

AN
PHOBLACHT
Republican News

IRELAND'S BIGGEST SELLING
POLITICAL WEEKLY



Sraith Nua Im 8 Uimhir 13 Deardain 27 Marta Thursday 27th March 1986



**EIBHLÍN
FREE!**

AMIDST dramatic scenes including reckless gunfire by members of the Free State Special Branch, Eibhlín Glendon was released, re-arrested and finally walked free from a Dublin court last Saturday.

See inside for full report and photos

INCLUDES SPECIAL EASTER SUPPLEMENT (BRITAIN 35p) PRICE 30p

70 Years of struggle

1916 EASTER 1986

SEVENTY years ago this Easter, on Monday, April 24th, 1916, the soldiers of the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army marched together to capture key positions in the city of Dublin. On that day the Irish Republican Army was born and the comradeship and dedication to the cause of Irish freedom, forged in the war-torn streets that Easter Week, were to grow and win the hearts and minds of the Irish people. The soldiers of today's IRA are carrying on that same struggle begun by the 1916 soldiers of the Republic.

In this the most intense and the final phase of the freedom struggle, the men and women Volunteers of the IRA are leading the way to victory. We salute them and pledge ourselves also to the task of winning this struggle. That is the legacy of 1916, the task of 1986.

**HONOUR
IRELAND'S
DEAD**

WEAR AN EASTER LILY



BRITISH-FREE STATE CONSPIRACY

Eibhlín Glenholmes walks free

BY JACK MADDEN

THERE WERE SCENES of intense drama and excitement on the streets of Dublin last Saturday, March 22nd, as plainclothes and uniformed gardai ran amok in an attempt to impede and eventually re-arrest Eibhlín Glenholmes, the Belfast woman who had been released earlier by a district court judge on the grounds that extradition warrants against her were invalid.

In a sequence of events which the Sinn Féin president and West Belfast MP, Gerry Adams, said "were obviously sanctioned and directed by the Dublin government and particularly the justice minister, Alan Dukes", gardai systematically harassed Eibhlín Glenholmes, hijacked a lorry, fired shots into a street crowded with shoppers, and assaulted several members of Sinn Féin, including four senior elected representatives.

The drama began in the Dublin District Court at 11am when Judge Peter Connellan began a special hearing to decide whether warrants seeking the extradition of Eibhlín Glenholmes to Britain were invalid as claimed by her defence counsel, Patrick McEntee. The previous day, McEntee had argued that the second set of warrants issued by the British (after the original set were found to be faulty) did not meet legal requirements since they had not been sworn before a magistrate.

After an adjournment to allow discussions with a representative of the British Director of Public Prosecutions, counsel for the state re-entered the courtroom and argued that since the information contained in the original warrants had been sworn then the same information contained in the new unsworn warrants should be allowed to stand. The technical fault was of such a basic nature, however, that Judge Connellan had little option but to dismiss

this line of argument and accept that McEntee was correct.

EXIT

Even as the judge was delivering his verdict, members of the Garda Special Branch and Task Force, who crowded the small courtroom, began moving towards the exit doorway. Reporters, family and friends of Eibhlín Glenholmes did not move until the verdict was completed and the judge freed her. There was a feeling of euphoria amongst supporters in the courtroom and understandable relief on the faces of Mrs Lily Glenholmes and Eibhlín's brother and sister, Richard and Michelle.

Together with her family and friends, Eibhlín moved towards the detectives who refused to move. Judge Connellan saw what was happening as he left the court but did not interfere with this clear demonstration of garda contempt for his decision.

Patrick McEntee also saw what was happening and, taking Eibhlín

by the arm, he led her into the judge's chamber through a back door of the court. From there, they were able to pass through a corridor and re-emerge in the hallway immediately outside the courtroom.

But the gardai had spotted McEntee and Eibhlín leaving and they quickly moved away from the doorway to intercept them as they came out the other exit. When Eibhlín appeared she was confronted by the gardai who could have easily re-arrested her there and then had they intended to do so.

But that was not the object of the gardai. As friends and relatives rushed to form a protective ring around Eibhlín, it became clear that the gardai were trying to keep her in the precinct of the court long enough for a fresh warrant to be prepared and long enough to allow a 'reasonable period of time to elapse' before re-arresting her.

Hemmed in by the gardai, Eibhlín was rushed along by her supporters out of the court building and towards the gates at the perimeter fence. Plain clothes detectives shouted towards the uniformed gardai at the gates to close them, but before they could fully take in what was happening and, before they



● Special Branch man (right) attempts to block the narrow ramp from the court building — the chase begins

could act, Eibhlín dashed through the gates, being virtually carried forward by the determined surge of those around her.

GETAWAY CAR

Outside the gates, the race continued, with Sinn Féin members who had been picketing against the extradition process

joining in the effort to frustrate the gardai. After some pushing and shoving, Glenholmes managed to get into a car in Church Street, but this was quickly boxed in by Special Branch and Task Force cars. Supporters managed to move one of these vehicles out of the way and the 'getaway' car was able to move off.

URGENT APPEAL!

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS — the dramatic Eibhlín Glenholmes case and the not-so-dramatic but nonetheless important 'Bik' McFarlane/Gerry Kelly case in the Netherlands — have shown how vital it is for us to possess the resources to defend Irish republicans from being extradited into the hands of the British.

High legal costs and other expenses are involved in fighting extradition and Sinn Féin's Anti-Extradition Fund is still open for anyone who wishes to make a donation.

Please send whatever you can afford — no matter how small the amount is, every penny helps.

Contributions to this fund are urgently needed and should be sent to:

Anti-Extradition Appeal Fund
Sinn Féin Head Office
44 Parnell Square
Dublin 1.

An open letter from Eibhlín Glenholmes

(This letter was sent to AP/RN following the events of last Saturday.)

DURING the past week and a half, much has been written about my arrest and, in the coming days, no doubt much more will be written about my release. I do not wish to dwell on the shameful and negative aspects of the whole debacle except to repeat that I am being pursued for offences which I had nothing to do with.

People will say that if I had nothing to do with those offences then I would have nothing to fear if brought to court in England. The truth is that I have already been tried and convicted by the British and I have no intention of ending up like the Maguires, the Birmingham Six or the Guildford Four, serving a sentence for something I was not involved in. Nor will I allow myself to be used by FitzGerald & Co in their efforts to suck up to Margaret Thatcher.

This letter is addressed mainly to the ordinary people of Ireland and especially to the people of Dublin who morally and physically supported me when I needed help most. The list is endless, but I

would particularly like to thank my 'other family', the people who gave me a home when I could no longer return to my own.

I would like to thank those people who came to the courts, the older generation who have seen many Irish men and women go to prison and to the grave because of their love of freedom, and the younger people who see the FitzGerald regime try to make our desire to be free from oppression and foreign occupation an indictable offence.

I don't know all your names, but your presence in the courts, despite the intimidatory attitude of the twenty-six-county quisling police force, strengthened me and shamed them.

I thank the people who picketed the court. I know that you were freezing standing there day after day but, if it's any consolation, it wasn't that comfortable in the court either!

My thanks also to those prisoners in Mountjoy and Limerick jails who resisted the prison authorities' attempts to vilify me and who recognised my position as a political prisoner.

To all the prisoners in England and Ireland, your messages of soli-

darity gave me heart and I never felt alone.

I would like to express my boundless admiration and thanks to the people of Dublin, especially all of those who witnessed the shameful behaviour of the Task Force, the Special Detective Unit, the Special Branch and uniformed gardai. By drawing the attention of others to the farcical interpretation of 'liberty' which the gardai demonstrated, and by accompanying me through the streets of Dublin, you showed that what was done in your name was done without your approval. Seventy years ago, O'Connell Street was the scene of Irish resistance to foreign occupation and native collaborators. I can testify that the spirit of Connolly and his comrades lives on in the people of Dublin today.

A special word of thanks must go to Kevin Mallon who used his body to shield me from the kicks and blows of the gardai. I know that many people were beaten, kicked and punched. Your support for me enraged the state authorities and they reacted as their British masters always react — by trying to beat you into submission. They failed. As their history books should tell them, no jails,

CY FAILS

THE GLENHOLMES CASE

after day of drama



● The frantic dash to get out of the court precinct pursued by plainclothes gardai

With at least four unmarked garda cars in hot pursuit they turned left onto the quays and on towards the junction of Chancery Place. There a second garda blockade was in position. Gardai had ordered a civilian driver, who had terrified children along with her, to halt her car in the centre

of the road, thereby obstructing Eibhlín's car.

At this point a number of Sinn Féin activists arrived on the scene, and realising what was happening they succeeded in lifting the car out of the way with a by-now panic-stricken civilian driver inside. Once again the 'get-

away' car was able to move, quickly turning left up Arran Street East and right at Smithfield Market towards Capel Street. Here, however, the gardai had prepared yet another blockade, using a fruit lorry which was parked across the roadway. Surrounded by gardai, Eibhlín and the few

supporters who travelled with her were forced to abandon the car when gardai demanded the keys and then snatched them out of the driver's hand.

Together with her friends, Eibhlín set off on foot through the streets of Dublin, eventually arriving at the Sinn Féin head office in Parnell Square. Throughout the journey she was barefoot and con-

stantly jostled and harassed by the gardai who surrounded her.

An Ard-Chomhairle meeting which was in progress in the Sinn Féin head office was quickly abandoned and Sinn Féin leaders, including Gerry Adams, Martin McGuinness, Danny Morrison and Jim McAllister, emerged from

(continued on next page)



● Eibhlín is seized in BHS after a fierce struggle. On extreme right is DI Michael Carty who served the warrant



● Free at last

courts, beatings or bullets can quench the spirit of resistance.

I would like to acknowledge the support of my parents: my father, himself a political hostage in England, whose message of solidarity and pride breached prison walls and distance between us; my mother, for hiding her tears and fears and maintaining her dignity throughout, as I knew she would.

Throughout my ordeal I knew I had the support, prayers and good wishes of the Irish people. For a little while I was the focus of the enemy's attempts to break your spirit. I knew that I was not on trial alone but that the Irish people's wish for freedom was also on trial. Like the desire for freedom, I remain unbroken.

To the people of Dublin, I will carry you in my heart. To the people of no property —

Tíocfaidh ar la.
Is mise,
Eibhlín Glenholmes.



● Two Special Branchmen illegally obstruct the car carrying Eibhlín away from the court

THE GLENHOLMES CASE

(Continued from previous page)

the building to be confronted by the bizarre spectacle of scores of gardai (plainclothes and uniformed) forming a line across the road with their cars only feet away from where an increasingly distressed Eibhlín Glenholmes stood with well-known republican Kevin Mallon being interviewed by a television crew.

After a hurried consultation on the road, it was decided that since the gardai were not prepared to allow Eibhlín Glenholmes to be driven away (Special Branch cars blocked the gate to the car park at the rear of the Sinn Féin premises) then a public meeting should be held. With a strengthened 'bodyguard' providing some protection, Eibhlín Glenholmes retraced her steps back down Parnell Square towards O'Connell Street.

One of the garda cars which had been blocking the roadway, bringing city traffic to a standstill, did a U-turn and drove into the oncoming cars and buses in the one-way traffic system. Drivers who didn't move out of the way were quickly ordered to do so by an extremely aggressive member of the Garda Task Force.

A massive traffic jam had built up at this stage and as the procession of Sinn Féin members and other supporters of Eibhlín Glenholmes moved along O'Connell Street surrounded and jostled by the strong force of heavily-armed gardai, which had regrouped, drivers and pedestrians alike looked on in amazement.

BERSERK GARDA

As they approached the GPO, however, some of Eibhlín's friends began addressing bystanders and explaining exactly what was happening. Hostility towards the behaviour of the gardai was spreading at this stage, but within minutes this hostility was turned to horror and anger when a section of the gardai went berserk.

This occurred as the procession reached Prince's Street on the British Home Stores (BHS) side of the GPO. There Eibhlín made an attempt, along with those supporters closest to her, to slip away but the attempt was thwarted and as they ran along Prince's Street they were forced through

the side entrance of the BHS.

Other people with Eibhlín Glenholmes and members of the gardai reacted a split-second later and began running along Prince's Street. As they approached the side-entrance of BHS, however, a garda detective drew his revolver and unleashed a volley of shots at the advancing crowd and at the hundreds of onlookers at the junction of Prince's Street and O'Connell Street. As he fired, the Branch man shouted, "Everybody down!" and people threw themselves to the ground.

Sean Crowe, chairperson of Dublin Sinn Féin, caught hold of the Branch man's gun-hand and told him to 'cool it' but the garda broke his grip, aimed at Crowe's head and threatened to 'blow him away'.

