

# SAOIRSE

## IRISH FREEDOM

THE VOICE OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT



UIMH 235 SAMHAIN — NOVEMBER 2006 <http://saoirse.info> 1.50 (£1stg, USA \$30 p.a.)



see pages 8 & 9

# Adams accepts British police

"AS Republican Sinn Féin has reiterated since 1986, the Provos are being dragged into the British net gradually," was the assessment of Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, Republican Sinn Féin President on October 13, following the announcement by both the British government and the 26-County administration at St Andrews in Scotland of the terms for reconvening the Stormont assembly.

He went on to say: "Their total immersion into the English system in Ireland is now almost complete and they may soon return to Stormont to administer British rule here."

The terms of the document released by both

Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern make it clear that it marks yet another milestone in the process of normalising the illegal British occupation of Ireland, as Frank Millar pointed out in *The Irish Times* on October 16. He quoted a senior DUP source

who said that they believed "the building of a new MI5 headquarters outside Belfast, coupled with the 'national security' provisions of the St Andrews agreement, marks a further entrenchment of the British state in Northern Ireland (*sic*)."

Suzanne Breen, writing in the *Sunday Tribune* of October 15 cuts through the gloss painted by the Provo spin-doctors: "In reality [Provisional] Sinn Féin made the most concessions. The DUP looked genuinely pleased as negotiations closed; despite [Provisional] Sinn Féin's positive words, the body language was wrong. As well as endorsing the PSNI, the party potentially must support MI5 and the British Courts,



• Nationalist youths confront British police in Lurgan in 2006.

which sits uneasily with republicanism."

On top of this a further humiliation was wrung from them by the DUP, they will also be required to swear an oath to uphold British law, police and courts within the Six Counties. All of this comes despite the repeated assurances by the Provo leaders to their membership that they would only consider supporting British policing in the wake of policing powers being devolved to a Stormont assembly — this is clearly not the case.

Such so-called 'Policing powers' in themselves would be only of a limited nature as Ruairí Ó Brádaigh pointed out in his October 13 statement: "If control of 'policing' is to be conceded to Stormont it will merely cover ordinary offences and traffic etc.

"The British government will retain control of security through MI5, for which a huge headquarters

is at present being built in the greater Belfast area."

The St Andrews' proposals also highlight changing political reality for the DUP, transforming itself from a party with an essentially working-class base as it has moved closer to the levers of power and attracted support from the middle class.

Colm Heatley, writing in the *Sunday Business Post* on October 15 said: "Pressure from business people and its new middle-class supporters pushed Paisley's DUP into a tentative deal." This is reflected in the DUP's agenda, which calls for the harmonisation of Six-County corporation tax, running at 30% with the 26-County's 12% rate, as well as their vehement opposition to an increase in rates as well as the abolition of the Six-County's 11 plus exam, both mainly middle-class issues.

As with the Stormont Agreement, both the British and 26-County states, as well as the EU have already laid the groundwork to sell British rule to the people financially. In the *Sunday Business Post* of October 15 that paper's Political Correspondent, Pat Leahy, highlights this: "... the

*Sunday Business Post* understands that the details of the investment package on offer [at St Andrews] have been worked out in recent months over a series of meetings with Irish (*sic*) government officials and representatives from British Treasury and the Northern Ireland office. It is understood that the package would be underwritten by the British and Irish (*sic*) governments, with contributions from the EU."

No more than the failed and sectarian Stormont Agreement, the St Andrews' proposals cannot provide the basis for a just and lasting peace for the Irish people. Once again an attempt is being made to re-structure British rule in Ireland, which is to ignore the nature of the conflict in our country.

Ruairí Ó Brádaigh lays out the only route by which our people can begin the process of building a New Ireland: "The result of today's [October 13] talks may well be Mr Blair's and Mr Ahern's 'final settlement' but Irish history teaches us that there will be no permanent peace here short of total British government disengagement from this country."

REPUBLICAN  
SINN FÉIN  
102ND  
ARD-FHEIS  
2006  
November 11-12  
Dublin

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**EDENTUBBER MARTYRS  
COMMEMORATION  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19  
Assemble: The Border Inn, 2.30pm**

# Protest at proposed location of children's hospital

OVER 4,000 people turned out in Tallaght, south Dublin on October 14 in protest at plans to move medical services for children from the Tallaght Hospital to a new complex in the grounds of the Mater Hospital on the north side of the city.

Men, women and children from Dublin, Kildare and Carlow carried banners demanding the retention of the services.

The march began at Belgard Square North and travelled through Tallaght village, up the bypass and back to the car-park at the Civic Offices.

Throughout, the marchers chanted slogans such as 'Save our hospital' and 'Oh no, we won't go away'.

Even the motorists who were held up during the march 'beeped' their approval.

The mood was very positive and people were adamant that they would continue to protest until they were assured that the services would remain.

Over 6,600 signatures

opposing the march were collected during the week prior to the march.

The petition and protest were organised by the Tallaght Hospital Action Group. They

have suggested that services for children should be available at both locations, one to serve the south side and the other to serve the north side.



• A section of the crowd at the hospital protest in Tallaght on October 14.

## MI6 operating in 26 Counties

IT was reported on October 27 that allegations were circulating that Britain's secret intelligence service MI6 is operating in the 26 Counties.

MI6 is involved in intelligence gathering. worldwide secret It is suspected that MI6

was deeply involved in the war in the Occupied Six Counties.

According to its website, MI6 operates world-wide to collect secret foreign intelligence in support of the British government's policies and objectives. MI5, the British security service, which is responsible for British security policy is currently building a new headquarters outside

Belfast.

The recent St Andrew's agreement unveiled by 26-County premier Bertie Ahern and British Prime Minister Tony Blair outlined arrangements being put in place for the handling of British national intelligence and the necessary "accountability measures" that will be in place once "lead responsibility" passes to MI5 late next year.



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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



### 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 . . .

## Gearrscóalta

### Anti-social elements

### ordered to leave Ardoyne

IT was reported on October 19 that more than a dozen men had been ordered out of Belfast by the Continuity IRA.

Warnings were stated to have been sent to men from the Ardoyne, Cliftonville, Markets, Poleglass and Twinbrook areas of the city that if they didn't leave they will be shot.

On October 17 the *Irish News* (Belfast) carried a statement (received by phone using a recognised codeword) from the Continuity IRA in which it claimed responsibility for the shooting of three men in the Ardoyne area of north Belfast in the past month warning that further attacks would follow.

The statement continued: "We are reacting to demands from the nationalist people. The death threats to the people on the list that was shown to Fr Troy still stands. These people have been warned and they now know what the consequences will be if they do not either leave the country or come forward and present themselves for mediation to our organisation.

"We are not putting ourselves forward to police nationalist districts but if contacted by the people we will take action against known drug dealers, burglars and rapists. These people have been warned. We have made our position clear. The onus is now on them."

### RUC 'careers' stall decision a political act

IN A statement on October 19 Richard Walsh, Derry, Assistant PRO Republican Sinn Féin said that the contemptible decision to invite the British colonial police to attend a careers fair at St. Columb's College in Derry City was clearly a political act.

Despite claims by the RUC that the stall "was not for the purposes of recruiting", the intention was clear.

The statement went on: "Indeed the RUC statement acknowledged that their presence was for the purpose of 'providing information to those who wanted it about careers in the [force]'."

"The primary role of any police force is to provide the first line of defence for the state — which in this case amounts to the subversion of the democratically expressed wishes of the Irish people, acting as a unit. Recruits will be expected to take up arms in support of English rule in Ireland.

"Regardless of the outcome of any Extraordinary Provo Ard-Fheis on the matter, there are those who will continue to resist the foreign military occupation of our country. Anyone considering joining the British Colonial Police under whatever guise should realise that they are declaring themselves an enemy of the Irish people."

### Low-flying Brit helicopters in Glenullin

IT was reported that four British Crown Forces helicopters were flying low over the townland of Lisnascreagh in Glenullin, near Garvagh, in County Derry on the night of Thursday, October 28. All four helicopters were hovering at an extremely low altitude, with three of them flying without any lights. British military flights are known to be extremely frequent over the rural Glenullin area.

### Claudy: Fr Chesney not involved

IN A statement on October 30 Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, President, Republican Sinn Féin, said that it must be distressing to the late Father Chesney's relatives, colleagues in the priesthood, parishioners and friends to hear of him being publicly accused of involvement in the Claudy bombing of 34 years ago.

The statement continued: "Since no one has come forward, I wish to put on record a conversation I had with Fr Chesney in the 1970s. At a H-Block meeting in Sligo he approached me as a person he could trust.

"He said that rumours had been circulated that he was associated with what had happened in Claudy. He felt this was done because he was known to be sympathetic to the Republican Cause. He said he was on holidays in Donegal at the time the explosions took place and had heard of them through the media. He had nothing whatever to do with the bombings. He was later transferred to duties in Donegal.

"Since the allegations have now become public I feel it my duty to fulfil the trust put in me all those years ago. For my part I fully accept what Fr Chesney told me."

### Results of Dublin raffle

OCTOBER results: 1st prize ticket no 471; 2nd prize no 526; 3rd prize no 084; 4th prize no 511; 5th prize no 24; 6th prize no 449; 7th prize no 123; 8th prize no 087.

SAOIRSE December edition  
published 6/12/2006

For a full British withdrawal from Ireland



## Gearrscéalta

## Harassment of RSF members in Wexford

DURING October members of the 26-County Special Branch called to the home of a Republican Sinn Féin member in Enniscorthy, Co Wexford. Although no warrant was produced, they demanded to be admitted to the man's home. He refused to admit him and they said: "You think you're a hard man – we'll be back." Republican Sinn Féin in Enniscorthy condemns such harassment and said that members would not be deterred by such intimidation.

## Shortt family settle with 26-County State

**ON October 17 the wife and children of Frank Shortt, the Donegal publican falsely jailed for drugs offences, agreed a large compensation settlement with the 26-County State.**

Frank Shortt was set up by rogue gardaí and framed for allowing ecstasy to be sold in his Inishowen nightclub, the Point Inn, in the mid-1990s. The 71-year-old was in jail for over two years before being freed in 1998 but his name was not fully cleared until 2002.

His wife Sally and five children, aged between 24 and 34, were compensated for the distress and suffering caused by their father's wrongful imprisonment. The settlement is believed to be a six-figure sum and comes after 1.9m was awarded to Frank Shortt last year.

Two members of the 26-County police, former superintendent Kevin Lennon and his accomplice ex-detective garda Noel McMahon concocted the frame-up. They were later branded corrupt by the Morris Tribunal for setting hoax Provo arms dumps in Donegal in the mid-1990s as they tried to further their careers.

## Brits and loyalists 'colluded on bombings'

**MEMBERS of the 26-County police investigating the bombing of Kay's Tavern in Dundalk in December 1975 believed that collusion existed between British Crown Forces and loyalist death squads suspected of a spate of cross-border bombings in the 1970s.**

However, their concerns never went beyond Garda Headquarters, a Leinster House committee was told on September 27.

Det Supt John Courtney and Det Sgt Owen Corrigan, both now retired, said they were astounded by the point-blank refusal of the head of the RUC's Criminal Investigation Department (CID) at the time to allow them to speak to an RUC member whom they believed had information on a suspect connected with the December 1975 bombing of Kay's Tavern in Dundalk that killed two innocent bystanders.

When they appealed to the head of the CID to speak to the officer during a meeting in Belfast in 1979 they met with a wall of silence, the subcommittee on the Barron Report on the bombing of Kay's Tavern was told.

Corrigan, who was based in Dundalk at the time of the bombing, answered yes when asked by the committee if he believed there was a high level of collusion between the British army, the RUC and loyalist death squads — including a gang based out of Glenane, Co Armagh, which they strongly suspected of being behind the Dundalk and other bombings in the area at the time.

## Call for graves to be maintained

**ON October 27 a call was made by Des Long, Chairperson of Limerick Republican Graves committee that Republican graves and memorials must not be allowed fall into disrepair or become neglected.**

He said that already a memorial to two men executed by British forces at Cappamore Road in Tipperary has been restored and unveiled in a fitting ceremony attended by relatives of the men.

"Remedial work was also undertaken on the Manchester Martyrs Memorial in Limerick when the Limerick City Council refused to carry out the repairs," he said.

"We in Limerick Republican Graves are now calling on Shannon Development to move the memorial to Captain Michael Danfort to a more accessible spot and to allow public access. Captain Danfort was a leading member of the Limerick IRA in the War of Independence and he was murdered by the Free State.

"The memorial was erected in his memory at the spot where he was murdered. We are now asking Shannon Development who own the Ballysimon Industrial Estate to ensure that the memorial is moved so that it can be seen by the public.

"At the moment one would need a map to locate the memorial because it has become so hidden away from public view. We must ensure that the memorials to our Republican past are not allowed fall into ruin or to become neglected."

# Shell-to-Sea protests intensify

**ON October 3 members of the Shell to Sea protest group gathered at the entrance of the Corrib gas terminal in Mayo. They blocked the entrance to the plant but a large force of 26-County police forced their way through and escorted construction workers on to the site.**

The protestors blocked the site around the clock since Shell tried to resume construction work at the terminal in the last week of September. However hundreds of gardaí moved in and carried the protestors away from their positions.

Spokesperson Máire Harrington said the authorities were doing Shell's dirty work by clearing a path for construction workers to return to the site.

In the wake of the events on October 3 campaigners were out in force on October 4 and 5, undeterred by the heavy police presence and inclement weather.

Over 200 local residents and Shell to Sea activists gathered in the semi-darkness of the early mornings to voice their opposition to the Corrib gas project and to underline the fact that although work has temporarily recommenced on site, Shell to Sea resistance to this project will continue. In the face of deliberate attempts by 26-County police to opportunistically provoke and inflame the tempers of the protestors at this sensitive time, the nature of the last few days' protests has been consciously peaceful, as usual, in an effort to diffuse the tension imported by An Garda Síochána.

The effective occupation of the Bellanaboy area by 26-County police since October 3 continues. Hundreds of Gardai who have been drafted into the small community to facilitate Shell's work remain in the area and have maintained a strong presence outside the proposed refinery site since then. In the same way that Nigeria's "oil police" violently suppress dissent to Shell's corporate rape, the Gardai are effectively Shell's state provided private army protecting the global giant from the community which it is attempting to destroy. Public roads have been blocked and Garda checkpoints erected. The protest on October 4 witnessed a heavy police presence with luminous coated gardai lining the roadside. The police presence on October 5 was more low-key with gardai waiting on standby in buses.

Despite deliberate provocation by the Gardai, protestors remained peaceful and refused to react. Gardai have consistently targeted protestors who appear emotional or upset, pushing and shoving and putting their hands and cameras in people's faces. Several people have reported excessive use of force.

The protests escalated into sit-down protests on October 9, 10 and 11.

### HEADQUARTERS OCCUPIED

On October 11 a group of protestors opposed to the Corrib gas pipeline in Co Mayo occupied the headquarters of Shell Ireland in Dublin.

The demonstrators were members of the Shell to Sea group which has been leading the campaign against the controversial pipeline.

Some of them occupied the lobby of the building, while others climbed onto a one-storey roof.

Gardai were called to the scene in an effort to resolve the situation. The protest ended at 2pm.

Well-known Shell to Sea protester Máire Harrington was taken to hospital with suspected concussion on October 13 having

Corcoran and Brian Coyle of Coyle Hamilton in Galway also proposed that Shell should suspend any work at Bellanaboy while such activity is undertaken. Any further activity on the site they state will only "further damage" Shell's relationship with the community, and will waste

Ciarán Ó Murchú described how three or four approaches and a number of phone calls were made to him by two Shell officials.

On October 23 the Shell to Sea campaign said it had always been willing to enter into discussions with Shell E&P Ireland on the



• Máire Harrington being manhandled by 26-County police as she protested outside the entrance to the Corrib gas terminal site in Bellanaboy on October 3.

been pushed to the ground by a garda at the Bellanaboy site.

Máire Harrington was treated at the scene by Independent Mayo TD Dr Jerry Cowley and was taken by ambulance to Mayo General Hospital in Castlebar. She chose to be transported to a Health Service Executive (HSE) ambulance rather than in an Irish Red Cross ambulance which Shell is required to have on the site.

