

STATEMENT OF RECOGNITION
BY COMDT. GENERAL TOM MAGUIRE

A second statement from the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau was sent to *SAOIRSE*, dated January 12, 1996. It contains a statement of recognition of the Continuity Executive and Continuity Army Council by Comdt. General Thomas Maguire, which he made on July 25, 1987. It is effectively his last political will and testament. We publish it in full below:

'We have been asked to release the following statement from Comdt. General Thomas Maguire made by him before his death which occurred in 1993:

'Statement from Comdt. General Thomas Maguire

'I refer to my statement, dated 22nd day of October, 1986, and I speak again, as the sole surviving Teachta Dála of the Second Dáil Éireann, and the sole surviving member of the Executive of the Second Dáil.

'In that statement, I referred to my recognition in December, 1969, of the Provisional Army Council of the IRA, which had remained true to the Irish Republic, as the lawful Army of the Thirty Two County Irish Republic.

'I also stated on 22nd October, 1986, that I did not recognise the legitimacy of an Army Council, styling itself the Council of the Irish Republican Army, which lent support to any person or organisation styling itself Sinn Féin, and prepared to enter the partition parliament of Leinster House.

'I referred, as well, to the IRA Convention, which had taken place shortly before the 22nd October, 1986. The Executive of the IRA had, by a majority, opposed entering Leinster House. The faithful members of that Executive, in accordance with the IRA Constitution, filled the vacancies in the Executive, and that Executive continues as the lawful Executive of the Irish Republican Army. The Continuity Executive has appointed an Army Council of the IRA.

'I quote the following extract from my statement of 31st December 1969:

'In December, 1938, the surviving faithful members of the latest 32 County Republican Parliament, the Second Dáil elected in 1921, delegated their executive powers of government to the Army Council of the IRA. This Proclamation of 1938 was signed by S. S. Ó Ceallaigh (Sceilg), Ceann Comhairle, Mary Mac Swiney, Count Plunkett, Cathal Ó Murchú, Brian O'Higgins, Professor Stockley and myself, Tomás Maguire'.

'I hereby declare that the Continuity Executive and the Continuity Army Council are the lawful Executive and Army Council respectively of the Irish Republican Army, and that the governmental authority, delegated in the Proclamation of 1938, now resides in the Continuity Army Council, and its lawful successors.

'Dated the 25th day of July 1987

Signed: Thomas Maguire

Tomás Maguidhir

Comdt. General.'