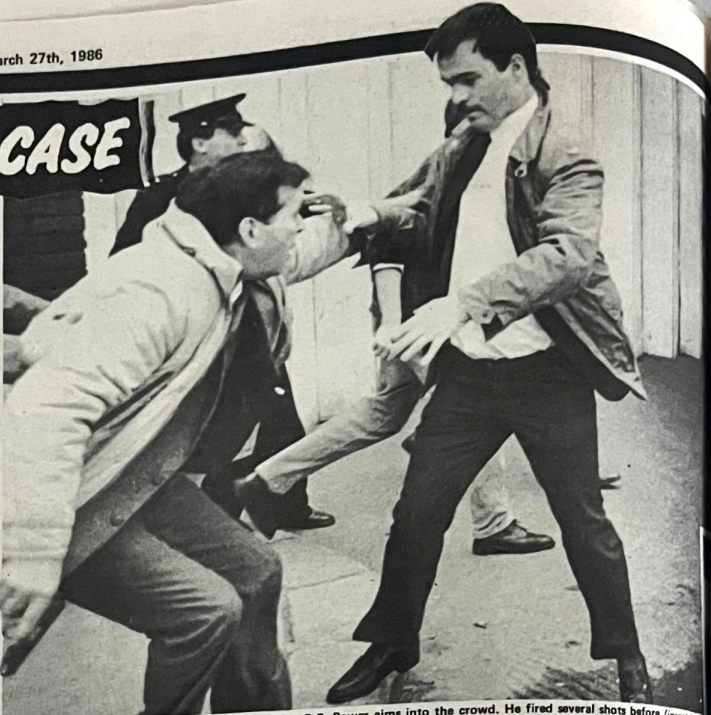
A uniformed garda dragged Crowe away as other plainclothes gardai drew their weapons but Sinn Féin's Danny Morrison tackled the berserk Branch man before other Branch and Task Force men rushed to calm their demented colleague and ordered him to holster his gun.

As horrified shoppers looked on, garda aggression mounted. Press photographers and passers-by were threatened by armed detectives while uniformed gardai at the BHS Prince's Street entrance attacked Glenholmes' supporters trying to go to her assistance.

RE-ARREST

Inside the huge store there were equally violent scenes as gardai attacked those protecting Eibhlín. Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin president, had his glasses ripped off and broken while other elected representatives, including Jim McAllister of Armagh, were punched.

In the course of this melee, Michael Carty, the detective inspector in charge of the Glenholmes case, arrived. Claiming that he had a provisional warrant, he re-arrested the woman who had been released only an hour earlier. With her friends trying to stop her being mauled, Eibhlín was hauled off to a waiting garda car which sped off to the Bridewell Garda Barracks. From there she was brought to the Bridewell Court a short while later and appeared before



● Pandemonium in Prince's Street: Pistol-packing P.C. Power aims into the crowd. He fired several shots before (inset) being restrained by members of Sinn Féin and by other gardai. Judge Joseph Plunkett. Outside the court, scores of gardai, some wearing riot helmets, stood side-by-side with members of the Free State's allegedly elite force, the Ranger Wing.

There were scenes of joy and jubilation in the packed courtroom as Patrick McEntee, in the course of an hour-long cross-examination, wiped the floor (metaphorically speaking) with Detective Inspector Carty and ensured that Eibhlín would have to be released once again.

Carty repeatedly claimed privilege in the course of cross-examination in an attempt to avoid answering questions about the entire conspiracy to obstruct and then re-arrest Eibhlín, but his protests of innocence became totally ridiculous when he denied having anything to do with the sequence of events which followed the morning court case.

At this stage, McEntee asked whether the court was being asked to believe that there had been an "uncontrollable, unstructured lawlessness afoot in this city today on the part of the Irish con-

ven from the court, leaving behind her a demoralised garda force and major political repercussions in Ireland and Britain.

PERSECUTION

In statements welcoming her release and calling for an end to the persecution which Eibhlín has suffered, Gerry Adams said that the entire episode showed the "slavishness" of authorities in the twenty-six counties and the lengths they would go to in order to appease Britain and the loyalists.

And in a further statement on Tuesday, Adams condemned the increased covert garda surveillance which has, since Saturday, been intensified against republicans in Dublin. With fresh British warrants for the extradition of Eibhlín Glenholmes arriving in Dublin last Monday, it is clear that Saturday's set-back (the fifth since the extradition policy got underway) has not deterred the Free State authorities from intensifying their collaboration with the British.

Extradition embarrassment for British in the Netherlands

JUDGEMENT on the British extradition application for H-Block escapees Brendan McFarlane and Gerry Kelly was delivered in the Netherlands this week and, for the second time in just four days, the British government suffered international embarrassment and frustration in their attempts to extradite Irish republicans.

The Amsterdam court threw out the application for Gerry Kelly but allowed it for Brendan McFarlane. However, all the charges on which they were sought, except one, were recognised as political by the judges in the judgement, which was delivered on Tuesday, March 25th. Questioned by journalists later, Gerry Kelly said "the Dutch government and this court has recognised that the struggle in Ireland is a political struggle."

The court had said all the

charges were political, that 'conspiracy' was not a crime in the Netherlands, and that another of the charges — handling explosives — only carried a one-year sentence in that country, in comparison to the heavy sentences applicable in Britain and the six counties. On the mass escape from the H-Blocks in September 1983, in which both Kelly and McFarlane took part, the judge said that it was carried out in order to return as many IRA Volunteers as possible to the struggle against the British.

The judges also recognised that while one warder was killed and another wounded during the escape, the republicans had used the minimum amount of force.

The judges ruled that Brendan McFarlane should be extradited to the six counties to complete a 25-year sentence on bombing charges. But the presiding judge said that he would bring to the attention of the Dutch minister for justice the ill-treatment of prisoners in jails in the six counties.

APPEALS

Despite the decision of the court, Gerry Kelly remains in custody. The British government has 14 days to appeal, as has Brendan McFarlane. Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams gave a

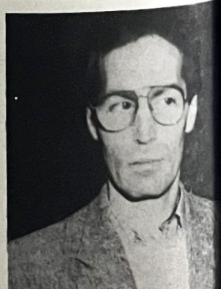
guarded welcome to the Amsterdam court ruling. He said:

"The decision of the court gives clear recognition to the legitimacy of the national liberation struggle being waged in Ireland, and highlights the political nature of that struggle. The decision not to extradite Gerry Kelly is, of course, particularly welcome. Brendan McFarlane will be appealing the decision to extradite him and Sinn Féin will continue its campaign to halt his extradition."

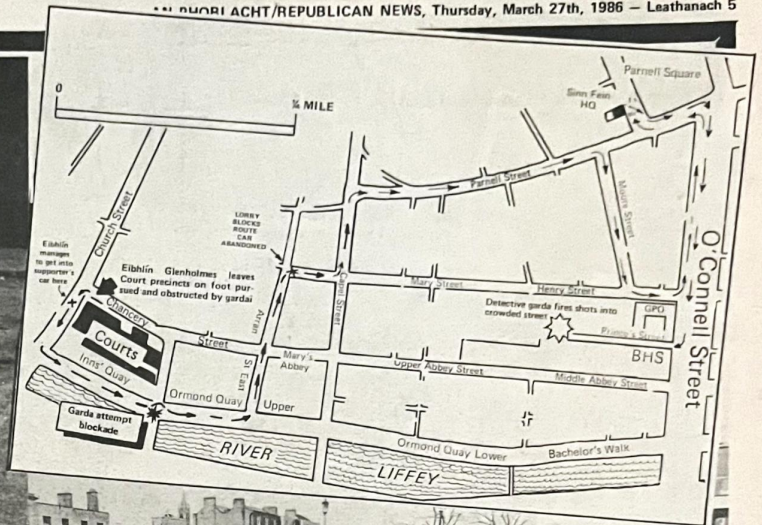
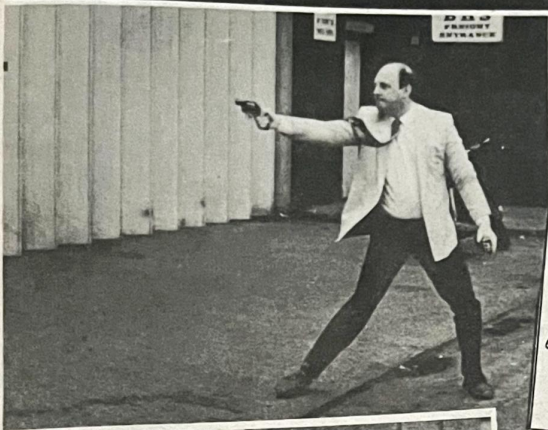
Four days after last Saturday's events in Dublin, the Amsterdam judgement could not have come at a worse time for the British. Their representatives in court were visibly surprised and annoyed at the ruling, which yet again frustrated efforts to secure the extradition of Irish republicans.



● BRENDAN MCFARLANE



● GERRY KELLY



Car blocking escape route is moved by Sinn Féin members as Special Branch cars close in

~~The Hilda MacThomas column~~

The bitter fruits of collaboration

LAST WEEK heaped the usual quota of daily repression on Northern nationalists: continuing strip-searches, long remands, harassment on the streets... and the two events which marked the week were, significantly, the promise of more repression in the North and a display of lawlessness and brute force by the gardai in Dublin.

Show-trials are to continue, the British Attorney-General, Michael Havers, announced on Wednesday, March 19th. Havers pledged the British government's continued support for such tactics and added that uncorroborated "accomplice" evidence was "unlikely" to lead to prosecution. There have been between 60 and 70 people convicted on uncorroborated perjurers' evidence in the last few years.

Such brazenness on Havers' part had the SDLP "puzzled" for a while. Did the good man mean that uncorroborated evidence would no longer be accepted in a Belfast High Court? Alas no, it was just waffle, and even Free State minister Peter Barry recognised it and promptly issued a statement the next day:

"I shall be continuing through the [Inter-Governmental] Conference to seek changes on this and other aspects of the administration of justice."

Many will rest more easily knowing that Barry is "continuing to seek changes" — many in the British government, that is. Barry's words, which are so much hot air like his now forgotten promise to "end the nationalist nightmare", serve only to keep up the pretence that there is something for nation-

alists in the Hillsborough agreement.

But the real meaning of the agreement was forcefully brought home last Saturday when the gardai showed themselves prepared to subvert their own laws in order to deliver a young republican woman into British hands.

EMBARRASSMENT

TV reporting contributed to making last Saturday's events a huge embarrassment for both the Dublin and London governments. Dublin was distressed at the behaviour of the gardai, London at its repeated failure to produce valid warrants, both governments at having lost Eibhlín Glenholmes.

The Free State Minister for Justice, Alan Dukes, scolded the Brits on RTE Radio on Sunday. They should "get their act together". Once again the Dublin government had bent over backward, once again it had been kicked in the teeth. At first the British government seemed willing to take the blame: on Sunday British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd said that he had asked Scotland Yard and the Director of Public Prosecutions' office for a report of what went wrong regarding the warrants.

In both parliaments the opposi-



Barefoot Eibhlín Glenholmes makes her way down O'Connell Street, surrounded by gardai

tion made a meal of the incident. In London, the British Labour Party attacked Thatcher's government for compromising Dublin then letting them down. Dublin "has stuck its chin out a very long way to co-operate on security matters with Northern Ireland. Now they emerge with egg on their face for what does not seem to be any fault of their own," declared Peter Archer without any trace of sarcasm.

In Dublin, Fianna Fáil spokesperson Michael Woods mildly denounced a "fiasco and an international embarrassment". But Haughey, who had been called a saboteur and a traitor of the agreement a few days before by Peter Barry, could not resist getting even, all but calling Fitz-

Gerald a collaborator: "We now seem to be falling over ourselves to hand over our citizens."

For unionists the incident was predictably perceived as "further proof" that the agreement did not deliver on the fight against the IRA, that the Dublin government was still a hive of IRA sympathisers and Free State judges were covert Sinn Féiners.

At their Monday press conference, the OUP wheeled out their legal expert, barrister Robert McCartney. In Dublin courts, he said, "Every conceivable technicality must be taken." As for London's "negligence", it was so outrageous as to be incredible.

SLIP

By Monday, however, it appeared that it wasn't just the

unionists and a small group of extreme right-wing Tories who were blaming Dublin. Thatcher's government also wanted to pass on the blame, as Hurd let it slip that "it would have been possible for the court to make a different decision". But, by and large, the British government held its collective tongue, aware of the hole they had dropped FitzGerald in back home.

But Sinn Féin was the only party to highlight the premeditation in the gardai operation. On Sunday, March 23rd, on RTE Radio, Alan Dukes candidly confirmed what the Special Branch admitted in court the day before, namely that by Friday his government had realised that the British extradition warrants were deficient and immediately undertook to get the British to send fresh ones so as to keep Glenholmes in jail. This, Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams pointed out, showed how the London and Dublin government plotted to subvert Saturday's court decision before it was even given. Saturday's gardai operation "stemmed from that conspiracy".

Indeed, unionists have once again got it wrong. Far from "proving" that the London-Dublin agreement does not work, last Saturday's events show precisely how the agreement is supposed to work: by enlisting Dublin's unquestioning support in Britain's efforts to crush republican resistance.



BY MAIRTIN MacDIARMADA

THE TRIAL-BY-MEDIA of Eibhlín Glenholmes turned into a trial and conviction of the British and Free State governments as shocked journalists and broadcasters — many of them eyewitnesses to the brutal and illegal actions of the gardai — were almost forced to report the dramatic events of Saturday as they happened and not as establishment politicians chose to interpret them.

'Fiasco' was the word which was used again and again to describe the release, rearrest and final release of Eibhlín Glenholmes. Most of the British and Irish newspapers condemned not the illegal and dangerous actions of the berserk gardai but the fact that the extradition attempt was bungled.

What could not be ignored, however, were the amazing scenes in the streets of Dublin, the heavy-handed tactics of and reckless shooting by the gardai, and the jubilation of republicans when the release was finally secured. In the Irish newspapers and on television, no amount of whingeing over the legal mix-up on the British extradition warrants could hide the humiliation and embarrassment suffered by the Dublin and London authorities which was spread on all the front pages and TV screens.