Máire Harrington, who was released from hospital on the afternoon of October 13, said she had been knocked to the ground by a garda and had sustained injuries to her head and neck. She had been in front of a group of protestors and was carrying a cross in memory of Nigerian activist Ken Saro-Wiwa when she felt herself "flying through the air" and then lying on the ground. Máire Harrington said she weighed six-and-a-half stone and represented no physical threat. She said the Gardai stationed in Bellanaboy over the past two weeks were "out of control".

On the same day two people were arrested in Bellmullet Co Mayo in relation to a complaint about alleged "intimidation", they were released that night without charge. A file was sent to the 26-County DPP.

The two, a man in his 60s and a woman in her 30s were detained under Section 4 of the 26-County Criminal Justice Act. To date six people have been arrested arising from the protest.

In the meantime two chartered engineers called on the 26-County Minister for the Marine Noel Dempsey to commission a report on the "optimum location" for the controversial Corrib gas terminal, which might help to break the impasse over the €900 million project.

Former Bord Gais official Leo

resources if the study comes up with an alternative location.

The engineer's proposal was formulated in response to the endorsement of the Advantica safety review of the onshore pipeline by the professional body, Engineers Ireland.

In their new report, Leo Corcoran and Brian Coyle identify the key issue as the location of the gas processing terminal 9km inland at Bellanaboy, which involves running a pipeline through Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas.

The report claims that modifying the pipeline route away from Rosspoint, as proposed by Shell, is not the answer, they find, given Bellanaboy's inherent unsuitability as a terminal site and its proximity to the catchment for a major water supply for Erris.

A North Mayo businessman who runs an adventure centre claimed that Shell E&P Ireland tried to buy his support for the Corrib gas project with an offer of €15,000 last year.

Ciarán Ó Murchú of Coláiste Uisce in Elly Bay said that company officials assured him that no one would know that the money came from Shell if he accepted it.

He rejected the offer, but believes other businesses have had similar approaches by the company in a bid to "divide the community" and undermine those objecting to the onshore pipeline. Shell E&P Ireland deny the claim.

Ciarán Ó Murchú made the claim at a press conference attended by the four Independent Leinster House TDs, Dr Jerry Cowley Mayo, Tony Gregory, Dublin Central, Seamus Healy, Tipperary North and the Socialist Party's Joe Higgins, Dublin West on October 16.

Corrib gas project if such discussions include all options for the project.

Campaign spokesman Dr Mark Garavan was responding to the appeal on October 21 by Shell E&P Ireland's deputy managing director Terry Nolan for dialogue, after three weeks of protests near the Corrib gas terminal site in Bellanaboy, Co Mayo.

Up to 100 people continued early morning demonstrations at Bellanaboy bridge on October 23 as Shell staff arrived for work at the terminal site. Some of the protesters sat on the road and were forcibly removed by the gardai.

Dr Mark Garavan said Shell had so far been willing to engage in "explanation", rather than "meaningful discussion", and there was "no real evidence" that it wanted any change to its plan for the Corrib terminal.

Also, the company had offered to modify the pipeline route after Peter Cassells' report, but recently informed the Dublin High Court that it did not wish to vacate compulsory acquisition orders for the existing route, Mark Garavan said.

"Ultimately, dialogue has to resolve this, but the conditions of trust are not there, as there is no real evidence that Shell wants change," he said. "We want the government (sic) to take responsibility, and to direct Shell to reconfigure the project," he said.

A second national day of action will take place at the Ballanaboy Shell site on Friday, November 10. The site and the one-mile stretch of road leading to it has been the focus point for protests by Shell to Sea activists since this phase of the protests began.



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Draw will take place at Ard-Fheis in Dublin, November 2006

# For The Record

**TUES. OCTOBER 3:** Members of the People Before Profit Alliance held a picket at Leinster House, Dublin in protest at what they considered 'corruption' among politicians. Bertie Ahern apologised to the House for accepting donations while 26-County Minister for Finance in 1973/74.

Responsibility for supervising prisoners during court hearings in the Occupied Six Counties is to be returned to the British Prison Service next year. Maybin Support Services currently escort prisoners for court appearances.

Mark McConnell told the Morris Tribunal that he was pushed, abused and sworn at by gardai investigating the death of Richie Barron, Raphoe, Co Donegal, in 1996.

**WED. OCTOBER 4:** Robert Wilkinson, a member of the RUC, stated at the trial of Seán Hoey that the storeroom in the RUC station at Newry, Co Down – where items removed from Omagh after the bombing were stored – was a mess.

The Independent Monitoring Commission in its latest report, states that the Provisional IRA had disbanded 'military structures', stood down volunteers and stopped allowances, recruitment and training; that the INLA continues to raise funds through criminal activities and that the Continuity IRA and the Real IRA continue to be active. Loyalist groups, ie the UVF, UDA and LVF, remain 'involved in violence' including the UDA's involvement in the attack on a Derry man almost three months ago. Paul McCauley was attacked, and left in a coma, as he cleaned up after a barbecue.

**FRI. OCTOBER 6:** A legal challenge to the introduction of water rates in the Occupied Six Counties was successful in that leave was granted for a judicial review to the General Consumer Council.

**SAT. OCTOBER 7:** A fire in the B&Q store in Coleraine, Co Derry caused considerable damage and may have been caused by an incendiary device.

Anna Politkovskaya, a Russian journalist who was openly critical of the war in Chechnya, was murdered in the lift of her building in Moscow. She had two gunshot wounds, one to the head. She planned to publish a story about torture, abuse and kidnappings and had witness accounts and photos. The story was due to appear in the following day's edition of the paper *Novaya Gazeta*.

**SUN. OCTOBER 8:** In a racist incident in Lisburn the home of two Latvian men was attacked with stones and fireworks.

Frank McBrearty jnr refused to give evidence at the Morris Tribunal. He is boycotting the inquiry which he claims is covering up for garda management and the 26-County Department of Justice. Gardai attempted to frame him and his cousin Mark McConnell for the murder of Richie Barron (it was later proved Richie Barron died in a hit and run accident). He claims that the gardai forged his signature on a false confession.

**MON. OCTOBER 9:** DUP leader Rev Ian Paisley met the Catholic Primate of All-Ireland, Archbishop of Armagh Seán Brady for talks at Stormont.

**Spotlight** programme on the BBC 1 highlighted the murder of Séamus Ludlow, murdered by a loyalist gang including members of the British army near Dundalk in May 1976. His murder is being reinvestigated after four alleged suspects in the murder were named Barron report.

**TUES. OCTOBER 10:** Mark Thompson of the Relatives for Justice Group said the issue of collusion must be addressed once and for all. He said many of those whose relatives were murdered by or with the help of agents run by British Forces feel they should be consulted about the issue [policing].

Nuala O'Loan, RUC/PSNI Ombudsman, is investigating a claim that a member of the RUC assaulted a man at the scene of his arrest.

Raytheon have finally admitted that their factory in Derry developed software for military applications. The company boasts that the Joint Effects Tactical Targeting System (Jettis), which is specifically designed for the 'defence market' improves 'lethality' on the battle field.

**WED. OCTOBER 11:** The trial judge in the trial of Seán Hoey ordered transcripts of the evidence of RUC/PSNI Detective Chief Inspector Philip Greer Marshall and scene of the



• Members of the People Before Profit Alliance protesting outside Leinster House on October 3 (see quote on left).

crime officer Fiona Cooper for the prosecution to study. Their evidence was not truthful.

Michael O'Brien, whose father came from Wexford accepted more than £300,000 sterling after he spent 11 years in jail in England wrongly accused of murdering newsagent Philip Saunders.

**THURS. OCTOBER 12:** Four Mayo men were arrested at the protest outside the Corrib gas terminal at Bellanaboy, Mayo. The four were part of a large group protesting at the continuing work by Shell at the terminal. A force of over 100 gardai blocked the protestors from going near the entrance.

The talks continued at St Andrews in Scotland.

The 26-County Administration is close to finalising a deal so that between 80 and 100 Free State troops will be available for a battle group, according to Willie O'Dea, 26-County Minister for Defence.

Turkish writer Orhan Pamuk won the Nobel Prize for literature.

**FRI. OCTOBER 13:** Muhammad Yunus, a Bangladeshi economist and founder of the Grameen Bank, won the Nobel peace prize for helping to lift millions out of poverty by lending them small amounts of money directly. Since 1983 Grameen has lent \$5.7 billion – 97% of its borrowers are women.

The US proposes to spend \$42 million promoting alternatives to Hamas, including funding to Fatah, ahead of possible Palestinian elections.

Scotland Yard was charged under health and safety laws over the death of Jean Charles de Menezes, the Brazilian man shot dead in Stockwell underground station in July 2005. No one was charged with his murder.

Twenty-five prominent Russian journalists have been murdered since 1993.

**SAT. OCTOBER 14:** Agreement was reached in St Andrews between the various representatives. The Stormont assembly will meet on November 24 to appoint a first and deputy first minister believe to be Ian Paisley DUP and Martin McGuinness of the Provisionals.

**MON. OCTOBER 16:** Billy Phillips and Jackie Bates, Wexford were further remanded on bail at the Special Court in Green Street, Dublin to November 14 on charges of possession of explosives and ammunition. Robert Kerins, Wexford, was remanded on bail to January 19, 2007 for sentence after pleading guilty to similar charges.

The wife and children of Frank Shortt, the Donegal publican falsely jailed for drugs offences, agreed a compensation settlement with the 26-County administration which acknowledged the considerable suffering and distress caused to the Shortt family but refused to admit liability.

A group of four men, armed with rifles, blocked off Rosskeen Park, Hazlebank, Derry as a punishment beating was taking place.

The prosecution in the trial of Seán Hoey, charged in connection with the 1998 Omagh bombing, agreed that a question mark hangs over the reliability of two witnesses Fiona Cooper and Philip Greer Marshall (both members of the RUC/PSNI) as the judge recommended their evidence should be treated with caution.

According to Fr Alex Reid the Provisionals

decommissioning took place at nine different locations over nine days.

British Energy (the British nuclear company) said it has to shut two nuclear reactors after finding cracked pipes at two power stations – one in Hinkley in western England and the other in Hunterston in Scotland.

**TUES. OCTOBER 17:** Peter Hain, British Secretary of State in the Occupied Six Counties, warned that if the controversy over when the Provisionals should sign up to the pledge, which is expected to incorporate a commitment to policing, was not quickly settled he would wind up the assembly.

Dick Roche, Minister for the Environment in the 26-Counties faces possible legal action in the High Court by Gerard Halley, a solicitor based in Waterford, to secure the preservation of the internationally important Woodstown Viking site in Waterford.

Nan O'Brien, a mother of nine children, became the first ever woman traveler to address the United Nations on the issue of poverty, deprivation and social exclusion.

More than 400 motorists were arrested for drunk driving within the last week in the 26-Counties.

Donegal solicitor James O'Donnell (for Mark McConnell) told the Morris Tribunal that he 'was stonewalled' by the custody garda, Martin Leonard, who was uncooperative and obdurate in his refusal to hand over copies of custody records and interview notes when requested to do so.

Denis O'Brien spent up to €32 million to acquire a 2.1% stake in Aer Lingus.

George Bush signed into law new laws authorizing tough interrogation of suspects and smoothing the way for their trials before US military commissions.

**WED. OCTOBER 18:** Colm Maguire, Dublin was found guilty of membership of the IRA on September 13, 2003, in the special non-jury court in Dublin. Brian Quinn, Newry was found not guilty.

Cadbury's are to cut up to 450 jobs at their plant in Coolock in Dublin.

**FRI. OCTOBER 20:** A man was arrested at the Shell gas terminal in Bellanaboy, Co Mayo in clashed with the gardai. Up to 300 gardai protected Shell's interests and kept the protestors away from the entrance.

**SAT. OCTOBER 21:** A research programme between the Irish fishing industry and Marine Institute scientists is to go ahead to provide new information on Irish fish stocks.

SIPTU president Jack O'Connor said unfettered access should not be extended to migrant workers from Romania and Bulgaria until measures to protect Irish workers had been strengthened.

Russia has suspended the activities of Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International and more than 90 other foreign non-governmental organizations. Because they failed to meet the registration requirements of a new law designed to being activists under much closer government scrutiny.

**MON. OCTOBER 23:** It was reported in the *Irish News* that Roger Hughes, brother of hunger striker Francis Hughes, died suddenly in England.

B&Q denied that they supply directly or indirectly the 'armed forces'. The Continuity IRA had claimed that B&Q were supplying

items to the British Army.

Former US Chief Executive of Enron, Jeffrey Skilling, was found guilty of corporate fraud and sentenced to 24 years in jail.

Two [as yet unnamed] individuals are to take a case in the High Court in an attempt to prevent the M3 motorway cutting through the historic Hill of Tara in Co Meath.

Michael McDowell plans to 'review fundamental legal protections such as the right of silence.'

A man was shot in the leg in the Springfield Park area of Strabane, Co Tyrone.

**TUES. OCTOBER 24:** A demonstration was held outside the Guildhall during a council debate on Raytheon's involvement in the with the arms industry. Goretti Hogan was arrested in connection with the occupation of Raytheon's plant on August 9. A file is to be sent to the Public Prosecution Service.

It was reported in the *Irish News* that 91 patients were waiting for emergency surgery across the Occupied Six Counties – the highest number in four years. Among them was a 75-year-old woman who has waited three weeks for an operation after breaking her kneecap.

**WED. OCTOBER 25:** A public inquiry into the murder by a loyalist death squad of solicitor Rosemary Nelson in 1999 has been delayed for at least nine months.

Peter Hain, British Secretary of State in the Occupied Six Counties put a cap on how much money can be claimed by legal representatives working on the Billy Wright inquiry. Under the cap council can claim a maximum of £200 per hour; junior council can claim £100 per hour and solicitors can claim £150 per hour.

A bilateral agreement is being sought which would allow Americans to work in Ireland [26-Counties] in exchange for the legalisation of thousands of undocumented Irish in the USA.

Frank McBrearty jnr walked out of the Morris Tribunal hearings after refusing to submit to cross-examination by legal representatives of An Garda Síochána.

**THURS. OCTOBER 26:** The DUP and UUP rejected proposals for an All-Ireland economy.

**FRI. OCTOBER 27:** Declan McGlinchey, Bellaghy, Co Derry was charged with constructing and possessing improvised explosives, with intent to endanger life, in Bellaghy, Co Derry in July 2006. Declan is the son of INLA members Dominic and Mary McGlinchey, both of whom were murdered in 1994 and 1987 respectively.

Details are only emerging now of the resignation of Patricia Fitzmaurice, lead solicitor for the Robert Hamill inquiry team, two months ago.

Colin Avery, Lurgan, Co Armagh was refused bail in the High Court, Belfast. He was rearrested on October 12 and charged with possession of explosives. He had previously been arrested last April.

The latest inquiry into the Dublin and Monaghan bombings is to seek a further extension for the publication of its report.

**SAT. OCTOBER 28:** Two Co Carlow men, Mark Doran, Poachers Lock, and Patrick Dermody, Leighlinbridge were charged at the Special (non-jury) Court in Dublin with membership of an illegal organisation. Patrick Dermody was also charged with possession of a double-barrelled shotgun.

**MON. OCTOBER 30:** The demolition of the H-Blocks of Long Kesh began.



# Ó Brádaigh refused visa for New York biography launch

ON October 20 the US Department of State in Washington refused a Visa to the President of Republican Sinn Féin, Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, to visit New York for the launch on October 21 of a biography of which he is the subject.

A letter from the US Embassy in Dublin stated that this action was taken under Section 212 (a) (3) (B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. This section is described in a similar letter dated June 9, 1994 as prohibiting "the issuance of a visa to any person who has engaged, or who is likely to engage, after entry into the United States, in terrorist activity".

The biography is a 350-page hard-back book by Dr Robert W White, Professor of Sociology at Indiana University and is the result of 22 years research. It had already been launched this year in Dublin, Belfast and several other centres in Ireland and is available in bookshops.

The proposed weekend visit to New York was intended solely for the book launch, surely a political act which has now been suppressed by the US State Department.

Members of Cumann Na Saoirse Náisiúnta were in attendance at the New York launch of Robert White's book *Ruairí Ó Brádaigh The Life and Politics of an Irish Revolutionary* at Ó Lunney's in Times Square, Manhattan on Saturday October, 21 2006.

Robert White is a Dean and a Professor of Sociology at the Indiana University School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI in Indianapolis. The book has already become very popular in Ireland and has had successful

also a huge success, spoke from an author's viewpoint and said that there was a vast amount of quality information in the book about a critical period in recent Irish history. He paid tribute to Robert White for his dedication to the task and for his detailed research that has produced a special biography of a remarkable Irish Republican leader.

