

**TUES. APRIL 29:** Two-thirds of primary school principals in the Occupied Six Counties have no confidence in the Stormont minister for education Caitriona Ruane's ability to deliver a quality new system after the 11-plus is abolished.

Undercover surveillance will be allowed in criminal trials in the 26 Counties under new laws planned for later in the year.

Almost 30,000 health employees in the 26 Counties voted for work to rule and possible strike action over a recruitment freeze. Dr Una Lynn, Queens' University, Belfast suggested the '26 Counties could learn from Cuba, a third-world country with a world-class health system'.

**WED. APRIL 30:** An inquest into the murder of nationalist Niall Donovan, a bank official from Belfast, whose body was found near Dungannon, Co Tyrone in June 1996, was told that the killing was sectarian. He may have been the first victim of the LVF which had broken away from the UVF in 1996.

**THURS. MAY 1:** Charges against 18 people arrested during a UDA death squad feud in Carrickfergus, Co Antrim over the past nine months were dropped.

The Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission reported that almost 3,000 complaints have been made against members of the gardaí. It said it was probing more than 750 allegations into criminal activity. Nine cases have been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

**FRI. MARCH 2:** The British Labour Party sustained its worst set of local election results in 40 years, coming third after the Liberal Democrats in council elections in England and Wales. Ken Livingstone was defeated by Tory candidate Boris Johnson for the elected position of Mayor of London.



# LOYALISTS TO BE PAID NOT TO BURN TRICOLOUR

## A Belfast Chronology

**Monday, April 7, 2008:** Belfast Crown Court heard evidence at the trial of six UDA men charged with membership of the UDA that up to 250 loyalists were to appear at "a show of strength" rally in a bar in north Belfast.

**Monday, April 14, 2008:** The family of Danny McGurk, west Belfast, shot dead by the RIRA in August 2003, are demanding an investigation into allegations that two informers linked to his death were being protected by the RUC.

A bullet was received in the post by the *Irish News* newspaper in Belfast.

**Tuesday, April 15, 2008:** Public hearings into the murder of Rosemary Nelson opened in Belfast. Rosemary Nelson was murdered in March 1999 when a bomb exploded under her car in the driveway of her Lurgan home. The loyalist group Red Hand Defenders admitted responsibility for the murder. Rosemary Nelson had claimed security force harassment prior to her death.

**Wednesday, April 16, 2008:** Six loyalists were acquitted of membership of the UDA. They were arrested in a bar in Belfast while planning a 'show of strength' rally in the city.

**Thursday, April 17, 2008:**

Paul Newton remained in a critical condition in the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast after he suffered extensive injuries in an unprovoked attack on Friday, April 11 in Belfast after the Connacht-Ulster rugby match.

Six men were arrested, under the Terrorism Act, following a series of raids in the Poleglass, Twinbrook, Turf Lodge and Shaw's Road areas, in connection with the kneecapping of John Donnelly of Norglen Road.

**Friday, April 18, 2008:** Talks took place between the Provisional leader Gerry Adams and RUC/PSNI chief constable Hugh Orde in Hillsborough Castle. They described the talks as 'constructive'.

**Saturday, April 19, 2008:** Gerard Heatley, Shaw's Road. Lenadown, Belfast was remanded in custody charged with possession of weapons and items such as latex gloves, balaclavas and imitation firearms at his home on Tuesday, April 15.

**Monday, April 21, 2008:** Several anti-social incidents took place in west Belfast over the weekend including a vicious attack on two men near Broadway while another man had part of his ear bitten off. Two youths were



• **Belfast teenager Peter McBride who was shot and killed in September 1992 by Scots Guards Mark Wright and James Fisher.**

killed when a car they were passengers in (believed to have been stolen) crashed into a taxi on the Lisburn Road.

Scots Guard Mark Wright, the British soldier who shot and killed Belfast teenager Peter McBride in September 1992, was discharged from the army after being shot in Iraq.

Caoimhín Mac Giolla Cathain, who is organising a music concert in Belfast, won permission to

challenge an 18th century law preventing him from applying in Irish for a drinks' licence. Under the Administration of justice (Language) Act Ireland 1737 he is prohibited from applying for a licence in any language but English.

**Tuesday, April 22, 2008:** Three years ago the RUC lost 'highly sensitive files' containing personal details of more than 40 informers but the loss is only now coming to the public media. One

file, still missing, was handed to a gang charged with the murder of north Belfast man David Barnes. No one has ever been charged in connection with the loss despite a judge ordering and inquiry.

**Friday, April 25, 2008:** Loyalists in Belfast are being offered extra cash incentives not to burn the Irish Tricolour on their bonfires in July. This will be the fourth year the Belfast City Council have sponsored the loyalist bonfires.

The Strategic Review of Parades Body recommended the transfer of responsibility for parades in the Occupied Six Counties to a new secretariat under the Office of the First and Deputy First Ministers in Stormont.

The review body was unable to reach consensus on parades on the Garvaghy Road in Portadown and in the Ormeau Road in Belfast.

The nationalist politicians are insisting that the changes must be linked to the transfer of policing and justice powers to Stormont.

**Monday April 28, 2008:** Up to 60 nationalists and loyalists clashed at the junction of the Newtownards and Albert Bridge Roads and the Short Strand. Missiles were thrown after an Orange parade.

## Political status picket held in Wexford

**ON Saturday, April 19 a picket for political status for Republican POWs was held in Wexford town's historical Bullring.**

Republicans from Wexford, Enniscorthy, Kilkenny, Kildare, Carlow and Dublin held banners, gave out leaflets and talked to people with questions. The Tricolour of the

Republican was also held.

Ger Foran, Kilkenny, read a statement from the South-East Comhairle Ceantair. He said:

"We stand here as part of the unbroken, undefeated true Republican Movement who can trace its origins back to Tone. Our ideology is plain and simple — Ireland united, Gaelic and free.

"We the present day campaigners for a united Ireland salute the Republican POWs being held in Maghaberry in Lisburn, Co Antrim and Portlaoise Prison. We say how dare the Brits criminalise those Irishmen and Ireland's fight for freedom. Those men are political prisoners and should have political status restored.

"The Republican Movement is still here and is in safe hands. It is rebuilding under extreme pressure from the



• **Members of Republican Sinn Féin from Leinster held a picket in Wexford town on April 19 for political status for Republican POWs in Maghaberry jail.**

Brits and Free Staters, but as long as the British occupy the Six Counties, Irish men and women will see it for what it is, an illegal occupation of a foreign army.

The Stormont Agreement

will not and is not working because it has failed to end partition. Ian Paisley knows the Union is safe. The loyalist terror gangs know the Union is safe. The Free Staters know their position is safe.

"Republican Sinn Féin has a job to finish, to finish off British rule once and for all. We aim to mobilise the Irish people as one mass movement."

## Development Fund Special Appeal

Republican Sinn Féin is preparing to launch its campaign for a No vote in the Lisbon Treaty 26-County referendum. Funds are urgently required if an effective campaign is to be mounted including the production of leaflets, posters and the organisation of public

meetings. Please send donations to Ard-

Oifig, 223 Parnell St, Dublin 2

We know we can call on you for your support and we will contact all who support our aims and objectives with details of our plans and how they can help to attain our goals, in due course.

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

Republican Sinn Féin Development Fund, AIB, Capel Street, Dublin 1. Account number: 15411-097.

All donations will be appreciated and acknowledged.



## Hamill case to go ahead in June

**A LEGAL challenge by the family of a man murdered in Portadown, Co Armagh in April 1997 will go ahead from June 9-11. The judgment is expected very soon afterwards.**

Relatives of Robert Hamill (25) won a judicial review of the British Six-County Secretary's decision to limit the terms of

reference of a inquiry into his death.

Nobody has been convicted of the murder of

the nationalist father-of-two who was kicked to death by loyalists in the centre of Portadown, while the British Colonial police in a nearby Land Rover failed to intervene.

In March, British Six-County Secretary Shaun Woodward refused the

family's request to widen the investigation to include the Six-County Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).

Family barristers were in Belfast's High Court on April 11 for their successful bid for a review of that decision.

## Guth na Mumhan: Inniu is Inné

### Liam Scully Commemoration

THE annual Liam Scully commemoration will take place on Sunday, 25th May at Templeglantine Old Cemetery near Abbeyfeale, Co Limerick. Tomás Ó Curraoin, Gaillimh will give the oration and Séamus Ó Súilleabháin of Cumann Smith O'Brien/Colbert, West Limerick will be Cathaoirleach.

This event unites Republicans from Limerick, Clare, Cork, Kerry and Tipperary as they remember the fighting men of their counties who were present on the night of Saturday, 29th May, 1920 when Liam Scully was laid to rest in this ancient churchyard. The parade will form up at 2.30 p.m. and led by a Colour Party and piper will march to the Republican Plot where the ceremony will be held..

Liam Scully was born into a nationalist family in Glencar, Co. Kerry about 1894. His father was a national school teacher and Liam followed in his footsteps developing a deep love of the Irish language and was actively involved in the Volunteers by 1916. He reorganised the Glencar volunteers following Easter Week and began a University course in teaching. He later decided to give up teaching and devote his time to the Gaelic League and Volunteer work. He became Gaelic League organiser in North Kerry and stayed with the Collins in Ballylongford. All this time he was an IRB man.

Following the Soloheadbeg ambush the War of Independence began and the IRB leadership were anxious to spread the fighting into Co. Limerick. A number of IRB men were drafted into the county to help local

activists; Liam Scully was one of them. He became Gaelic League organiser for the county. On April 27, 1920 he took part in the first successful attack on an RIC barracks in county Limerick when Ballylanders police station was captured. A substantial quantity of arms and ammunition was taken and Liam Scully was detailed to examine all police records and notebooks captured.

This success led the leadership to decide on an immediate attack on the much more strongly fortified Kilmallock barracks. Picked men from brigades in East and West Limerick, Clare, Cork and Tipperary were made ready for the assault on May 29. Thirty heavily armed men mounted the attack. They were supported by about forty local volunteers, armed with shotguns and revolvers on security duty. The attack began at twelve midnight and the IRA managed to break through the roof and set the building alight. Firing continued throughout the night but the RIC refused to surrender and when the roof eventually collapsed, the surviving members retreated to a

fortified blockhouse in the rear.

As all the bombs had been used the IRA were unable to dislodge them. At dawn the leadership decided to break off the action. During the evacuation Liam Scully moved on to the street a number of times. The police opened fire and shot him in the neck.

Although attended to by Nurse O'Sullivan of Cumann na mBan he quickly died. He was brought by car to West Limerick which had provided ten members of the attacking party and laid out in O'Gorman's farmhouse, situated in a remote part of Templeglantine. Three priests and fifty riflemen attended the midnight burial. Seán Forde gave the oration and Seán Scully, a brother of the dead man was given the Tricolour which draped the coffin.

### Irish people entitled to challenge partition

THE use of historic Arbour Hill and the graves of those who led the 1916 Rising by the outgoing leader of Fianna Fáil to promote the normalisation of British rule in Ireland was condemned on May 2 by Joe Lynch, Limerick, Vice-

Chairperson of Comhairle na Mumhan (Munster Executive) of Republican Sinn Féin.

He said it was an insult for a man who had to resign his position over financial dealings to lecture people about the traditions of the past.

"For Bertie Ahern to stand in a hallowed place like Arbour Hill and cast aspersions on the 1916 leaders was a new low in Irish political hypocrisy. Embracing the so-called peace process while Ireland is still divided and partition still in place is only an insult to the memory of the men and women of 1916.

"The present political process represents an attempt to have British rule accepted throughout the entire island of Ireland. By their activities in standing up to the British, the 1916 leaders advanced the All-Ireland Republic and sought to break forever the link with the British Crown.

"The outgoing Fianna Fáil leader may like to think that the All-Ireland Republic has failed, but the fact is our country is still partitioned and the Irish people are fully entitled to challenge that artificial border created by the British."

## Notes from Tyrone

### MI5 active in Dungannon

DUBIA Meats (Dungannon Meats), a multi-million pound business located at Granville industrial estate on the outskirts of Dungannon, employs over 500 workers, from both communities in the Occupied Six Counties and also a large number of eastern Europeans. It operates 24 hours a day.

At the end of March one of the security guards at the factory was doing his rounds. He came across an identification badge on a string, the type you wear round your neck. The heading on the badge was Intelligence MI5 with a picture of a man in his thirties and the name Ivor Truesdale

was on the tag.

The guard reported his find to those in charge who phoned the RUC/PSNI. When the Crown Forces arrived and inspected the ID they tried to laugh it off, saying it was a fake and that someone was playing a joke. The guard thought differently and said it looked professional and pointed out that no one working at the firm looked like the man on the ID badge or went by this name. The Crown Forces left with the badge and offered no more explanations.

Republican Sinn Féin in East Tyrone claim the Crown Forces are white-washing the find and want to know what dirty deeds MI5 have been engaged in the Granville area.

the early hours, it was reported in April.

