

BEIR BUA!

32 County Sovereignty Movement/ Britain

Oglaigh na hEireann DEPLOY SNIPERS ON STREETS OF BELFAST

Belfast Brigade, Oglai^h na hEireann, in a recent statement, has advised Nationalists to avoid contact and proximity to Crown Forces when on the streets as it prepares for an escalation of the war against British occupation of the six counties. Having already deployed snipers around west Belfast, the statement said, "we would call on civilians not to allow themselves to be human shields by being close to checkpoints where Crown Forces are present. When they are on patrol civilians should not walk alongside them in Belfast". Belfast Brigade also warned Loyalists that, while they "do not want to become involved in a tit-for-tat campaign with Loyalists... we will not sit by and watch the nationalist community being attacked and we are watching north Belfast very closely." Condemning the Provisionals' unstoppable shift towards

joining the new policing boards, and copper-fastening their partnership with the British government, Oglai^h na hEireann emphasised the Republican position- "we do not agree with anyone joining the new policing boards and would call on all nationalists not to be duped into joining them. The PSNI are administrators of British rule in Ireland." The leadership made it clear that the peoples' army is the only policing nationalists need. Denying the common-garden stories of criminality, drug dealing etc, so common from the reactionary press and the Brit establishment, bearing in mind that no Volunteers have ever been arrested or convicted of any link to drugs or criminality. On the other hand, they perform services to the community that the RUC/ PSNI never did, not only defending nationalists from external attack but from troubled elements within the community such as drugs or gangsterism (always encouraged by the RUC!): "very recently we expelled a number of criminals from the Lower Falls and we have expanded (cont. P. 2)

(From Front Page) our operations to include north Belfast. Criminals have been threatening people using the Real IRA name. Oglagh na hEireann is now building a profile on these people." *Beir Bua!* notes that there have been multiple attempts recently to split, divide and run down the republican movement, which stem from, and have been encouraged by, the original betrayal of the republic by Sinn Fein in 1998. Eamon Lynch, writing in the *Irish Echo* put it thus: "Having accepted the *bona fides* of the Northern Ireland [sic] state and spent four years as an enthusiastic participant in its administration, it is farcical for Sinn Fein to insist that nationalists continue to reject the state police as illegitimate". Sinn Fein have shifted politically in a way they were calling on the RUC to do for years—yet faced with minimal, and hardly fundamental! change in the sectarian statelet and the RUC/PSNI, the response of the Provisional hoods has been to enforce control over militant nationalist youth for the Brits in a way the RUC could only ever have dreamed of. *Beir Bua!* would also like to know the source of the wild and frankly bizarre stories circulating in the media of so-called 'gun exchanges' with the UFF/LVF. A spokesman for IRA Belfast Brigade said, "we acutely concerned as to where these stories are coming from that are suddenly appearing now. If these facts were known a year ago [as was claimed—BB], why are they only now coming to light." The spokesperson explained obviously using words of one syllable for those who give the fairy tales any credence at all—that there was no reason at all for the Army to "jeopardise our potential support by meeting those who have murdered our people over the last 30 years". We can only assume that, following the recent treason emanating from Portlaoise and the expulsion with ignominy from Oglagh na hEireann of those who would try and split the movement for selfish ends, the Brits and their lackeys see a opportunity for further black ops and propaganda. As Anthony McIntyre wrote recently, "there are leaders all too willing to trade freedoms for fiefdoms and totally disregard or exploit the sacrifices of those on the ground to ensure that their own political careers hurtle into even higher orbits".



Plastic bullets on the increase—over 100 last year compared to 20 in 2001. What 'change' in policing, Gerry?

U.S. PULL OUT OF SHANNON AIRPORT

As reported in the last issue of *Beir Bua!*, the protests surrounding the use of Shannon Airport by the US military machine continued and intensified. People ranging from international peace activists to Irish republicans, but mostly just ordinary people making a stand against imperialism through consistently shouting (and more!) with one voice at last seem to have made Bush's government sit up and listen, and Ahern's count the cost of betraying the nations' historic neutrality.