He said: "Bob's book is a very important and an invaluable contribution to our understanding of what happened and why. ... this book sheds fascinating light on the earlier years of Ruairí Ó Brádaigh's life, a period I personally knew less about than I should have.

"Ruairí Ó Brádaigh's difficulty and the difficulty of those who thought like him was that the Provisional IRA being born out of the sectarianism of the Northern State was heavily skewed, in terms of numbers and influence, in the Northerners' favour while the politics of Ó Brádaigh were difficult to reconcile with the constitutional status quo in either part of Ireland it was not so with the Northerners. If their reason for joining the IRA and fighting the British was because the Northern State was too cold a house for them they only needed someone to warm it up a little, to make it more welcoming for Catholics and



•(left to right) Hugh O'Lunney, Ed Moloney, Robert White and Maitiú Ó Brádaigh at the launch in New York on October 21.

struggle. While the IRA (*sic*) was so heavily penetrated by the end that it could be argued that the British were really running the show.

"But fundamentally it was this political difference, the difference between Ó Brádaigh's brand of Republicanism and Gerry Adams' brand of Republican defenderism that really explains why, this weekend we are contemplating a future in which Martin McGuinness and Ian Paisley will jointly govern Northern Ireland and why the IRA (*sic*) Army Council has decommissioned all its weapons and will shortly recommend a policing career and not the life of a revolutionary for young people.

Brádaigh and Gerry Adams went their separate and very different ways. At the time people like Ruairí Ó Brádaigh predicted that the Provisionals would end up in the constitutional fold but I really doubt that he could have seen the foreclosure worked out at St. Andrews last weekend.

"I think I can speak for Bob White when I say that it is imperative that the full story of how this happened must be told and not left to those who would distort and dissemble. This means that all those who were involved in these events have an obligation to put their story on record somewhere so that the truth will not be lost. Outdated concepts like the Republican equivalent of *Omerta* must be put aside. In the meantime Bob White has done his bit to tell an important part of that story and I am sure in congratulating him for that."

An invitation to attend the book launching was extended to Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, president of Republican Sinn Féin, by Janet Rabinowitch, Director of Indiana University Press. Herman J Saatkamp Jr, President of Stockton College of New Jersey and Scott E. Evenbeck, Dean of University College Indiana/Purdue University Indianapolis, Indiana supported the invitation.

Maitiú Ó Brádaigh read an address that was prepared by his father. In it, Ruairí thanked all those who made the launch possible and also thanked those in attendance.

"They all agree that it is essential reading for a knowledge of the past 50 years of Irish history, that it is a work deeply researched over a period of more than 20 years, that it is easy to read, well-documented, with copious notes and an excellent index. Further, they believe that it stands with J. Bowyer Bell's *Secret Army*, TP Coogan's *The IRA*, Ed Moloney's *Secret History of the IRA* as one of the half-dozen really serious works on the period in question.

"As in the case of many other works which do not take a pro-establishment line, reviews in the daily and Sunday newspapers in Ireland have not been forthcoming so far. But of those published, the pieces by Tony Coughlan, Senior Lecturer Emeritus in Trinity College Dublin, writing in the Republican monthly *SAOIRSE* and Pat Butler of RTE in *Foinse*, the Irish language weekly, really examine and evaluate this book in depth.

"My own favourite quotation is from Bob White in his overview of the past 85 years when he said that what had convulsed the Republican Movement repeatedly since 1921 was whether the All-Ireland Republic could be reached by parliamentary means or whether popular struggle was necessary to achieve this goal. On a more personal note I am grateful to Eugene McGee for his reference (reported in the *Roscommon Champion* of May 30 last) to 'the heroic part played by Ó Brádaigh's wife, Patsy.' She certainly made sacrifices over the past 47 years of marriage.

"When I first visited the United States and spoke publicly in Boston just 10 days subsequent to Bloody Sunday in Derry, I said I was addressing 'this other Ireland' across the Atlantic. This evening I do regret my absence from you in New York.

"I was interviewed in the U.S. Embassy in Dublin when I visited it on October 5. I was asked pointedly why I did not accept the current process in Ireland? I replied that the process and the Agreement of 1998 would eventually fail because they were based on a civil rights analysis and had produced a solution based on civil rights under British rule. The historic Irish Question was not addressed, that is the question of the presence of the English government in Ireland.

"Then I was asked why not pursue the objective of a free and united Ireland by political

means alone? I referred to my lifetime of political action and quoted Mr. Bush as saying that 'every country had the right to defend itself'. I asked were the Irish people – alone on the face of the earth – to be the only exception to this rule?

"I could have referred to the political test oaths required of candidates for election in the Six Counties which precluded true Irish Republicans from standing. I could have mentioned that when the Irish people, acting as a unit, self-determined themselves as a 32-county Republic in 1918 and again in 1921, England's answer was the Black-and-Tan regime and the partition of Ireland in order to give a local majority a veto over Irish independence.

"Also I could have stated that visiting New York for a weekend to attend the launch of this biography was precisely a political act, yet there was the danger of the Washington Establishment denying me such a right to political action.

"I wish I could speak to you in person as I did twice in 1972 and twice in 1973. However, the biography enables me to address you and the American people. Read it and circulate it; those who launched it in Ireland called it 'amazing' and 'accomplished'. See for yourselves! Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir!"

In his account, Robert spoke of the countless interviews he had throughout Ireland over the years while collecting material for the book. He said that he found nothing to contradict his belief that Ruairí Ó Brádaigh is a man of principle who would not compromise Irish Republican principles, a man who had great faith in the Irish people, a man who believed and lived by rules and regulations, a man of prodigious memory and one who does not barter with the truth but can appreciate humour even at his own expense.

Robert said that one of the problems that bedeviled many of Ó Brádaigh's political adversaries can be found in Ruairí's naturally mild manner. He said that this was not what Harold Wilson, the British Prime Minister, expected when he met Ruairí in the mid seventies.

Robert also referred to Ruairí's faith in the ÉIRE NUA program and how he envisioned and promoted that program as the fairest solution for all the Irish people

After a lengthy questions and answer session Robert White thanked all present. He also thanked Hugh O'Lunney, the popular host, on behalf of the publisher. Afterwards, he continued signing copies of the book.

It appears that people realise that Ruairí Ó Brádaigh — *The Life and Politics of an Irish Revolutionary* is a masterpiece and is an ideal gift for individuals or families.



• Ed Moloney and Robert White launching the Ó Brádaigh biography on October 21.

launches in Dublin, Belfast, Tralee, Galway and Roscommon.

The New York launch, which was organised and promoted by the publisher, the Indiana University Press, drew a mixture of academics as well as Irish Republican activists and Ó Brádaigh admirers.

The launch was officiated by Ed Moloney who wrote the foreword for the book. In his address Ed, whose recent book *The Secret History of the IRA* is

their fervour for Republicanism would diminish. That I would argue is essentially what has happened in the last 10 years.

"There are many reasons why the current leadership of the Provisionals have prevailed. People like Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness are skilled and cunning at what they plotted and planned. Their followers were also exhausted by too many years of strife and

"Bob White's book on Ruairí Ó Brádaigh demonstrates most convincingly how and why that political divergence came about. It may have not registered with all in this room but 20 years ago, almost exactly, on November 9, 1986, that divergence was given tangible expression when the Provisional Movement split over the issue of Southern Abstentionism and Ruairí Ó

# Shell

AN BEO fós sa tír seo d'eagras ar bith atá in ainm is a bheith ag cosaint na gceart? Tá, cearta an duine, go háirithe cosaint na Gaeltachta is na Gaeilge, cosaint na mbocht? Más amhlaidh atá, cén fáth in ainm Dé nach bhfuil sé i mbun agóide móire ar fud na tíre seo agus, go deimhin, ar fud na hEorpa, ar son na ndaoine i gCo Mhaigh Eo atá faoi chois fós ag Béalastán Shell?

A bhuí na Dia agus le RTÉ tá an scéal curtha arís agus arís eile faoinár n-aire, cé nach bhfuil na meáin eile (ach amháin *Lá*, *Raidió na Gaeltachta*, agus *TG4*) chomh coinsiasach céanna, mo léan!

Ach ní hé Shell an maistín is measa san éagóir seo ach an rialtas i mBaile Átha Cliath, a chuir fáilte roimh an arrachtach gallda seo le go ndéanfadh sé a chuid féin de mhaoín na hÉireann, gan cosc dá laghad air.

Más fíor, tá an stát seo a bhfuileamar ag maireachtáil ann inniu ar na cinn is saibhre ar domhan, agus dúisíonn sin ceist. Cén fáth nár fhostaigh an stát céanna na teicneoirí a theastaigh leis an amhantar a bhaint den mhuir, agus sin a chur ar fáil do mhuintir na hÉireann, ach sa chaoi nach

gcuirfís as do mhuintir Mhaigh Eo, a bheag nó a mhór?

## BRÍBEANNA EILE?

An amhlaidh atá bríbeanna móra rúnda i gceist sa gcás seo freisin, mar fhreagra?

Ón méid a cuireadh faoinár stíle ar na mallabhbh, b'amhlaidh a réitíodh slán sábháilte roimh mbríbreadóir ar bith le go mbeadh sé (nó sí) gan buairt agus é i mbun a ghnó. Níl nod ó éinne nach mar sin a bheas cúrsaí feasta, mo náire, nó nach raibh sé le léamh ar na nuachtáin an lá faoi dheireadh go ndúirt fear ionraic i gCo Mhaigh Eo go bhfuair sé a leithéid de thairiscint ach gur dhíultaigh sé di?

Bail ó Dhia air, agus síol an amhrais curtha. Ach an bhfuil éinne ag a bhfuil an chumhacht

sásta dul níos faide leis an scéal, féachaint cé mhéad daoine eile a fuair bríbeanna ó Shell? Ar éigean é!

## ÍOSA TRÉIGHTHE

Goilleann sé go mór ormsa gur ag dul in olcas, is cosúil, atá moráltacht na tíre seo ó tháinig an saibhreas (agus an tsaint) agus gur thréig an oiread sin den bpobal an Chríostaíocht.

Tharla sin, b'fhéidir mar thionchar na teilifíse agus na meán eile, brú fhaisin, más maith leat, ach gan cruthú dá laghad ag éinne gur earráid mhór an Chríostaíocht, agus go mba chóir deireadh a chur léi inár saol príobháideach agus poiblí, idir an ghin a mharú agus eile.

Ní thig le héinne a chruthú nach bhfuil Dia, an Cruthaitheoir, ár nDia, mar Chríostaithe, mar Ghiúdaí, nó mar Islamaigh, ann. Ar ndóigh, ó thaobh na heolaíochta de ach oiread ní féidir, fós féin, ar aon chaoi, a chruthú go mbhfuil sé ann i gcónaí.

Ceist chreidimh atá ann agus níl baint dá laghad leis an eolaíocht sa scéal. Trua nach mbíonn cúrsaí den chineál seo á gceiradh go poiblí. Ach, ar ndóigh, is í an mhóití, nó an mana ag an oiread sin daoine ar

na saolta seo go maitheann an chríoch na bealaí a leantar leis an gcríoch úd a bhaint amach (i. sa mBéarla, *the end justifies the means*).

## AN MHORÁLTACHT

Nuair a bhíonn an Chríostaíocht (agus an Giúdachas agus an tIslamachas) á cleachtadh, tá páirt mhór sa scéal ag an mhoráltacht, mar seo a leanas: Ní mór don gcríoch a bheith ceart agus cóir, agus ní mór do na bealaí chuige a bheith chomh ceart agus chomh cóir céanna. Sin rud a luíonn le reasún, le ciall agus, creidim, le coinsias an té atá ceart agus cóir ó nádúr.

Agus an aiste seo á cur le chéile agus chualas duine éigin ag an doras lasmuigh, ach ábhar eagla ní raibh ann mar bileog amháin, gan bhagairt, a ba chúis le cúrsaí, bileog eolais ó ndream sin, *Save Our Seafloor*, bail ó Dhia orthu. An ceann atá ina fhothrach le blianta i nDún Laoghaire!

## LABHAIR LEO!

Ar na daoine a bhfuil baint leis an ngnó seo tá Richard Boyd Barrett, Gene Feighery, Bob Waddell, agus Dr Michael Punch. Cruinniú poiblí atá fógraithe, ach beidh sin thart

nuair a bheas an aiste seo i gcló agus le léamh.

Ach sibhse a bhfuil cónaí oraibh, déanaí teagmháil le duine díobh maidir leis an gcéad chruinniú eile, mar is dóigh liom gur fiú é.

Caithfidh mé a admháil nach bhfuil tuairim dá laghad agamsa an bhfuil duine ar bith de na daoine sin atá luaite anseo agus inniu ceangailte le pháirtí polaitiúil ar bith, ach is cuma liom má tá, nó nuair a bhíonn gá le brú a chur ar na húdaráis le deireadh a chur le holcas is fiú don té ionraic a thacaíocht a thabhairt.

An té a léann *The Irish Times* go rialta beidh aithne aige ar Patsy McGarry, an t-iriseoir clúiteach úd a bhfuil cúrsaí creidimh, idir nuafocht agus eile, á gceiradh chomh rialta agus chomh tuiscineach ar an nuachtán céanna.

## SALLINS ARÍS

Beidh leabhar dá chuid i gcló agus ar fáil sna siopaí, le cuidiú Dé, an mhí seo, an chéad saothar dá chuid, ní fheadar. Ar aon chaoi, seo a leanas an leabhar atá i gceist: *When Justice Slept*, agus é foilsithe ag Liffey Press. Thart faoi €15 an praghas. Ní fhaca mé féin an leabhar ach tá fonn

orm é a léamh, mar is é an *Sallins Mail Train Robbery* bun agus barr scéal McGarry.

Ar ndóigh, ní hiontas ar bith é go mbeadh speis agam sa leabhar nua agus mo mhac, Osgur, ar na daoine a chéas Gardaí an stáit seo chun go gcuiridís a sínithe ar bhréagadhmháil, go raibh baint acu sa gcor.

Mar is eol don té a bhfuil speis aige ina leithéidí, fritheadh ciontach sa gCúirt Speisialta iad, ach gur scaoileadh saor iad sa gCúirt Athchomhairle 19 mí ina dhiaidh sin. Tá sé thar a bheith in am deireadh a chur leis an gCúirt Speisialta chéanna!

Ach, idir na dá linn, ba chóir bínse ar leith a bhunú le céasadh Osguir agus a chairde a scrúdiú, agus na céasadóirí a chur ar a dtriail. I láthair na huairé taid go hard sa Gharda Síochána, iad siúd atá fós ag obair, agus pinsean den scoth acu siúd atá ar a suaimhneas.

Bríonglóid? B'fhéidir í. Ach an duine aonarach atá fós féin ag súil le cothrom na Féinne, ceannafodh sé an leabhar seo le Peatsaí, bail ó Dhia air, agus cá bhfios?

— Deasún Breatnach

# Special Branchmen acquitted of lying under oath

A DUBLIN court was told on October 17 that two 26-County detectives lied under oath while giving evidence at the trial of a man accused of being involved in the Omagh bombings.

The senior gardaí were accused of falsifying statements from Colm Murphy, who is alleged to have conspired with the bombers in August 1998.

Detective Garda Liam Donnelly and Detective Garda John Fahy appeared at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court on October 17 charged with two counts of perjury. The pair also faced two counts of forging notes and a single count each of using a forged document at the 2001 trial. The men denied the charges.

Both men were part of teams of Special Branch detectives based at Carrickmacross, Co Monaghan, who systematically interviewed Colm Murphy during his 48-hour detention in February 1999, senior counsel for the state Paul O'Higgins said.

He told the jury that the gardaí had been investigating the Co Tyrone bombing atrocity when they arrested Colm Murphy for conspiracy.

Paul O'Higgins said the prosecution would prove a third and final page of interview notes taken by the pair had been replaced with a new sheet before it was submitted as evidence in

court. He said a forensic test known as electrostatic document analysis (ESDA) would prove the case.

"The foundation for this application is in relation to these three pages of notes and the prosecution will call evidence in relation to a process known as ESDA," said Paul O'Higgins.

"The process enables evidence to be found in relation to indentations which have been left on paper after other sheets of paper have been written on and the top of the sheets on which the indentations have left."

The prosecution claimed the gardaí knowingly and falsely swore under oath that notes of their interview with Colm Murphy, on February 22, 1999, had not been rewritten and were an accurate account at his trial in 2001.