The British MoD confirmed the low-flying aircraft had been undertaking drills in an area above the village of Ardboe. Residents said the helicopters were flying just meters above their homes.

An MoD spokesman said: "The helicopters were being used as part of the rest of world operations." That means they were training for the illegal wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. He added: "In order for them to use the night-time equipment, they must go out at night. They must go out in more rural areas as the lights near a city make it bright. In the countryside it is pitch black."

In a statement, Republican Sinn Féin in Tyrone condemned the behaviour by the British military and said that the excuse of training should be looked at closely.

The statement continued: "East

Tyrone has become a major focus for Crown Forces activity since Republicans in the area started reorganising and rebuilding the Republican Movement. This activity is taking place over what is largely a well-known Republican area.

"We believe that the British forces of occupation are mixing training and intimidation. Why have they not been flying over the nearby village of Coagh which is largely unionist? We also find it strange that for years when the Crown Forces were swamping the East Tyrone area that there were no calls from the SDLP for their removal but now they are getting in on the act of trying to condemn these flyovers in order to grab votes.

"Republican Sinn Féin backs local calls for an end to this activity and calls on the British to end all its activity and leave us alone once and for all."

## IMEACHTAÍ

**BOOK LAUNCH:**  
'CYPRIOT AND IRISH POLITICAL PRISONERS IN  
ENGLISH PRISONS 1956 - 1959', BY VIAS LIVADAS,  
ÁRAS AN PIARSAIGH  
27 PEARSE STREET, DUBLIN  
SATURDAY MAY 10, 2.30pm

**SEÁN Mac DIARMADA COMMEMORATION**  
KILTYCLOGHER, CO LEITRIM  
SUNDAY, MAY 18  
Assemble at Church, 3pm  
Speaker: John Joe McCusker  
Organised by the Leitrim Commemoration Committee

**COMMANDANT NEIL 'PLUNKETT' O'BOYLE  
COMMEMORATION,**  
SUNDAY MAY 11,  
KNOCKNADRUCE, CO WICKLOW,  
Assemble Hollywood at 2.30pm

**BALLAD SESSION**  
JAMES CROSSAN/PAT MCMANUS ANNIVERSARY  
FUNCTION TO RAISE FUNDS FOR COMMEMORATION  
DINN CARRAGH HOTEL  
LISNASKEA, CO FERMANAGH  
FRIDAY, MAY 23

**POLITICAL STATUS PICKET**  
SATURDAY, MAY 31, 12.45pm, GPO, DUBLIN

**BALLAD SESSION**  
SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 9pm  
79 PUB, BALLYFERMOT, DUBLIN  
Admission: €5

## TEAGMHÁLACHA

O'SULLIVAN/ENRIGHT CUMANN

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

**KERRY COMHAIRLE CEANTAIR RSF:**  
<http://www.freewebs.com/republicansinnfeinkerry/>

**ROGER CASEMENT/FRANCIS HUGHES CUMANN**  
Republican Sinn Féin, Dún Laoghaire/Rathdown  
Anyone wishing to join should contact Ard-Oifig, 223  
Parnell Street, Dublin 1

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

**BRUGHA/SABHAT — HURSON/SANDS CUMAINN**  
Republican Sinn Féin, Limerick  
Anyone wishing to join should contact  
[www.freewebs.com/republicansinnfeinlimerick/index.htm](http://www.freewebs.com/republicansinnfeinlimerick/index.htm)

**SMITH O'BRIEN COLBERT CUMANN**  
Republican Sinn Féin, West Limerick  
Anyone wishing to join should contact 086-8153657 or  
086-1204592

**COMHAIRLE CEANTAIR ÁTHA CLIATH RSF**  
Anyone wishing to join should visit our website:  
[www.freewebs.com/rsfdublin](http://www.freewebs.com/rsfdublin)

**COMHAIRLE ULADH, RSF**  
Anyone wishing to join Republican Sinn Féin in Ulster  
should email: [republicansinnfein@googlemail.com](mailto:republicansinnfein@googlemail.com)

**REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN, BELFAST**  
Anyone wishing to join Republican Sinn Féin in Belfast  
should email: [rsfbelfast@googlemail.com](mailto:rsfbelfast@googlemail.com)

**McKEARNEY/ McCAUGHEY CUMANN, DUNGANNON**  
and applications throughout Co. Tyrone should contact us  
on: 07511047896 or via email: [rsfdng@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rsfdng@yahoo.co.uk)

**DAN KEATING/CLONOE MARTYRS CUMANN,  
COALISLAND**

Anyone wishing to join the above Cumann email:  
[rsfcoalisland@googlemail.com](mailto:rsfcoalisland@googlemail.com)

**JAMES McDAID CUMANN, REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN**  
Anyone interested in joining in the Midlands, England,  
should contact: Ard Oifig, 223 Parnell St, Dublin 1, Ireland,  
Dublin 8729747 or saoirse@iol.ie

**ROGER CASEMENT/JAMES STEPHENS CUMANN,  
LONDON**  
Anyone interested in joining in the London area should  
contact 00447926357676

**LIVERPOOL**  
Republican Sinn Féin is in the process of forming a  
Cumann in Liverpool. Anyone wishing to join should  
contact Ard-Oifig, 223 Parnell Street, Dublin

**KEVIN COEN CUMANN**  
Anyone wishing to join Republican Sinn Féin in West  
Roscommon contact: Joe Murphy, tel: 086 1281 861

**McNEELA/GAUGHAN/STAGG CUMANN**  
Republican Sinn Féin, Mayo  
Anyone wishing to join contact: 087 9232 096

**CUMANN AN tATHAIR Ó GRÍOFA**  
Republican Sinn Féin, Galway  
Anyone wishing to join in contact:  
Tomás at 087 2933 782 or Seán at 091 525 977

**REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN, LEITRIM**  
Anyone wishing to join in contact:  
Micheál at 071 9641 804 or John at 086 4061454



# ÉIRE NUA - A NEW DEMOCRACY

IN June SAOIRSE will begin a serialisation of the governmental structures policy of Republican Sinn Féin, ÉIRE NUA - A NEW DEMOCRACY. We publish here an introduction by Cathleen Knowles McGuirk, Vice-President of the organisation.

**THIS article is intended as an introduction to ÉIRE NUA. What is Éire Nua and what does it mean? Éire Nua means a New Ireland – a new Federal Ireland. It is about empowerment of its people and it is the major political policy of Republican Sinn Féin.**

Furthermore it is without doubt the only alternative to the arrangement (since 1920) of an Ireland divided into a 26-County state and a Six-County statelet. The Government of Ireland Act partitioned Ireland and left us with an appalling legacy of economic stagnation and emigration in the 26 Counties and injustice, gerrymandering and discrimination in the Six Counties.

No matter how many 'agreements' have been foisted on us by Britain not one has ever accepted that Ireland will never be at peace until Britain declares its intention to leave us alone to forge our own destiny.

In any way of liberation which eventually is successful, the mistake sometimes made by revolutionaries is the failure to foresee the aftermath of withdrawal by occupation forces from their country. In a climate of confusion it is relatively easy for others to move in and take over the reins of future government.

When the struggle for Irish freedom in the occupied Six north-eastern counties was at its height the then Republican Movement in 1972, having

anticipated just such an eventuality, devised a comprehensive political policy called Éire Nua – A New Democracy. Its main architect was the late Dáithí Ó Conaill who at the time of his death was Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin. He saw it as a way of building a pluralist 32-County Republic that would cater for [embrace] all traditions in Ireland.

The governmental structures envisioned in Éire Nua would involve a federation of the four historic provinces of Ireland under the co-ordination of a 32-County parliament (Dáil Éireann). Devolved powers through regional administrative councils to local bodies would ensure that at all levels citizens may have an effective voice in their own governance.

The details proposals for a new Four-Province Federal Ireland in a post-British withdrawal situation was aimed at bringing participatory democracy to the Irish people. In other words, empowering the people by moving away from the present over-centralisation of power and placing political power in the hands of the people at the

lowest level possible, ie Regional Boards, District Councils and Community Councils.

Regional boards would plan and oversee the economic, social and cultural development of areas within their jurisdiction while District councils would give people a direct voice in their own local governance ensuring accountability to the electorate. Community councils would



• Cathleen Knowles McGuirk.

give the people the opportunity to improve conditions at parish level. The National Parliament, or Third Dáil, would be representative of the whole of Ireland and would be the supreme national authority acting in trust for the people.

It would have responsibility for: (1) Irish foreign policy; (2) defence; (3) Irish culture, language and literature; (4) maintaining Irish neutrality and (5) seeking to secure a nuclear-free world.

The interests of the Irish people would be upheld at all times.

Before this plan for the establishment of a new society in Ireland can be realised, the structures of undemocratic partition rule must be abolished and replaced with entirely new structures based on the unity of the Irish people as a whole.

A new Constitution would be required providing for a Charter of Rights to secure for citizens effective control of their conditions of living; maximum distribution of authority; and the right of Ireland to join international bodies or organisations such as the United Nations.

The protection of Irish sovereignty and neutrality would be of paramount importance. The articles contained in the Charter of Rights are among the most democratic, liberal and radical to be found. In the event of the Republican Government regaining power these articles would be strictly adhered to and not just lip-service paid.

The key aspects to the Éire Nua policy, which are the arguments in favour of a Federal Ireland, are:

- participation by the people
- addressing the Ulster question and
- redressing the economic imbalance in Ireland along east-west lines.

When the Republican Movement endorsed this original and radical policy a press conference was held at the Ormond Hotel, Dublin on June 28, 1972 to launch and promote the Éire Nua programme. The press conference was attended by media representatives from

Ireland, Britain and Europe.

Republican Movement spokespersons emphasised that their proposals were not definitive or exclusive of other proposals. They also stated that the European Convention for the protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms would be incorporated in the domestic law of this New Ireland. Unionist opinion at the time responded favourably to the proposals.

Due to the ongoing success and growing interest in the Éire Nua programme, the Dublin administration became fearful of its own position of privilege and power and acted against the Republican Movement by banning Sinn Féin spokespersons from radio and television. By so doing the Irish people were deprived of the opportunity to judge for themselves the merits of the programme. In 1976 censorship was to become official state policy thanks to

Conor Cruise O'Brien. It is important to mention all this because people who have read Éire Nua and recognise its significance ask why the proposals for a Four-Province Federal solution have not been debated by the Irish people for all these years.

Sadly, in 1981, by a simple majority, the Federal policy was defeated by an Ard-Fheis after an element within Sinn Féin had successfully lobbied to have it abandoned on the flimsy grounds that it was 'a sop to loyalism'. We believed at the time that a major mistake was made in the rejection of this policy. There was nothing to replace it and an original,

positive and progressive element of policy was thrown away.

Following the 'split' of 1986 when by a majority of nine, Sinn Féin voted to end the abstentionist policy and take seats in Leinster House, Sinn Féin regrouped under the name Republican Sinn Féin and set about adopting once again the Éire Nua policy. The programme will provide the basis for implementing progressive social, economic and cultural policies. It provides for a system in which all creeds and traditions can be represented and all citizens can exercise real power without any group infringing on the rights of others. It also provides for separation of Church and State, and for an independent judiciary.

Éire Nua is the only alternative to the Belfast Agreement, an agreement which promises on the one hand that unionists have no fears because the 'union' is safe and on the other hand assures nationalists that they may pursue their aspiration of an united 32-County Ireland. Because of this illogical pronouncement the Belfast Agreement is bound to fail.

In order for any political process to result in agreement it is necessary to involve all the people: only a Federal Ireland offers such a positive new beginning. We believe the time has come for the people to have a say on a new Ireland – an Ireland where marginalisation, disadvantage and injustice will no longer exist.

Read ÉIRE NUA today!

## Rosemary Nelson 'murdered at time of political extremism'

COUNSEL for the Rosemary Nelson murder inquiry, Rory Phillips QC, said on April 16 (the second day of the inquiry) that Mrs Nelson was murdered amid 'a politically-charged atmosphere in Co Armagh surrounding the Drumcree Orange parades dispute'.

He detailed the building controversy surrounding the annual Orange church parade and the effect it had on the political climate throughout the second half of the 1990s. He explained to the inquiry how it led to some of the worst street disturbances and loyalist violence seen in the Six Counties. He said the inquiry should not shrink from analysing the activities of certain members of the RUC.

At the time of Rosemary Nelson's murder tensions in the Lurgan-Portadown area of Co Armagh had been heightened by the murders of Robert

Hamill, the subject of another inquiry, and the shooting of two members of the RUC in 1997.

Rosemary Nelson had often complained of abuse from members of the RUC, as had other solicitors, Rory Phillips said.

He played to the inquiry a series of clips from interviews with Rosemary Nelson in support of her claim, and her allegation that some in the British Crown Forces were incapable or unwilling to see the difference between her and the causes and alleged crimes of those she defended in court.