Shannon Airport ceased to function as a military re-fuelling point/ stopover for United States military flights to the Gulf last week (early February). Ahern said this was 'nothing to do with security issues at the airport', even though World Airways has stated that was diverting all its flights through Frankfurt instead 'for the immediate future'. The announcement will be greeted by nothing if not approval.

Irish sovereignty, at a time when it is under attack more than ever, needs Ahern's betrayal of our neutrality and involvement in Bush/ Blair's imperialist war not at all. Blair is Bush's lapdog, Aherne surely seems to want to be their kitten!

The government even went as far as locking up five protesters after two separate incidents, which involved damage to an American plane following the intervention of the Irish National Army. Even though one member of the Seanad, Senator Brendan Ryan stated that if he thought it would do any good, he would drive to Shannon himself with a hatchet in the back of his car!

The Republican Challenge

By Francis Mackey, Chairperson, 32 County Sovereignty Movement

The challenge facing Republicans at present is how the Republican position of upholding and protecting national Sovereignty be best achieved. Spin and counter-spin leaves it difficult for the Irish people to have a clear view when making a decision. Anti-sovereignty propaganda emanating from the pro-establishment parties further compounds these difficulties.

Therefore in addressing this subject it is important to continually highlight the illegal position of the British government in Ireland. The Irish people have never cast a vote for the continuation of British interference in our affairs and it is widely recognised both nationally and internationally that the Irish people continue to be denied their fundamental right to self-determination.

It is also important to state that when the Irish people do cast their vote it is always with the British gun pointing at them, thus the propaganda statements of "peace or war".

Republicans are not opposed to peace and strive to investigate all options in the search for that peaceful alternative in a principled way. That is why the 32 County Sovereignty Movement have lodged our sovereign claim at the United Nations, the recognised body for settling international disputes; and the dispute between the Irish nation and the British government fulfils that criteria.

At this stage I am not going into detail on how the British government have contravened international law—that is for another day.

The republican challenge requires all sections of republicans to be open and honest with the Republican base on how they are upholding and protecting national sovereignty. A number of groups and individuals are on record of their opposition to the internal settlement contained in the Good Friday Agreement. I would urge everyone supporting this ideal and the leaders of such groups both look seriously and genuinely at this issue and to unite on this single issue. This should not prejudice in any way your rights or membership of your respective political parties.

What then leaves provisional Sinn Fein who claim to uphold the republican position and who since signing the GFA frequently refer to the sovereignty of the Irish people. The challenge to Gerry Adams and the Sinn Fein leadership is to unambiguously explain to the Irish people how, having signed the GFA, which gives legitimacy to the illegal sovereign claim of the British government in occupied six counties, can he claim to uphold Irish national sovereignty. That contradiction is clearly reflected in the Sinn Fein constitution where it states, "re-asserted the right of the Irish nation to sovereign independence" and "Whereas the people of Ireland never relinquished the claim to separate nationhood". Their constitution continues, "A—that the allegiance of Irishmen and Irish women is to the sovereign state, as proclaimed in 1916", and "B—That the sovereignty and unity of the Republic are inalienable and non-judicial".

I must say that for upholding these principles of the constitution I along with others were suspended from Sinn Fein and are STILL awaiting clarification as to how that move was legal within that constitution. The Sinn Fein leadership must fully explain their undemocratic move to accepting John Humes' principle of consent on this matter and come clean on their leadership strategy that was totally rejected by the Republican base at Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. Here the base rejected the Downing Street Declaration, which was in fact the basis of the GFA contained in the framework document.

The Republican Challenge

(Continued from page 3)

I believe Republicans have a moral responsibility to defend and protect national sovereignty, being the only reason why since 1916 Republicans through every generation have paid the supreme sacrifice with their lives.. It is not enough to criticise with derogatory remarks, when in fact national sovereignty is under the greatest threat ever from the British government.

I reiterate again that the issue for all Republicans is protecting National Sovereignty. The challenge then, to Gerry Adams is, will you lead Sinn Fein towards upholding the national Sovereignty of the Irish people by publicly stating your support for our peaceful legal challenge— and if not, will you outline you reason for refusal.