It was also alleged they forged notes of an interview with Colm Murphy on a date between February 21 and 22, 1999 and used a forged document at the trial with the intention to deceive.

Colm Murphy, 53, was accused of lending his mobile phone and another phone to the people who planted the Omagh device,

knowing it would be used for moving bombs.

He denied conspiring to cause an explosion between August 13 and 16, 1998. The court heard the unsigned and hotly disputed statements formed a significant part of the prosecution's case.

Colm Murphy from Ravensdale, Dundalk, Co Louth, was convicted at the non-jury Special Criminal Court in 2002 of conspiring to cause the explosion and jailed for 14 years. During the trial, Donnelly lied 13 times claiming that he had not rewritten an interview statement. The claims were backed up by Fahy.

In January last year, the Court of Criminal Appeal quashed Colm Murphy's conviction and ordered a retrial.

On October 23 the two 26-County Special Branch members were found not guilty by direction of the trial judge.

Judge Desmond Hogan at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court directed the jury to acquit the Special Branch members following his ruling that the allegedly forged interview notes and technical analysis of them were inadmissible.

The Special Branch members were found not guilty of two counts of perjury in that they knowingly and falsely swore under oath that the

purported notes of their interview with Colm Murphy on February 22, 1999 had not been rewritten and were an accurate account, on dates between October 18 and November 15, 2001 at the Special Criminal Court in Dublin.

They were also acquitted of two counts of forging notes of interview with Colm Murphy on a date between February 21 and 22, 1999 and using a forged document at the 2001 trial with the intention to deceive.

Judge Hogan's ruling came on day six of the trial following three days of legal argument in the jury's absence. He found that the prosecution were unable to establish a chain of custody in relation to the original notes of interview or of the later "electrostatic document analysis".

The prosecution's case was to have been that "electrostatic document analysis" would show that the third page of interview was not the only third page of notes made.

Paul O'Higgins told Judge Hogan that in light of the court's ruling no further evidence could go before the jury which could have led to a conviction and asked that a direction be given to the jury to return not guilty verdicts on all charges.

# IMEACHTAÍ

## KEVIN BARRY COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

RATHVILLY, CO CARLOW, 3pm

Speaker: Lita Ní Chathmhaoil

\*\*\*\*

## HUNGER STRIKE 25th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 11am

BROADFORD, CO LIMERICK

Speaker: Des Long

\*\*\*\*

## FR GRIFFIN COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

BEARNA, Co na GAILLIMHE

Assemble: Bearna school, 12 noon

\*\*\*\*

## LIAM MELLOWS COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

CASTLETOWN CEMETRY, NEAR GOREY,

COUNTY WEXFORD, 10.30AM

Organised by Cumann Pádraig Ó Pearaill

\*\*\*\*

## CHARLIE KERINS COMMEMORATION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

Assemble: Denny Street, Tralee, Co Kerry, 7.30pm

\*\*\*\*

## MANCHESTER MARTYRS COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1pm

Assemble: St Joseph's Cemetery, Moston

Lane, Manchester

\*\*\*\*

## POLITICAL STATUS PICKET

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

GPO, DUBLIN, 12.45-1.45pm

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# NATIONALISTS PROTEST AT BELFAST VISIT OF BRITISH QUEEN

## A Belfast Chronology

**Tuesday, October 3, 2006.** A number of British prison warders called as witnesses in the Billy Wright enquiry taking place in Belfast have applied for anonymity. Wright was shot dead on December 27, 1997 in Long Kesh prison, Co Antrim.

**Wednesday, October 4, 2006.** Crime has risen by more than 12% in west Belfast in the past six months according to a report in the *Irish News*.

**Friday, October 6, 2006.** Politicians in the Occupied Six Counties criticised a British Government decision to stop publishing planning notices for the greater Belfast area in the three daily papers and using weekly and free sheet publications instead.

Nationalist protesters outside the King's Hall, Belfast and blocked the main road for more than an hour in protest at the ceremony marking the disbandment of the Royal Irish Regiment (RIR), at which the British Queen was present. The protestors waved banners and placards with the names of those killed by loyalist death squads – squads proven to have had links with the Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) – the UDR merged with the Royal Irish Rangers in 1991 to create the RIR. (More than 60,000 men and women have served either full-time or part-time in the RIR and

UDR since 1970).

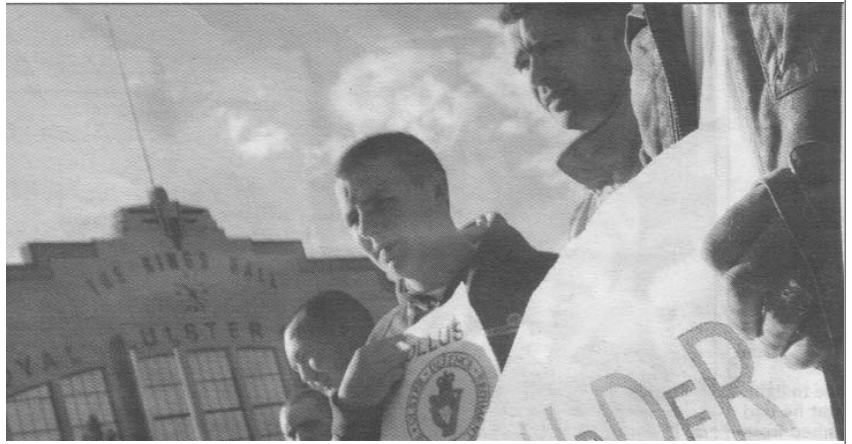
**Friday, October 6, 2006.** Two Asian men were attacked and beaten in Dundonald in what is being treated as a racist attack.

**Sunday, October 18, 2006.** A mural was unveiled in Shaftesbury Avenue, Belfast by Jarlath Burns, former Armagh captain, to mark the lower Ormeau area's contribution to the GAA over the years.

**Tuesday, October 10, 2006.** The RUC/PSNI were attacked by a loyalist mob as they investigated a sex crime in the Rathcoole estate last weekend a Belfast Court was told as a bail application was made by some one of those arrested. The crowd broke up kerb stones and hurled them at the RUC and some of them were dressed in the band uniform of Cloghfern Young Conquerors.

**Monday, October 16, 2006.** A DIY store in Boucher Road, Belfast was evacuated following the discovery of a suspicious package. Another suspicious package was discovered at B&Q in Buncrana Road, Belfast. Both alerts were hoaxes. Similar incidents took place on DIY stores in Newtownabbey and Coleraine in the past week in which serious damage was caused.

**Tuesday, October 17, 2006.** RUC members Paula Bradley and Joseph Allen deny assaulting Éamon McKeown in December



• Nationalist protesters at the King's Hall in Belfast on October 6 as the English Queen arrived to inspect a parade in the Balmoral Showgrounds to mark the disbandment of the Six-County regiments of the British army's UDR/RIR.

2002. They deny using excessive force to break up a fight in Great Victoria Street, Belfast.

**Wednesday, October 18, 2006.** Fireworks were thrown at the RUC/PSNI during a standoff in Ballymurphy, Belfast.

A man was shot in the leg in the Stewartstown Road, west Belfast.

Three houses in the Ardoyne area of Belfast were raided by the RUC/PSNI.

**Thursday, October 26, 2006.** A west Belfast man, Christie Walsh

from the Falls Road, jailed on explosive charges will present new evidence in court in a bid to clear his name. He was sentenced to 14 years in December 1992 for possession of a coffee-jar bomb 18 months earlier.

**Friday, October 27, 2006.** Three suspect devices found in Dungannon, Co Tyrone, Downpatrick, Co Down, and Belfast were declared hoaxes. A hoax bomb was left under a car in Dungannon; in Belfast a suspect

package was left behind a wall in Meadowbank Street and in Downpatrick a device was found in Market Street.

**Friday, October 13, 2006.** The British Medical Association hit out at a magistrates decision to free a man who held a knife to the throat of a doctor and threatened to kill her. An ex-British soldier David Hague attacked the female doctor at the A&E department of the Ulster hospital in Dundonald last New Year's Eve.

## DNA data held on over 1,000 children

### Development Fund Special Appeal

### Republican Sinn Féin

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



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

All subscriptions, large or small, can be sent to the treasurer of the Republican Sinn Féin Development Fund at Head Office or made payable to: **Republican Sinn Féin Development Fund, AIB, Capel Street, Dublin 1. Account number: 15411-097.** All donations will be appreciated and acknowledged.



On October 16 the Derry-based Pat Finucane Centre has called for the destruction of all DNA records held by the RUC/PSNI on children who have never been convicted or formally cautioned.

The call came following a recent case in Derry where an 11-year-old girl had a DNA sample taken after she had written her name in inch high letters on Derry's Walls. On October 13 the PFC accompanied the father of the girl to a meeting with the RUC/PSNI District Commander at which the fingerprints and police photograph were destroyed and the father was given a written assurance that the

DNA had been destroyed. A letter to that effect from the Forensic Science laboratory was shown.

A Freedom of Information request lodged with the RUC/PSNI by the PFC, has revealed dramatic evidence of the widespread retention of DNA by the RUC/PSNI in cases where no conviction or cautioning has followed, where the child is entirely innocent in other words. In total DNA is held on at least

3,065 young people under the age of 18. The figure may be higher since a second database has yet to be checked. Of this number 1,119 have no convictions or cautions.

A spokesperson for the PFC described the statistics as "a serious infringement of the rights of these children. We do not question the need to retain the DNA of serious violent and/or sexual offenders but to maintain records on children who have not been convicted of any offence is bizarre.

"When asked for their position on this the [British] Policing Board told the PFC that the Board has no position

as yet. Why not?

"We would urge all parents in a similar position who believe that the DNA of their children has been retained to assert their right to oversee the destruction of such records. We welcome the fact that records were destroyed in the case involving an 11-year-old girl.

"Equally this case highlights the need to destroy the DNA samples held on 1,119 other children. To put them on a DNA database for the rest of their lives is a disgrace and must be challenged."

### PJ Garvin

**FUAIR PJ Garvin, sean-Phoblachtach, bás i nGaeltacht Cheathrú Thaidhg, Co Mhuigheó le deireannaí. Bhí 84 bliain sroiste aige.**

Fear mór tacaíochta leis an bhobal a bhí ann. Caith sé tamall i bpríosún Mhuinscoídh in éindigh le Harry Corduff tráth a rabhadar ag agóidíocht mar gheall ar dhroch-staid na mbóithre san taobh sin de Mhuigheo. Thárla sé sin i deire na gcaogaídh agus tús na seacaidí.

PJ was a lifelong supporter of the Republican Movement

and especially of the Belfast Brigade. Dan Hoban, Newport, represented the Movement at the funeral. A laurel wreath with Easter Lilies was laid. A card attached said: "We salute you, PJ - Belfast Brigade."

PJ Garvin was loyal to the Continuity Republican Movement to the end.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.

### Annie Toomey

**THE death occurred on August 19 last of Annie Toomey (née Landers), 58 Pearse Park, Tipperary town.**

Annie was the wife of the late William (Billy) Toomey, veteran Tipperary Republican. She supported her late husband all through their married life in his political beliefs.

Annie was deeply saddened by the death of the 10 H-Block Martyrs in the 1981 hunger strike. She always supported the prisoners in collections and

fund-raising.

There was a large turn-out for Annie's removal and burial to St Michael's Cemetery, Tipperary town. She will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved her, especially her beloved daughter Siobhán, sons, Tommy, Seán, Billy and James, her grandson Billy.

May she rest in peace.

# Campaign in Maghaberry

ON Friday, October 13 the Republican Prisoners' Action Group (RPAG) and members of Republican Sinn Féin throughout Ireland and supporters of the protesting Republican prisoners in Maghaberry in Sweden and the USA held a series of events to highlight the plight of the prisoners, as another sell-out of the Republican position was being negotiated at St Andrews in Scotland.



• Members of the National Irish Freedom Committee (NIFC) staged a very successful demonstration outside the British Consulate in New York on Saturday, October 14.

A statement from the RPAG on October 13 said that efforts to highlight the conditions faced by Republican POWs in Maghaberry jail, "a regime which the late Msgr Faul described as 'inhuman' after visiting Maghaberry, shortly after he had received a delegation from the RPAG".

The statement continued: "However we have endured a media blackout. Clearly it is not in the interests of London, Dublin or their

hirelings for the people of Ireland to learn of the appalling conditions in which Republican POWs are held in Maghaberry jail or their ongoing resistance to the Brit policy of criminalisation.

"Republican POWs in Maghaberry jail have been on protest since June 19. They have issued five demands. These are:

- Free association
- Freedom of movement
- The right to full-time education



• Members of Glasgow RPAG and RSF distributed a thousand leaflets and sold SAOIRSE outside Celtic Football Ground on October 21.

Separate visiting facilities

The right to organise their own landings

Supporters of the protesting Republican POWs in Maghaberry jail took part in a number of protest actions in order to increase awareness. Belfast members of the RPAG attempted to take over the offices of UTV but were prevented by the RUC/PSNI. A letter protesting the lack of coverage given to the POWs' protest was handed in to the UTV offices and read to a camera crew at the gate.

The following is the text of the statement read outside UTV in Belfast: "We stand here in solidarity with the Republican POWs in Maghaberry jail, who are on protest against the inhumane conditions in which they are kept. The English government - in conjunction with former Republicans - has sought to criminalise them by revoking political status under the terms of the 1998 Stormont Agreement. The Provos are presently in Scotland discussing ways of reinforcing English rule in Ireland.

"Meanwhile those captured resisting the foreign occupation of our country endure 22-hour lockups; no free association; no adequate educational facilities; visits alongside loyalists; misuse of the sniffer dogs and many other injustices.

"The Prisoners of War in Maghaberry have been on protest since June 19. During this time they have refused to eat food in their cells - in which there is a toilet - as well as initiating other forms of protest. They have also undertaken 24-hour, 48-hour and 72-hour fasts. Their health can only suffer as a result, and as such there is an onus on everybody to do all in their power to resolve the situation in Maghaberry.

"Twenty-five years ago ten soldiers died on hunger strike to ensure that political status would be returned to those who came after them. Those incarcerated for pursuing the freedom of their country have an absolute right to political status - and this right does not and did not belong to the Provos to sign away.

"The Republican Prisoners' Action Group has sought to increase awareness of the appalling conditions in which Republican POWs are held, and to this end we have held many white-line pickets, public meetings, meetings with



• Members of Republican Sinn Féin from Leinster taking part in a picket on October 28.



• Members of the Ireland Information Group in Sweden held a picket

concerned bodies and individuals; organised leaflet-drops and other forms of protest.

"However there has been a concerted campaign of censorship in the media. Every attempt has been made by those responsible to minimise our efforts to inform the

Irish people of the conditions in Maghaberry jail and the ongoing protest within the prison. But the prisoners have made it clear that their resolve is strong, and that their protest will continue until their demands are met.

"Republican POWs can never be



# in support of y prisoners



et in support of the POWs in Maghaberry prison in Dublin's O'Connell



outside the British Embassy in Stockholm on October 14.

criminalised. Political status now!  
"Victory to the POWs!"

On October 20 an RPAG picket carrying a large banner was placed outside the gates St Andrews in Scotland to highlight the plight of the Republican POWs in Maghaberry. They were later met by

a delegation to discuss the issues surrounding the Maghaberry protest, which has been ongoing since June 19.

As they attempted to leave Scotland they were detained for a period of two hours under Schedule 7 of the so-called "Terrorism Act". It

would appear that the purpose of this harassment was to cause them to miss their boat home.

Whilst the enemies of Republicanism — including the Provos — were inside negotiating ways of bolstering English rule in the Six Occupied Counties, the Republican POWs continue to suffer inhumane conditions in Maghaberry.

the escalating struggle for political status by Irish Republican prisoners.

Participants handed out leaflets with information on the escalating struggle inside British jails by the Republican prisoners. Storyboards were carried by members of the group depicting the ongoing political status struggle beginning with the 1981 struggle in the H-Blocks.



• Members of the RPAG taking part in a white-line picket in Armagh city on October 28.

Several thousand leaflets were handed out in the centre of Dublin outlining the plight of the prisoners by members of the Dublin Comhairle Ceantair of Republican Sinn Féin.

In Cork members of the MacCurtáin/McSwiney Cumann, RSF Cork and RPAG (Republican Prisoners Action Group) turned out at Daunt Square in Cork for a vigil to highlight the continuing attempts at the criminalisation of Republican Prisoners in Maghaberry.