CONTRADICTIONS

The newspapers were often full of contradictions, their own photographs belying some of their reports. Saturday's late edition of the *Evening Press* carried a report by Ann O'Loughlin which (besides omitting the fact that Eibhlín was a free woman while she was being hounded by the Special Branch and Task Force) carried without comment the totally false Garda allegation that the reason the Branch man had fired shots in Prince's Street was because a uniformed Garda was supposedly being kicked on the ground. This same lie was repeated in Monday's *Inside Report* (also by Ann O'Loughlin) in the *Irish Press* and in the early edition of the *Sunday Press*.

The *Irish Press* editorial totally contradicted the *Inside Report*. It called for the resignation of Alan Dukes and a major review of extradition and condemned the Garda actions:

"We have lorries virtually hijacked, motorists told to block the traffic with their cars and photographs of armed detectives drawing back, not from an IRA marksman but from a pistol-packing colleague."

The *Inside Report* was the very stuff of fiction, even contradicting the editorial and claiming that the fruit lorry was not hijacked by the gardai.

CLOUD-CUKOO LAND

Also living in cloud-cukoo land were the politicians who appeared on RTE

Pictures speak louder than words THE GLENHOLMES CASE



● Eibhlín Glenholmes and Kevin Mallon in Moore Street, Dublin, surrounded by plainclothes gardai

1's *Sunday Review*. Michael Bell, a Labour Party deputy in Leinster House, said that it was not clear that the gardai had fired the shots. That morning's *Sunday Tribune* carried a front-page photo of the Special Branch man firing his pistol in Prince's Street as other gardai dived for cover.

The gardai had admitted the previous day that one of their members had fired. None of the politicians on *Sunday Review*, including Fianna Fáil's Michael Woods, brought up these points.

BRITISH NEWSPAPERS

The next two days saw Britain's Fleet Street and Wapping lie factory newspapers spew out their shocked and venomous reports of Saturday's events.

"Bomb Case Sensation," cried the *Sunday Express* before hysterically telling its members that, "Last night, Glenholmes and fanatical Sinn Féin supporters were celebrating her freedom."

The prospect of real-live republicans loose on the streets also shocked the

Sunday People which told of "Sinn Féin boss Gerry Adams MP and his sidekick Martin McGuinness waiting with a pack of supporters".

"Freed Girl Fiasco" howled Monday's *Daily Mirror*, whose editorial said that the release "has given the IRA a major propaganda coup".

For the witless and sycophantic *Sun* the whole thing was just too much. It was "a black day for justice" when someone actually walked free from a court.

"The law in Dublin is their law. They could have given guidance to Britain so the extradition warrants succeeded," whinged the *Sun*.

Other British papers reflected the internal row in the British establishment which Eibhlín's release has provoked, with calls for resignations of the Director of Public Prosecutions top officials. "Heads to Roll in IRA Row," warned Monday's *Daily Mail*, blaming the failure of the warrants on the DPP and Scotland Yard.

We also had the delightful prospect of a Tory mouthpiece quoting Free

State justice minister Alan Dukes to tick off their own police for not being efficient enough in hunting down republicans.

"Britain has no effective answer to Eire's justice minister, Alan Dukes, who said 'I'm extremely annoyed that we found ourselves acting on warrants which were defective'," said the *Mail*.

TV PICTURES

What most people will remember — and what will have had the most influence — will be the extraordinary television pictures of Saturday's events. The footage was too good for the TV bosses to ignore and anyone who saw it could be left in no doubt as to the brutal and excessive actions of the gardai.

As usual, *RTE News* could be relied upon to wield the editorial scissors with relish and there was a marked contrast between film shown on weekend news bulletins and that shown on *Irish '86* on Monday and *Today Tonight* on Tuesday. As in the case of the RTE film of the RUC murder of John Downes with a plastic bullet in Belfast in August 1984 some of the footage was not shown until a day or two after the event.

IRIS '86's interviewer, Pat Butler, was much more aggressive in questioning Alan Dukes than John Bowman on *Today Tonight*, but Dukes' performance on both programmes was nothing short of pathetic. He refused to comment on Garda conduct, repeatedly saying that he would "await the enquiry".

Jack Harrinan of the Garda Representative Association also appeared on *Today Tonight*. Making a total clown of himself after the graphic news footage, he said that the Garda who fired "had considered himself in personal danger," and repeated the by-then long-discredited Garda Press Office lie that another Garda was being kicked on the ground.

Referring to Sinn Féin members, he said the poor unfortunate Branch men were "surrounded by some of the most notorious frighteners in the country!"

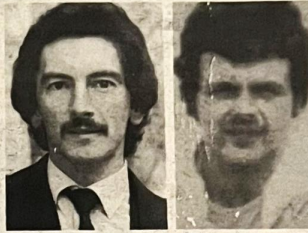
Family disputes verdict

THE INQUEST into the deaths of IRA Volunteer Antoine Mac Giolla Bhrighde, who was killed in the course of an IRA operation against crown forces on December 2nd 1984, and of IRA Volunteer Kieran Fleming, who tragically drowned attempting to escape from crown forces following the same incident, was held in Enniskillen, County Fermanagh, on Wednesday, March 19th.

The SAS members who were involved in the shooting incident claimed that when they captured Antoine Mac Giolla Bhrighde they forced him to lie on the road, searched him and found him to be unarmed. Then, they claimed, he succeeded in taking a weapon from one of the SAS team and turned round to fire on them. He was then shot, according to the SAS account.

The Mac Giolla Bhrighde family strongly disputed the SAS evidence, pointing out that the autopsy report and the photographs of his injuries contradicted the SAS account. According to the family, Antoine was shot once in the left flank, captured, beaten and then shot while lying on the road. The photographic evidence they produced showed ten bullet wounds to the back and head and injuries to his face, evidence consistent with his having been beaten and shot in the back while lying face down on the road.

Predictably, however, the coroner chose to accept the evidence of the SAS. The coroner, following representation from the dead Volunteer's family, agreed to list his occupation on the death certificate as "Volunteer in the Irish Republican Army". In his conclusion, he found that Antoine Mac Giolla Bhrighde was "shot while trying to escape".



● Volunteer Antoine Mac Giolla Bhrighde

● Volunteer Kieran Fleming

Kieran Fleming's death was undisputed and the conclusion was death by "fresh water drowning".



WAR NEWS UDR soldier killed

A UDR soldier was shot and killed by IRA Volunteers on Wednesday this week in an attack near Mountfield, County Tyrone.

The soldier, a private based in Omagh Barracks, was ambushed at 2.30pm on Wednesday afternoon at a sewage works outside the village of Mountfield.

This is the third fatality suffered by the UDR since the beginning of the year. Seven members of the crown forces have died this year and many more have been injured in sustained IRA operations which are seriously worrying to the British government. (Since January, more than 1,000 extra British troops have arrived in the six counties in an attempt to counter IRA attacks).

In a statement claiming responsibility for the attack, the IRA said that one IRA Volunteer walked up to the UDR soldier and shot him, killing him instantly.

The IRA statement also repeated a warning to members of the British forces, saying:

"Two months ago we warned all members of the UDR and RUC that we would be forced to execute them unless they resigned. We now repeat this warning and call on them to resign forthwith. On doing so they should immediately inform us so as to prevent any unfortunate tragedy.

"Should they fail to take this warning then let them fully understand the consequences: they will die."

Vicious assault in Derry

BY KEVIN MCCOOL

THREE young Derry nationalists were viciously assaulted by eight British soldiers as they stood on a street corner late last Sunday night, March 23rd.

Tony Campbell (20), Michael Nieson (19), and Dermot McCaul (17), all from the Governor Road/Philips Street area of Derry were standing at the corner of Governor Road with friends when a British army foot-patrol emerged from the nearby Fort George Barracks at around 11.30pm. The patrol approached the youths, ordering them bluntly to empty the contents of their pockets onto the ground. When they refused to do this the soldiers attacked the youths with rifle butts.

Michael Nieson told AP/RN: "I was grabbed around the neck by two soldiers and dragged up the street. Both of them beat me about the head with their rifles, knocking me to the ground. When I got on my feet again one soldier placed a plastic bullet gun to my head, while the other

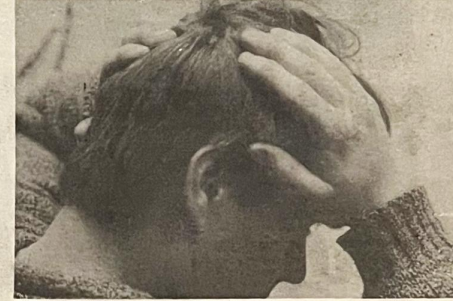
shoved his rifle against my back and said, 'move once, and this trigger will be easy to pull'."

Campbell and McCaul were subjected to the same savage treatment as their friend. They were beaten and kicked and had cocked rifles placed to their foreheads.

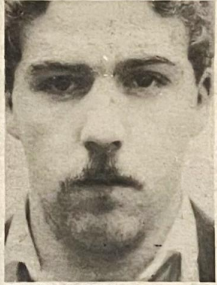
HOSPITAL

The British soldiers only moved away when a large crowd began to gather. The three youths were driven to Altnagelvin Hospital where they received immediate medical attention. Nieson needed six stitches for head wounds, McCaul required four stitches to his chin and dental treatment for two chipped teeth, while Campbell was treated for cuts and bruises to his head and face.

Sinn Féin Councillor Barney McCadden condemned the "cow-



● Michael Nieson showing the gash on his head



● TONY CAMPBELL



● DERMOT McCAUL

ardly and vicious attack" and said that it was "typical of the sort of

behaviour nationalists have come to expect from the crown forces".

Newry eviction

HOUSING Executive bailiffs, supported by an armed RUC guard, forced their way into the home of a terrified Newry couple to evict them shortly after dawn on Thursday morning, March 20th.

Michael and Theresa Magee, both in their late 50s, squatted in their Poole Lane home six months ago following several unsuccessful attempts to persuade the Housing Executive to relocate them from their flat in the Meadow area beside the Derrybeg housing es-

tate. Theresa Magee's health was being seriously affected by the conditions in the flat but repeated applications for a home in the Poole Lane area were rejected by the Executive. In desperation she and her husband were forced to squat.

Sinn Féin Councillor Brendan Curran met with Executive official Brendan Carroll on Thursday, March 13th, and was assured that rumours of an eviction could be discounted. "It is obvious that Carroll was lying," an outraged Brendan Curran told AP/RN.

The Magees, who were both badly shocked and distressed by the eviction, were rushed from their home by the bailiffs. Their belongings were thrown into a



● Theresa Magee being helped away from her home by a neighbour

lorry and taken to Lisburn. Theresa Magee had to be taken to

hospital where she remained for four days.

RUC blackmail threat

BY EAMON TRACY

THE RUC have again resorted to threats and blackmail to try to acquire sources of information in the nationalist community in the North.

Michael Simms (24), from the Whitecock area of West Belfast, was arrested in November 1985 and taken to Grosvenor Road RUC Barracks. At first, he was questioned about a motoring offence, and told that if he 'co-

operated' the charges would be dropped. The RUC then began to threaten him with more serious charges and he was subjected to intense interrogation.

Eventually, Simms foolishly agreed to act as the 'eyes and ears

of the RUC in his area and arrangements were made to meet him the following Thursday in Glengall Street, in Belfast city centre, at 7.15pm. He was then released.

Simms met two RUC Special Branchmen as arranged and was given a telephone number to contact 'one who was called 'Bill'. He was then driven to the loyalist Sandy Row where he was asked about republicans in his own area.

Simms told them that he didn't know the republicans they named or only knew them by sight. He was told to watch certain people and then driven back to West Belfast and given £5.

During the next three months, Simms met his 'handlers' on several other occasions and each time was told to watch certain local republicans. According to Simms, he limited conversation

with the two RUC men to generalities and did not provide them with the information they wanted.

Eventually, the strain of living with the continual pressure became intolerable and Simms, although very frightened of the RUC, approached Sinn Féin Councillor Sean Keenan and asked for his help.

In a statement, Sean Keenan appealed to anyone else in a similar situation not to be frightened but to come forward and expose the blackmail of the RUC.

COMPARISONS AT CROSSBARRY

BY MAIRTÍN Mac DIARMADA

IN EARLY MARCH 1921, at the height of the Black and Tan War, the IRA's most formidable unit, the Flying Column of the Cork No. 3 Brigade, numbered 104 officers and men.

Its Volunteers had inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy since the formation of the Column — most notably at Kil-michael the previous November when 18 of the hated Auxiliaries had been ambushed and killed.

This and other IRA actions shook the British establishment to the core and they intensified their reign of terror against the civilian population.

On March 19th 1921, the British launched a major military offensive against the IRA. A force of well over 1,000 British soldiers and Auxiliary RIC moved against Tom Barry's column, which faced an enemy ten times its strength.

At Crossbarry, the Volunteers lay waiting in ambush as the British approached from three directions. With the IRA Column was a piper whose playing heralded the start of the battle. The engagement resulted in a comprehensive defeat for the crown forces. They withdrew, leaving 35 of their men dead and a large quantity of arms and ammunition captured by the IRA.