The inquiry is continuing.



• Members of Republican Sinn Féin took part with their banner in the annual May Day in Dublin on May 1.

# Defend sovereignty, neutrality, democracy

**BELOW** we carry the text of the pamphlet issued by Republican Sinn Féin on the Lisbon Treaty. Members throughout the 26 Counties will be campaigning with leaflets and posters in the weeks leading up to the referendum on June 12.

**SOVEREIGNTY:** The Lisbon Treaty lays the basis for the creation of a European super state. Already 80% of 26-County domestic law is subservient to EU laws and directives. Under the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution the power of the unelected Commission would be further increased whilst the 26-County state for five years out of 15 will have no representative on the EU Commission. This means commissioner. Power and decision-making would under the qualified majority rule be vested in the hands of the big states such as Britain, France, Germany and Italy. This is because population size would become the key influence in making EU laws.

It also introduces a clause which gives the EU Council of Ministers the right to extend its powers. This can allow for the removal of a national veto in all areas with the exception of defence. This will also remove the requirement for any further extension of EU power to be voted on by the Irish people in referenda. The Lisbon Treaty is in reality the EU Constitution under another name.

Its purpose is to give the EU the status of a supranational federal state or 'legal personality' allowing it in the future to negotiate and ratify internationally binding agreements in crucial areas such as foreign policy and justice. By ratifying the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution the member states would be allowing the EU to seek representation at the UN as an entity in its own right claiming to itself the authority to speak for the various states including the 26 Counties.

**Neutrality:** The Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution paves the way for the creation of an EU army. This process was begun with the Nice Treaty which formally established EU military staffs and the setting up of EU 'Battle groups' which can operate 2,500 miles outside the borders of the EU.

The Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution accelerates this setting out in Article 28 B the military role envisaged for the EU superstate. This includes: "joint disarmament operations, tasks of combat forces in crisis management, including peace-making and post-conflict stabilisation."

The Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution will militarise the EU even further, committing the 26-County State to a 'mutual - defence' commitment and removing the need for a referendum in the future on any new commitments to EU defence.

It goes on to state that all of these tasks may involve "supporting third countries in combating terrorism in their territories".

Whilst health services such as Cancer care in the 26 Counties face huge cuts in essential funding, provision is being made in the Lisbon Treaty for increased military spending. The Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution also provides for the creation of what would be an EU Foreign Minister and a European Diplomatic corps. This gives the EU a distinct presence on the world stage giving it both a military and political character.

The presence of 26-County troops in Chad, supporting a French colonial proxy war with China - the regime in neighbouring Sudan is being propped up by China - over oil reserves, highlights the nature of the military "tasks" that the 26-County state will be expected to perform. Almost 100 years after the First World War, is yet another generation of Irish people to be sacrificed on foreign battlefields in the interests of European capitalism and imperialism?

**Democracy:** The Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution represents an attack on both political and economic democracy.

Public services such as water, (the

liberal model of unbridled capitalism will dictate the economic and social policy of states, exposing the most vulnerable in society. This leads to a society where the needs of the 'market' are placed over all others, including the right to a job and a decent wage, where the best public services only go to those who can pay the most.

Already within the EU Trade Union rights have seldom faced a greater threat, the recent 'Laval ruling' of the European Court of Justice set the "free movement of goods and services" as superior to the right of workers to strike. Again the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution will further this agenda, placing competition above the rights of working people.

By voting NO to the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution you are opposing the creation of an undemocratic superstate, increased militarisation, the erosion of

**BELOW** is the text of the e-mail, published in the *Irish Times* newspaper on April 16, which refers to a briefing by Dan Mulhall, director of the EU division in the 26-County Department of Foreign Affairs about the Lisbon Treaty referendum:

## Leaked memo on Lisbon Treaty

*"The draft, largely incomprehensible to the lay reader, had been agreed following lengthy consultation with government lawyers and with the political parties."*

*"The bill would enter parliament in the second week of April and it would probably take two weeks to go through and be passed around 22 April. The minister for the environment would thus be entitled to set an order naming the date for the referendum between 30 to 90 days of the order being made. Technically, the Taoiseach and Aherne saw a slight advantage in keeping the no campaign guessing. 29 May was the assumed date in working plans."*

*"Mulhall said a date in October would have been easier from a procedural point of view, but the risk of unhelpful developments during the French presidency - particularly related to EU defence - were just too great. Sarkozy was completely unpredictable."*

*"The only other unhelpful event the Irish thought might impact on the May vote would be a WTO deal based on agricultural concessions that could lead the powerful farming association to withdraw its support."*

*"I ran through the UK parliamentary ratification timetable and noted that the referendum vote on 5 March would be a particularly sensitive moment. Mulhall remarked that the media had been relatively quiet on the ratification process so far. We would need to remain in close touch given the media crossover."*

*"Mulhall said other partners - including the commission - were playing a helpful, low-profile role. Vice-president Margot Wallstrom, who had been in Dublin yesterday and today, had told Dermot Aherne that the commission was willing to tone down or delay messages that might be unhelpful."*

*"??? ??? ???...so Irish thought treaty was taken for granted. ... David Miliband not going. Most people would not have time to study the text and would go with the politicians they trusted."*

current water rates levied on schools (an example of EU imposed policy) electricity supply, waste disposal, health care, the provision of social housing and education, postal services, public transport, are some of the vital areas which are categorised as "services of general economic interest" by the EU. This means states cannot block the privatisation of such services. The Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution accelerates this policy.

Under the Lisbon Treaty/EU Constitution the Thatcherite neo-

neutrality, the privatisation of public services and unfettered capitalism.

### DEFEND SOVEREIGNTY NEUTRALITY DEMOCRACY

What's being said:

"We need a European defence, a European army, not just on paper but a force genuinely capable of operating in the field, including beyond the European borders... I am advocating a more powerful Europe... In short I



am advocating a United States of Europe." — Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt, speech at London School of Economics, March 21, 2006

"Most people don't know what has been decided, we continue step by step until there is no turning back." — Prime Minister of Luxembourg, Jean-Claude Juncker, The Economist, September 24, 2004.

"Europe's nations should be guided

formed European Defence Agency. It also allows groups of the more powerful military powers within the Union to form military alliances among themselves which may then be authorised to act abroad on behalf of the EU. This would be an official EU operation and no matter what, Lisbon obliges all Member States to support it." — Joe Higgins, former Socialist Party TD.

"The Chad operation highlights the

### Funds Appeal

**Funds are urgently required by Republican Sinn Féin for its 'Vote No to Lisbon' referendum campaign. Donations from members and supporters are vital if we are to mount an effective and successful campaign. Please send all donations to: National Election Directorate, Teach Dáithí Ó Conaill, 223 Parnell St, Dublin 1.**

towards the superstate without their people understanding what is happening." — Jean Monnet, leading architect of the EU project.

"Public opinion will be led to adopt, without knowing it, the proposals that we dare not present to them directly... All the earlier proposals will be in a new text, but will be hidden and disguised in some way..."

What was [already] difficult to understand will become utterly incomprehensible, but the substance has been retained." — Giscard d'Estaing, President of the Convention on the Future of Europe which drafted the EU Constitution (The Independent (London) October 30, 2007).

"The difference between the original Constitution and the present Lisbon Treaty is one of approach, rather than content." — Giscard d'Estaing, The Independent (London) October 30, 2007.

"The point of the exercise was to achieve the same changes to the EU that the rejected EU constitution proposed, but to do this by way of a new treaty amending previous treaties and in ways that only a few legal eagles could possibly understand." — Vincent Browne, the Irish Times, March 5, 2008

"Lisbon, in fact, carefully creates the structures for armed intervention abroad. It demands increased military spending, and organises an EU armaments industry under the newly

fears that many Irish people have about the direction of Irish and EU military developments, even before the Lisbon Treaty takes us further down the same road.

Might Ireland's honourable record of impartial participation in UN peacekeeping be compromised by participation in EU operations that could serve as fig-leaves for the promotion of the interests of the French state, or of other EU states?"

— Andy Storey, College Lecturer at the UCD Centre for Development Studies

"That is why this entire scheme is a profound assault on democracy by the European political, bureaucratic and economic elites that are pushing it. It can only generate hostility and bitterness among citizens all over Europe as they discover with time the implications of the constitutional coup d'état being planned by these Euro-elites."

It constitutes the greatest assault on democracy on our continent since the days of fascism and World War." — Anthony Coughlan Secretary National Platform EU Research and Information Centre

"The convention (which drafted the EU Constitution) brought together a self-selected group of the European political elite... who see national governments and parliaments as an obstacle." — Gisela Stuart, British MP - The Making of Europe's Constitution, Fabian Society, London.



# ‘Where we are now, where we want to go and how get there’

**SPEAKING at Ionad na hÉireann (the Ireland Institute), Pearse Centre, Pearse Street, Dublin on April 17, Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, President of Republican Sinn Féin, said that Ian Paisley was retiring with his mission accomplished – the strengthening of British rule in Ireland. He continued:**

“Vincent Browne in his *Nightly News* on TV3 last week put it clearly. He said in effect that the nationalist view had been rejected and the unionist position had been accepted. The Unionist position was that the majority in the Six Counties should decide the future. We have all become unionists.”

“Bertie Ahern, for his part, put it quite blatantly on RTÉ Radio One on Sunday, April 6, when he said that Stormont was in position for the foreseeable future....

“Meanwhile a tide of Anglicisation is sweeping through the country in support of the new and strengthened institutions of English rule. Our culture and civilisation, to which the Irish language was central, must be accessible to all our people. Yet in Stormont, in spite of the St Andrew’s Agreement, an Ghaeilge is officially derided and condemned”.

He said that British and 26-County forces were increasingly involved in joint commemorations and celebrations and that: “British

Politicians cannot wait for the Crowned head of England to be officially received in Dublin for the first time in 100 years”.

“Nationally-minded people must protest at such an intrusion if they are to be faithful and true to the spirit of 1916”.

Turning to the wider world he said that we must continue to oppose the landing and re-fuelling of American warplanes at Shannon Airport: “These breaches of Irish neutrality are clearly against the wishes of the Irish people. They are in support of an illegal war undertaken in defiance of the United Nations”

Referring to the forthcoming Lisbon Treaty he claimed it was “95-96% the EU Constitution rejected by the people of France and Holland” and that the tightening of the EU grip “must be opposed as must the EU ‘battlegroups’ which have been described as a ‘standing army for Europe’”.

In the current situation he said that “The great unanswered question



• Ruairí Ó Brádaigh

before history of why did not Paisley on the one hand and the present Provo leadership on the other, accept and work the Sunningdale Agreement of 1973 which offered more and for which less was to be paid than the 1998 Belfast Agreement and posed the question as to “How do we move from here to the position of Ireland’s national independence with the essential unity of the country and its people achieved?”

“How do we combat the threat to

our separate identity so that we survive as a distinct people to cooperate with the former colonised nations and advance the cause of humankind in general? How do we progress towards building the Democratic Socialist Republic?”

“...we must organise among the people and build a mass movement. Imperialism in all its forms must be recognised and opposed at every turn. Above all we must educate our people politically.....also the lines must be kept open to the people of unionist orientation”.

He continued: “During the 1970s the ÉIRE NUA proposals were put to representatives of all shades of unionism at meetings which were on the basis of confidentiality and discretion.

“Their first preference would be, of course, an independent Six-County state, but we countered that this would not be viable. It is necessary to make clear that the new four-province federal Ireland proposed would include a nine-County Ulster in which – on present voting patterns – the unionists would have a working majority, but that the nationalists would be right behind them within reach of power.

“Of course, the idea would be to get away eventually from the unionist

versus nationalist situation and have a class-based politics where the distribution of wealth in the community would be the priority.

“In this connection every effort should be made even now to bridge the gap on the basis of social, economic and local issues, however difficult this may be.

“The way forward is clear as to how ÉIRE NUA could be implemented following a British government Declaration of Intent to quit Ireland; the election of an all-Ireland Constituent Assembly with the sole task of drafting a new constitution; this constitution to be put to the people in a single 32-County referendum; following its adoption new elections to the various levels of power in the New Ireland would take place.

“Such steps are just commonsense. The real and enormous task is to campaign, agitate and build support for such a programme based on Republican, socialist and environmental principles. To show the inadequacies and failures of the existing system, to present an alternative and above all to avoid misrepresentation of our position, these are our duties.”

(Full text on rsf.ie)

## Open letter to GAA President

**ON February 1 last Des Dalton, Vice-President, Republican Sinn Féin sent the following open letter to the President of the GAA, Nioclás Ó Braonáin.**

“A chara

As a member of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael I feel I must protest at the presence of Stormont minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure Edwin Poots in Pairc Esler Newry on January 16 at the Donegal v Down Dr McKenna football match. Once more senior officers of the GAA are allowing the association’s grounds and facilities to further the normalisation of British rule in Ireland.