Hundreds of leaflets were handed out, highlighting the present conditions in Maghaberry and the continuing protest for political status, which had been won by the sacrifices of ten brave men in 1981. The reaction from passers-by was positive.

In New York members of the National Irish Freedom Committee (NIFC) staged a very successful demonstration outside the British Consulate in NYC on October 14. The demonstration was part of the world-wide Political Status Awareness/Action Day to support

The sidewalk in front of the consulate was busy with people; many of whom posed questions about the ongoing struggle for political status. The NIFC made its position clear by asserting that any attempt to criminalise the quest for a united 32-county federal Irish Republic, free of British occupation, will be resisted at every turn.

In Sweden the Ireland Information Group held pickets and handed out leaflets about and in support of the protesting Maghaberry prisoners on Saturday, October 14. There was one picket outside the British embassy in Stockholm, and one outside the consulate in Gothenburg. All the local branches of the committee plan to hold pub evenings/raffles in support of the prisoners in the near future.

Almost four months on from the start of the protest in Maghaberry it is imperative that anyone with influence exerts this to resolve the situation, which is hurtling towards crisis point.

A new branch of the Republican Prisoners' Action Group (RPAG) was successfully launched in Glasgow on October 21.

Antóin Mac Piarais of the Francis Hughes Cumann of Sinn Féin Poblachtach gave a detailed explanation of the background to the prison protest by the Republican POWs in Maghaberry and outlined their five just demands.

He then described the vital role that the RPAG has to play in publicising the Protest and mobilising support for the campaign. Questions quickly followed and several helpful suggestions were made about how to take the campaign forward in Scotland.

The newly-formed Glasgow branch of RPAG distributed a thousand leaflets in support of the Republican POWs in Maghaberry jail and sold SAOIRSE outside Celtic Football Ground. The response from the fans was very positive with many of them offering to give practical assistance to the campaign.

To join or find out more about the activities of Glasgow RPAG please send an email to:

[glasgowrpag@yahoo.com](mailto:glasgowrpag@yahoo.com).

On October 28 members of Comhairle Laighean (Leinster Executive), Republican Sinn Féin held their monthly picket at the GPO in Dublin in support of the protesting prisoners in Maghaberry jail. Leaflets were handed out explaining the plight of the prisoners and appealing for support for the prison protest from the Irish people.

Also on October 28 a white-line picket for political status took place in Armagh City. The protest was organised by the Republican Prisoners' Action Group (RPAG). A large number of leaflets were handed out to passing motorists, outlining the situation faced by Republican POWs in Maghaberry jail. The picket was well received by the people of Armagh.

The RUC made their presence felt during the picket and — aided by their DMSU (Divisional Mobile Support Unit) — sought to disrupt the protest. They were also observed photographing those present.

Republican POWs have now been on protest in Maghaberry for more than four months. Further protests are planned throughout the country to highlight the plight of the Prisoners of War.

## For an end to blackmail, for democratic conditions in the Basque Country

**BASQUE political prisoner Iñaki de Juana's hunger strike which has been in the media in recent weeks.**

It was reported on October 30 that after 63 days on hunger strike demanding justice and attending the numerous requests he received and the mobilisation of Basque society, de Juana ended his protest. He began his hunger strike due to the attempt by the Spanish State Prosecution to have him sentenced to 96 years in jail for writing two press articles.

This attempt was in line with the government policy of preventing Basque prisoners who have served their sentences being released. As the Spanish Justice Minister said "we shall build new charges against them".

Therefore, on the one hand, we should not lower our guard in regard to Iñaki de Juana's situation. The trial for these press articles began on October 27, at the Spanish Audiencia Nacional, a special court (the direct heir of the Francoist TOP) which deals with political offences of Basque activists.

On the other hand, we must not forget that Iñaki de Juana's situation is but another example of the most recent turn of the screw of repression by the Spanish State, the pseudo-legal expression of which can be found in the doctrine set by verdict 197/2006 of the Spanish Supreme Court, which retroactively cancels remission for prisoners who were entitled to it according to Spanish law. In practice, this means that 19 prisoners who should have been released in recent months, after serving 12, 14 or 18 years in prison, or prisoners who were about to be released, have all had their sentences extended for years, until they have spent 30 years in jail.

In addition to this *de facto* life sentence, we have the *de jure* life sentence applied against four Basque prisoners in the French State. The most recent expression of this has been the recent refusal of parole for Filipe Bidart. This Basque prisoner has already spent 18 years in French jails and his bid for release has been refused for strictly political reasons.

This being the situation, on October 7 thousands of people marched through the streets of Donostia in response to the call by the majority of organised Basque civil society, under the banner of the Ibaeta Forum. Not limited to an expression of abstract solidarity, the call by the Forum was centred on three explicit demands: the release of the six Basque prisoners with serious, incurable diseases; the release of the approximately 135 prisoners who have served the proportion of their sentence which entitles them to parole, and the repatriation of the Basque Political Prisoners' Collective to the Basque Country, in full possession of their legitimate rights.

We should not fool ourselves; the existence of Basque political prisoners is not a matter of public order or of terrorism. The fact that there are currently upwards of 600 Basque men and women, dispersed and isolated in over 80 jails in the Spanish and French states is a consequence of an unresolved political conflict in the Basque Country.

These men and women are activists committed to the national and social liberation struggle in the Basque Country and, they have been jailed because the states have, to date, always chosen the path of repression and violence as their main response to a conflict based on the denial of the existence of the Basque nation, and of all the rights derived from this existence, beginning by the fundamental right to self determination. As Argi Perurena, one of the official representatives of the Prisoners' Collective said in an interview published on October 15, "there are prisoners because the rights of the Basque Country are violated. As long as the real problem is not addressed, we shall continue to be held in prison and we shall continue to place all our political capital, from these prisons, at the service of the search for a democratic solution to the conflict".

Therefore, the Basque political prisoners, organised into a Collective (EPPK is its Basque acronym) are a political actor in this conflict. Consequently, the Collective is not only entitled to the basic rights that a person does not lose, in theory, upon being sent to prison; they are also entitled to political rights, to the right to participate together with all the other Basque political and social actors, in the debate, in the ongoing political process. Respect for all of the rights of the Collective equates to acknowledging Political Prisoner Status. Acknowledgment of Political Status is particularly important at a time when there is an opening, an opportunity to overcome the root causes of the political conflict in the Basque Country.

The present is an opportunity to tackle the real problem, which is not a simple, technical matter of solving the consequences of the conflict; "the problem in this country" according to Juan Lorenzo Lasa Mitxelena, another spokesperson of the Collective in the aforementioned interview, "comes from the national oppression we suffer, and the solution to the conflict will come from understanding and accepting self-determination, territorial unity and amnesty. As political actors, our contribution will take place in the exchange of views with other political actors and in building the process together with them; that is the contribution we can make".

It is important to realise that the participation of the Prisoners' Collective in the process is simultaneously a legitimate demand



by a human community that is inextricably involved in the conflict and a guarantee that the process is being built upon solid foundations.

In turn, the Collective itself never ceases to remind us that the aim of the process, if we are to achieve a just and lasting peace, is to overcome the aforementioned gordian knot, the profound cause of the conflict: denial through force of the ability of the Basque people to decide our own future. "The people are clear that they want to be the owners of their future and that, in order for this to be so, their basic rights must be respected: self determination and territorial unity" (A. Perurena)

Nevertheless, it would not be realistic to think that these two basic pillars of conflict resolution can be tackled in a just way by political actors in the Basque Country if the states continue down the road of repression. If one of the parties is subjected to permanent blackmail, whether through pressure against the political prisoners or through the constant application of a special legislation that violates the most elementary political rights of Basque citizens, it will not be possible to achieve a just and lasting solution.

This is not a trivial question; history (the recent history of the so-called Spanish transition, for instance) indicates that the conditions under which any conflict resolution process takes place affect its probability of success. Therefore, we demand democratic conditions for the Basque Country; so that the Basque people can indeed decide upon their own future, in peace and freedom.

— Joseba Agudo, lawyer from the Basque Country

## Leonard Peltier hearing

**ON September 8 Barry A Bachrach, Esq and Michael Kuzma, Esq argued before United States Magistrate Judge Susan R. Nelson for the full release of all FBI files maintained by the Minneapolis Field Office relating to Leonard Peltier and RESMURS.**

Leonard Peltier, 62, a Native American activist, is incarcerated at the US Penitentiary in Lewisburg serving two consecutive life sentences for murder. Two FBI agents, Ronald A. Williams and Jack R. Coler died in a shoot-out, and three men were tried, with Peltier being the only one convicted.

On Saturday at the Lewisburg Hotel, Peltier attorneys and defence team sat down with several guests to detail their side of the story. Co-Director of the defence team, Robert Robideau, spoke about what he termed an "FBI conspiracy" and an ongoing strategy to keep Peltier imprisoned forever. Robideau never said Peltier didn't shoot anyone, but he did say that the FBI's version of the events that day is a lie. Robideau's proof — he was there.

In 1975, on the Pine Ridge Reservation, Peltier was one of a group of Native Americans, and American Indian Movement (AIM) members at the Jumping Bull Ranch within the reservation. Following the incident Peltier, Robideau and Darelle "Dino" Butler were all tried for the killing of the FBI agents. Robideau and Butler were tried in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and found not guilty by a federal jury.

Peltier, who fled to Canada, was extradited but arrived too late to be tried with Butler and Robideau. A United States District Court in Fargo, North Dakota found Peltier guilty of the murders of Williams and Coler. Robideau and the Peltier defence team contend that from the extradition on through Peltier's trial and all his appeals, the FBI manipulated the trial location, withheld evidence and badgered witnesses into giving false testimony.

Barry Bachrach, attorney for Peltier said the plot against Peltier

was summed up by a parole officer at a hearing in 1995. Bachrach claimed the parole board member said that "someone has to be responsible for the (FBI) deaths, and you've been held liable". Bachrach and Kuzma added that to date, no solid evidence has ever directly connected Peltier to either death. Robideau spoke of an agency, the FBI, that regularly abused its power and authority all the while trampling the rights of U.S. citizens, who happened to be members of various dissident groups.

"No one should be in prison for Williams or Coler's deaths," said Robideau. "It was like a war zone that day; many FBI, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and local police officers were shooting at the people in the ranch, and they shot back."

"Much of the governments behavior at the Pine Ridge Reservation and in its prosecution of Mr Peltier is to be condemned. The government withheld evidence. It intimidated witnesses. These facts are not disputed, from a ruling by the 10th Circuit Court in 2003. Despite it all, Peltier remains in prison. As it stands now, two additional suits against the FBI are being filed on behalf of Peltier, according to Kuzma. They will be argued this December. Peltier's defense is continuing to push for files on the case to be released.

"They have withheld over 140,000 files over the years, and now the government claims that to release the remaining evidence would put our country at risk from trans-national terrorists," said Kuzma.

## Sellafield fined by British court

**A BRITISH court fined the Sellafield nuclear fuel plant £500,000 (€743,000) plus £68,000 in costs, totalling in €850,000.**

The British Nuclear Group was fined by Carlisle Crown Court for failing to spot and stop an eight month long leak of 83,400 litres of radioactive liquid within the plant's grounds.

The liquid contained 20 tonnes of uranium and 160kg of plutonium escaped from a broken pipe into a sealed concrete holding site. No-one was injured and no radiation escaped from the plant.

The company's own internal report found that staff believed the new Thorp reprocessing plant would not leak and that "nothing could go wrong since the plant was relatively new". It also showed that staff had failed to carry out safety tests that would have revealed the 2005 leak earlier and a camera examination because it would have curbed production. The 26-County administration described the fine as too little too late.

Meanwhile it was revealed that British Energy has said it will have to shut down two nuclear reactors after finding cracked pipes at two power stations. Britain's biggest power producer also said it was examining "a significant leak" in an underground cast iron pipe in the cooling water systems at Hartlepool, northeast England.

Asked about any risks to public safety, a company spokesman said that boiler tubes at Hinkley in western England and Hunterston in Scotland were cracked but not leaking and that water leaking from the pipes in Hartlepool were "non-nuclear".

Finance director Stephen Billingham, speaking to analysts on a conference call, said that British Energy would now have to buy electricity in the whole sale market to fill its contracts.

## Derry company exposed as arms manufacturer

**ARMS manufacturer Raytheon has confirmed to Derry City Council that their Derry base is involved in developing military software for the British Ministry of Defence (MOD). The council is set to reconsider its position at the next council meeting.**

Without the support of the council Raytheon may have to pull out of Derry. In an internal document Raytheon says that if the council fails to back their project "the future of NISCC (Raytheon's Derry division) is uncertain".

The *Belfast Telegraph* published British Freedom of Information documents showing that the Raytheon Derry plant was involved in the British MoD's JETTS system, since 2005. The JETTS system, according to a Raytheon press release, "improves operational capability in battle by enhancing surprise, tactical agility, lethality and survivability".

Raytheon was awarded the lucrative contract just six months after it gave assurances to Derry City Council (DCC) that they would not be involved in military projects. Raytheon are an international arms manufacturing company specialising in defence and are the single largest manufacturer of guided missiles in the world.

There has been wide scale public opposition to Raytheon in Derry and in August the Derry Anti-War Coalition occupied their offices in Derry. Nine of the protesters have now been charged with unlawful assembly and aggravated burglary and are accused of causing 300,000 euro worth of damage at the plant.

In January 2004 DCC passed a motion declaring their opposition to the "development or production of weapons or any software whose end use is a military application... and if that is shown to be the case at Raytheon in Derry then the council's position will change".

On October 9 Raytheon confirmed to DCC that they were engaged in developing such programmes.



# WHAT THEY SAID

This October marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Galway writer, Máirtín Ó Cadhain (1906-1970), the most acclaimed writer of the 20th Century prose in Ireland.

— Connacht Tribune, September 22, 2006.

He said that it was in the Curragh (Internment Camp 1940-44) he wrote his first real story, *An Bóthar go dtí an Ghealachathair*. He was not the first to call his place of incarceration 'The Curragh University'.

— Connacht Tribune.

He wrote three substantial novels in that period (from his release to the end of his life), of which *Cré na Cille* is the most famous and the greatest of these. It has often been called the 'Ulysses' of the Irish language. It is certainly the most remarkable Irish language book of the 20th Century.

— Connacht Tribune.

Rising costal waters, drought, economic collapse, heat-related mortality and species death will be the direct result of global warming for Ireland. So what, if anything, can be done to investigate the effects on our economy and the planet?

— Sunday Business Post, Agenda, October 1, article by Stephen Price.

Both Al Gore and Bill Clinton symbolically signed the final Kyoto agreement in 1998 but never bothered to pass it over to the Senate, which must ratify all international treaties on behalf of the US.

So, the country which is home to 4 per cent of the world's population has merrily continued to emit 25 per cent of the world's greenhouse gasses, and until it implements Kyoto, meaningful progress on global warming is hard to see.

— Sunday Business Post Agenda.

Séanna Walsh, the man given the dubious honour of announcing that the war was over, stated at a Hunger Strike commemoration this week that after the death of Bobby Sands and the other hunger strikers, he and others sat down and decided to pursue the goals of the hunger strikers to the bitter end.

Does he believe that recognising the PSNI and those that support it, such as the RIR, while at the same time shunning some of those who have given so much of themselves to pursue those goals is representative of the hunger strikers' objectives?

Or, as a former friend of Bobby Sands, is he simply engaged in romanticising the hunger strikes, like others in the republican movement who have cynically used that sacrifice to pervert republicanism?

— Irish News, October 10, 2006. Part of a letter entitled 'Fickle world of republicanism'.

We view young people who commit crime through our own

middle-class lens, but we have to realise that prison is part of their lifestyle, something that their friends and neighbours and possibly their fathers and older brothers have been through.

— Irish Times, October 13, 2006. Karen Sugrue, lecturer in sociology and communications, Limerick Institute of Technology addressing the fifth annual conference of European Social Care education (FESET 2006).

The plight of the world's hungry is in danger of becoming a worn-out cliché for far too many people in the world we live in.

More than 800 million people around the world know what it's like to go hungry; almost half of the world's hungry are children....

— Irish Times, October 13, 2006. James Morris in article 'When hunger is a matter of life and death'.

The [Provo] Ard-Fheis will be emotional. There has been greater grassroots resistance on policing than on any other issue, including decommissioning. But the leadership hasn't lost a vote since its 1986 victory on abstentionism from the Dáil (sic).