Three Volunteers lost their lives at Crossbarry — Peter Monahan, Jeremiah O'Leary and Con Daly. The Brigade commandant, Charlie Hurley, was shot dead by British troops earlier that day after they raided the safe house in which he was recovering from a bullet-wound.

FREE STATE ARMY

In 1966 (the 50th anniversary of the 1916 Rising), the Free State army was present when Tom Barry, who master-minded the Crossbarry Ambush, unveiled the memorial which marks the centrepiece of the battle along the Cork to Bandon road.

On Sunday last, March 23rd, there was no Free State army or government presence when 400 people gathered at the Crossbarry monument to commemorate the ambush and the Volunteers who gave their lives.



● Martin Galvin speaking at the commemoration; (far left) ambush veteran John Whetton



Earlier in the week, the Free State

Minister for Agriculture, Austin Deasy, had attacked the Crossbarry Commemoration Committee for inviting Martin Galvin of Irish Northern Aid to speak at Sunday's ceremony.

He was joined by an editorial in Saturday's *Irish Independent* which also claimed that Galvin's presence dishonoured the memory of Crossbarry Volunteers. The fact that the *Irish Independent* was a viciously anti-republican mouthpiece during the Tan War, condemning all IRA 'atrocities' and backing the forces of 'law and order' did not, of course, warrant a mention.

The large crowd at Sunday's commemoration, including two veterans of the ambush — John Whetton and Con Cullinan — saw no contradictions in honouring the republicans of 1916, 1921 and 1986, and cheered speakers who linked the flying columns of the Tan War and the IRA units of today.

GALVIN

The ceremony began with the laying of wreaths following which Sean Kelleher (son of the late Commandant Tom Kelleher, who took a leading part in the action) gave an account of the ambush. The main speaker was Martin Galvin of Noraid.

Galvin stressed Tom Barry's own often-repeated assertion that as long as British rule existed in Ireland there would be young men and women ready to take up arms to win freedom.

Referring to the RUC, he said, "The Black and Tans never did leave Ireland — they just changed their uniform and moved North."

Galvin also attacked the Free State politicians who had hypocritically condemned his presence at Crossbarry while they themselves preferred to ignore Irish history, particularly on this the 70th anniversary of the Rising. This, he said, was because the parallels between the guerrilla fighters of 1921 and 1986 were too clear and dangerous for the establishment to draw attention to them.

Galvin told the crowd that the Hillsborough deal had been brought about principally by one argument — the argument of force which had brought London and Dublin together — "the agreement was signed because of the arguments made by the IRA at British barracks across the North and in their campaign against British forces"



● PPRAC pickets in Portlaoise...



● ... and in Cork

PORTLAOISE OCCUPATION

PART OF PORTLAOISE JAIL was occupied for two hours by seven women relatives of republican prisoners last Saturday, March 22nd.

The protesters staged a sit-in at the waiting room in the jail as part of a 50-strong demonstration by the Portlaoise Prisoners' Relatives Action Committee (PPRAC) to draw attention to the lack of 'open' visits and the continued strip-searching of prisoners.

Twenty warders, led by Governor O'Reilly, physically evicted the women.

On hearing the commotion inside the waiting room, picketers outside the jail

blocked the road in protest but they too were attacked, this time by a large force of uniformed gardai and Special Branch men. AP/RN photographer Daithi Mac Roibín had film of the events removed from his camera and confiscated by the Special Branch.

Deirdre Whelan, secretary of the PPRAC said the day's protests were part of a campaign to publicise the fact that prisoners are only allowed one 'open' visit per five weeks and, as they are refusing the intolerable 'closed' visits, this is the only visit they receive.

The PPRAC are also demanding an end

to the strip-searching of prisoners — during a search of the jail last week, 114 prisoners were strip-searched and five were severely beaten — and have warned that they "will not sit back" until there is an end to strip-searching and the prisoners are granted one open visit per week.

The Cork branch of the PPRAC picketed Free State foreign minister Peter Barry's home and business premises on Saturday. Twenty people took part in the two-hour protest and handed out leaflets highlighting conditions in Portlaoise Jail and the case of Michael Fox, one of the 'lifers' who still hasn't been given a release date.



● Eamonn Rogers, son of POW Peter Rogers, at the Portlaoise Prison picket

70th Anniversary of the Easter Rising



● O'Connell Bridge after the Rising



● MICHAEL MALONE

Memories of Easter Week

SILE BEAN Uí DHONNACHADHA, a highly-respected republican who was active in Cumann na mBan from 1916 and served more than six terms of imprisonment, at the age of 17 was an eye-witness to some of the most exciting events of Easter Week 1916 and after.

Her family, the Humphries, were committed republicans and the legendary names of our heroes were familiar to Silé and her brothers as family friends. The Humphries then lived in Northumberland Road, Dublin, close to the house at 25 Northumberland Road, from where two Volunteers, Michael Malone and Jim Grace, held off the British troops marching to reinforce enemy garrisons in Dublin city.

On Easter Monday morning, I went up from our house in Northumberland Road to my uncle The O'Rahilly's house in Herbert Park. While I was there Desmond Fitzgerald came in. He had the news that they were going out that morning. I took the youngest of the boys out to bring him to Sandymount Strand and as we went down we heard an explosion which I afterwards learnt was the Magazine Fort in the Phoenix Park going up.

That afternoon, as we were coming back, we saw a man taking cover behind a tree in Northumberland Road. He was a member of the Georgius Rex (an auxiliary police force of old former British army men), known in Dublin as the 'Gorgeous Wrecks'. They had been out on military manoeuvres in the Dublin Mountains and, on the way home, somebody had taken a pot-shot at them. The 'poor unfortunate' men had rifles but no ammunition. They were told to go down a lane to the back of Beggar's Bush Barracks, which was in the hands of the British. The soldiers inside threw a ladder over the wall and these elderly men had to totter up it to get into the barracks.

HADDINGTON ROAD

Tuesday was quiet, but on Wednesday, between 12.30pm and 1pm, we heard the noise of men on the road. It was the British soldiers who had marched in from the Dun Laoghaire boat. They were happily moving along until they got to the junction of Haddington Road when a volley of shots rang out and there was pandemonium. They threw themselves flat on the ground and for quite a while they didn't know where the shots were coming from. They would get an order to advance but as each row reached the corner with Haddington Road they fell



● Silé Bean Uí Dhonnachadha

WE WERE SO PROUD

under a hail of shots. This went on for a good while until they realised that the fire was coming from No.25, the house on the corner.

A neighbour of ours who was very opposed to our views pointed out our house to them and they began firing at our side of the road, opposite No.25. Unfortunately for them, they missed, or mistook the house, and instead riddled the house of a neighbour who happened to be very pro-British! However, some of them rushed into our house and into the kitchen.

My brother and I went down to the kitchen. When they heard us talking to each other (in English, I regret to say), one of the soldiers turned to the others and said:

"Blimey! They're talking English," "Why? Where do you think you are?" I asked.

"Flinders," they replied. "They had been got out of bed in the

middle of Tuesday night, put on a train for Holyhead, and crossed by boat what they thought was the Channel to France.

SPORADIC

The shooting went on sporadically from 25 Northumberland Road until 7pm on Wednesday evening when they rushed the house and blew in the door. We could see the explosion from where we were. They found Michael Malone rushing down the stairs. He was alone and they shot him dead.

His comrade, Jim Grace, had only got as far as one of the outhouses at the back when he dropped unconscious just inside the door. The British soldiers saw his legs protruding from the outhouse but thought he was dead and left him lying there.

During the night he recovered sufficiently to make his way out through the back garden and over the wall. He was arrested somewhere near the canal by a different

group of soldiers but they never realised that he was one of the heroes of 25 Northumberland Road.

He was sent to Wakefield Prison with a lot of other men of 1916. My mother saw him there when she was visiting my brother, Dick, who was also taken to Wakefield, and was able to speak to him.

CLANWILLIAM HOUSE

We could hear, but could not see, the terrible firing going on around Clanwilliam House (at the corner of Lower Mount Street on the other side of Mount Street Bridge). The British were in the tower of Haddington Road Church, firing into the Volunteers holding Clanwilliam House. The carnage of that fighting was terrible and the courage of those Volunteers was wonderful. The plan was that every bridge would be held like that one, but because of MacNeill's countermarching order it didn't happen. Imagine if it had! It took the British two days to get past the bridge.

My brother Dick and my uncle, The O'Rahilly, were in the GPO. When the roof was set on fire, my uncle was asked by Pearse to lead a company of Volunteers to the Williams & Woods factory near Moore Street, which was supposed to be held by the IRA. He called for volunteers to go and so many stepped forward, all Irish-speakers, that he said, "If we all go the Gaelic League will never recover!" They got out of the GPO, but he and a young boy from Kerry called Patrick Shortis were shot dead in Moore Lane.

GALLANT BAND

My brother and I practically lived at the window, trying to see what was happening. On Sunday, we saw a band of Volunteers with de Valera at the head of it and surrounded by British soldiers. They were the gallant little band from Boland's Mills who were being brought up to the RDS grounds, where the military had taken over as their headquarters.

Did they look dispirited? Not a bit!

After the Northumberland Road fight, my mother was arrested and taken to the RDS. During the day they held her in a horse box and at night they brought her home. A British soldier slept on the floor outside her bedroom door!

After a few days of this she was taken to Kilmainham Jail and then to Mountjoy.

My young brother Emmet and I went looking for her without success so we decided to try to see our brother Dick, who was being held in the Beggar's Bush Barracks. We were told to go away and come back the next day, but when we did he had been sent to Wakefield Prison in England. He was only 19.

We were so proud of those who took part in the Rising and we looked down on those who were against or who took no interest in it. We thought nothing could be the same again; and to tell you the truth, nothing was.



Vol Edward O'Brien
Vol Patrick Mulvenna
Vol James Bryson
Vol John Kelly
Vol John Stone
Vol Paul Fox
Vol Sean Bailey
Vol James McGarrigan
Vol Tommy Tolan
Vol Billy Carson
Vol Kevin Delaney
Vol Terence O'Neill
Vol Liam Hannaway
Vol James Burns

3rd Battalion

Vol Henry McIlhenny
Vol Michael Kane
Vol James Saunders
Vol Billy Reid
Vol Patrick McArdery
Vol Tony Nolan
Vol Gerald McDade
Vol Joseph Cunningham
Vol Gerard Ball
Vol Robert Steele
Vol Robert Dorrian
Vol Joseph Hughes
Vol Samuel Magee
Vol John McEgan
Vol Edward McDonnell
Vol Jackie McIlhenny
Vol Joseph Fitzsimons
Vol Martin Fitzgerald
Vol Louis Sullivan
Vol James Reid
Vol Joseph Downey
Vol Seamus Cassidy
Vol Tony Campbell
Vol James Sloan
Vol James McCann
Vol Brian Smyth
Vol Sean McKee
Vol Frederick Leonard
Vol Seamus McCusker
Vol Martin McDonagh
Vol Frank Fitzsimons
Vol Joseph Surgenor
Vol Trevor McKibbin
Vol Jackie McMahon
Vol Jackie Malley
Vol Denis Brown
Vol Jim Mulvenna
Vol Laurence Montgomery
Vol Frankie Donnelly
Vol Martin McKenna

Cork

Vol Tony Aherne
Vol Dermot Crowley

Cumann na mBan

BELFAST
Vol Dorothy Maguire
Vol Maura Meehan
Vol Anne Parker
Vol Ann Marie Petticrew
Vol Bridia Dolan

Derry Brigade

Vol Thomas McCool
Vol Thomas Carlin
Vol Joseph Coyle
Vol James O'Hagan
Vol Colm Keenan
Vol Eugene McGillan
Vol John Stars
Vol Sam Bradley
Vol Michael Quigley
Vol John Brady
Vol James Carr
Vol James McDaid
Vol Joe Walker
Vol David Russell
Vol Gerard McEneaney
Vol John Lynch
Vol Ethel Lynch
Vol Bernard Coyle
Vol Denis Heaney
Vol Patrick Duffy
Vol George McBrearty
Vol Charles Maguire
Vol Phil O'Donnell
Vol Richard Quigley
Vol Kieran Fleming
Vol Danny Doherty
Vol Willie Fleming
Vol Charles English
Vol Tony Gough

Co. Derry

Vol Martin Lee
Vol John Batson
Vol James Sheridan
Vol Danny McMullan

Co. Donegal

Vol Raymond McLaughlin

Dublin

Vol Patrick Cannon
Vol Colm Dalton

England

Vol James McDade

Co. Derry

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Co. Derry

Vol Laura Crawford
Vol Rosemary Blackley
Vol Vivien Fitzsimons
Vol Pauline Kane

Co. Donegal

Vol Martin Lee
Vol John Batson
Vol James Sheridan
Vol Danny McMullan

Dublin

Vol Raymond McLaughlin

England

Vol James McDade

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Vol John Batson
Vol James Sheridan
Vol Danny McMullan

70th Anniversary of the Easter Rising

The unfinished task

BY MAEVE ARMSTRONG

IN MOST historical accounts of the 1916 Easter Rising, little mention is made of the Volunteers in Ulster who answered the call to mobilise on Easter Saturday, only to be frustrated by Eoin Mac Neill's countermarching order.

Irish Volunteers from Belfast, South Derry and County Tyrone, numbering several hundred, responded to Padraig Pearse's mobilisation order. Among those who arrived in Coalisland, County Tyrone, on Easter Saturday was a large Belfast contingent. They were under the command of Danny McCullough and were billeted in the locality in preparation for the planned Rising the following day.