Republicans must be strong and principled in this challenge and we all have a responsibility through our actions that Irish national Sovereignty is not damaged any further. Being united on this single issue will have long and enduring success for the Irish people in their quest for national self-determination.

Sincerely, Francis Mackey,
Chair, 32 County Sovereignty Movement

REPUBLICAN RESISTANCE CALENDARS NOW AVAILABLE!

The Omagh Victims Relatives Group has apparently recently 'condemned' a calendar of Oglai gh na hEireann.

Bearing the slogan, "Republican Resistance!", a page for each month of the year shows in various operations, and demonstrations by the men and women of Oglai gh na hEireann, including volunteers, armed and balaclavad in combat gear, carrying pistols, machine guns, and a sniper rifle. The BBC operation of last year, and an IRA salute at a Republican funeral are also shown. It was recently made available in areas of Derry, and its fame has spread.

Regardless of attempts to prevent its circulation, however, the calendars final page shows the Army won't be stopping— or going away, you know! The final page, a message for 2003, simply says... "See you in the new year."

CONTACT US!

IN DEFENCE OF THE NATION AND IRISH NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY...AN PHOBLACHT ABU!

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The Editors of Beir Bua! Welcome all letters, comments, and suggestions. Please keep them as brief and to the point as possible— they may be edited!

Go raibh mile maith agaibh. MAIL TO: beirbua@hotmail.com

IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 31- 02- 03

32 CSM NEW YEARS' STATEMENT 2003

The failure of the Stormont Agreement and the continuing interference by the British Government in Irish affairs demonstrates clearly that the core issue of National sovereignty remains unresolved within that agreement. The suspension again of the Assembly further highlights that the occupied Six Counties cannot be reformed under British rule and the present attempt at normalisation can only fail in an Undemocratic state. The Irish people cannot be forced to make decisions while the British guns are pointing at them. That failure has sentenced future generations to the same sectarian fate we have suffered over the past 80 years and particularly over the past 30 years.

The year ahead Republicans face the greatest challenge ever to the legitimacy of their position, given the weight of opposition from those who have compromised the sovereignty of the Irish Nation and the extreme lengths the British Government are going to protect their interests here. Republicans will have to be pragmatic and unified in upholding Irish National Sovereignty, established by the Irish people under direction from the principled stand of the 1916 leaders. Republicans should have belief in the strength of their convictions and we must be prepared to make positive decisions based on fact and with the correct analysis.

In 2003 the issue of policing will be a determining factor, whether or not to accept what the British Government proposes, that is, Can nationalists accept a police force upholding the interests of the foreign government? The answer should be simple. No one could accept such a sectarian force irrespective of the tinkering that is going on at present. The PSNI are not acceptable given their continued targeting of Nationalists and their links to involvement in murder and harassment of the nationalist people.

In extending seasons greeting to all the Irish people and we particularly remember all POW's incarcerated in gaols in Ireland, England and across the world. We hope your freedom will be soon and in the meantime we have a responsibility to expose the Human Rights abuses you are currently enduring. We highlight particularly the ongoing dangers in Maghaberry gaol whereby the British government have reneged on their agreement made following the death of Bobby Sands and his comrades and are now forcing integration with loyalists. Segregation is a basic human right to ensure the safety of these men and it must be restored before serious injury or death occurs.

As we move forward in 2003 republicans must be very clear what unites us is the desire and the desire of the Irish people to be free.

What divides us is political leaders who have failed to establish the only alternative to British rule in Ireland.

"REMEMBER- THOSE FIGHTING ALONGSIDE US TODAY ARE FIGHTING FOR POLITICAL LIBERTY. BUT WE ARE FIGHTING FOR ECONOMIC LIBERTY AS WELL. HOLD ON TO YOUR GUNS!"

-James Connolly, Commandant General, Dublin Division, Irish Republican Army.