— Sunday Tribune, October 15, Suzanne Breen.

But most militants have departed Provo ranks. The movement Adams must sell this to is a very different to the one which existed in 1998, let alone 1994.

— Suzanne Breen. *Republicans remember Adam's 'bus to Cork'*. It stops at the various towns. People get off and others get on. When it reaches Cork the passenger list could be totally different to that when it started out!

The serving head of the British Army (General Sir Richard Dannatt) has told the world's media that the policy he has been told to execute in Iraq is not only not working but is inherently doomed and will only cost more lives.

— Sunday Tribune, October 15, 2006, article by Richard Delevan.

... Dannatt's biggest cheers came from antiwar campaigners. It is difficult to think of even a remote parallel. The first that sprang to mind was the Ulster Mutiny, or the Curragh Incident if you prefer. It happened in 1914, when the government of Herbert Asquith introduced the Third Home Rule Bill....

— Sunday Tribune. Pressure from business people and its new middle-class supporters pushed Paisley's DUP into a tentative deal.

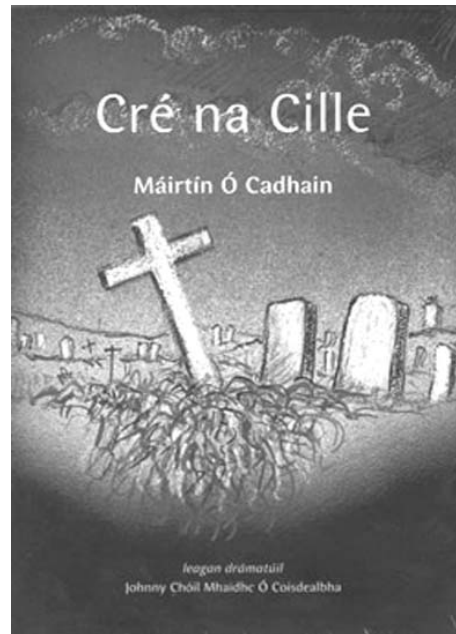
What emerged from last week's North talks however was less an agreement than a negotiation document for a final settlement next March.

— Sunday Business Post, October 15, 2006, article by Colm Heatley.

Last week's progress is a world away from both the DUP's vow to "smash [Provo] Sinn Féin" and the republican mantra of smashing the state through armed struggle.

— Colm Heatley.

"This is a kick in the head for a United Ireland," suggested one senior DUP source last night, which confirming his belief that the proposed nomination of a DUP



• Máirtín Ó Cadhain wrote three substantial novels in the period from his release to the end of his life, of which *Cré na Cille* is the most famous and the greatest of these (see quote on left).

MP to Westminster's intelligence and security committee was "one of the most important things" to emerge from the St Andrews negotiations.

— Irish Times, Frank Millar article.

Dr Paisley reportedly left Scotland with his pockets "stuffed full" of side-bar letters. But what of the Taoiseach's original side-bar letter to Mr Adams on Good Friday 1998 about representational rights for Northern Ireland MPs in the Dáil (sic)? A lot of devils then may yet be lurking in the detail.

— Irish Times. No amount of money could ever reflect the trauma that we have went through really. It wasn't about the money. It was about clearing our father's name, that was the main thing all the way along and finally we now feel that we have done so, and we are all happy now and we would just like to go home and live our lives.

— Jalisco Shortt, son of Frank Shortt, Donegal publican, speaking after the family were awarded compensation by the 26-County administration. Frank Shortt was set up by rogue gardai - former superintendent Kevin Lennon and his accomplice ex-detective garda Noel McMahon, (who were later branded corrupt by the Morris Tribunal for setting hoax IRA arms dumps in Donegal in the mid-1990s as they tried to further their careers) - and framed for allowing ecstasy to be sold in his Inishowen nightclub, the Point Inn, in the mid-1990s. Ireland on Line, October 16, 2006.

Things are set to get worse when MI5 takes over intelligence gathering on terrorism, separating it from criminality, as if the two are not linked. This is an organisation which acts as if transparency and accountability are contemptible nonsenses.

heard directly from them about their experiences, not just as young offenders but as vulnerable children who have been let down by the educational and social service system for some time or for all their lives.

— Irish Times, October 20, 2006. Emily Logan, Ombudsman for Children in the 26 Counties in article entitled 'In Ireland we do not care about all of our children'.

I also had the opportunity, when visiting the centers, to witness first hand the conditions in which these children and young people are living. I have grave concerns about some of the facilities. Oberstown Boys Centre in Lusk is particularly worrying. The corridors are dark and the rooms small and oppressive without any natural ventilation.

— Emily Logan.

Agnew says endorsing the PSNI will open up a huge gap between [Provisional] Sinn Féin and Republican youth when a house is raided or there is a street confrontation with the police

— Sunday Tribune, October 22, 2006. Suzanne Breen, Northern Editor, quoting from Ryan Agnew, (26) from Ballymena, whose father is in Provisional Sinn Féin.

"[Provisional] Sinn Féin will be invaluable to the PSNI because it has so much information on Republicans. No one should be surprised that it will pass that on. Historically, former Republicans have proved themselves more than capable of hunting down old comrades. Just look at de Valera."

— Suzanne Breen quoting Ryan Agnew.

Prior to 1997, the main contribution of [Provisional] Sinn Féin to elections in the republic (sic) was to forfeiting their deposits. For example of its 41 candidates at the 1992 general election 35 received fewer than 1,000 first preferences.

Their average vote was a mere 678 first preferences. Only one of these 41 candidates actually secured the minimum number of votes required to hold on to their deposit of €31 (£300).

— Sunday Tribune, October 22, 2006. Kevin Rafter, Political Editor. Was putting up a candidate in every constituency with no hope of winning a seat a way of fuelling an internal demand for a ceasefire?

It was into this arena [the market] that the government plunged Aer Lingus, entirely unnecessarily.

Just look at what happened to Eircom. The market delivered our telecommunications infrastructure into the already full hands of Tony O'Reilly and his pals, who made yet another financial killing, while ignoring the public interest in having broadband widely available.

— Sunday Business Post, October 22, 2006. Between the Lines column by Vincent Browne.

There is a growing realisation that the Roman Empire was not the Good Thing generally presented to us. But for a long time, imperialists have built up the Roman Empire as a shining

example to be imitated.

Imperialism is still alive and well as seen in the recent reaction in England to Ken Loach's prize-winning film "The Wind that Shakes the Barley".

— CARN [Celtic League quarterly magazine] Summer 2006, article by Brian Stowell in section on the Isle of Mann.

In the coming election campaign, not a single newspaper, radio station or television station among the mainstream media will campaign for a radical restructuring of Irish society to achieve a far greater level of equality than exists.

— Irish Times, October 25, 2006, Vincent Brown column.

And the media-led agenda will reflect that "common sense" (that aside from some marginal imperfections, the structure of society is fine).

The debate will be about who best can manage this "basically okay" society and what marginal reforms are necessary to correct the imperfections.

— Vincent Browne column.

In fact the president [Bush] suggested US forces could still be in Iraq in five or 10 years, and he did not rule out establishing permanent US military bases there.

— Irish Times, October 26, 2006.

British Government representatives in Rome have been investigating the possibility of a simultaneous visit to Northern Ireland by Pope Benedict and Queen Elizabeth, probably in the spring months of next year.

— Irish Times, October 28, 2006, front page article by Patsy McGarry, Religious Affairs Correspondent in Rome.

It is understood preliminary inquiries have been taking place in Rome about the feasibility of such a visit, which is being presented as a culmination to the current Northern peace process.

— Irish Times.

A referendum on the St Andrews agreement will not be held in the North because it would secure far less support from voters than the Belfast agreement did eight years ago, according to sources close to the talks.

There are also fears of a low turn out, which would be a PR disaster for the British and Irish government.

— Sunday Tribune, October 29, 2006, Northern Editor, Suzanne Breen.

"DUP voters will turn out to vote for their party but not for a referendum to put [Provisional] Sinn Féin in government," said a source. Another source said republicanism grassroots would see voting for the agreement as voting for the police.

— Sunday Tribune, October 29, 2006.

Pope Benedict is likely to turn down the Catholic bishop's invitation to visit Ireland following an unprecedented breach of protocol by an Irish bishop in Rome. Ireland's Catholic bishops have been in Rome for two weeks to report to Pope Benedict on the state of the Irish Catholic Church.

— Sunday Business Post, October 29, 2006, article by Kieron Wood in Rome.

## Dan Keating 'Inspiration To Young People'

A chara

I think it was Seán Keenan of Derry who advised Republicans to follow the cause and not the man. Obviously good advice in the case of Adams and Co

Perhaps though Dan Keating of Kerry, along with very few others, are the exception to the rule. His steadfastness and courage in never recognising the legitimacy of the Free State is truly inspirational. Some people would give their vote to ex-Republicans because one time they may have fought the Brits. Who cares? They lost and accepted British rule.

Men like Keating are the ones young Republicans should look to. He never surrendered and is truly one of a few Irishmen left who can hold his head up with honour.

RICHIE BIERNEY  
Wexford

## John Joe Sheehy Honoured

A chara

Radio Kerry recently honoured the Sheehy family of Tralee with a *Terrace Talk* programme in recognition of their contribution to the GAA over a long number of years.

John Joe, Paudie, Niall, Brian and Seán Óg. Among the invited guests on the programme was Dan Keating, Patron of Sinn Féin Poblachtach, a comrade of John Joe Sheehy, and a personal friend of his throughout his lifetime.

Dan spoke in glowing terms about John Joe Sheehy, the footballer, the freedom fighter and overall great Irishman, whose loyalty to the 32-County Republic and indeed everything Irish was the hallmark of this unconquerable Kerryman.

MATT LEEN  
Tralee, Co Kerry

## No End to Their Hypocrisy

A chara

We have plenty of experience in Ireland of the Brits' killing innocent civilians. The Black-and-Tans and paratroppers come to mind.

The killing of an innocent Brazilian man – John Charles de Menenezes – beats all together.

Anyone could panic with a gun in their hands. This is

understandable. Still this man was innocent. Tony Blair's administration never even apologised for this.

To add insult to injury a woman police officer in England who was involved in this is being considered for promotion.

Is there no end to their hypocrisy.



• John Mangan, Dan Keating and Matt Leen at the function in honour of John Joe Sheehy in John Mitchell's Club, Tralee, hosted by Radio Kerry (see letter on left).

BRENDAN TOBIN  
Wexford

Imperialism!  
Revolutionary Communist Group

## Support For Political Status

A chairde

On behalf of Fight Racism! Fight Imperialism! /Revolutionary Communist Group can we offer our support for the campaign for political status for Republican prisoners.

We have been outside Celtic Park in Glasgow ourselves over the last year to protest over the byelaws which attempt to prevent any "political" displays outside the ground. This arose from a case where someone had tried to buy a scarf with an image of Che Guevara on it being told that it was no longer legal to sell such material.

We are continuing to challenge this attack on democracy. I was going to say that you can take our support for the campaign for Political Status for granted, given our newspaper and organisations' consistent support for Ireland's struggle against British Imperialism, but that would be wrong in the sense that we can take nothing for granted!

Every political right has had to be fought for and we are happy to work with all groups and individuals to secure the rightful recognition of political prisoners.

MICHAEL MACGREGOR  
Fight Racism! Fight

## People Will Never Accept British

A chara

The very idea that a united Ireland and the sovereignty of the Irish people are being bargained over like a pot in some grotesque poker game behind closed doors.

The stage-managing of the talks in St Andrews and the current so-called consultation process over supporting the British police is all part of a new drive to normalise British rule in Ireland.

The latest twist in this barefaced betrayal by the Provos is their seeking the assistance of the DUP with the policing issue. Martin McGuinness saying he cannot recommend to people in places like Crossmaglen, South Derry or East Tyrone to join the police is yet another breathtaking piece of political hypocrisy. The reason he says is that it would be a waste of time – "they would not do it".

However the Provos are endorsing the RUC/PSNI and working with them to undermine the age-old aspiration of the Irish people to a new and united Ireland. Unwittingly McGuinness put his finger on core point: there are people who will never accept not only the British police but the British army and the Stormont Agreement

proportion of my letters are returned to me via the centre in Béal Feirste.

Whilst I am deeply unhappy about this, I also notice that despite the Stormont Agreement there is no usage of Irish on the redirection services envelopes. Surely everything should be at least

commemorate the 25th anniversary of the H-Block hunger strikers.

However, Adams & Co did not commemorate the 20th anniversary of their attempted destruction of the Republican Movement in 1986. Then they promised there would never be a ceasefire until the Brits declared their intent to withdraw.

Twenty years on and we are further from the Republic that brave men and women gave their lives for. To the young generation of today I say that even if they put weather glaze windows in Leinster House keep out of it.

As Ruairí Ó Brádaigh said in 1986, if you sleep with the dogs you will wake up with the fleas.

An Phoblacht abú!

JOE LYNCH  
Limerick

## 26-County Police Brutality

A chara

On Saturday night, October 28, a car being chased by the 26-County police crashed into and knocked down a lamp-post in Talbot Green, Wexford town. Local residents alerted by the noise then witnessed one man being severely beating and handcuffed by the occupants of four squad cars. While he was lying on the ground another squad car arrived and they began kicking the man. Another Garda was heard shouting "not in the face".

Another man was dragged unconscious from the crashed car and left lying on wet grass. A concerned local demanded that the gardai at least put a blanket over the unconscious man. Which was just as well for the ambulance arrived just before the recovery truck!

Local people were appalled and disgusted by the actions of the police. It shows nothing has changed from the RIC days.

MICHAEL HUNT  
Rúnaí  
Cumann Pádraig Ó Pearaill  
Loch Garman

Irish/English bilingual" does the law of 'Northern' Ireland require bilingualism in official spheres?

I am tired of the English neglect of my human rights as a Welsh speaker. Perhaps you feel the same with regard to your language. I believe the government of England could be inconvenienced were the law to learn of its abuse of linguistic rights.

L PARC  
Gwynedd, Cymru

## Keep Out of Leinster House

A chara

There were a lot of commemorations held this year by Adams and the Provisionals to

Please note that all material for publication, articles, features, news reports, combhbróin, congratulations and good wishes greetings, etc must be accompanied by a name, address, signature and telephone number for verification.

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

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

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

## Letter Redirection In Béal Feirste

A chara

My apologies for being unable to use a word of Irish.

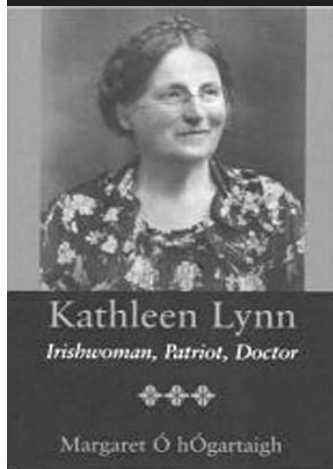
I am concerned about the English-only redirection service of the Post Office in Béal Feirste.

I am a Welsh speaker, and attempt, in the face of English recalcitrance, to use my language at all times. This includes the use of original/indigenous place-names. The English Post Office can't cope and a

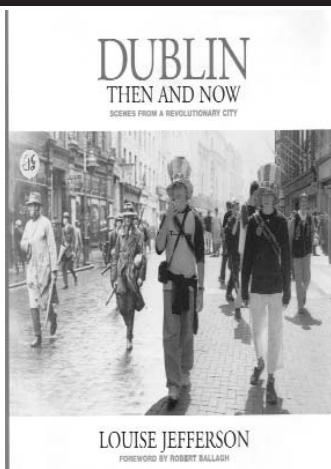
DES LONG  
Limerick



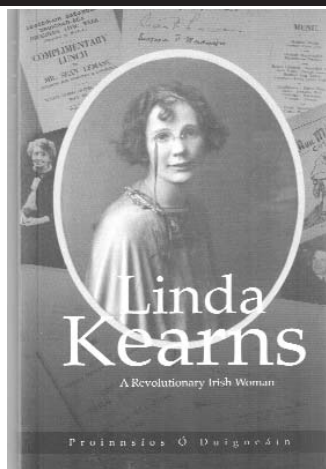
# Selection of goods from Irish Freedom Press



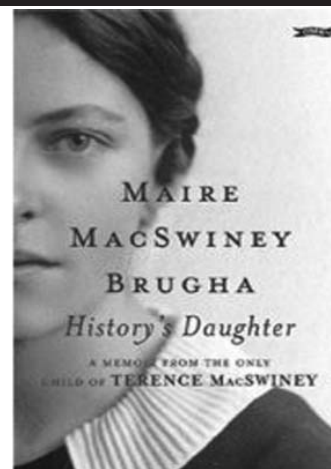
• **NEW:** *Kathleen Lynn, Irishwoman, Patriot, Doctor.* By Margaret Ó hÓgartaigh €25.