“Edwin Poots used the occasion to make a public protest at the playing of

Amhrán na bhFiann, and also to object to the naming of GAA grounds in honour of Irish patriots, such as Casement Park in Belfast.

“Whilst you were willing to welcome Edwin Poots to Pairc Esler you refused to meet the President of Republican Sinn Féin Ruairí Ó Brádaigh at Pairc an Chrócaigh on February 24 2007 when a letter protesting at the presence of the England rugby team and the playing of the English

national anthem in Pairc an Chrócaigh was handed in.

“When the GAA dropped Rule 21 (which prohibited members of the British crown forces in Ireland from joining the GAA) in November 2001, Republican Sinn Féin warned that further demands would be made on the GAA in support of the campaign to normalise England’s occupation of Ireland.

“The intervening years have seen the staging of games involving members of the British forces in Ireland and the aforementioned England rugby game in Pairc an Chrócaigh. It now appears that the playing of the national anthem before GAA games in the Six-Counties and the naming of our grounds in honour of Ireland’s patriot dead are the next symbols of Irish nationality to be erased. It is only a matter of time before the flying of the national flag at GAA grounds in the Six-Counties will also be



• Republican Sinn Féin protest at Croke Park on February 24, 2007, protesting against the playing of the English National Anthem and the England team playing there.

objected to.

“The GAA, an association with deep cultural and historical significance for the Irish people must not allow itself to be used in furtherance of an anti-national agenda which contradicts the

principles, ethos and culture upon which the GAA was founded.”

In a reply, dated April 8, the President of the GAA, Nioclás Ó Braonáin, said:

“Des, a chara

“I refer to your recent

letter in relation to the attendance of Mr Edwin Poots at Pairc Esler in Newry on January 16th last, Mr Poots attended the game in his capacity as Minister for Culture, Arts and leisure.

“I can assure you that

neither I, nor any officials I am aware of in the Six Counties, have any plans to cease the playing of our National Anthem at games in the North or for that matter to re-name clubs or grounds in any related context.”

## Amnesty releases Guantanamo torture video

**TORTURE is legal in only one place in Cuba — the US military base at Guantanamo. George W Bush would like this form of torture to be legal everywhere in Cuba.**

On the other hand Raul Castro, President of Cuba, wants the prohibition on all forms of torture to extend to Guantanamo. He wants the rights afforded to Cuban prisoners to apply equally to all prisoners on Cuban territory, including the right to a fair trial, humane conditions of detention, healthcare, education, freedom from torture, and a release date determined by a court.

The 26-County Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dermot Ahern, supports George Bush's vision for the future of Cuba and has committed the 26 County to assisting the transition to this new Cuba. Dermot Ahern leads a group of countries in Europe pushing for the retention of sanctions against Cuba. Under his stewardship relations with Cuba have been sacrificed to curry favour with the Bush administration.

Previous Dublin Foreign Ministers stood up for the rights of Ireland to determine its relations with other countries free from US interference — this Minister is happy to be seen as the servant of the US State Department. He welcomes to his office the US appointed "Transition Coordinator", Caleb McCarry, the man appointed by George W Bush to introduce outrages such as "legalised waterboarding" into the rest of Cuba.

An American expert in torture techniques denounced his government for allowing "waterboarding" to be practised against "terror" suspects, just as a graphic advertisement showing the brutal reality of the technique was unveiled in Britain.

Malcolm Nance, who trained hundreds of US servicemen and women to resist interrogation by putting them through "waterboarding" exercises, demanded an immediate end to the practice by all US personnel.

He said: "Waterboarding is out-and-out torture, and I'm deeply ashamed President Bush has authorised its use and dragged the US's reputation into the mud.

"You have a purpose-built table with straps in a pattern so that people can be strapped and unstrapped quickly. The head is strapped down in such a way so they cannot resist the water. The head is elevated so the water goes down the oesophagus.

"The water is poured very carefully over the nose — you keep a constant pour. You are drowning in water but you don't have the ability to hold your breath. You feel the water going in, you understand that water is filling your lungs."

Amnesty International is leading the campaign to persuade the US to abandon the practice — a form of torture used as long ago

# WORLD NEWS



• Prisoners at Guantanamo Bay.

as the Spanish Inquisition — and is stepping up its efforts with the release of a graphic and disturbing advertisement.

Kate Allen, the UK director of Amnesty International, said: "Our film shows you what the CIA doesn't want you to see — the disgusting reality of half-drowning a person.

"For a few seconds, our film-makers did it for real. Even for those few seconds, it's horrifying to watch. The reality — in a secret prison with no one to stop it — is much, much worse."

The advertisement can be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZ7ISPA9g8s> and at 50 cinemas in Britain from May onwards.

## Forty-one% of Scots back break-up of British Union

**A NEW opinion poll on Scotland's constitutional future by TNS System Three found that 41% of Scots want the SNP government to negotiate an independence settlement.**

The poll results mark one of the few occasions in which independence has outpolled support for the British union. Scottish First minister Alex Salmond said the result showed Scots were now ready to vote for a separate Scottish state in a referendum.

The lead for independence will fuel calls by the Nationalist administration for MSPs to back a constitutional referendum.

The referendum policy recently received a boost after entrepreneur Sir Tom Hunter called for a plebiscite on independence.

Salmond says he has been subjected to intolerable interference and "unreasonable behaviour" from Westminster over plans to introduce a local income tax and replace public private partnerships (PPPs) for large-scale government projects with public bonds.

"With a dithering leadership in London and an incoherent approach in Scotland, Labour is trying and failing to exert the iron grip it once had, and took for granted — and is totally uncomprehending of the loss of power and the new political reality it finds itself in," he said.

## Salmond backs Gaelic as 'true national language'

**Gaelic is a true national language and Scotland must create the economic and cultural opportunities for it to thrive, Alex Salmond, Scottish First Minister, claimed on April 13 when he officially opened an £8 million centre at the Gaelic-medium college in Skye and announced £260,000 of government funding for it.**

Fàs — Gaelic for growth — is the centre for the creative and cultural industries, and aims to attract and support small and medium-sized cultural enterprises.

Alex Salmond said £200,000 of the money will provide digital TV production and post-production equipment, and £60,000 will support the college's plans for a Gaelic historical dictionary.

He said: "There can be no doubt that Gaelic truly is a national language. What we must do is create the economic and cultural opportunities for Scotland's Gaelic speakers — and the language — to thrive."

## Séamus McCollum

**THE funeral of Veteran Republican Séamus McCollum took place on April 22 and 23. At the removal from Murphy's funeral Home, his coffin, covered with the tricolour was carried into the Church of the Redeemer in Bray, Co Wicklow, where Séamus had lived for many years.**

A huge crowd was in attendance, among them many 1950s men and women. Kevin and Grainne Mallon had charge of the funeral arrangements.

The funeral Mass next morning was celebrated by Fr George Begley who said that Séamus was highly intelligent and articulate, a lover of

literature and the arts and a very private and independent man. A local choir sang throughout the Mass. Grainne Mallon read one of the lessons from the altar and prayers of the Faithful were read by Tom Mitchell and Cathleen Knowles McGuirk. Following Communion Seán Ó Sé played Seán Ó Riada's *Ag Críost an*

*Síol on the tin whistle.*

The funeral cortege to Glasnevin Cemetery was followed by friends and comrades, some of whom had travelled from Liverpool, and arrived to a packed graveyard. The coffin was carried by Harry Duggan, Hugh Doherty, Joe O'Connell and Eddie Butler — the Balcombe Street Four, who spend more than 20 years in British jails, to the Republican Plot where another veteran Republican, Dáithí Ó Conaill, is buried. Many wreaths and floral tributes were laid and a message from his former comrades in EOKA was read.

The oration was delivered by Joe O'Connell of Clare, who spent many years in prison in England with Séamus McCollum. Séamus was born in Lancashire, England in 1922 and was brought up by a maternal aunt in Liverpool following the death at an early age of his mother.

While still quite young he developed an interest in Irish Republicanism. He was arrested in 1954 while in possession of a suitcase full of explosives and given a six-year sentence, which he served at Wakefield prison, where members of the Greek Cypriot revolutionary organisation

EOKA were also imprisoned. The contacts he made in prison with EOKA members were to be of benefit to him in his work for the Republican Movement in later years.

On his release he moved to Ireland and became active in the cause of Ireland's struggle for freedom. As a result of this work he was interned in the Curragh Concentration Camp. Following the split in the Movement in 1969/70 he took the Republican side and played a very significant role thereafter.

He managed to steer clear of the Special Branch and avoid their attention for some time

but luck ran out in 1978. He was arrested and stood trial in the Special non-jury Court in Dublin. He was found guilty of conspiring with others unknown to import arms and explosives and with being a member of the Provisional IRA and was jailed for ten years.

Representing Sinn Féin Poblachtach at the funeral were Vice-President Cathleen Knowles McGuirk, Seán Ó Sé, who was a friend of Séamus's and Peig and Paddy King. Deepest sympathy is extended to his family and friends. Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.

## Lena Kerins

**ONE of the last links with the gallant Republicans of the 1940s has been broken with the passing of Lena Kerins, sister of patriot Charlie. She passed away peacefully at Abbeydorney Nursing Home on Sunday morning, April 6, aged 87.**

Lena was 23 years old when her brother Charlie was executed by Pierpoint, brought over from England by the de Valera-led Fianna Fáil administration.

The Republicans of the 1940s suffered so much under the jackboot of the Free State, with internment, cruel and inhumane treatment in the jails of Portlaoise, the Curragh and the horrendous executions at Mountjoy.

Charlie Kerins is faithfully commemorated every year without fail and Lena attended all of these and laid a wreath on most occasions.

Her remains were brought to St John's Church, Tralee, on Monday, April 7 and she was laid to rest on Tuesday, April 8 at Rath Cemetery.

The Republican Movement extends sympathy to her nephew, niece, relatives and friends.

## Enda O'Riordan

**ENDA O'Riordan, Republican, trade unionist and socialist died in Clonmel Hospital, Co Tipperary on April 14. He was 89 years.**

His coffin was draped in the Tricolour at the removal to St Peter and Paul's Church, Clonmel and following 1pm Mass on April 16 his funeral took place at the local cemetery. It was largely attended.

Finbar Kissane, Tipperary town and Waterford, presided at graveside ceremonies and introduced a long-time friend of Enda's, Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, President of Republican Sinn Féin, to give the oration.

"Enda O'Riordan was an earnest human being," he said. "living to the ripe old age of 89. He cared deeply for his

fellow human beings and was himself a man of many parts.

"He was Secretary of the Irish Federation of Musicians, managed showbands and organised céilí and céilí dancing. He first took part in Republican activity when he sold papers while working in England as a young man.

"In the late 1940s and early 50s he was one of the organizers of the George Plant Memorial Committee with Ned Carrigan, Knocklofty, Clonmel; they had a fitting monument erected at the grave in 1953, in the presence of a huge crowd of people.

"He authored a weekly column in the local Clonmel Nationalist under the nom-de-plume 'Cyclops', a name borrowed from the one-eyed giant in Homer's Iliad.

"Enda was secretary and organiser of the South Tipperary Commemoration Committee which held ceremonies every March at George Plant's grave and every July at the Round Tower memorial to General Liam Lynch at the place where the IRA Chief of Staff was mortally wounded in 1923.

"In recent years he gave his allegiance to Republican Sinn Féin and when the Special Branch seized €1,000 of its funds following the Ard-Fheis of 2004, Enda immediately raised contributions to the amount of nearly €1,000.

"His last and unfinished

project was to erect a plaque in his native Carrick-on-Suir to Eamonn O'Doherty who was IRA Chief of Staff in 1973-74. Eamonn died in 1999 following years on active service and in prison.

"Enda O'Riordan was an inspirational person to all who came into contact with him. Straight and to the point, as a writer and organiser, he made a rare contribution to the Republican cause.

"Towards the end of his life he worked diligently by telephone and his typed letters never ceased to flow from him. "Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis."

Sympathy is expressed to his son Michael, daughters Linda, Maria and Geraldine and to his grandchildren.



# WHAT THEY SAID

Members of [Provisional] Sinn Féin, Republican Sinn Féin, the Green Party, the People Before Profit Alliance, Libertas and the National Platform, as well as a group of fishermen and farmers, were among those who spoke during the two-hour debate [on the Lisbon Treaty in the Brandon Hotel, Tralee].

— Irish Times, March 12, 2008.

Jonathan Powell's book *Great Hatred Little Room: Making Peace in Northern Ireland* provides an exhaustive account of the prolonged negotiation of the peace settlement (sic) in Northern Ireland...

And no one else (except Powell — aide to British Prime Minister Blair) could have written this comprehensive and remarkably honest account — not even Tony Blair himself.

— Irish Times, March 29, Garret Fitzgerald's Saturday column.