Among up to 40 Volunteers from around Coalisland itself was Joe O' Neill of Reenaderry. Now 87 years old, Joe recalled for AP/RN that historic episode of the part he played.

"The Belfast contingent attended Mass here at Ringsisland Chapel on Easter Sunday morning. Afterwards the order cancelling the mobilisation arrived for MacNeill by despatch and ordering them to immediately return to Belfast."

Nora Connolly (daughter of James Connolly), a member of Cumann na mBan, was in Coalisland when the two messengers arrived on Saturday night. In her book *We Shall Rise Again* she recorded the deep disappointment of the Northern Volunteers:

"I knew that the Northern people were willing to fight but as MacNeill was the chief of staff, they would have to obey him."

Realising the urgency of informing Connolly that the Northern Volunteers

were mobilised, accompanied by six Cumann na mBan Volunteers, Nora set off in haste for Dublin by the mail train, arriving in Dublin at 6am on Easter Sunday morning.

Even as they waited for the Dublin train, she records:

"We saw more men arrive from Belfast to take part in the uprising, with ammunition, rifles and guns and everything else. I could see they had not yet heard about the message from MacNeill, as they marched out of the station in martial formation and were clearly ready to fight."

For logistical as well as political reasons, the plan was that no fighting was to take place in the North; the Northern Volunteers were instead to link up in the West with Liam Mellows' contingent in Galway.

When Nora Connolly arrived at Liberty Hall and told her father of the contingent in Coalisland he immediately called a meeting of the Military Council. At 3pm that afternoon, the decision was taken to proceed with the Rising the following day, Easter Monday.

But when Nora Connolly arrived back in the North with the countermarching order, she found a completely different situation prior to her departure:

"When I got back to Coalisland, the guns and ammunition were still there but the Belfast crowd had been ordered back. There were only a few men from

other parts still waiting."

She spent several frantic days in County Tyrone trying to make contact with the demobilised Volunteers. From Dungannon she went to Carrickmore but the situation was by then utterly hopeless. Only a small group of Volunteers who had mobilised in Coalisland later travelled to Dublin to join their comrades.

Joe O'Neill recalls:

"We were bitterly disappointed. We felt we were being left out as everybody was elated at the event that was about to take place. We felt very frustrated but then the news had come through that the Aud had been scuttled off the coast of Kerry and the men knew it was useless to try to liaise with Mellows in Galway without arms or supplies. He'd hardly nothing for himself never mind for an outside contingent."

The German boat, the *Aud*, carrying 20,000 rifles for the Rising was scuttled by its captain when intercepted by a British vessel on April 20th. Joe O'Neill believes:

"It would have been a different situation if the *Aud* had arrived safely, we would have been well armed to take up positions with Mellows. The futility of attempting to make the trip to Galway, even after the demobilising order came, was pointed out by two Carrickmore men who very wisely pointed out that we'd

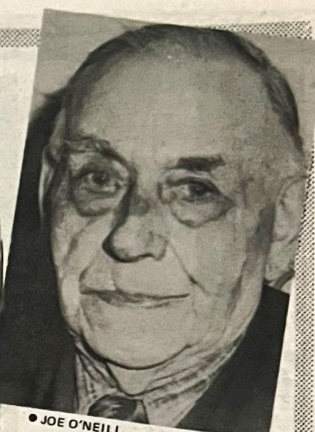
have been thrown adrift in the west of Ireland, a burden on Liam Mellows and the rest. So it was decided there would be no further proceedings from the North, which I think was a wise decision at the time because what shape would we have been in with nothing to back us up?"

Seventy years after the event, Joe O'Neill still speaks of his frustration at not being able to participate in the Rising, but he explained to AP/RN:

"I had no means of going myself. Everything was confused at that time; people hadn't the money to go anywhere except you went on foot. It was the plain way of it at the time. So we remained here, waiting and waiting to see what happened. Then the reports came through of the surrender and we knew that was that for a time. We continued on in the organisation, kept it moving until the hostilities started up again in the Tan War."

Indeed, in those four years (1919-1922) Joe O'Neill played his part in Ireland's freedom struggle in command of 'D' Company in Derrytresk, Coalisland. Today he remains committed to the republican principles he set out to defend on that Easter Sunday morning in 1916:

"The same situation applies today as applied then. I would still be prepared to do the same thing. Any people who are genuinely engaged in ridding us of the British presence, I am still behind them because the unfinished task is still there."



• JOE O'NEILL

The road to revolution

BY PETER O'ROURKE

JAMES CONNOLLY and Sean Mac Diarmada, men of keen intellect and tremendous energy, were actively involved in the preparations for a revolution in Ireland for several years prior to 1916. Their different paths to the revolution finally converged in 1914 when the two men were instrumental in bringing the forces of the Irish Citizen Army and the Irish Volunteers together.

Mac Diarmada, who had a long history of involvement in the Irish Republican Brotherhood which he joined in Belfast in 1906, was present at the inaugural meeting of the Irish Volunteers in the Rotunda in Dublin on November 25th 1913. There he was elected to the Provisional Committee, the controlling body of the Volunteers. Two days previously, Captain Jack White and James Larkin had founded the Irish Citizen Army as a defence force for workers. James Connolly was to become the inspiration and leader of this revolutionary force.

FRICTION

From the very outset there was friction between the Citizen Army and the Irish Volunteers and this was only resolved in the early 1916

due mainly to the efforts of Connolly and Mac Diarmada.

The Citizen Army's antipathy to the very idea of a volunteer force had been voiced at the inaugural meeting of the Volunteers in the Rotunda. The opposition was founded on the belief of its leaders, Larkin and Sean O'Casey, that the motivation behind the Volunteers was unsympathetic to the class struggle — the labour movement argued that only by a shift in the balance of power from capitalist to worker could any real effective change be achieved in Irish society.

The adoption of John Redmond's nominees onto the Provisional Committee of the Volunteers in June 1914 widened the gulf between it and the Citizen Army.

A brief alliance between both organisations was achieved in September following the split with Redmond and with the arrival in Dublin of Connolly, a more moderate voice among Irish socialists,

he took direct control over the Citizen Army following Larkin's departure for America. However, the alliance was short-lived, frustrated by the refusal of the Volunteers to co-opt two members of the Citizen Army to the Provisional Committee or to affiliate the ICA as a whole. This was a set-back to the drive by Mac Diarmada, Connolly and Clarke to present a united revolutionary front and caused friction for many months but there was a reconciliation between the ICA and the IRB in October 1914 in which Connolly was the prime mover.

Already personally committed to organising an insurrection, Connolly decided that the First World War would provide the opportunity. In this he was supported by Mac Diarmada and Clarke, both senior IRB men, who, unlike the Volunteers, were already planning a rising.

Following abortive talks between the Citizen Army and Volunteers, Mac Diarmada and Clarke organised meetings between the ICA and IRB but little progress was made.

Connolly, still more impatient about a rising than the IRB, could not accept its vague schedules. He was, however, developing more sympathy towards and belief in the IRB leadership.



• JAMES CONNOLLY

By early January 1916, following months of manoeuvres by the Citizen Army, it became clear that Connolly was contemplating a solo venture and the Military Council felt it was time to inform him of their detailed plans for a rising.

At a three-day meeting between Connolly and the Military Council (January 19th-21st) — during which time it was generally and incorrectly believed that he had been kidnapped — Connolly was told of the planned



• SEAN MAC DIARMADA

rising for Easter Sunday, April 23rd, sworn into the IRB and co-opted onto the Military Council.

In April, Padraig Pearse appointed Connolly commandant of the forces in the Dublin district and was also given the task of printing the Proclamation of Independence.

Both Connolly and Mac Diarmada became members of the Provisional Revolutionary Government and signatories of the 1916 Proclamation.

On Easter Monday, April

24th 1916, Mac Diarmada and Connolly saw the practical conclusion to their years of tireless organising when they marched up Sackville Street (now O'Connell Street) and the Irish Volunteers and Citizen Army to take their place with the headquarters staff in the GPO, where they fought throughout Easter Week.

GENERAL SURRENDER

Following the general surrender on April 29th, the wounded Connolly was taken on a stretcher to the military hospital at Dublin Castle. Mac Diarmada, along with the remainder of the GPO garrison, was taken to the grounds of the Rotunda Hospital. Daniel Hoey, a detective of the 'G' Division of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, moved among the prisoners and pointed out Mac Diarmada as being one of the leaders. (During the Tan War, Hoey was executed on the orders of Michael Collins for his part in identifying Mac Diarmada.)

Connolly was court-martialled on May 9th in the military hospital in Dublin Castle and sentenced to death.

The following day, Mac Diarmada received the same sentence.

At 3.45 on the morning of May 12th 1916, Sean Mac Diarmada was executed in Kilmainham Jail. Several hours later, the badly-wounded James Connolly was taken by ambulance from Dublin Castle to Kilmainham Jail, strapped to a chair and also executed.



●BRENDA DOWNES

Plastic bullet group for Derry

AS PART of their continuing efforts to highlight the murderous capacity of the plastic bullet, several members of the United Campaign Against Plastic Bullets visited Derry on Friday, March 21st, to stage an exhibition, address a public meeting in Pilot's Row Community Centre and encourage the establishment of a local plastic bullets group.

The meeting was attended by councillors from several political parties, demonstrating the cross-party support which exists in Derry for the banning of this lethal weapon.

CHILLING

Archie Livingstone, Brenda Downes, Francis Donnelly and Emma Groves gave moving and often chilling accounts of their own personal experience of plastic bullets whether as victims or as close relatives of victims.

Brenda Downes in particular held the attention of the audience: "The plastic bullet is an accepted death sentence. There is not the

same outcry as there would be if real bullets were used. It is simply another cover behind which the RUC and British army can get away with murder."

The main purpose of the visit, as Jim McCabe, chairperson of the UCAPB, pointed out, was to establish a committee in Derry similar to that which exists in Belfast and Dublin. As a first step towards achieving that end, Helen Whitters, mother of 15-year-old plastic bullet victim Paul Whitters, accepted the chair of the new group which will be officially launched at a meeting in Derry shortly after Easter.



Mullingar workers resist health cuts

BY JACK MADDEN

HEALTH WORKERS, at St Loman's Psychiatric Hospital in Mullingar, County Westmeath, and at other hospitals in the Midlands

region are reported to be furious at a decision taken last week by the Midland Health Board to impose further cuts of £1.8million in expenditure on health services

which have already suffered severe cuts in recent years.

A large picket, which included members of the Psychiatric Nurses' Association (PNA) and the ITGWU, confronted members of the Midland Health Board as they entered their meeting on Thursday, March 20th. Leaflets were handed to each Board member explaining the damage which the proposed cutbacks would do to patient care at St Loman's Hospital in particular and in the community in general. Despite the arguments of medical staff the Board agreed to the cutbacks by 19 votes to 9.

WORRIED

Staff of St Loman's have reason to be worried at the implication of these cuts. Since 1980, there have been 80 job losses and the nursing school attached to the hospital has had no students for the past three years. Most importantly, however, there is already a dangerously low level of staffing in the psychiatric hospital at nights and weekends.

Criticism is also being levelled at the management of St Loman's Hospital whose "penny-pinching attitude" has, according to staff, been used by the Midland Health Board and the Coalition government to justify further cutbacks.

Medical staff throughout the Midlands region are planning further protests in opposition to the cuts which, they say, will affect psychiatric care in Counties Longford, Westmeath and Meath.

Coalition attacks the poor

SINN FEIN has slammed the announcement of further cuts in food subsidies and the planned introduction of tax incentives for shareholders as "damning evidence that the Coalition government is quite prepared to ride out the recession on the backs of the poor."

Referring to the cutbacks on Wednesday this week Sinn Fein economic affairs spokesperson Eileen Harris said:

"Cuts in food subsidies mean increased hardship for the least well-off and it is ridiculous for the Coalition to say that these cuts will be 'cushioned' by the budget

increase in children's allowances. Those allowances were, according to ex-finance minister Alan Dukes, supposed to compensate for the fact that no increases were given

for children in any social welfare payments. How many other cutbacks does the Coalition intend to cushion with these pitiful children's allowances?

"It is proof positive that the Coalition has no concept of social equity that this attack on the living standards of the least well-off should be made at the same time that more money is being out in the pockets of the wealthy in the form of tax incentives."



●ALAN DUKES

Systematic discrimination

BY JANE PLUNKETT

A REPORT into the employment practices of the Southern Health Board, mounted after loyalist politicians claimed to have detected anti-Protestant 'discrimination', has on the contrary revealed systematic job discrimination by the Board against Catholics, particularly over senior posts.

The study was published, more than three years after its inception, by the Fair Employment Agency last Thursday, March 20th. The Southern Health & Social Services board covers three districts: Armagh/Dungannon, Craigavon/Banbridge and Newry/Mourne, and the report's principal conclusion is that the presence of Protestants in district managements "is much higher than would be expected". Only in the overwhelmingly nationalist Newry & Mourne area, the report noted, "is there any significant Catholic presence".

CONTRADICTED

However, several other of the report's bland conclusions are contradicted by its statistics, an indication that for political reasons the British government-funded body has glossed over its own evidence of loyalist sectarian privilege.

For example, though the report claims that the workforce reflects the religious breakdown of the local population, in which Catholics are a majority (54%), its own statistics reveal that Catholics are a minority in the workforce overall and are also a minority in every job category except nursing.