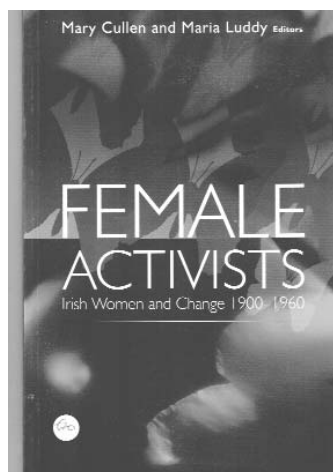
• **NEW:** *Dublin, Then and Now. Scenes from a Revolutionary City.* By Louise Jefferson €15.



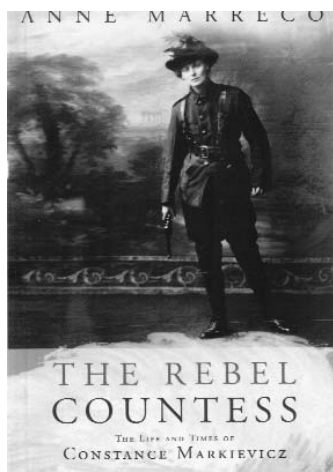
• *Linda Kearns, A Revolutionary Irish Woman.* By Proinnsias Ó Duineáin €15.



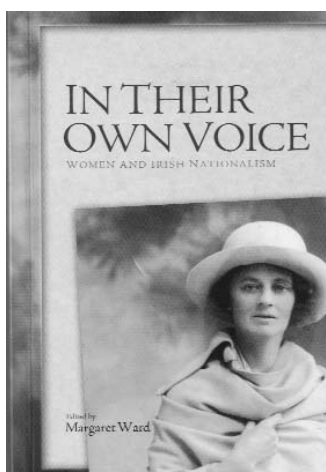
• *Máire MacSwiney Brugh, History's Daughter.* A memoir from the only child of Terence MacSwiney. P/B €20.



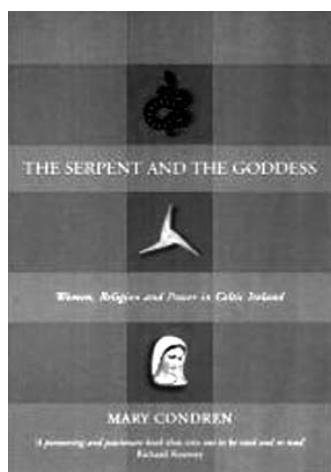
• *Female Activists. Irish Women and Change 1900-1960.* Editors: Mary Cullen and Maire Luddy. €20.



• *The Rebel Countess — The Life and Times of Constance Markievicz.* €13.75.



• *In Their Own Voice — Women and Irish Nationalism,* edited by Margaret Ward, €10.20.



• *The Serpent and the Goddess, Women, Religion and Power in Celtic Ireland* by Mary Concren, €13.99.

## Crafts made by Republican prisoners, Portlaoise jail

Wallets ..... €20  
Hankies ..... €10  
Belts ..... €20



• *Selection of Bodhráns* €70.



• *Selection of mirrors* €60.

## Available from RSF office, 229 Falls Road, Belfast.

**Mugs:** *Support the Prisoners in Maghaberry;*  
*They can kill the Revolutionary but never the Revolution: Che Guevara - Bobby Sands.* £10

**PRISON CRAFT:** Framed hankies made by POWs in Maghaberry £45  
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Selection of Republican T-Shirts £10  
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Variety of CDs and DVDs  
Books including Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, *Life and Politics of an Irish Revolutionary* by Robert W White £18.99;  
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Kevin Lynch and the Irish Hunger Strike £12;  
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List of stock available on request.  
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• *Mugs* €10.

Post and packing extra. Send orders with cheques or postal orders only to Irish Freedom Press, 223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1or 229 Falls Road, Belfast.

# ARD-FHEIS: EXERCISE IN CONSOLIDATION

**50  
Years  
Ago**

THE Annual Ard-Fheis of Sinn Féin in late October was headlined on the front page of *An t-Éireannach Aontaithe/The United Irishman* in the November 1956 issue.

Meeting in the O'Connell Hall, Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin some 200 delegates heard the President, Pádraig Mac Lógain, "deliver a powerful address on the aims and objectives of the Republican Movement today".

"He said that in the past 12 months a concerted effort had been made to discredit and finally smash the movement to pieces.

"That it had emerged from these onslaughts and the forces emerged from these onslaughts and the forces arrayed against it to progress to new strength is a fact, Mr Mac Lógain said, that can be added today to the record of the movement.

"They well realized why they were being attacked on every front, he said. The enemies of Republicanism sought to destroy the Movement and crush it out of existence".

Delegates from branches in Ireland, Scotland and England were present. Messages of greeting were received from the USA, Canada, Australia and South Africa.

Pádraig Mac Lógain continued: "As part of an Overall Plan evolved by the Republican Movement to establish a National Government exercising, or actively attempting to exercise jurisdiction over all Ireland, Sinn Féin entered the contest of elections to Westminster last year.

"Plans have now been made to provide the people of the Six Counties during the next General Election to Stormont with an alternative to supporting candidates selected by party and/or sectarian interests, and with the opportunity of selecting representatives to a National Government.

"Complimentary to the preparation of these plans the initial steps have been taken to enter candidates in the next General Election in the 26 Counties — ". All of this was "part of a united and positive effort to compel Britain to withdraw her forces of occupation from Irish soil".

The *Irish Independent* of October 21 listed the new Ard Chomhairle as follows: Uachtarán: P Mac Lógain; Leas-Uachtarán: Tomás Ó Dubhghaill, Margaret Buckley; Rúnaíthe: Micheál Treinfhear, Belfast and Máire Nic Ghabhann, Armagh; Cisteoirí: Paddy O'Hagan, Armagh and Eamonn Mac Thomáis, Ath Cliath; Liam Earley TC, Cork; G Dearnle, Dublin; Tony Mangan, Dublin; Gearóid Mac Carthaigh, Dublin and Cork; Robert Russell, Dublin; Tomás Mac Giolla, Tipperary; Paddy Doyle, Belfast and Pádraic Ó Ceallaigh, Galway.

Ó Ceallaigh and Rúairí Ó Brádaigh had an equal number of votes for the last seat. Ó Ceallaigh won in a toss-up and Ó Brádaigh was co-opted at the first meeting of the new Ard-Chomhairle.

Viewed retrospectively, the 1956 Ard-Fheis was largely an exercise in consolidation and tidying up ahead of the great storm which would break out shortly afterwards.

At the Army Council, a report was read from the Military Council to which the Operation Harvest plan had been referred to see if it fitted with the Overall Plan of the Movement.

The Military Council had been unable to agree. Mac Curtáin and Mac Lógain felt that not even four of the five conditions for an all-out campaign had been met. In particular the ground had not been developed sufficiently among the nationalist people of the Six Counties. The rest of the M.C. wished to go ahead with the campaign.

However they all agreed with drawing up a list of recommendations for steps to be taken in the event of the campaign proceeding. Also a meeting of the Army Executive was called and they were filled in on the situation. As six of the Council were also Executive members this exercise consisted of briefing the remaining six. Searching questions were asked by Councillor Liam Earley



• Egyptian and other students marching through Dublin to deliver a protest note on Britain's actions to the British Embassy.

of Cork.

Then in mid-November came a signal that Liam Kelly's Saor Uladh and Mac Cíostáil's group had forged a working relationship. *The Irish Press* of November 12 reported that six British Customs Posts in Counties, Tyrone, Armagh and Fermanagh were destroyed.

"The posts destroyed were: Tullydonnell, 4 1/2 miles north of Dundalk; Kinawley, about 2 miles inside the Fermanagh border; Moybridge (Aughnacloy), 600 yards from the frontier on the main Monaghan road; Carnagh, 4 1/2 miles south of Keady, Co. Armagh; Middletown, 9 miles south-west of Armagh and Clontivres, Newtownbutler, 500 yards from Clones.

"In some cases the records were destroyed. All except that at Middletown were blasted by high explosives. The Middletown post, opposite which stands a two-story house, was demolished with an oil bomb.

"A partly burned sub-machine gun, and some rounds of automatic ammunition, were found beside the burned Middletown post".

Whether abandoned deliberately or not, the discovery of the automatic weapon indicated that an organised body with military equipment was involved. This was more serious than the shotguns and .22 sporting rifle of the Mac Cíostáil splinter group.

A clue was given at an "anti-imperialist and anti-Communist meeting" held in College Green, Dublin by the National Students' Council, a creation of Mac Cíostáil. The speakers included a Russian and an Egyptian and Soviet actions in Hungary and British actions in Suez and Cyprus were condemned.

The *Irish Press* of November reported: "The demonstrators carried Egyptian, Hungarian and Greek flags. They also carried anti-Imperialist and anti-Communist posters and slogans calling for the release of political prisoners in the Six Counties and in Britain".

Significantly the *Irish Press* also reported that Senator Liam Kelly spoke on the platform:

"The people down here should make up their minds that if they really wanted freedom, they should adopt the means of the Cyriots, the Hungarians and the Egyptians, he said."

It was the first public demonstration of a working relationship between the Mac Cíostáil and Kelly groupings.

But what of the twelve IRA organisers within the Six Counties and how far did the destruction of the Six Customs posts along the Border affect them?

Certainly security measures were stepped up which did not help them. Dáithí Ó Conaill reported that foot patrols of RUC in the towns were immediately doubled from one man to two. In Lisnaskea, the pair on duty were accompanied by an Alsatian dog.

He himself, posing as a student of speleology (the scientific study of caves), was held up and questioned. When pressed, he discoursed at some length on the Marble Arch caves in Fermanagh, near to the Cuileagh Mountains. He was allowed to proceed.

References at the College Green meeting to

Hungary and Egypt in anti-imperialist and anti-colonial conflict arose from events on the international scene which had grabbed the world's attention.

In Hungary, following Stalin's death in 1953 the pro-Soviet hardliner Rakosi was replaced by Jimre Nagy as premier. Nagy loosened political and economic control but was ousted in 1955.

Rakosi was returned to power and his Stalinist methods spurred discontent. On October 23, 1956 more than 200,000 protestors crammed into the square outside the Hungarian Parliament. They were addressed by student leaders who had penned a manifesto for an uprising — the Sixteen Points.

Their demands included free elections, the right to strike, the expulsion of 75,000 Soviet troops based in Hungary.

As it became apparent that the Hungarian government would not repress the uprising and with Jimre Nagy returned to power as premier, the Soviets sent in a massive military force.

At dawn on November 4 they struck. *The Irish Press* of November 5 reported: "Messages from Hungarian sources told of heroic resistance, street by street and house by house, as the Russian armour and aircraft attacked Budapest, turning the city into a sea of fire and blood.

"The Russians, with their enormous superiority in armour and fire power, spread their attack over the entire country. Cardinal Mindszenty, released only last week from a Communist prison, found refuge in the US Embassy.

"There was no definite word about the fate of Premier Nagy and his Government, last reported awaiting the Soviet advance in Hungary's Parliament building".

A more pro Soviet government, headed by Janos Kadar was installed. In 1958, Jimre Nagy was secretly executed.

The Irish people were deeply stirred by the images of "Soviet tanks crushing Hungarian freedom fighters like eggshells under their tracks". Refugees flooded into Ireland and were accommodated in a disused military camp at Knockalishen, Co. Clare.

It was a good time to start a resistance campaign against British Rule in Ireland. And the situation in Egypt exploded about the same time as that in Hungary, adding fuel to the flames internationally.

It emerged later that England, France and Israel had entered into a conspiracy to recover the Suez Canal for the imperial powers.

On October 29, 1956 Israeli armed police suddenly invaded the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula. They quickly occupied the Peninsula and moved towards the Suez Canal.

France and Britain, declaring their intention to protect the canal and allow British and French troops to occupy strategic points in the canal zone.

Egypt rejected the ultimatum and Britain and France landed troops in the Suez Canal zone on October 31, 1956. By ten days a ceasefire was affected. United Nations forces soon replaced the British and French troops in the canal zone.

Meanwhile, the conflict raged. An Egyptian communiqué, for instance, said that 104 people

had been killed in daylong bomber attacks and that 14 British and French aircraft had been shot down.

"Thousands in the streets of Cairo looked on as two British jets made a low-level attack during the day. Loud cheers went up as one of them was seen to be hit and went screaming downwards in a crazy dive".

The *Irish Press* of November 7 carried a report from a British journalist headed "The death Agony of Port Said: As I write I am flying directly over the town, looking down to where British Commandos, landed this morning, are locked in a fierce house-to-house struggle with its Egyptian defenders.

"I saw thousands of terrified Egyptians fleeing along the Ekl Menzala Canal. Women with babies, men dragging children, old people with robes flying — all pounding along to escape from the stricken town and the battle as we roared over their heads." (TF Thompson with the British Forces in Port Said).

Russia had joined the USA in the UN Security Council to demand an immediate withdrawal by Israel. The British and French Governments had ordered a ceasefire in response to US pressure it was believed.

As UN forces took over, the whole British-French-Israeli conspiracy had come to nothing and "a profound feeling of relief circled the world".

The *Irish Independent* of October 22 reported another incident in England's dirty war in Kenya against Land and Freedom Army, called the 'Mau Mau'. Declan Kimatho, a leader of the organisation was captured at dawn on October 21.

Time after time he had escaped British troops and police on his trail. In a forest 120 miles north of Nairobi his luck ran out.

"A fake gang caught the 34-year-old commando while trying to escape from the forest into a native reserve. He was wounded in the thigh by gunshot and taken to Nyero Hospital."

Kimatho was another victim of the 'travelling gallows' used by British forces, no doubt. The fake gang was an old tactic used against guerrillas.

Also called a 'counter-gang' it consisted of a unit dressed as locals, armed as guerrillas and used to fool the local population. But such units often met a sudden end.

The *Irish Times* of November 1 carried a report of a debate in the Cumann Gaelach of University College Dublin on the motion "That the Irish language cannot be revived without suitable help from the Church".

Among the speakers was Seán Ó Brádaigh then a second year student at the college. He said that if they were to have a Gaelic nation, they must have the help of the clergy. Maynooth College was founded with British money and since then the Catholic Church had become Anglicised.

"Most of the clergy had been against the language and with the exception of Dr John McHale of Tuam, none of the bishops did anything but hinder the movement.

"In the past, the church had opposed all forms of nationalism, they had hindered and condemned Wolfe Tone, they had opposed Thomas Davis, they had excommunicated the Fenians, they had attacked the IRA during the War of independence, and in 1922 they had refused the Sacraments to Republicans."

At this stage the Chairman, Dr Philbin, Bishop of Clonfert, pointed out that the speaker was not keeping to the motion under discussion. Ó Brádaigh continued to speak about Republicanism and the chairman again pointed out that the chair must be obeyed.

Ó Brádaigh: "I am not against the Catholic Church and I find it difficult and distasteful to say these things. However, they are true and they must be said."

The Rev Seosamh Ó Muirthille SJ, the President of Conradh na Gaeilge, Tomás Ó Muircheartaigh agus Antoine MacGoblaínn also spoke.

Winding up the debates, Dr Philbin said that some people believed that the Church had a duty to revive Irish but he would not agree that she had any such duty.

The *Irish Times* report was headed: "Church has no duty to revive Irish — De Philbin."

(More next month. Ref: *An t-Éireannach Aontaithe/The United Irishman*, November 1956; *Irish Times*, November 1; *Irish Independent*, October 21 and 22 and *Irish Press*, November 5, 7, 12 and 17.)



# Fenian Notes

## From our Washington Correspondent

THE issue of denial of visitor's visas has been taken up once again by the US Congress, not because it is the right thing to do, but because it has become an embarrassment to the stated principles that the United States offers to the world.

America's power elite portrays the country in messianic terms that the US is the deliverer of the world to the US — version of freedom and democracy, but in fact the US has succumbed to fear.

Fear has trumped freedom as a motivating force in foreign policy once again. During the greater part of the 20th century, America was in fear of communism.