Later, in 1994, [Gerry] Adams admitted he had come around to this view [that the Armalite/ballot box strategy had failed, and that it (the Provos) should therefore abandon violence] in 1986, just after the [1985 Anglo Irish] Agreement.

And some years ago, in a lecture in UCD, Mitchell McLaughlin confirmed the profound impact the agreement had made on the [Provisional] Sinn Féin leadership.

— Garret Fitzgerald.

In government [in Dublin] in 1974-5, we suspected that [British Prime Minister] Wilson was contemplating withdrawal. We now know this to have been the case — until in November 1975 Wilson was finally blocked by Jim Callaghan, together with Denis Healy and Mervyn Rees.

— Garret Fitzgerald. Those against British withdrawal from Ireland were reinforced in August 1975 when Dublin foreign minister Fitzgerald and Opposition leader Jack Lynch together met a British Minister on holiday in West Cork.

Nonetheless, the DUP has problems. It has largely lost the Free Presbyterian Church members who were its electoral machine, and the strength of Jim Allister's rejectionist movement has taken the DUP leadership by surprise.

— Irish Times, April 1, 2008. Article by David Trimble in the series *The Belfast Agreement 10 Years On*.

Others [challenges] relate to the legacies of the Troubles such as victims, interface areas and community relations generally.

Whether [Provisional Sinn Féin] and the DUP can turn themselves into parties that can do this [unequivocally welcome the Agreement and the institutions it created], or whether their administration is just another stage in the transition, remains to be seen.

— David Trimble. Does he [Tom Clonan, Irish Times Security Analyst] expect a country that allowed its airports to be used to prosecute an illegal invasion of another country and that continues to let its facilities be used for the rendition of kidnapped prisoners for torture to stand up to the rest of Europe?

Surely he is aware that that would require a government with a strong moral sense.

— Irish Times, April 1 2008, letter to Editor from Dermot Donnelly, Lieut-Col (Retd), Balbriggan, Co Dublin.

"This [a successful Lisbon Yes vote] would in theory allow the EU to take robust and rapid action independent of NATO and the US to combat threats of genocide, terrorism or criminality within its sphere of influence," quoting from Tom Clonan on March 27.

Note the use of the word "threat" and the omission of any UN mandates for these "robust and rapid actions".

— Dermot Donnelly letter to editor.

The unnoticed disappearance of Irish-speaking communities in the Sperrin Mountains and in the Glens of Antrim during the years of Stormont rule, the complete denial by Stormont of public rights to speakers of Irish and the current hostility among Unionists towards the idea of an Irish Language Act, all underline the fact that an Ireland which included a million Northern Protestants with full democratic entitlements would have been one where language policies would have to be watered down in order to take their views and culture into account.

For the many Irish language activists who desired a united Ireland, the granting of their wish would have proved to be the ultimate curse.

— Irish Times Weekend Review, April 5, 2008. Review by Proinsias Ó Drisceoil of "A New View of the Irish Language", edited by Caoilfhionn Nic Pháidin and Seán Ó Cearnaigh, Cois Life Teo, 271pp €20. Under *EIRE* NUA structures, education would be under the provincial governments or beneath. Primary schools would be administered by the District Councils and second and third level education by the Regional Councils.

He [Bertie Ahern] handled skillfully [Provisional] Sinn Féin's entry into constitutional politics, allowing them to run for a time with the ridiculous "pan-nationalist front" idea, before gradually detaching himself from this illusory concept in time to establish a relationship of well-earned trust, first with the UUP and then with the DUP.

— Irish Times, April 5, Garret Fitzgerald in his Saturday column.

Of course, because Britain is the sovereign power in Northern Ireland (sic), the principal running in these prolonged negotiations had to be made by Tony Blair and his aide Jonathan Powell.

But Bertie Ahern, addressing his share of this task without any of the nationalist baggage carried



• A section of the Republican Sinn Féin protest at the visit of Ian Paisley to Cobh, Co Cork on April 18.

in quite different ways by Éamon de Valera and Charles Haughey, (although not by Séan Lemass, Jack Lynch or Albert Reynolds), notably smoothed the path for the British with both sides in the North.

Long into the future that will be remembered of the retiring Taoiseach.

— Garret Fitzgerald on the retirement of Bertie Ahern.

The result will be that every terrorist will have to live in fear of their essential belongings house, car, valuable possessions, may be taken from them

— Irish News, April 8, 2007. Lord Brennan QC in his opening address at the beginning of the civil action taken by relatives of those killed in the Omagh bomb in 1998 against five men they claim caused the bombing.

Lord Brennan said his clients had solid wide-ranging evidence which would fully expose the workings of the Real IRA and its leadership.

It involved forensics, bomb-making techniques, cell-site telephone analysis, the testimony of FBI double agent David Rupert and a sting operation against the Real IRA, the court was told.

— Irish News.

The IRA (sic) made its position very clear when it instructed its volunteers to assist the development of purely political and democratic programmed through exclusively peaceful means. This is what activists who were in the IRA are now doing.

— Irish News, April 9, 2008, quoting Gerry Adams under the headline "IRA 'will never' police Republican areas again".

Brian Cowen is aiming 'to realise the ambition, the hope and promise of the Easter Proclamation'. He can hardly have meant all of the Easter 1916 Proclamation.

And, in the context of the endorsement of the Lisbon Treaty (another of the priorities, by the way), what about "the right of the Irish people to the ownership of Ireland" and to "the unfettered control of Irish destinies"?

— Sunday Business Post, April 13, 2008, Vincent Browne in his *Between the Lines*

column.

But the stuff about equity, the 1916 Proclamation, the citizens agreeing rules to advance individual interests equally, is all just bluster.

His [Cowen's] real priority was made clear in his budget, where he ravaged the commitments on class sizes, for instance, while continuing to cosset those who have made fortunes from the late boom.

— Vincent Browne.

Gordon Brown (British PM) and Ban Ki Moon (UN Secretary-General) confirmed that they would not attend the showcase opening ceremony (for the Beijing Olympics)

— Sunday Business Post, April 13, 2008.

Meanwhile, Gardaí arrested two men for public order offences when some 60 people attended a demonstration organised by Republican Sinn Féin at the Commodore Hotel in Cobh last night.

They carried placards and Tricolours and chanted traitors at those attending the dinner [50th annual dinner of Cobh and Harbour Chamber of Commerce attended by Stormont First Minister Ian Paisley].

— Irish Times, April 19, 2008, report by Barry Roche, Southern Correspondent. The above text was carried at the end of a single column report on Paisley's visit to the Cork town. RTE TV One gave in headlines on its 9pm News and showed the crowd engaging in "a noisy but peaceful demonstration".

The Universal declaration of Human Rights "cannot be applied piecemeal, according to trends or selective choices", he said.

— Irish News, April 19, 2008 quoting Pope Benedict in a speech to the United Nations HQ in New York.

Moloney is entirely cynical about the peace process. His view of the erstwhile Chuckle Brothers is that they deserve each other and the central thesis of this harsh, uneven and often brilliant biography is that "the truth about Paisley and the Provos is that they were yoked together from the very beginning".

— Susan McKay, Village magazine on Paisley: From Demagogue to Democrat by

Ed Moloney. April 2008.

Paisley's prophecies were, Moloney insists, self-fulfilling. Most Nationalists would have been happy with O'Neill's 'milk and water reformism' but Paisley's vehement opposition, expressed in provocative rallies and demonstrations, drove frustrated Catholics to agitate for their civil rights while his Protestant followers grew progressively more violent.

— Susan McKay.

"Ian will fight to the last drop of everyone else's blood."

— Susan McKay, quoting an unnamed former free Presbyterian Church official describing Paisley.

Moloney does not, in my view, pay enough attention to the murderous Drumcree years when Paisley behaved with appalling irresponsibility. He does not explore in sufficient depth the relationship which developed during this period between the DUP, the Orange Order and the Loyalist Volunteer Force, which broke away from the UVF in support of the Orangemen and in opposition to the Good Friday Agreement.

— Susan McKay.

A priest and a nun, operating on their own, represent the most cogent opposition to government policy at present.

— Village Magazine, April 2008, Fragments Column speaking of Seán Healy and Brigid Reynolds of CORI, who published their annual socio-economic review on March 24. A report in the same magazine claims that a billion people in the world survive on a dollar a day.

Reporting of the Iraq war in the US media has fallen drastically in recent months. The war was the most covered topic from 2003 up until mid-2007, but since then it has dropped to one fifth of that level.

— Media Focus, Village Magazine, April 2008.

Mary Harney chose to take on the Department of Health in October 2004 believing that only she could reform the Irish health services. Three and a half years on, all of her main promises on health are broken.

— Sarah Burke, news

section of Village magazine April 2008.

In the year 2000, loyalists armed with knives brutally stabbed and tried to behead teenagers David McIlwaine and Andrew Robb from Portadown. Their slaughtered bodies were left lying on a country road near Tandragee...

— Susan McKay, Irish News, April 22, 2008.

David's father, Paul McIlwaine, went into Belfast's Crown Court last Friday hoping that at long last he was on the verge of finding out the truth about the murder of his beloved son.

Instead he learned that one of those accused of the murder was to give evidence against the other in return for a reduced charge of causing grievous bodily harm.

— Susan McKay.

In a very interesting interview with Tom McGurk, broadcast on RTE Radio 1 last Thursday night [April 17], Ó Brádaigh, Who is President of Republican Sinn Féin and quite a major figure in 20th century Irish history, reflected on his life and times.

And, in the manner of one Margaret Thatcher (similarities between the two will have ended there) Ruairi made it clear that he is not for turning! He is not one to change his position purely depending on how or whether the winds of change are blowing!

— Roscommon People, April 25, 2008, Editor Paul Healy's Week column.

The Queen gets 2million euro of our money while small farmers, especially in the west of Ireland are struggling to survive.

— Morning Ireland, RTE Áine Lawlor speaking to John McGuirk of Libertas on April 28, 2008. (Dick Roche commented that to bringing up the issue of the Queen owning so much land in Ireland was 'just a distraction'.)

The disappearance of the monument that once honoured those who fell at Tara in 1798 was reported (News, April 27).

Perhaps it was removed by a group of embarrassed government officials who couldn't stand to be reminded of their part in desecrating the graves the monument honoured.

— Sunday Tribune, May 4, 2008, letter to editor from Charles Burgess, Allamont, NY, 12009, USA.

IRA hunger striker Bobby Sands died in jail at 1.17 this morning - the 66th day of his strike, his family was around his Maze prison hospital bed when the 27-year-old prisoner slipped from a deep coma into death.

Elsewhere in Belfast blazing buildings lit up the sky early today as reaction to the death of the hunger striker erupted.

As police fought to contain it, cars were hijacked and set alight, barricades were erected and [British] security forces were pelted with a hail of stones and petrol bombs in a constant series of hit-and-run.

— Sunday Tribune, May 4, 2008, column "Days Like These" quoting the Irish Independent, May 5, 1981.

## Who Fears to Speak Of Easter Week

A chara

It is 92 years now since the Easter Rising of 1916. As a young boy growing up in Dublin I always looked forward to the Easter parade when the Rising was commemorated at the GPO.

I remember the 50th anniversary when a special 50p coin was minted with Cúchulainn's head on one side and the Irish harp on the other. I still have that coin today.

The way things have changed in the last few years: The parade is no longer held. The brass plaque which adorned the wall outside the GPO has been taken down. The old photographs in glass cases showing scenes of the Rising on the rails outside City hall have been removed to appease the British and unionists of the North.

To add insult to injury, a few years ago when a group of British postal workers were in Dublin for a conference with their Irish counterparts and the Union Jack was flown over the GPO. That was like seeing a Nazi flag over the holiest of synagogues in Israel.

Every other country remembers their war dead with pride, except Ireland.

BERNARD S. KEOGH  
Dublin

## The Lisbon Treaty And The Environment

A chara

With the upcoming Lisbon Treaty, the people should read carefully into the environment matters that are contained in the treaty. How will the treaty affect the quality of the Irish environment? Our politicians must give our truthful answers to this important question before they tell the people which way to vote.

The Dublin Administration has made great play of it's 'success' in having climate change introduced into the Treaty.

However, this 'addition' amounts to a mere six words that do not empower the EU to do anything it could not currently do under existing Treaty provisions. The relevant article states, 'promoting measures at international level to deal with regional or worldwide environmental problems, and in particular combating climate change'. Indeed the current proposals from the European Council on Climate Change are based on the existing provisions. Considering the

urgency of the climate change crisis, the fact the Irish government could only secure these six words, and nothing additional to the existing provisions, is an indication of the absence of seriousness concerning this issue.

Protocol 2 of the Lisbon Treaty dealing with the European Atomic Energy Commission states that the



• The colour party at the GPO, Dublin on Easter Sunday, March 23.

Treaty 'should continue to have full effect'. One of the primary goals of this Treaty (known as EURATOM) is the promotion of nuclear energy. The Lisbon Treaty like its predecessors mandates the EU to promote nuclear energy. At present Ireland contributed in the region of €5million of Irish taxpayer's money into EURATOM every year.