Belmarsh Pro- test Ended

Republicans were relieved to learn that the protest by two Irish prisoners in Belmarsh Gaol has ended. The prison authorities met the men on February 6th 2003 and after discussion issues were resolved to the satisfaction of all. *Beir Bua!* Would like to thank the IRPWA for keeping us all updated on the plight of Irishmen in gaol in Ireland and England. We hope that the same common-sense approach will be adapted in all other matters concerning prisoners both at home an abroad. Unfortunately, this seems unlikely, as the IRPWA statement below shows. Further word from inside Belmarsh suggests that the Prison authorities, far from learning a lesson from the men's' spirited stance, seem intent on trying to take back the few rights guaranteed previously them. Republicans should take note not only that Irishmen are guaranteed a hard time in British prisons, but their families are too. *Beir Bua!* has learnt that HM Prisons may be introducing 'new'- i.e. curtailed- visiting times for prisoners. Previously families visiting the 'Slovak three'- Michael McDonald, Fintan O'Farrell, and Declan Rafferty- at Whitemoor Prison, Cambridgeshire, and Full Sutton Prison, Yorkshire, could take advantage of relatively cheap air flights from Ireland mid- week- since they could visit on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. With visits now apparently being restricted to weekends, the sheer cost of visiting loved ones could become so prohibitive as to make the visit almost impossible. The one thing ALL prisoners deserve- and are entitled to- is the guarantee of regular visits by the few people who care for them- as do the families themselves. We urge all our readers to please send a donation, the more the better, to the Irish Republican Prisoners' Welfare Association, in order to enable people- innocent of any crime!- to do nothing more than visit their loved ones incarcerated for their political activities.

IRPWA PRESS RELEASE:

The latest news out of Maghaberry is as bleak as the weather we are all experiencing. The authorities appear hell- bent on making life even more miserable for the Republican prisoners being held there. Not only are they being forced to share accommodation with loyalists, with all the inherent dangers that presents particularly at this very volatile time, but now the weather is also being used as an excuse to keep men locked up for almost 24 hrs a day. Republican prisoners are being allowed out of their cells for the briefest of spells to make a short phone call home and are then locked up for the rest of the day . The prison authorities need to look very closely at their contingency plans when a few inches of snow causes chaos with their staffing arrangements- staff shortage is NO excuse! It can be all too tempting to turn over in bed on a cold snowy morning and not turn in for work but when the result is such inhuman treatment of vulnerable prisoners it is intolerable. We consider this treatment to be totally unacceptable and against their human rights. We call on the prison Service to treat these Republican prisoners with the dignity and compassion they deserve.

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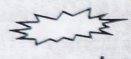

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WAR NEWS

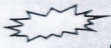


Bua do shaighduiri Arm Phoblacht na hEireann!

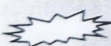
18th February 2003:

-  -Brit "security Forces" attacked by nationalist youth in Beechmount Ave, Ballycolman, Strabane after being called there on a hoax bomb alert.
-  -Antrim Rd PSNI/RUC station comes under bomb attack; two devices launched into the compound causing damage and injuries to police.
-  -Strabane RUC station on alert after series of hoax alerts.

9th February:

-  -Large firebomb consisting of canisters of petrol and a gas cylinder discovered inside refuse bin on the Castleblaney Rd, Keady, co. Armagh.



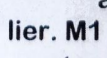
8th February:

-  -Oglaigh na hEireann Volunteer, alongside two armed comrades, appears on Channel 9 TV and reads out statement regarding IRA policy towards those considering joining the "new" PSNI (see front page).




Results of Brit Army "expertise" in west Belfast, 6th February

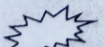
7th February

-  -Car bomb in Long Stay car park, Aldergrove international Airport.
-  -Car bomb in Blacks Rd, Dunmurry after being hijacked half an hour earlier. M1 Motorway shut as a result.
-  -Police search Grovesnor Rd near Belfast City centre after a coded telephone warning of a device. The Westlink closed as a result.

6th February:

-  Car bomb, comprised of pipe bombs and gas cylinders, explodes in west Belfast after anti-handling device caught fire and exploded as Her Majesty's so-called "technical experts" were working on it.

23rd January:

-  Parcel bomb defused at PSNI/RUC Headquarters, Dundonald House, Stormont.