Reds were evil, a threat to democracy and religion, and by implication, a threat to what American leaders saw as the greater truth, their greater truth.

Why should America or anyone else fear the communist philosophy? If they felt confident, what chance had it up against American messianic democracy?

There was some obvious insecurity because communists made a plea to the masses and capitalism made its plea to business.

### POWER ELITE

The power elite crushed those who spoke positively about socialism indicating a flaw in capitalistic democracy. America could surely survive dissent, but during periods of fear-mongering withers in the face of other ideas.

Communists claimed to be part of worldwide socialism whose intent is greater equality for more, politically and economically. They portrayed capitalism as restrictive on the workers. It had an appeal to the poor and underprivileged in society.

America should not have attacked socialism as evil, but should have put forth positives of its ideals by encouraging debate and dissent in full confidence of itself. They should have attacked the fact that dictators have distorted socialism.

While America was engaged in World War 1, saving mother England, communism was gaining a foothold in Russia. If America was not at war, they could have become involved in Russia, trying to influence the inevitable revolution to adopt ideals of freedom.

They should have invited Lenin et al to Washington to ask — how might we help you in establishing democracy in Moscow?

The British Empire did not deserve to be saved, but stability and freedom in Russia was a worthy goal. Russia could have been a showcase revolution if America had helped consistent with its own revolutionary founding. America had forgotten its past.

Perhaps Russian revolutionaries could have used some of Marx and some of Thomas Paine. How could America help Russia when they would not help Ireland also engaged in a revolution against the British?

They helped the Empire and turned a blind eye to those following in the tradition of revolution started in modern times by the Americans.

Karl Marx should have resided in Washington to help in the rise of trade unions. America has a habit of fearing the infusion of ideas which are not strictly its own.

The New Deal of Franklin Roosevelt incorporated some forms of socialism, but would never credit Marx. They just evolved from some part of America.

The bottom line is America needs a rebirth by attracting a free flow of ideas and opinions to its shore. They should not restrict visas, but allow all forms of opinion to be spoken which can only have a positive effect. Many American ideas have become obsolete. Open debate prevents violence born of frustration.

CONGRESS should realise that a conflict of words is better than a conflict of bullets. No single idea is perfect, but the consideration of many ideas will embrace the original American democracy and make it better for the



future. America needs an open visa policy and allow for meaningful debate.

Irish trade unionist, James Connolly did come to the United States and helped organise workers with socialist ideas and he made friends beyond the Irish community among the Italians, Jews, Germans and others. It was positive. Had Karl Marx lived in the United States in the 19th century, the "Red Scare" of the 20th century may have been avoided.

The American tradition as stated by Thomas Jefferson was: "truth is great and will prevail if left to herself". Even Ian Paisley believes: "the truth will set you free". At least he says so. Visas have been denied because of the fear of ideas.

If you do not parrot Anglo-American rhetoric and want it spread to every nation, you are not welcome. The failure of that line is you do not take into consideration the culture and traditions of the other peoples.

### FIRST AMENDMENT

The First Amendment of the US Bill of Rights, in my opinion, is the greatest law ever conceived and modern US Policy insults that law and prevents its application.

This makes America a failure. America's founders would not be able to get visas with their radical ideas on physical force.

The regulations quoted to keep US Officials to keep people out are pure unadulterated horseshit. The latest individual denied a visa is Tariq Ramadan.

Ramadan's sin is that he argues for a larger role for religion in Arab/Muslim states and an assertion of Muslim identity alongside citizenship in Western Democracies.

Nelson Mandela was condemned by Dick Cheney for his radical idea to end Apartheid. Yes, that is the same bigot that is now Vice-President of the US.

President Ronald Reagan lumped

the ETA, Irish Republicans and ANC as communist fellow travellers. He could not understand why the Irish did not try to exist under the British. Does that ignorance even need a comment?

What is Jesus' name is radical about wanting freedom? Isn't that what the US says is its messianic mandate. America is now the Biblical Pharisee who flaunts religion, but practices greed.

Innocent Americans are being put in harm's way because of the stupidity of its leaders. Anti-Americanism is somewhat understandable, but it should be reserved for the leaders not the ordinary Joe who just wants to support his family or the woman who drives her children to a football game.

In his booklet, COMMON SENSE, Thomas Paine said it best: "We have it in our power to begin the world over again". This was directed against the British Empire and its tyranny in favour of the American Revolution which he saw as a way to start a new world through the idea of freedom and equality.

IT was all England was not. America is travelling in reverse under Bush embracing the concept of Empire and taking the reins from Britain who serves as chief adviser.

What Bush and the fear mongers are afraid of are ideas that are far better than those espoused by his yes-sayers. If he ever read the documents of those he condemns and gave a critical review and countered why his are better, at least he is showing he is trying, but he does know how to read and decipher ideas.

The truth is the truth and seekers will find it, but will not find it in the actions of those who process fear to cover-up their non-ideas. Those who would prevent free speech and assembly as Bush has done for 6 years can only utilise force.

Is he any better than the Soviets or the Fascists or the Nazis? No, he is worse because he feigns freedom then crushes its exercise.

To correct the injustice of the selective visa process, Congress only has to go back to the original intent of those who wrote the laws of the United States. They intended there to be no restrictions on ideas and speech. Freedom of speech is simple. It means total openness to ideas, all ideas.

He should not censor ideas that he does not want Americans to hear, because that shows the weakness of

what he espouses which cannot withstand dissent.

Visas are the ticket of the First Amendment. Does Bush think Americans are so stupid they can't judge ideas for themselves? "Let not a fool make a fool of others"

What could have prevented 9/11/2001, from happening? This could have been done by sorting out who means to do harm to the United States, and not those who have different ideas. America in 2006 has gained the image of exclusion, not the intended inclusion of the founders.

Osama Bin Laden's hatred of the U.S. stems from US presence in Saudi Arabia where Muslim holy places are located. When Bin Laden began his rant would it have been better to have confronted him on the issue. After all, he fought the Soviets under the pay of the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA).

It would have been better to have given him a visa to come and address the American people. Maybe, he would not have plotted the murder of 3,000 innocent people. Maybe I am pissing in the wind, but an open visa policy is a safeguard against violence.

The closed, selective, manipulated visa policy is un-American and contradicts America's founding principles. Congress has a duty to remind Bush that he cannot trash the Bill of Rights.

### OPEN SOCIETY NEEDED

America needs to be an open society by opening up the visa process to allow all ideas into the country and not make people plan attacks on the US to get its attention.

The US must contribute to the world as tolerant of all ideas and follow its own law and not let the devil in the White House prevail. There needs to be a process whereby those denied a visa can challenge the reason for the denial.

A judge hearing the challenge must have the authority to order a visa should the challenger prevail. It should not be a costly process.

In addition, any American who invites a speaker who is denied a visa should also be able to challenge a denial. Without such a process, the visa denials are a joke and an insult to the American people by its own government.

— Peadar Mac Fhínní

## Council of Europe anti-torture committee in Ireland

IT was reported on October 18 that a delegation of the Council of Europe's Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) recently carried out a twelve-day visit to the 26 Counties. It was the CPT's fourth periodic visit.

During the visit, which began on October 2, the delegation reviewed the measures taken by the 26-County authorities following the recommendations made by the Committee after its previous visits.

Particular attention was paid to the treatment of persons detained by the 26-County police and the operation of the various safeguards in place. The delegation also examined in detail a number of issues relating to prisons, including the conditions of detention of inmates in segregation or subject to measures of protection, the phenomenon of inter-prisoner violence, the provision of health care and issues pertaining to complaints and discipline.

Another area of examination related to mental health care of prisoners and the care provided to forensic psychiatric patients.

In the course of the visit, the CPT's delegation held consultations with the Minister of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Michael McDowell, Minister of Health, Mary Harney as well as other senior 26-County government officials, Gardaí and prison officials as well as representatives of the Irish Human Rights Commission.

Discussions were held with members of non-governmental organisations active in areas of concern to the CPT and with members of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

At the end of the visit, the delegation presented its preliminary observations to the 26-County authorities.

The visit was carried out by the following members of the CPT: Mario FELICE, Head of delegation (Maltese); Ale BUTALA (Slovenian); Latif HUSEYNOV (Azerbaijani) and Ann-Marie ORLER (Swedish).

They were supported by Hugh CHETWYND, Head of Division, and Marco LEIDEKKER of the CPT's Secretariat, and assisted by three experts: Tatjana SIMMINS, psychiatrist, Geneva (Switzerland), Eric DURAND, former Head of the Medical Services at Fleury-Mérogis Prison (France) and Alan MITCHELL, former Head of Health Care, Scottish Prison Service (United Kingdom).

The delegation visited the following places:

Establishments under the Ministry of Justice, Equality and

Law Reform; An Garda Síochána; Detention facilities at Athlone Garda station; Detention facilities at Castlereagh Garda station; Detention facilities at Galway Garda station; Detention facilities at Henry Street Garda station, Limerick; Detention facilities at Kevin Street Garda station, Dublin; Detention facilities at Mountjoy Garda station, Dublin; Detention

facilities at Mullingar Garda station; Detention facilities at Roxborough Road Garda station, Limerick; Detention facilities at Sligo Garda station; Detention facilities at Store Street Garda station, Dublin.

**Prison Service:** Castlereagh Prison, Co Roscommon; Cloverhill Prison, Dublin; Limerick Prison; Mountjoy Prison; Saint Patrick's Institution

for Youth Offenders.

Targeted visits were also paid to Cork and Wheatfield Prisons to examine persons held in the segregation areas and those subject to measures of protection.

Establishments under the Ministry of Health and Children: Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum.

**Comhbhrón**  
FRIEL, Sincere sympathy is expressed to Jim Friel on the death of his wife Ella. From the Francis Hughes Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Glasgow.  
McKEOWN, Deepest sympathy is extended to Eddie McKeown on the death of his brother Francis. From the Willie Stewart/Joe Conway Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Dundalk/Newry.  
McKEOWN, Deepest sympathy is extended to Eddie McKeown on the death of his brother Francis. From Ruarí and Naoimh White.  
NI DHONABHÁIN, Republicans in Co Kildare extend sincere sympathy to the family of the late Eileen Ní

Dhonabháin, Killeen Cumann, Co Kildare, Republican Sinn Féin.  
NI DHONABHÁIN, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of the late Eileen Ní Dhonabháin, late of Carlow and Co Donegal. From Kitty Hawkins and family, Ballymore Eustace, Co Kildare.  
O BRÁDAIGH, Sympathy is extended to Patsy O Brádaigh on the death of her brother James. From Des Dalton and family.  
O BRÁDAIGH, Sincere sympathy is extended to Patsy O Brádaigh on the death of her brother James. From Matt and Celia Conway.  
O BRÁDAIGH, Republicans in Co Kildare extend sincere sympathy to Patsy O Brádaigh on the death of her brother James. From the Killeen Cumann, Co Kildare, Republican

Sinn Féin.  
SMITH, Deepest sympathy is extended to Alan Smith, Ballymun on the death of his wife Betty on September 30, from Brian and Linda Leddy.

### I gCuimhne

CROSSEY — 25th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Vol Michael Crossey, Lurgan battalion, North Armagh Brigade, who died in action on November 22, 1971. Fuair sé bás ar son na hÉireann. Always remembered by the Moore family, Monaghan.

# SAOIRSE

## IRISH FREEDOM

THE VOICE OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT

# Is there a place for the Provos outside of the history books?

**F**INDING themselves outmanoeuvred by everyone, the Provos' Limited Intelligence Group (that is LJG or LIGS for short) are in the process of trying to find a new role for themselves. Initially when negotiating their place in history both the Free State and British government assured them the status of Quislings, that is that they would get paid for doing the work of the British, now it seems that has changed.

Ian Paisley and his DUP

group (known as those who DUPED the Provos) have entered the field big time and are determined that the Provos must work for them directly rather than indirectly through the British institutions.

Some readers may remember that Paisley emerged in 1966 when people like Gusto Spence and his Ulster Volunteer Force targeted Leo Martin and other allegedly prominent IRA people. Of course being loyalists and incompetents they murdered innocent barmen.

Paisley and his fascist cohorts encouraged them nonetheless and the rest is history.

Now it seems that political survival demands that Gerry Adams and his LIGS must join these fascist elements in order to ensure political survival. To be fair to Gerry Adams I believe whole-heartedly that this is a hard pill to swallow for him. But since he only drinks in moderation he will have to swallow it.

Of course even the most disinterested observer realises that the Provos are no more. That group of LIGS are now the lackeys of both British colonialism and loyalist

fascism on this island. Gerry Adams and his Limited Intelligence Group have a future only in propping up both British government institutions and the capitalist interests they represent.

**T**HAT being said the real disgrace is that their role in the Six Counties has developed into one which diminishes the war crimes of so-called loyalists (that is the bar-room shootings by people like McKnight, the human butchery lead by people like Lenny Murphy, the indiscriminate murders of innocent nationalists by people like King Rat) the list goes on

and on and Limited Intelligence knows the details even better than this writer.

Here we are in 2006, 20 years since Limited Intelligence led by Gerry Adams and McGuinness set off on its heroic journey from the Mansion House to the ... House Of The Setting Sun?

A journey described by Adams as that of a train on its way to Cork. Now most of us realise the cork really referred to was like that of a stopper in a bottle designed to contain Republicanism, a Freudian slip? What we now observe is a small group of men with feet of clay and followers with

sawdust for brains.

What we now realise is that people with a yellow streak down their back have begun a journey down the yellow brick road in search of the land of ease (Oz?) The question to be answered over the coming weeks is will some few of them find courage, could others find a heart or is their some slight hope of the hint of a brain emerging in others.

In reality one suspects they will emerge inside the confines of a circus ring where they will perform their masters' bidding for many years to come. Time will tell.

— Mac Cool

## REPUBLICAN GARDEN BUNDORAN, CO. DONEGAL

**Special Appeal for Funds - To Pay off  
Our Loan of €5,000**

THE Committee & Trustees of the Republican Garden are very pleased to announce that the Republican Garden is now open. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who gave donations, big or small. Without you it would not have been possible, together we can do great things.

1973 - Volunteer Paddy Carty, Bundoran, Dungannon  
1973 - Dermot Crowley, Cork City  
1973 - Sean Loughran, Dungannon  
1984 - Antoine Mac Giolla Bhrighde, Magherafelt  
1984 - Ciaran Fleming, Derry City  
The Hunger Strikers who died 1974 - 1981  
Those who are being remembered all had some connections with Bundoran, Ballyshannon, Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo areas.

We are asking you to give a donation please to any of the names listed below:  
Chairperson: Joe O'Neill  
Vice-Chairperson: Jimmy McElhinney  
Treasurers: Mick Cullen & Joe Dillon  
Joint Secretaries: Mary O'Neill & Phyllis Cullen  
Trustees: Pat Barry, Ann Sheerin, Martin McGrath, Declan Curneen,  
Seamus McGovern, Thomas Kelly and Mary Ward.

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



## Nationalist protesters block main road

**NATIONALIST demonstrators blocked a main road in Belfast for more than an hour on October 6 to protest against a televised ceremony marking the disbandment of the British army's Royal Irish Regiment (formerly the Ulster Defence Regiment), attended by the Queen of England.**

Victims' group An Fhírinne waved banners and placards outside the King's Hall showing the names and photos of people killed by loyalist death squads.

The group said they were angry the RIR event was allowed to take place given the history of collusion between

paramilitaries and the UDR, which merged with the Royal Irish Rangers in 1991 to create the Royal Irish Regiment of the British army.

A spokesman for the protest recalled how in May the Irish News (Belfast) revealed the British government was aware of large-scale collusion between British Crown

Forces and loyalist death squads from 1973.

Files on collusion revealed the British army believed the "best single source of weapons and the only significant source of modern weapons for Protestant extremist groups was the UDR".

Other documents from 1975 showed Margaret Thatcher was briefed that the UDR was "heavily infiltrated by extremist Protestants and in a crisis could not be relied upon to be loyal".

An Fhírinne spokesman Robert McClenaghan said the RIR was a "cover name for the UDR which itself had its

origins in the B Specials".

"For the Queen of England to give them her seal of approval and then meet widows and survivors is a slap in the face for the victims of state violence," he said.

He said he was angry the RUC/PSNI had told the group their protest was illegal.

"I find that ridiculous. We are a campaign group. We are being criminalised," he said. "We are just making the point that there was collusion within the UDR. The British government themselves said that between five and 15% of the UDR were also in the UDA or UVF."



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