In the interest of our future generations, the Irish people must reject any form of nuclear energy; even if it means saying no to the treaty. The Irish people have not needed nuclear power, nor do they want to be associated with the arms race that is involved in conjunction with nuclear power.

MALACHY SHAW  
Mayo

## Military Aspects Of Lisbon

A chara

All of the militarisation aspects already previously criticised in the EU Constitution have been transferred into the Reform Treaty. Central points of the criticism were and are:

**World-wide EU combat missions with an almost unlimited range of tasks**

Article 28B, Paragraph 1 names among others 'joint disarmament operations', 'tasks of combat forces' and 'post-conflict stabilisation' as well as 'supporting third countries in combating terrorism in their countries' as potential tasks for future EU wars.

**Armament obligation by**

### Treaty

Article 28A, Paragraph 3 again contains the obligation, up to now inconceivable, to invest more money in the armament sector: 'Member states shall undertake progressively to improve their military capabilities.' The European Defence Agency, which was established in 2004, is supposed to supervise the observance for this instruction. With this Reform Treaty the Agency will for the first time actually receive the legal basis for its existence.

**Final institution of an own EU military budget**

The currently valid Nice Treaty prohibits the institution of an EU military budget and has up to now proved to be a considerable impediment for Europe's militarists. Therefore, the Reform Treaty of the European Union for the first time opens the door to establishing a defence budget, called 'start-up fund'.

**No parliamentary control option of EU interventions**

Only the heads of state and government can decide to undertake EU combat missions. The European Parliament in the Reform Treaty has only the right to be 'heard' and 'briefed', it may not participate in the decision. Since the European Court of Justice also has no influence in these areas, the separation of powers in this decisive question of war and peace is de facto eliminated.

**Core Europe – only those who lead the war, may participate in the decisions**

Members who have qualified militarily by taking part in the most important arms programmes and have put intervention troops at the warmongers disposal, may

enter a 'permanent structured cooperation' which leverages out the consensus principle currently holding for the foreign and security policy domain: 'Unanimity shall be constituted by the votes of the representatives of the participating Member States only.'

The people of Ireland should therefore demand: No to the militarisation of Europe!

MICHAEL ROONEY  
Mayo

## One-Sided Journalism

A chara

One day last week the *Irish News* (Belfast) included a supplement called "Sinn Féin – join with us in building a new Ireland". This refers to Gerry Adams's party.

This is one-sided journalism with a bang!

Some Republican Sinn Féin, SDLP and unionist readers buy this paper. If I was to buy a Provo paper I would buy *An Phoblacht*.

Please stop being so one-sided.

BRENDAN TOBIN  
Wexford

## Former Child Soldiers Living In Ireland

A chara

In the absence of any formal identification process, there is no official data on the number of former child soldiers now

living in Ireland. However, there have been reports from NGOs and mental health service providers, over the past number of years that document their contact with former child soldiers.

Regrettably, when former child soldiers are identified, services do not have the sufficient capacity to deal with them. Since 1999, over 5,000

their childhood comes to an end.

At present, they are left to drift in our asylum and care systems and to cope alone with the psychological after-effects of the traumas they have experienced and of the possible crimes they have committed. It is our duty to help them rebuild a positive self image.

Former child soldiers in Ireland are not receiving the supports and services they need.

CONNACHT READER

## City Must Replace Stolen Statue

A chara

It was with regret and a deep sense of hurt and sadness that I read Eve Vosloo's article (Weekend Argus, Cape Town, South Africa, March 23) about the theft of sculptor Egon Tania's statue of Coline Williams and Robbie Waterwich, ironically in front of Athlone police station.

On holiday last Easter from Ireland, members of Republican Sinn Féin laid a wreath at the statue and despite the subsequent criminal destruction we again on this visit laid a wreath on Easter Sunday at the site.

South Africa, like Ireland, must cherish its freedom fighters and, in this instance, what better way to remember young Coline and Robbie but to have the City of Cape Town replace the statues.

As Egon Tania put it: "It's not about me. It's about the loss of what these two people represented."

On my return next Easter I hope the wreath we place will be at the foot of the plinth and not on a barren site.

SEÁN O'NEILL  
Limerick and  
Bothasig

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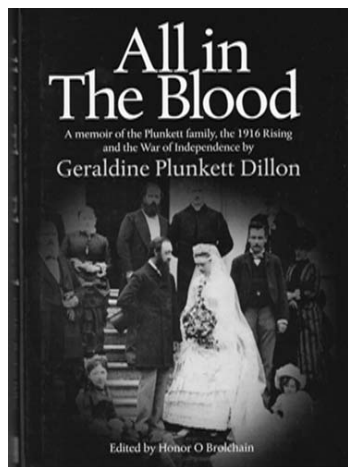
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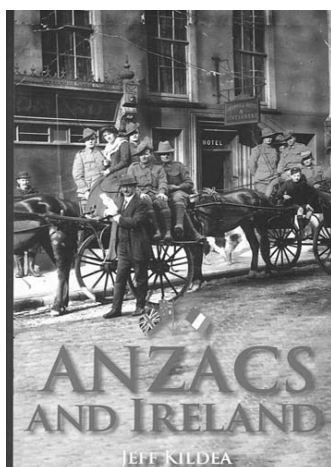
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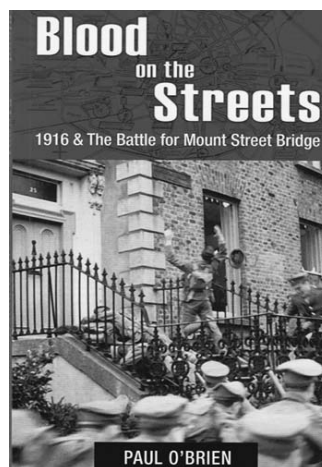
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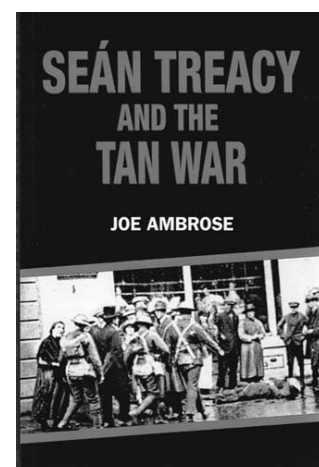
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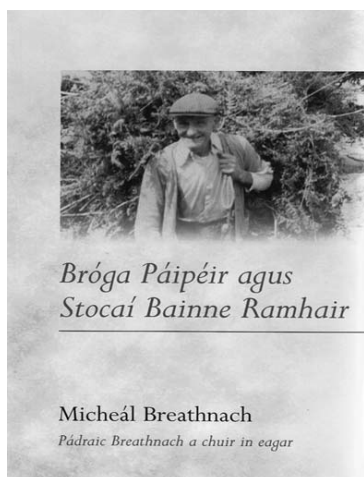
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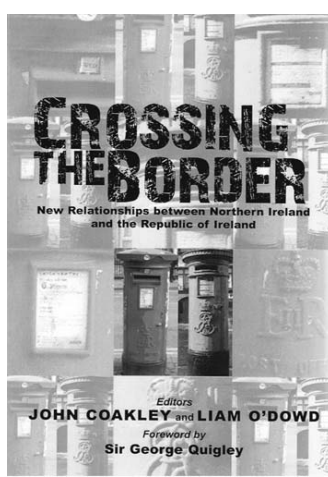
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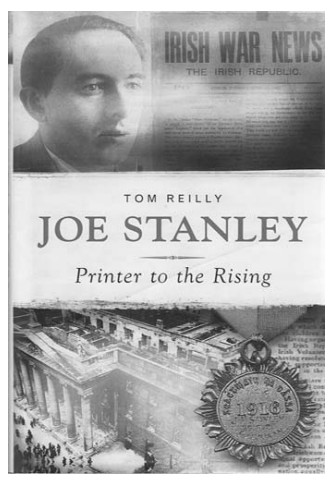
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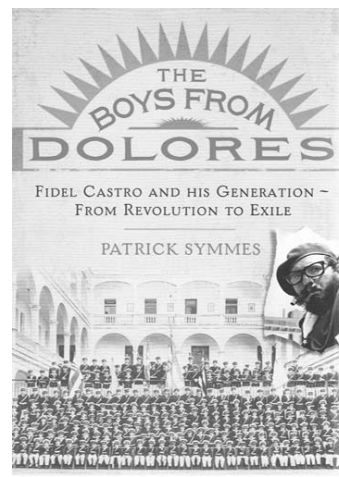
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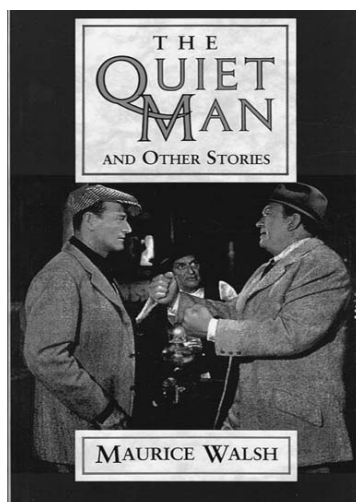
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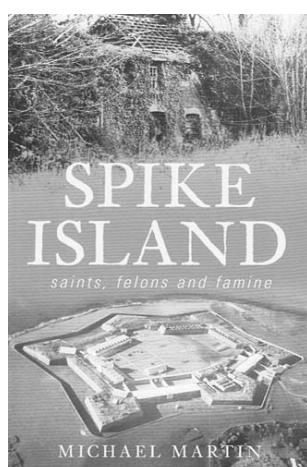
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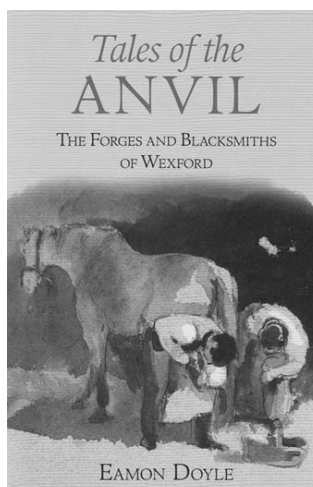
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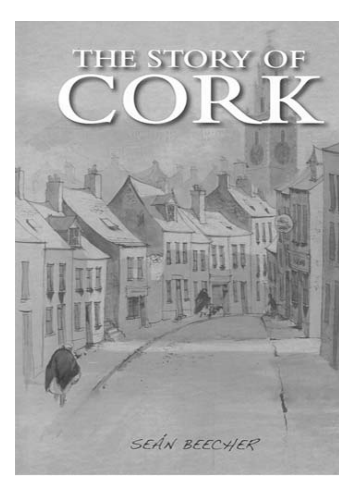
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# DEFIANT EASTER IN OCCUPIED IRELAND

**50  
Years  
Ago**

THE May 1958 issue of *An tÉireannach Aontaithe/The United Irishman* covered the Easter Commemorations, Resistance

attacks in Occupied Ireland, John Mitchel's call to Protestant Ulster and many local news items.

A lengthy editorial in large type, headed "the Resistance in Occupied Ireland" took up half of the front page and half of the back page as well. Prominence was given to the "Easter Statement of the Resistance in British Occupied Ireland".

Easter Sunday was on April 6 and the Statement read at all commemoration ceremonies was as follows:

"On the 42nd Anniversary of the 1916 Rising we call on the Irish people at home and abroad to rally behind the struggle for national liberation.

"Our historic right of the ownership of our country and the unfettered control of our destinies must be established in this generation. Victory is guaranteed by our fighting youth in Occupied Ireland.

"The unity of our people and their determination to end now and for all time British imperial interference in the affairs of our country must back up the trust of Ireland's freedom fighters.

"Since December 12, 1956, seven Irish Republicans have given their lives in defence of our nation's right to full sovereignty and independence. Hundreds have been jailed. Scores of others are serving long terms of imprisonment.

"The persecution of our people in British Occupied Ireland by the Crown authorities grows worse. But their spirit remains unbroken. They continue to support the Resistance Movement despite raids on homes, wholesale arrests without charge or trial, intimidation, torture of prisoners and other terrorist acts.

"Almost 150 Irish Republicans are now behind barred wire in the Curragh Concentration Camp or in prison cells in Mountjoy Jail, put there by orders of the 26-County Government in Dublin — a Government which professes to believe in the unity and independence of our country.

"The leadership of Sinn Féin and key members throughout the country are still held uncharged and untried completely against the wishes of the Irish people.

"The economic situation north and south was never worse. The evils of unemployment and emigration have assumed alarming proportions. If this nation is to survive we must win our freedom in this generation.

"We ask you to support the independent struggle by positive action. Support the Irish Republican Movement — the spearhead and inspiration of the whole Resistance. You must support in every way you can the fight of this generation of Irish men and women for full freedom.