The Agency found that Catholics were only 30% of administrative and clerical workers, 40% of those in social services,



and 36% of tradespeople. They were also a minority of medical, dental and other staff. Catholics were a minority (45%) even among ancillary and general staff, which tend to be the lowest paid. Even in 75% nationalist Newry & Mourne, nationalists were under-represented (65%) in such jobs.

Only in nursing were Catholics a majority (58%) in line with the local population. In the Southern Health Board's workforce overall, Catholics are a minority of 47% (49% were Protestants, with 4% "other"). The large number of Catholic nurses employed masks the true extent of discrimination against Catholics by the Board.

The report confirms a pattern familiar to most Northern nationalists: that Catholics are concentrated in the lowest-paid manual jobs, and are systematically excluded from more powerful, better-paid

positions. For example, 75% of the Board's senior administration are Protestant. Only 3 of the top 31 posts are held by Catholics. Of administrative and clerical staff overall, 66% are Protestants.

Similarly, in social work, Catholics held only 6 of the 23 senior posts. Even in nursing, Catholics were under-represented in senior staff.

BLATANT SECTARIANISM

The report reveals particularly blatant sectarianism in several areas. According to the FEA, the population of the Craigavon area is 45% Catholic. Yet only 26% of the workforce at the Board's headquarters in Craigavon are Catholics, while 69% are Protestants. By contrast, in Newry & Mourne, Protestants are 25% of the SHSSB workforce and likewise of the population. In the Craigavon/Banbridge area as a whole, only 18% of clerical and administrative

workers were Catholics. In the Armagh/Dungannon Board district, Catholics are only 20% of clerical/administrative staff, though they are half of the population.

At the district's local administrative HQ, the staff was made up almost exclusively of Protestants (87%) and the FEA said it was "unable to identify any Catholics among the senior people in administration".

Significantly, the FEA study uncovered clear evidence that the imbalance in the workforce cannot be explained away as a 'legacy' from Stormont days. While the report shows that Protestants do, predictably, form a greater proportion of those with longest service, it also reveals that discrimination continues in the recruitment of new employees. For example, in an examination of applicants for administrative and clerical jobs during the second half of 1983, the FEA found that at the Craigavon HQ, Catholics were nearly one-third of all applicants, but only one was appointed out of eight new staff. The report continued:

"In Armagh and Dungannon district the proportion of applicants who were Roman Catholic was low for the area (30%) and five of the six persons appointed were Protestant. In Craigavon and Banbridge district 25% of the applicants were Roman Catholic and one of the four appointees was a Catholic."

SLAMMED

The Southern Health Board's long record of sectarian discrimination was slammed by Craigavon Sinn Fein Councillors Brian McCann and Brendan Curran. Curran told AP/RN:

"This is the latest in a long line of FEA reports which have confirmed the sectarian nature of the Northern statelet. While the London-Dublin agreement, the SLP and the Free State government peddle the myth that the North can be 'cleaned up', this latest report will confirm to most Northern nationalists that the sectarian statelet is fundamentally irreformable."



Republican Publications



New T-shirts

THREE brand new T-shirts have just been produced by Republican Publications (price, £4) and are available from the usual outlets.

Badges

METAL EASTER LILY lapel badges, price £1.50 each plus postage (bulk rates available on request), can be obtained from Republican Publications at 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast (phone 232820), or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin (phone 726932).



70th Anniversary of the Easter Rising



1916 Easter 1986 COMMEMORATIONS

ALL NATIONALIST cultural and sporting groups, and trade unions, are invited to take part in the Easter commemoration ceremonies which are organised by the National Graves Association but no banners are to be carried on the parades.

For further information, please contact the Republican Press Centre, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast (tel. 230261), or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin (tel. 726932).

COUNTY ANTRIM

12 noon Dunloy
St Joseph's Cemetery
1.30pm Toomebridge
GAA grounds to
Roddy McCorley Monument
(Easter Tuesday)

BELFAST

1pm Beechmount Avenue
March to Milltown Cemetery
1.30pm Carlisle Square, New Lodge
(Easter Monday)
1pm New Herbert Street, Ardoyne
March to Berwick Road Memorial
(Easter Tuesday)

ARMAGH

12.30pm Moy Road
COUNTY ARMAGH
9.30am Camlough
11am Crossmaglen
Assemble Rangers' Hall
11.45am Derrymacash, Drumintee;
Killen; Lisla; Maghera
12.30pm Portadown
Assemble Hurson Park
2.30pm Clady, Ballymacnab
Assemble Ferial Crossroads
2.30pm Francis Street, Lurgan
4pm Cullyhanna

COUNTY CAVAN

2.15pm Cavan
Cathedral to the Monument

COUNTY CLARE

10.45am Shannon
John Paul's Church
to Clonahan Cemetery
3pm Doonbeg
Doonbeg Cemetery

COUNTY CORK

2.30pm Cork city
National Monument to
St Finbar's Cemetery
11.30pm Skibbereen
12.45pm Bantry

COUNTY DERRY

2.30pm The Loup
Ballyrolin Road
DERRY
2.30pm Bogside Inn, Westland Street
March to City Cemetery

COUNTY DONEGAL

3pm Drumboe, Stranorlar
Johnson's Corner to Drumboe
10.45am Donnybrook Graveyard
11.20am Clady Bridge
11.45am Murlough, Lifford

COUNTY DOW

4pm Castlewells
Bann Road to Magorrian Park
10.30am Newry
Hibernian Hall, The Mall
11am Ardglass
12 noon Tyconnet
2pm Irish Street, Downpatrick

DUBLIN

2.30pm Pro-Cathedral
March to Glasnevin Cemetery

COUNTY DUBLIN

2.30pm Dun Laoghaire
Baker's Corner to
Dean's Grange Cemetery
(Easter Monday)

COUNTY FERMANAGH

11.30am Derrylin; Roslea
12 noon Newtownbutler
3pm Donagh

COUNTY GALWAY

3pm Donaghpatrick
Quarry's Cross to
Donaghpatrick Cemetery
12 noon Oughterard

COUNTY KERRY

12 noon The Square, Listowel
3pm Cahirciveen
Assemble Republican Monument
3pm Tralee
Denny Street to Rath Cemetery

COUNTY KILDARE

2.30pm Celbridge

COUNTY LEITRIM

3pm Aughnashelan
Pullanass to Aughnashelan

COUNTY LIMERICK

11.45am Limerick city
Bedford Row to St Laurence's Cemetery
1.30pm Atha
Assemble Colbert Memorial Hall

COUNTY LONGFORD

3pm Carra, Granard

COUNTY LOUTH

11am Drogheda
Main Street to
Republican Plot, Marsh Road
2.30pm Dundalk
Market Square to St Patrick's Cemetery

COUNTY MAYO

3pm Doega, Achill Island

COUNTY MEATH

2.30pm Drumree

MEATH/NORTH DUBLIN

11am Ashbourne
Ashbourne to Monument
(Easter Monday)

COUNTY MONAGHAN

3pm Monaghan
Feargal O'Hanlon Memorial,
Clones Road

COUNTY OFFALY

12 noon Claren, Birr
2pm Kane Memorial, Tullamore
2.30pm Dingnam's Grave, Clara

COUNTY ROSCOMMON

3pm Lanesboro
Cloonuskear, Lanesboro

COUNTY SLIGO

3pm Sligo
Town Hall to Republican Plot,
Sligo Cemetery

COUNTY TIPPERARY

2pm Tyone, Nenagh
3pm Johnstown
12 noon Carrick-on-Suir
Republican Plot, St Mary's Cemetery
(Easter Monday)

COUNTY TYRONE

3pm Carrickmore
9.45pm Moy
10.45am Edendork
11.45am Broagh; Galbally
12 noon Ardobe; Coalisland; Eglis
12.15pm Aghyran; Trillick
12.30pm Clonoe
12.45pm Greencastle

COUNTY WATERFORD

2.45pm Waterford city
Assemble The Glen
(Easter Monday)
12.30pm Portlao
Maurice McGrath's graveside
2.45pm Stradbally

COUNTY WESTMEATH

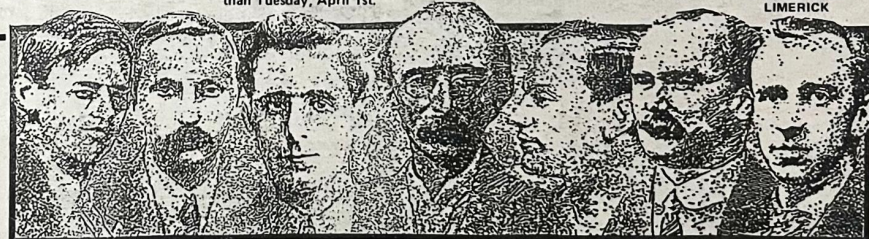
3pm Mullingar

COUNTY WEXFORD

11am Enniscorthy
Foley's garage to St Mary's Cemetery

BUS TO NATIONAL EASTER COMMEMORATION

Saturday 5th April
Bus leaves Fenway's 10am
O'Connell Street
LIMERICK



70th Anniversary of the Easter Rising March & Rally, Dublin Saturday 5th April

SINN FEIN wishes to announce that as part of its celebrations to mark the 70th anniversary of the 1916 Rising, a commemorative march and rally will take place in Dublin on Saturday, April 5th. To make this occasion a fitting tribute to all those who have laid down their lives in the cause of free-

dom over the past 70 years, Sinn Fein invites political, social and cultural groups to attend. Bands are especially welcome and these should contact The Secretary, Coiste Cuimhneachain na Poblachta, 44 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, as soon as possible.

Parade assembles: Stephen's Green

Note: Banners welcome



Framed prints

SPECIAL prints of the 1916 Easter Proclamation (above) are being issued this year.

Available in an attractive wooden frame, the prints come in two sizes 10 1/2" x 15", £6; 16" x 21", £10 (please add postage - bulk rates available).

Orders should be sent to Dublin Sinn Fein at 5 Blessington Street (phone 308783).

DURING last Saturday's battle of the Four Courts, shots were fired in Dublin's Prince's Street. As plainclothes republicans and plainclothes detectives fought hand-to-hand inside British Home Stores a detective screamed in complaint to a well-known Derry republican (and friend of Paul Simon), "Your bloody people are shooting at us out there!"

The Derry man, possibly having read in Tim Pat Coogan's book, *The IRA*, about General Army Order No. 8 forbidding armed action against twenty-six county forces, climbed over scattered clothes and tailors' dummies to someone whom he thought he recognised and said to him, "For God's sake, go out there and tell our people to knock that on the head!"

This person, a detective who hadn't seen the BBC's *Real Lives* programme, thought he was getting orders from a senior Task Force member, said "Yessir!" and rushed into Prince's Street to calm down and disarm detective Cat Balloon.

WHEN every Task Force member in the Bridewell and the adjacent court took off after Eibhlín Glenholmes and her schoolmaster, Kevin Mallon, 12 members of the RUC and

London Metropolitan Police, who were there as witnesses, were left stranded in the courtyard of the court in a panic screaming, "Hey, who's minding us?"

OUTSIDE the Dublin courtroom a group of republicans, including Gerry Adams, gathered to discuss in the native tongue what would happen if Eibhlín was released a second time. Pretending to look like a pair of Ballymurphians, two of the 'quare men' edged into the circle. "An bhfuil gach duine ag éisteacht?" said Adams. "Tá," said one of the excited Branchmen.

"Right," declared Adams to the republicans. "Ná bígí ag calnt i nGaillige, ach an oiread," and moved off to a more private corner.

SATURDAY's events in Dublin sent many a happy reporter scurrying back to their editor with dramatic tales of gardai obstructing the course of their own justice, car chases, hijackings, the storming of a city-centre store and a crazed gunman firing wildly into a street crowded with afternoon shoppers.

One journalist, however, was not so pleased with the newsworthiness of events.

BY MONDAY evening, the mystery of the invalid warrants for Eibhlín Glenholmes was unravelled when it was revealed that the individual responsible for producing the original warrants before a London magistrate was none other than Gerald John Adams — known as Gerry to his friends.

No prizes for guessing whose double-jobbing will end rather abruptly in the near future.

THE main pro-unionist paper in the North, the *News Letter*, has added its voice of opposition to the continuing practice of strip-searching women prisoners despite them being moved to Maghaberry where there is intense security.

"Those calls [for an end to the practice] should be listened to sympathetically. Failure to do so will help to convince many people that reactionary forces in the Northern Ireland Office are more concerned with degrading prisoners than with the maintenance of security."

GOD must definitely be on the side of the Free State army. On its front page last Saturday, the *Irish Times* carried a photograph of the portly Bishop Walter Empey of Meath and Kildare trying out the driver's seat of a Scorpion light tank while he was visiting troops in the Curragh.

The bishop, with crucifix dangling from his neck ran his hands approvingly over the barrel of the tank's main artillery piece.

The Liam Óg Column Yessir!



London Metropolitan Police and RUC witnesses leaving the court — hiding their faces but not their feelings

THE Irish and British Medical Associations, which have expressed serious concern about the dangers of boxing, should investigate the match between the Royal Irish Rangers in the red corner and the RUC in the blue, which took place outside the Adair Arms Hotel in Ballymena last week.