"We are one nation and one people. Centuries of repression haven't broken us and now on this historic anniversary we pledge that this fight will go on until England's forces of Occupation have been withdrawn from our land and the Irish people are allowed to settle their own affairs in peace.

"Terror and hardship and peril and death have only steeled the determination of our Republican freedom-fighters to carry on until our cause is vindicated.

"Our goal is the Republic which Pearse, Connolly, Mac Diarmada, Clarke, MacDonagh, Plunkett, Ceannnt and their martyred comrades gave their lives.

"Long live the Republic."

One gets the flavour of the whole situation 50 years ago from that Easter message. The headings on the various stories in the Republican paper give the atmosphere: "Thousands Attended Easter Commemorations", "Ceremonies in Co Galway", "Parade at the Curragh", UN Consulate Picketed in New York, "Arrests", "Despite All Precautions", "About Ireland's Angry Young men", and so on and so forth.

Then "British Troops Standing-To", "Easter Attacks in Many Areas", "On Easter Monday", etc. On Easter Monday — the anniversary of the Proclamation of the Irish Republic in 1916 — Irish Republican freedom-fighters staged a series of attacks in British Occupied Ireland.

The heaviest attacks occurred in Newry where



• Two double-decker buses of the Ulster Transport Authority were burned out at Toomebridge, Co Antrim, May 1, 1958.

the Labour Exchange was bombed and the British Imperial Customs Post at Killeen (in nearby South Armagh) destroyed by explosives. Other bombing incidents occurred in Rostrevor, Co Down.

The Mullan, Co Fermanagh Imperial Customs Post was also destroyed by explosives. British military fired on a car from Swanlinbar which was at the time on the 26-County side of the Border. The occupant — a Swanlinbar, Co Cavan native — escaped injury.

Clady, Co Tyrone was seized by Irish Republican freedom-fighters on Easter Monday night, an Easter Commemoration was held, copies of the Easter Statement were distributed to the people after being read out. The Tricolour was raised over the village and an oration was delivered.

British troops were standing-to in their garrisons and bases throughout Occupied Ireland on the 42nd anniversary of Easter Week. The alert even extended to England itself where the British Army Western Command issued an order that extra special precautions of a security nature were to be taken during the weekend April 5-7.

Throughout Fermanagh and Tyrone, armoured British forces patrolled the roads, cordoned townlands and villages as RUC and B-Special contingents raided and searched farmhouses, homes and mountainous areas.

Tanks, armoured cars and other kinds of armoured vehicles were used in these operations. RUC Barrack garrisons were reinforced for the occasion. The mobile and independently-billed RUC Commando detachments waited at their strategically located garrisons.

B-Specials were mobilised in all areas and went into specially prepared ambush positions along the main and secondary highways of Occupied Ireland. The entrance to all towns and villages were heavily guarded.

Stormont ordered that no flags were to be carried in Easter processions. District Inspectors of the RUC warned that anyone carrying the Tricolour would be carted off to Crumlin Road Jail. There was a special law incorporated in the Special Powers Act against the carrying of the Tricolour.

The 26-County authorities — not to be outdone — also said that they were taking extra precautions along the Border during the anniversary of the Easter Rising. *Note: In the 26-Counties some of the largest commemorations for many years were held.*

Easter Commemorations were held in the main centres of occupied Ireland. In Newry, Co Down, and Swatragh, Co Derry, the Tricolour was carried at the head of the parade despite the Stormont ban.

The Swatragh procession started at the village hall headed by the Tricolour and flanked by a bodyguard of 100 men. When the RUC attempted to interfere the men went through them and an RUC Sergeant was injured. But the flag remained flying.

A notice banning the carrying of the flag was served on the officials of the Gaelic Athletic Association Football Club. And reinforcements of police were called into the village for the occasion. The parade was one of the largest ever in the area.

The Swatragh area, Stormont thought, had been thoroughly terrorised by the arrests, raids, searches and torture-tactics of the past year. They hadn't reckoned with the spirit of the Swatragh people.

In Newry a group of young men and women marched through the town with the Tricolour at the head of the Easter procession.

In Belfast more than 1,000 marched to Milltown Cemetery. Wreaths were laid at the Republican Plot, where Joe McKelvey (executed by the Free

State on December 8, 1922) Seán McCaughey (died on hunger strike in Portlaoise Prison in 1946) are buried. A column, headed by a Tricolour, formed up and marched to the Plot.

Throughout Occupied Ireland on the days after the Easter weekend large forces of RUC and B-Specials — aided by British Military — swooped on homes and questioned residents and pulled in for interrogation many young men.

In the Newry area six were arrested. The activity went on during daylight hours. At night special guards were posted in key areas.

On Easter Sunday, thousands of Irish people heard Irish Freedom Radio in operation for the first time. Not since 1939 was Raidió Phoblacht na hÉireann heard on air.

Irish Freedom Radio was operated by the Resistance Movement in Occupied Ireland and was heard extensively in the occupied area especially during the pre-election period.

A radio transmitter and some arms were seized by 26-County Special Branch in the Harcourt Terrace area of Dublin in the pre-Easter period. Yet the Republican radio was back on the air to commemorate the 1916 Rising.

On April 10, a force of 40 police including members of the Special Branch, Dublin Castle, raided homes in Lifford, Co Donegal and arrested five young men from both sides of the Border. They were lodged in the Curragh Concentration Camp. All five were battle-dressed and were said by the IRPB to have arrived in Lifford the night before their dawn arrest from Occupied Ireland. They were unarmed.

Arrested in Monaghan was a Roslea man, while a Lurgan man and a local (Dunleer) man were held in Drogheda. All three were sent to the Curragh.

Four were arrested on the Armagh-Monaghan Border and sentenced to six months imprisonment.

Then in Dublin a swoop on April 16 netted ten men of varying ages, Mícheál Ó Donnabháin (Pasha) of the *United Irishmen* staff and 1940s veteran Frank McGlade of Belfast were included, as was Seán F Cronin of Terenure.

The others were all Dublin men arrested at home. They were all shifted to the Curragh. It appeared that the Dublin administration in response to pressure from London, just wanted to be seen to fill places in the Concentration Camp.

An interesting piece in the May 1958 Republican journal was a quotation from the old Imperial organ (the "thunderer") itself, *The Times* of London. In its leading article of March 18 it dealt with Mr de Valera's visit to London for St Patrick's Day.

Among other things it said: "Mr de Valera, once our doughty fer, is now recognised as A STATESMAN WHOM WE CAN TRUST" (our capital letters).

The Republican paper asked why? "Presumably because of his Government's policy in regard to the Resistance in British Occupied Ireland," the UI commented.

It goes on: "The *London Times* says Partition is an issue for Irishmen to settle. Of course England had nothing to do with it. We all recognise that! She only created it in the first instance and maintains it with her armed garrisons."

Meanwhile a Sinn Féin convention in South Galway selected Murchadh MacUaltair to contest that constituency for Sinn Féin in a by-election which was pending.

Murchadh was then 23 and a native of Athenry. He had a distinguished academic career at University College Galway, securing a BA degree with first-class honours.

He went on to take his Higher Diploma in Education and was appointed to the teaching staff of the Secondary School, Achill Sound, Co Mayo.

A noted speaker on Republican platforms and an activist for several years, he had contested Galway South in the 1957 general election and secured 2,086 first preferences. (Quotas were remarkably low in the 1950s). Polling day was fixed for May 30.

The *Irish Times* and the *Irish Independent*, both of May 2, 1958 carried reports referring to Ruairí Ó Brádaigh TD who was still interned without trial at the Curragh Concentration camp. *The Independent* report was as follows:

"A letter has been sent to the Director of Human Rights, Strasbourg, on the instruction of Mr Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, the interned Sinn Féin TD, stating that he had decided for the present not to proceed with his application to have his arrest (and detention) under the Offences Against the State Act investigated by the [Human Rights] Commission.

"Mr Ó Brádaigh, the letter states, desires to obviate the impression that he was bringing his case forward merely to secure his own release.

"The whole purpose in bringing the matter to the attention of the Commission was to have the provisions of the Offences Against the State Acts investigated rather than because of their application to Ruairí Ó Brádaigh as an individual victim, the letter adds."

The last week of May 1958 saw the death of one of the last and faithful TDs of the Second (All-Ireland) Dáil, Charles Murphy (Cathal Ó Murchadha) 217 South Circular Road, Dolphin's Barn, Dublin. He was 78.

His lifetime of service to the Republican Cause ranged from being manager of the paper "Nationality" before the 1916 Rising to participation in the Rising itself in the Boland's Mill garrison. He was elected for a Dublin constituency to the First Dáil and later to the Second Dáil. He was imprisoned a number of times and took part in a hunger strike in Mountjoy. He was O/C Prisoners in Harepark Internment Camp.

He voted against the Treaty of Surrender and served as an Alderman for Sinn Féin on Dublin City Council. As a member of the Executive Council of the Second Dáil he was one of those Deputies who delegated the executive powers of government to the Army Council of the IRA in December 1938.

He was married to Nan Funge of Courtown Harbour, Co Wexford and was survived by five children. His passing, following on the death of "Skellig" (Seán Ó Ceallaigh) in 1957, left just two faithful surviving deputies of the Second (All-Ireland) Dáil, Brian O'Higgins and Tom Maguire.

His brother-in-law had founded the printing firm Elo Press, followed by his son Paddy Funge, who ensured that the Irish people could always read the Republican message.

The *Sunday Review* of May 4, reported that following dawn raids by the RUC "on Nationalist areas of Belfast, four men were arrested under the Special Powers Act and taken to Belfast Jail.

It also reported a number of men being detained for questioning following the destruction of two double-decker UTA buses in Toomebridge, Co Antrim and damage to a number of others. "It was announced later that they have now been released," the report concluded.

(More next month. Ref: *An tÉireannach Aontaithe/The United Irishman*, May 1958; *The Times* (London), March 18; *Irish Times*, May 2; *Irish Independent*, May 2 and the *Sunday Review*, May 4.)



# Fenian Notes

From our Washington Correspondent

IT seems that shock is a daily event in Washington these days. As more and more revelations come forth that the Bush Administration is committing illegal acts. They make organised criminals look like altar boys.

Americans of all walks of life are suddenly in shock over the news, but they should not be because these allegations have been around for seven years, the entire time Bush has been in power.

Many of us have been accusing Bush of domestic spying on Americans as a political tactic for years knowing first hand it was true, but too many Americans were in denial and did not want to believe that a US leader could use tactics used by the world's worse dictators. It is the old adage that it couldn't happen here, but it has.

The Bush Junta planned when they got in power to keep their power-base permanent and to insure that they had to demonise the opposition. They portray their critics as unpatriotic and incapable of protecting the American way of life.

Let's remember that 9/11 happened under Bush's watch and it happened because the world hated Bush equating him with America.

Bush has used US Government resources for personal security reasons to build his power-base. For instance, Bush authorised the National Security Agency (NSA) to listen in on phone calls and read emails of American citizens by passing the warrants required by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) and the US Constitution's Fourth Amendment.

The FISA Courts are supposed to oversee secret warrants and Bush has pledged to adhere to the process, but this is the third or fourth time he has made that pledge and has

no intention of honouring that pledge.

Bush lies, but according to his philosophy when the leader lies it is OK and is excused as necessary for the good of the country. It is not for the good of the country, but good for the political fortunes of George Bush.

Spying on Americans has been a favourite trick of the Bush regime. The Bush Party is convinced of its righteousness in a political/religious sense and so they relegate the opposition to evil-doers not just legitimate dissenters.

Opposition is classified as the handmaidens of the devil and so its political enemies deserve no ordinary rights or protections.

## STILL IN BUSINESS

Spying is about gaining knowledge on those who are truly enemies who pose a threat to the nation. Spying on Americans destroys the fabric of founding ideals of dissent. The NSA is still in business and is not conforming to the law because they know that Bush has their backs.

The NSA are given names of individuals and groups to pursue and they are for the most part non-terror groups but those who have issues with the policies of George Bush.

Most of those who are monitored have nothing to do with terrorists. Their only problem is they oppose the administration on an issue. Secret files are maintained by NSA.

What the Bush people do is akin to tyranny, a tyranny the founders fought when they established the United States. They established the rule of law, which is the very foundation of American society and a free society.

The society has been under assault by Bush and his people. Freedoms



are under assault by criminals who happen to be government officials.

This Bush regime lives by deceit, evasion, cover-up, stonewalling and criminal duplicity which totally discredits it. Its main instrument is its own Justice Department which is supposed to be above reproach. The credibility of those who run the nation's top law enforcement agency is utterly eroded.

Every new administration comes to power with a policy agenda, but Bush came to power with a political agenda. Under Bush, the Justice Department is not the very protector of freedom as it is supposed to be, but it is a machine that utilises illegal means to achieve the far more sinister goal of taking and maintaining power.

Remember that in the 2000 election, Al Gore was chosen by the American people by a margin of 540,000 votes. In the end, the only votes that count were not the people but the votes on the Supreme Court of the United States.

With the help of five out of seven Bush judges, Bush entered the White House and it became quite clear that political power could be gained through the mechanics of the justice system itself.

At one time, the US Supreme Court and the Judiciary were above politics, but this is no longer the case. The Supreme Court is now under Bush, the most political branch of government is the Court. The Justices appointed by Bush are no better than cheap political hacks. It rubber stamps the big issues of the Administration.

The Bush project of the past seven years has been to build on that success, to transform the legal

apparatus of the United States into a weapon of partisan political force. All the steps of this political process have been well documented and reported, but few reporters in print and beyond have noted how these steps have brought forth a complete subversion of the original law enforcement function of the Justice Department and its concentration is overtly political. It is an instrument of the Bush White House.

Justice persecutes the innocent political dissidents as well we know. Over the years, Irish activists have been harassed by agents of Justice. This means we always have to be vigilant because anyone opposing the British Peace Process is lumped with terrorism which is the excuse the government uses to monitor citizens.

Adams and his crew who sold out Irish Republicanism think they have bought safety, but how little they know. Those who allow them access to power in the Six Counties do not trust them because once a traitor always a traitor.

The list of political opponents of Bush and his allies keeps growing and US Agencies add continuously. Justice has a list as does the State Department and Treasury Department. Now Homeland Security has their list that they are pursuing under another method of spying on Americans.

## TECHNOLOGY

The Department of Homeland Security is now testing technology that would allow its agents to use cellphones or email devices to covertly share live video of possible terrorists over a law enforcement network. This is a major invasion of privacy.

According to the Bushes, this may include any political enemy. This new system is called Real Eyes because it instantly broadcasts images to anyone connected to the system. Oh yes, Scotland Yard is a charter member of the system.

The British are wary of opponents to the Stormont regime and they are still monitoring Irish dissidents with

the help and participation of the Americans. Do the British expect and insurgency in the North? They, like Americans, are paranoid.

What has been the result of the war on terror? It has not been a success and the targets domestically have been innocent Americans not possible terrorists. Will any of the candidates running for president do away with any of the spy programmes in effect? Frankly, anyone in power is going to be reluctant to give up any weapons to control people. There will be promises, but they will remain unfulfilled. Some will do it discreetly, but they will keep an eye on people.

Irish groups who support the sell-out want the US to support Stormont in what they see as a distorted victory. All candidates are willing to support noncontroversial policies, but suggest a United, free Ireland and they see you as a terrorist.

We can only look locally for candidates who might speak out for justice in the North, but they will be battling the powers that be in both major parties.

It is very frustrating to realise that there are so many laws and so many federal law enforcement agencies all engaged in domestic spying. The excuse of terror prevention just doesn't fly because of those tens of thousands of people subjected to investigation who are only involved in politics and those who are real terrorists who go undetected and the very few who are caught don't make anyone feel secure.

**THE climate of fear will continue until the American people say enough is enough.** America has more draconian laws than Ireland has had. Democracy is slipping away and that is a tragedy. The American dream is now a nightmare. Your real enemy may be the next knock at your door and that enemy may be federal agents who mean you no good.

— Peadar Mac Fhínnín

## Eileen Durand née Mooney

**EILEEN Maeve Durand (née Mooney) of Ridgefield Park, New Jersey, who died on March 1 was born in Kearny, NJ of Irish Republican parents, Éamonn and Julia Mooney.**

Eileen moved to Dublin with her parents at the age of three and was educated there. She regarded Ireland as her home but returned to the US at the age of nineteen. She married Robert Durand with whom she had six children and remained in America, but visited Ireland regularly, until her sudden death on March 1.

Devoted mother to Brian Patrick, Robert Emmet, Dennis, Gerald Durand, Sheila De Cicco and Eileen Durant Sutura. Loving grandmother to six grandchildren. Dear sister to Séamus Mooney, Éamonn Mooney, Cathleen Knowles McGuirk and the late Brian

Mooney. She is also survived by her two cousins Robert and Joseph Mulholland and many close family and friends.

She was vice-president of the Bergen Irish Association for several years. Over the years she met with many of the leading Irish Republicans both in Ireland and the US. A lover of poetry and literature and all things Irish, she also kept abreast of the political situation both in Ireland and the US.

Her remains were brought from Vorhees Funeral Home to the parish Church of St Francis in Ridgefield Park for the funeral Mass. A lone piper in full regalia played Irish

tunes as the mourners arrived at the church. A close friend, Joe Storer, sang the hymns and the *Derry Air*. She was buried in Fort Lee Cemetery



• Eileen Durand

in New Jersey, close to her aunt Moll with whom she had lived for some years before her marriage.

Those in attendance at the funeral included her sister Cathleen Knowles McGuirk along with two of her daughters Grainne and Orla and her nephew Shane who had flown over from Ireland.

## Comhbhróin

**GRAHAM.** Deepest sympathy is expressed to John Graham and family, Limerick, on the death of their mother Hanora. From Republican Sinn Féin, Limerick.

**O'RIORDAN.** The Ard Chomhairle, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, extends deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Enda O'Riordan, Clonmel, Co Tipperary who died on April 14.

**O'RIORDAN.** Sincere sympathy is extended to the O'Riordan family, Clonmel, Co Tipperary on the death of their father Enda O'Riordan on April 14. From Finbar and Marie Kissane.

**MCCOLLUM.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the friends of Séamus McCollum, Bray, Co Wicklow who died recently. From the Ard Chomhairle, Republican Sinn Féin.

**MCCOLLUM.** We hoped to meet with our comrade Séamus at our meeting in Dublin on May 10. We shall always keep in our memory the glorious but difficult days we had together in the British prisons. These memories will remain unchanged for the rest of our life. We are sorry that we shall not meet with you, dear Séamus, but be sure we shall always remember those days. You can go, dear comrade, with our love. On behalf of your comrades of EOKA. Viva Livadas!

**MCDONNELL.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Larry McDonnell, Patrickswell, Co Limerick who died on April 20. Always remembered by Jim and Mary Reidy, Patrickswell.

## gCuimhne

**AHERN** – 35th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Volunteer

Anthony (Tony) Ahern, Cork Brigade, Ogligh na hÉireann, killed on active service on May 10, 1973. Always remembered by Republican Sinn Féin, East Tyrone.

**AHERN** – 35th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Anthony (Tony) Ahern, Cork Brigade, Ogligh na hÉireann, killed on active service on May 10, 1973. Always remembered by the Republican Movement, Easter Tyrone. "It is not those who can inflict the most, but those that can suffer the most who will prevail." Terence MacSwiney.

**87th ANNIVERSARY** – In loving memory of Tom Kelleher of Cloonbroney, Co Longford, killed by Auxiliaries at Drumlish, Co Longford in May 1921. Always remembered by Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht.

**87th ANNIVERSARY** — In loving memory of John Scally, 3rd Batt South Roscommon; Hubert Tully, Tusk, 2nd Batt South Roscommon; Pat Wynn, Killeevan, 4th Batt South Roscommon. Always remembered by supporters and members Sinn Féin Poblachtach Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht.

**87th ANNIVERSARY** — In loving memory of Bobby Sands, Francis Hughes, Raymond McCreech, Patsy O'Hara. Always remembered by supporters and members Sinn Féin Poblachtach Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht.

**87th ANNIVERSARY** — Chris Quinn and William Shaughnessy executed by the Free State at Ennis Co Clare on May 2, 1923. Always remembered by supporters and members Sinn Féin Poblachtach Cumann, Comhairle Ceantair and Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht.

## Beannachtaí

BEST wishes to Maurice Dowling and get well soon. From all of Kerry Comhairle Ceantair, Republican Sinn Féin.

## Buíochas

**THE** Carroll/O'Donovan Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Dublin would like to thank the people of Ballyfermot and surrounding areas for their support at the recent fundraiser for Republican prisoners and their dependants held in the 79 public house. We look forward to seeing everyone again on June 7.

## Flood and pestilence attributed to Irish rioters — official

MARTIN McGuinness was boasting recently that suddenly the number of foreign investors wanting to come to Ireland and see what could be exploited has doubled. Now, I could be wrong but I think on this occasion he could be telling the truth. The question to be answered is why this sudden interest in the green Isle?

The airwaves are full of doom and gloom. American sub-prime markets have kicked the world economy into touch. Here in Ireland the Celtic Tiger has become an orange and green whimpering

kitten. Paisley has gone, Bertie Ahern bit the dust and foreign eyes are turning green with envy.

Rumour has it that as food prices grow and oil becomes scarce the American people may want to re-locate out of the desert and onto green land.

Now that Martin and Gerry and their Limited Intelligence group are the most 'senior' or oldest politicians in Ireland who still hold electoral office America is emboldened.

Having messed up in Southeast Asia some time back and recently failed to annex Iraq's oilfields they had a simple choice to make —

attack Iran or buy Ireland. It seems that having watched the Mahon Tribunal in action they decided Bertie might ask too much. However with the demise of the 'cutest of them all' and Ian A *saint in the making* the American government have decided Martin and Gerry will sell them Ireland the way they sold out to Britain.

When their State Department enquired as to what the price was likely to be one of their researchers came back. 'Well, Michael Collins demanded 26 counties but 80 years later Limited Intelligence gave the whole

island back for nothing... I think Iran is a no-no... let's gather up some peanuts and bananas... and off to the Ireland conference...

Meanwhile, rumour has it Martin is practicing his American accent and learning Simon and Garfunkel songs and thinking of reforming his auld' country band *The Derry Airs*. He may know something the rest of us do not.

GEORGE Bush is hopeful that his foreign policy can show one success before he retires and Barak O'Banana is praying that no one slips up and lets McCain into office.

His Irish roots might make him prone to saving Ireland from its fate.

Meanwhile... Martin is fishing for compliments but Paisley has left the stage and everyone one who is left is laughing at him, not with him.

Here in the real world food is dearer, unemployment is rising, the banks have no money to lend, our Credit Unions have useless bits of promissory notes from the American sub-prime market, houses lie empty while people live on the street, our fishing fleet has been sunk, 400 Irishmen are in Chad armed to the teeth and paving the way

for European confrontation with the Chinese over the few resources that remain on the African Continent..

It seems Britain and America are about to blame the Irish petrol bombers for global warming and all that has followed... Martin is about to apologise on behalf of the entire nation and offer reparations... Not to worry we can recall the Army from Chad and repel invaders. And if that doesn't work I am sure Martin and Gerry will take up battle stations again... God save Ireland.

— Mac Cool

## Comóradh ar Chaptaen Máirtín Ó hógáin

**D'EAGRAIGH Cumann nua Shinn Féin Poblachtach Liam Uí Mhaoliosa, Baile Átha Cliath, comóradh ar an Chaptaen Máirtín Ó hógáin, ar an 20ú Aibreán seo caite.**

Rugadh agus tógadh é i nDroim Inbhir, Co. Thiobraid Árann. Bhí sé ag obair ar an iarnród sa phríomhchathair, agus bhí sé mar Chaptaen ar an Chéad Complacht, Briodáid Átha Cliath de Óglaigh na hÉireann, agus

roimh sin bhí sé le Cead Bhriogáid Thiobráid Árann.

Dhúnmharaigh fórsaí an tSaorstáit é ar Bhóthar Pháirc na nGrás, Droim Conrach ar 21 Aibreán 1923. Bhí sé 28 mbliain d'aois. Tá sé faoi shuaimhneas i measc Laochra na nGael.

The commemoration, organised by the new Liam Mellows Cumann, Dublin Central, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, assembled in Whitehall and, behind the cumann banner and the tricolour, marched the short distance to the plaque commemorating Máirtín Ó hógáin.

A railway worker and Captain in the Dublin Brigade IRA, and before that a member of the 1st Tipperary Brigade, he was tortured and murdered by Free State forces on 21 April 1923.



• A wreath was laid at the plaque to Captain Martin Hogan at the commemoration on April 20.

A wreath was laid at the plaque on behalf of the Republican Movement, a lament was played, the 1916 Proclamation was read and a short speech was given. The Republic he fought for has not yet been achieved, until then the fight goes on!

### REPUBLICAN GARDEN BUNDORAN CO DONEGAL

Special Appeal for Funds - to pay off our loan of €2,000

The committee and trustees of the Republican Garden in Bundoran, Co Donegal are pleased to announce that plans are being drawn up for the next stage of development at the garden.

It is proposed that six commemorative plaques will be erected in the coming year. To date, the garden has had visitors from all over Ireland, America, Europe and beyond, and the response has been positive.

In the weeks running up to Easter, the gates and railings, seats and flagpoles were all painted. New flags were erected and additional flowers and shrubs were added. This in keeping with the continued development and is only fitting considering the Republicans who are remembered there.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way small or big and ask anyone who wishes to make further donations to forward them to any committee member, head office or Joe O'Neill directly.

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



### SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR

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