Four RUC men were knocked out, a number of others were treated for minor injuries and one out-of-uniform Ranger received 100 stitches in the face, which, when it refused to stop bleeding, led to the pub brawl being called off.

DESPITE a denial by former Labour director-union Merlyn Rees that he had personally approved who would review his book *Northern Ireland: A Personal Perspective*, the *Sunday World* maintains that when it rang his publishers, Methuen of London, about obtaining a review copy, a spokesperson in the "press office" said Mr Rees had personally drawn up a list of who should get review copies.

ON St Patrick's Day, Garret Fitzgerald presented a glass replica of the Statue of Liberty to President Reagan in the White House.

Reagan remarked that his great grandfather, Michael Reagan, had passed the Statue of Liberty when he came

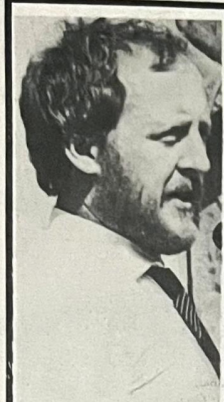
to America from Ballyporeen. In actual fact, Mickey landed in the port of Boston, which is about 300 miles up the coast from New York, and the Statue of Liberty wasn't erected for another 30 years, in 1886!

DUIRT SIAD

The United States needs another nuclear test like Imelda Marcos needs another pair of shoes.
— Congressman Edward Markey after the US broke the moratorium on nuclear testing by detonating a device in Nevada last week, handing the initiative for peace to the Soviet Union.

Yankee, we're waiting for you.
— Wall slogan in Nicaragua expressing the common perception that Reagan will ultimately commit US forces to the overthrow of the democratically-elected Sandinista government.





National chairperson arrested

THE Sinn Féin national chairperson, Sean McManus of Sligo, was held for 30 hours by gardai last week after being arrested at 10am on Thursday, March 20th.

McManus was detained under Section 30 of the Offences Against the State Act when passing through Portlaoise.

Following his release on Friday afternoon, McManus revealed that at no stage during his time in custody was he questioned about any alleged offence and he described the garda action as "pure political harassment".



• L. Libyan students protesting outside the US Embassy in Ballsbridge, Dublin, on Wednesday, March 26th

Libya resists US attacks

BY BRENDAN KERR

TENSION mounted in the Mediterranean this week after three military aircraft from the United States Sixth Fleet were shot down after violating Libyan airspace over the Gulf of Sirte.

The Libyans' defensive action on Monday, March 24th, was answered by American aircraft sinking a Libyan patrol boat and warships shelling an air-defence installation at Sirte.

The clashes arose out of continuous provocative manoeuvres in a deliberate attempt by the Reagan administration to humiliate Colonel Muammar Gaddafi and try to undermine

the popular support for the Libyan revolution.

The US aggression has, however, had the opposite effect, with thousands pouring on to the streets of Tripoli to pledge their willingness to die, if necessary, in repelling any US invasion.

SUPPORT

And while Thatcher's Britain lines up alongside its imperialist ally, several other states have pledged their support for Libya. Syria, Iran, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates have all rallied round Libya and further help is almost certain when Arab

League foreign ministers meet next week.

Italy, Greece and France have all expressed their opposition to, or concern about, Reagan's war-mongering antics.

DUBLIN PROTEST

In Dublin, 150 Libyan and other Arab students, supported by Sinn Féin members, protested outside the US Embassy in Ballsbridge. Demonstrators chanted slogans of solidarity with both the Libyan and Nicaraguan revolutions.

Another demonstration will be staged at the Embassy at 2.30pm this Saturday afternoon, March 29th.

Video event

CONWAY Street Mill, West Belfast — currently under threat from British government political vetting — was the venue for a weekend video event last Saturday and Sunday.

The event was organised by the NI Film & Video Association (NIFVA) which for the past three years has been producing videos in close collaboration with various community-based groups in the North.

Among the excellent videos on show at the event were *Plastic Bullets* — The Deadly Truth, and *Under the Health Surface* (on

women's health, to be shown on Channel 4 in June) as well as videos on the show trials system (*One Man's Word*) and Castlereagh (the satirical *Same As It Ever Was*).

The Derry Film & Video Collective also contributed several thought-provoking and well-produced videos, including the excellent *Strip-searching: Security or sub-*

jugation? and *Planning*, outlining the influence of British military strategists on new house-building in the six counties.

MAGAZINE

Discussions focused on the potential for expanding the range of videos made by local people (as opposed to state bodies, usually coming from outside). Also shown was a magazine video, an interesting innovation featuring short news items on current campaigns in Ireland



• Attentive audience in Conway Street Mill

(including, in the first issue, Belfast 1 (telephone 245495), Sellafield, strip-searching and lignite).

The NIFVA can be contacted at 9 Winetavern Street, Belfast 1 (telephone 245495).

• *Plastic Bullets* — The Deadly Truth (60 mins) is available for £30 (plus P&P) from UCAPB, c/o Claire Reilly, 20 Monagh Crescent, Belfast 11.

Fast for Nicaragua

A SPONSORED two-day fast to raise money for aid projects in Nicaragua took place outside Belfast City Hall last Friday and Saturday.

The fast was organised by the Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign (NSC) who say that fund-raising is vital because of the total US trade embargo on the democratically-elected government of Nicaragua and US control of international aid and finance bodies such as the International Monetary Fund. Last week, the NSC donated £500 to a project in the district of Matagalpa aimed at lowering infant mortality.

The NSC has asked people to help Nicaragua by donating money, buying Nicaraguan coffee (available from Oxfam Shops, Christian Aid and some whole-food shops) and persuading their trade unions, community groups, etc., to buy only Nicaraguan coffee.

The Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign can be contacted c/o The People's College, 30 Adelaide Park, Belfast BT9 6FY.



tv **REVIEWS**

Party political broadcast

BY AINE MARTIN

CHARLES HAUGHEY "can never come to the border without having deep feelings of anger and resentment. It is an artificial boundary. It is economic, social and political nonsense". Flanna Fail "looks forward to completing the task of achieving the independence of the whole island of Ireland".

In what amounted to little more than a political broadcast on behalf of himself and his party, Charles Haughey blatantly laid claim to a philosophy of which he knows nothing in the much-publicised presentation of *My Ireland* on Channel 4 last Sunday night.

"In 1800, Britain passed the Act of Union. In the course of time, Irish nationalists turned away from nostalgia. They sought to establish an independent republic, independent from the British crown and from Britain. It is out of this philosophy that the party of which I am a member was born."

All this from the leader of a party that introduced special non-jury courts, Section 31 of the Broadcasting Act and the Offences Against the State Act with all the repression that it entails!

For one hour, the meaningless sub-title to Flanna Fail - 'the republican party' - was held aloft as a backdrop to Haughey's ramblings as he shed a crocodile tear for his unfortunate brethren north of the border.

The hypocrite wandered the length and breadth of the country, waxing lyrical about its scenic and architectural beauty and trotting out the predictable old lines:

"My Ireland is one which places a value on all it has learned from the past and, at the same time, as a young (I) country, places its trust in the future."

"Ireland has the youngest

population in Europe, half of it is under 25. This is a great source of inspiration for us."

And so on... and on... and on...

Dripping with clichés and devoid of sincerity, his presentation was an exercise in self-gratification.

Emerging from the Celtic mists like a bad dream, he reminded us that in discussing 'his' Ireland he was "talking about something that is not yet a complete reality. It is a dream which has not yet been fulfilled".

Nor will it be, for Haughey's dream is nothing but a hollow sentiment voiced at convenient vote-catching moments and with as much substance as an empty paper bag.

The covert actions of the war-mongering president of the United States and his CIA cohorts in Nicaragua was the subject of a *World in Action* 'special' on Monday night.

At a time when the United States is the defendant in a court case in the International Court of Justice for illegal actions in its support of the Contras in Nicaragua, Reagan and the CIA continue to provide this support against the express direction of the US Congress.

Despite the democratic election of the Sandinistas to government in Nicaragua, US propaganda calls the Contras 'freedom fighters' and the Sandinistas 'communist-backed dictators'.

Arms are supplied to the Contras by the CIA after a



● CHARLES HAUGHEY

laundry operation through the US, Honduran and Israeli armies. And the Contras indulge in murder and oppression in a vicious campaign in a sovereign country. Ex-Contras were interviewed. The campaign "takes the form of torture, murder, rape, theft, burning of houses, bridges etc. They're trying to bring the country to a standstill".

Although expressly forbidden by Congress, "schools, hospitals and homes are targets of the Contras. The slaughter of innocent civilians is commonplace".

And despite national and international opposition, Reagan continues his agitation for the 'freedom fighters', describing their actions as "self-defence".

Reagan describes these thugs as "the brave equals

of our founding fathers". In this, for a change, he may be right. The much-vaunted 'founding fathers' brutally tortured, murdered and dispossessed the native Americans in a similar campaign.

And so to Shergar.

On Sunday evening, BBC2 presented a farcical 'account' of the supposed events surrounding the kidnapping of the famous racehorse. The film didn't deserve any prizes for production but the imagination behind the story-line was pretty active, even over-active.

Shergar had all the usual clichés in a British film dealing with Ireland. As usual, the IRA are bloodthirsty thugs who say things like "Will I nut him? I didn't like him when I met him!" - and this from one of the 'new'

and 'political' IRA men.

The old 'hardliners' think the new boys' approach is a bit soft. As guys who never had a political thought in their lives, the hardliners despise the 'newcomers':

"These new fellas are more interested in putting ties on and appearing on TV. They talk about the Armalite in one hand and the ballot box in the other. If someone has you by the balls, what's more likely to make him let go - the Armalite or the ballot box?"

And so on. With the British media telling us of so many splits and so much in-fighting in the organisation is still together. Of course, we couldn't do without the other racial stereotypes - the lazy Irish, the drunken Irish, the stupid, thick-as-two-short-planks Irish who like nothing better than to kill people.

Altogether a terrible film, the latest in a long line of terrible British films which attempt to make money from the suffering of a country they should have left long ago.

Monday's *RTE News* had a report on Martin Galvin's speech at the Crossbarry Commemoration. RTE spoke of the ceremony being to commemorate the ambush at Crossbarry "in 1916".

In fact, the ceremony at Crossbarry was to mark the 65th anniversary of the battle of Crossbarry which took place in 1921, not 1916 (as if you didn't already know).

But I suppose minor details like that aren't really important to trendy people like the Montroses morons.

And on RTE's 9 o'clock news on Tuesday, March 25th, reporting on the 'Blic' McFarlane/Gerry Kelly extradition case in Amsterdam, the news reader stated that both men were fighting extradition proceedings to bring them "back to Britain".

Now that's news to me - I thought they were fighting against extradition to the six counties.

Imeachtaí

BALLAD SESSION

Music by Letch
Saturday 29th March
Cassidy's Lounge
CULLEN
County Louth
Taille £1.50
Organised by Sinn Féin

DINNER DANCE

Music by the Knights
10pm to 2am Sunday 30th March
Lake of Shadows Hotel
BUNCRANA
County Donegal
Taille £12/Std£10
(Includes 5-course meal and free £100 Draw)
Free bus from Derry
Organised by Sinn Féin
For details phone Bunrana 61587 between 6pm and 8pm

BALLAD NIGHT

Music by Shebeen
Saturday 30th March
Riverside Bar
KILCURRY
County Louth

SOCIAL

Featuring Wagon Masters
Sunday 30th March
McRann's Lounge
ARIGNA
County Leitrim
Taille optional
Organised by Sinn Féin

COMMEMORATION DANCE

Easter Sunday night
Clondra
LONGFORD

DANCE

Music by Michael O'Callaghan
Easter Sunday night
Ballyhoura House Hotel
FRALIE
County Kerry
Taille £2
(Bar extension)

FUNCTION

Featuring Shillelagh
10pm Easter Sunday
Farnham Hotel
CAVAN

MUSIC SESSION

2 to 6pm Easter Monday
Stan's Head
ASHBOURNE
County Meath
All musicians welcome
Organised by Meath/N. Dublin
Sinn Féin

TRADITIONAL NIGHT

Music by Boneaparte
Easter Monday night
Town Hall
NEWRY
Taille £2

PUBLIC MEETING

The 1916 Rising -
Is it relevant today?
Speakers: Martin McGuinness,
Sean Mac Bride, Michael Farrell,
Sile Humphries & Nicky Kelly
8pm Wednesday 2nd April
St Andrew's Hall
Rialto
DUBLIN
Buses 19, 19A, 20 & 22

PRISON PICKET

1.30pm Sunday 13th April
Long Linton Prison
South Littleton
EVESHAM
Worcestershire
Transport leaves Birmingham Hall of Memory carpark at 12.15pm
Other areas see *AP/RN* sellers for transport arrangements
Organised by London/Birmingham
POW Campaign

1916 70th ANNIVERSARY LECTURE

'1916: Background and Events'
By Padraig O Snodaigh
7.30pm Thursday 3rd April
5 Blessington Street
DUBLIN

1916 COMMEMORATIVE FUNCTION

7.30pm Friday 4th April
Liberty Hall
DUBLIN
An evening of film, music and debate to honour all those who participated in the Easter Rising

BALLAD SESSION

Music by Ragamuffin
Friday 4th April
Sliah an Iarainn Hotel
BALLINAMORE
County Leitrim

book

Collective courage - the Long March

BY DANNY MORRISON

FIFTY YEARS after one of the great epics of human courage and endurance, and ten years after the deaths of two veteran Chinese communists, Zhou Enlai and Mao Zedong, comes this previously-unfolded story of the Long March, which was the springboard for ultimate communist victory in China in 1949.

The prolific author and distinguished journalist, Harrison Salisbury, with unprecedented access to documents, archives and many survivors, retraces the footsteps of the original marchers and tells the incredible story of how a people's army, 86,000 strong (but only half of those armed), escaped a major encirclement of their shrinking liberated zone by the nationalist forces of Chiang Kai-Shek, who had 400,000 armed men at his disposal. In 12 months the escapees had marched 6,000 miles from Southern China across mountains and rivers to the northern province of Shaanxi. Only 4,000 Red Army soldiers had survived the ongoing attacks, the battles which they heroically fought when taking bridges, and murderous weather conditions, such as those on the Great Snowy Mountains where the

Red Army was so thin and temperatures so low that the peasants to certain death for the barefoot and cotton-shirted volunteers. But on their march -

MAO

It seems that six-foot-tall Mao, 40 years of age in 1934, was only told about the evacuation at the last minute. He only gained control of the movement against a background of internal policy and power struggles during the march and after the 'Bolshevik' faction and the Soviet Communist agent assigned to the Chinese communists were discredited following some military disasters.

The column of marching men and women was 60 miles long and initially carried heavy printing presses, machinery for minting coins, and cannons, the heavy loads eventually having to be jettisoned. The Red Army's popularity hinged on their policy of turning the land of the rich over to the

peasant poor although occasionally they had to do deals with warlords to pass through certain territories.

The pressure of time was always upon them. Mao's wife gave birth to a girl but because it was impossible to bring the baby along she had to be entrusted to a peasant family. No trace of the child was ever to be found. Many women had the same experience.

Often there was no food and the soldiers would live on wild strawberries, snakes and fried bees. During the five to seven-day crossing of the treacherous uninhabited Grasslands, whose bugs sucked people under in seconds, hungry marchers boiled and ate harnesses and their leather belts. Faced with starvation, rear-guard soldiers 'picked over the faeces of the comrades who had gone before. They extracted undigested grains of corn and wheat... washed them, boiled them, and wolfed them down'.

SHAANXI

Disagreements over strategy also led to a major division, with one army marching to disaster in the west and south where Stalin had allegedly promised a supply line. Mao took his First Army on to safety in Shaanxi where his revolutionary forces were con-



● Women soldiers who survived the Long March

solidated and enlarged.

The book makes fascinating reading, especially concerning the power struggles and the ongoing formation and dissolution of alliances; for example, the civil war between the nationalists and the communists which was halted when the two forces united to confront the Japanese invasion after Japan's defeat in the Second World War.

Harrison Salisbury, an admirer of the present Chinese premier, Deng Xiaoping, who was in the Long March, also poignantly traces the fate of some of those veterans who survived the crossing of the Five Ridges, the Yangtze River,

the Great Snowy Mountains and the Grasslands, who survived the war against Japan and the civil war, only to founder in the insanity and butchery of the 'Cultural Revolution' when the Chinese state was almost run into the ground with what must have been the conviction of an ageing Mao. Salisbury, nevertheless, has done justice to that "unparalleled act of collective courage, dedication and hope", that heroic march of the Chinese Red Army which gave birth to a free nation.

● *The Long March - The Untold Story*, by Harrison E. Salisbury, is published in hard-back by MacMillan. Price £16.95.

BAKER, Liam & Peter, (England & H-Blocks). Easter greetings, Liam and Peter, Love from Mother, brothers, sisters and all the family.

BROWN, Mike, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter, Mike. We're always thinking of you. Love from Mum, Dad, John and Liz.

BROWNE, Mike, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter, Mike. From Pat, Marita, Ann, Alan and Patrick.

BROWNE, Mike, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter, Mike. From Jimmy, Bernadette and Linda.

BROWNE, Mike, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings, Mike. From Mary, Ed, Marie and Cara.

BURKE, Michael, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter greetings, Michael. Your darling husband Michael. With lots of love from your darling wife Seonagh, xxx.

BURKE, Michael, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter to the world's greatest daddy. With lots of love from Vicky, Fayna and Peter.

BURKE, Michael, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter greetings and lots of love. Though prison walls divide us and we are far apart, they have you in their keeping, but I have you in my heart. From a secret admirer, xxx.

BURKE, Michael, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter greetings. Don't drink too much. Lots of love, Ber, xxx.

BURKE, Michael, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to all the lads in Portlaoise and all POWs everywhere. From Pat, Dan and family.

CLARKE, Tony, (Wakefield). Happy Easter, Tony. See you soon on your big day. From Liam Bell and family.

CORRIGAN, Bob, (Magilligan). Happy birthday Bob, may next year be a brighter one. God bless you. From Dad.

CORRIGAN, Bob, (Magilligan). Happy birthday to you 16 years to 26. God bless you. From Maria, Bernadette and Peter Farrelly.

CORRIGAN, Bob, (Magilligan). Happy birthday to you and God bless you. From Pat, Isabelle and family.

CORRIGAN, Bob, (Magilligan). Happy birthday to you, Bob. From Sean and Margaret.

CORRIGAN, Bob, (Magilligan). Happy birthday and God bless you. I from your sister Sally Adams and family, xxx.

CORRIGAN, Peter, (Portlaoise). Best wishes for Easter, Peter. Love from yourself, we'll see you soon. UTP. Love from Maureen, Danny and Janet.

CUNNINGHAM, Gerry, (MURRYAN, Patrick, (Long Lartin). Birthday greetings to Gerry and Patrick. From the McGinnis family. Felm cunnann, Lettekeny.

CUNNINGHAM, Gerry, (MURRYAN, Patrick, (Long Lartin). Birthday greetings to our comrades Gerry and Pat. From the Glasgow Republican POW Committee.

DEMPSEY, Derek, (Portlaoise). Best wishes for Easter, Derek. Hope to see you soon. From Ann.

DEVENNY, Paddy, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings, Paddy, roll on Wednesday. From Mum and all the family.

DEVENNY, Paddy, (Portlaoise). All the best this Easter, Paddy. See you Wednesday. From all your brothers, sister-in-laws, sisters, brothers-in-law, nephews and nieces.

DOHERTY, Hughie, (Donnelly, Victor, (England). Happy Easter, Hughie and Victor. Love from you and your comrades at this time and always. UTP. Onward to victory.

DOHERTY, Hughie, (Parkhurst). Happy Easter, Hughie. Our thoughts are with you every day. Love from UTP. Take care and God bless. Love from Mary.

DOHERTY, George, (McDEVITT, John, (Crumlin Road). Solidarity and revolutionary Easter greetings to our friends and comrades George and John. Best wishes. From Tia, Tia, Tia, Tia, Tia. UTP. From Nilly, Bob, and Pat McGovern, Dublin.

DONAGHY, Tom; (LEDGEWOOD, Sean, (H-Blocks). Thinking of you and Sean. From Sean's Mum and Dad, Mary, Kevin, and Cassidy.

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FERRIS, Martin, (Portlaoise). Birthday greetings, Paddy. From the Browne family, Fenit, and from the Michael Lynch Sinn Felm cunnann, Fenit.

FOX, Michael, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to Michael. From John, Don, Steve and Martin.

FOX, Michael, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to Michael. From Maria, George and kids, and Anna and Jim.

FOX, Michael, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to Michael. From Theresa and kids, and Tommy and Eddie.

FOX, Michael, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings. From Lily, Peter, Jim and Mea, and Kathleen and John.

GAVIN, Jimmy, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to my husband Jimmy, with love and best wishes. From wife and family.

GAVIN, Jimmy, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to you Jimmy. From Esie, Pat and family.

GIBNEY, Jim, (H-Blocks). All the best at Easter time, Jim. From Dan, Deborah and kids.

GIBNEY, Jim, (H-Blocks). Revolutionary greetings. From all at 44.

GLENHOLMES, Richard, (England). Happy Easter, Richard. Love from Richard. From Lily and all the family.

GLENHOLMES, Richard, (England). All the best for Easter time and hope it's your last in an English jail. Adh Eibhlín.

HARTE, Gerard, (Portlaoise). All the best at Easter, son. We all love you and miss you. From Mum, Dad, and family.

HARTE, Gerard, (Portlaoise). Wishing you all the best, Gerard. You are always loved. From Granny and Sean-Harte, Aunt Peggy, Uncle Dessie, Aine, Dave, Margaret, Gerard, Donald, Brid Dyre and Connor.

HARTE, Gerard, (Portlaoise). Have a nice Easter, just put your feet up, Gerard. You're always in our minds and prayers. Love from Aunt Treasa, Uncle Steve and the girls.

HARTE, Gerard, (Portlaoise). Have a nice Easter, Gerard. We're far apart but I love and miss you, dear grandson. Love from Granny in England.

HARTE, Gerard, (Portlaoise). Wishing you all the best, Gerard. Look after yourself. Love from Aunt Gladys, Uncle Willie and family.

HARTE, Gerard, (Portlaoise). Look after yourself Gerard and make the best of it in one of Britain's jails. They say all they left behind was a pair of jalls from your old mate in Lurgan and Dundalk.

HAYES, Bill, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings and best wishes, Bill. You are always in our thoughts and we often talk of you. Regards to all your comrades. From Mam, Dad and Noel.

HAYES, Bill, (Portlaoise). Happy Easter, Bill. Love from you and all your comrades. From Gran and all your relations in Ferrybank.

HAYES, Bill, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings, Mick. Thinking of you now and always. Love and best wishes. From Mam, Dad, Patrick, and Michael.

HOGAN, Mickey, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to you Mickey and to all your comrades in jail. Love and best wishes. From Carol and Michael.

HOGAN, Mickey, (Portlaoise). Wishing you a very happy Easter, Bill. Love and God bless. From Sheila and Tommy.

HAYES, Bill, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings and best wishes to you and all your comrades. From Gran and all your relations in Ferrybank.

KAVANAGH, Paul, (Gartree). Easter greetings, Paul. Hope to see you soon. Love from all the family.

KELLY, Billy, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings, Billy. You're always in my thoughts. See you soon. Love from Paddy, Mervil and kids.

KELLY, Billy, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings, cousin, and to all the POWs in English and Irish jails. Tioclaidh ar la. From Ann and Michael.

KELLY, Gerry, (Holland). Best wishes for Easter. From the Boxcar Willie fans.

KERR, Barry; LYNAM, Jim; GURK, Aidan; QUINN, Frankie, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to Frank, from the Bell family, Dungannon.

LUNDY, Matthew, (H-Blocks). Happy birthday and best wishes for the coming year. Lots of love from Eileen McCann, xxx.

LUNDY, Matthew, (H-Blocks). Happy birthday and best wishes on your birthday. See you soon. From the McCann family, xxx.

LYNCH, Michael, (Portlaoise). Easter greetings to you, Peter, long time now, but I hope to see you soon. UTP. Tioclaidh ar la. From Harry and Rose.

MCCARTNEY, Ronnie, (Gartree). Happy Easter, Ronnie. We think of you always. From Marion, John and Jane, xxx.

MCDONNELL, Gerard, (Brixton). Best wishes to my husband Gerry on this our second wedding anniversary. They may have you in their keeping but I have you in my heart. Tioclaidh ar la. I love you, from Sheila.

MCDONNELL, Gerard, (Brixton). Love and best wishes on your second wedding anniversary. In matters of principle there can be no compromise. Love and best wishes. From Maggie, Doreen, and children.

MCDONNELL, Gerard, (Brixton). Best wishes to Sheila and Gerry on your second wedding anniversary. Hope you have many more years together. Love from Mary, Leonita and Rose.

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(Magilligan). With best wishes from Eamon.

EASTER GREETINGS to all POWs in England. From An Cumann Cabhrach and POW Campaign Committees in England.

EASTER GREETINGS to Eamon Nolan, Aaron O'Connell and Cyril McCurtain (Portlaoise). From Elsie and John Hayes and family, Ferry.

EASTER GREETINGS to Paddy Bell and Martin Doherty (Portlaoise). I'll have a drink on you, lads. Tioclaidh ar la. UTP. From Michael and John.

EASTER GREETINGS to Sean, Con, Anthony and Neil (Wakefield), Vince, Eddie and Paul (Frankland), to Brendan (



*Alar Hughes
Hollands
Hollands*

POBLACHT NA H EIREANN. THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE IRISH REPUBLIC TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

Having organised and trained her manhood through her secret revolutionary organisation, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and through her open military organisations, the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army, having patiently perfected her discipline, having resolutely waited for the right moment to reveal itself, she now seizes that moment, and, supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength, she strikes in full confidence of victory.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people. In every generation the Irish people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty; six times during the past three hundred years they have asserted it in arms. Standing on that fundamental right and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State, and we pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation among the nations.

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally, and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided a minority from the majority in the past.

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people.

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God, Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, inhumanity, or rapine. In this supreme hour the Irish nation must, by its valour and discipline and by the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove itself worthy of the august destiny to which it is called.

Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government.

THOMAS J. CLARKE.

(Reduced facsimile of the Original Proclamation)

SEAN Mac DIARMADA.

THOMAS MacDONAGH.

P. H. PEARSE.

EAMONN Ceannt.

JAMES CONNOLLY.

JOSEPH PUNKETI.

