



Fuascailt



IRISH political prisoner's campaign

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1996

O'NEILL AND THE SHOOT TO KILL POLICY

In the early hours of Monday the 23rd September 1996 Diarmuid O'Neill was executed by the police acting on behalf of the British Government in one of its so called anti-terrorism operations, Diarmuid's brother was arrested at the same time.

O'Neills crime would seem to be that he didn't open the door quick enough in the early hours of the morning and as a result was brutally gunned down, dragged down the steps and denied quick and possibly life saving treatment from medical personnel nearby. People living in the neighbourhood were told by the police not to speak to the press or television crews -WHY- have they something to hide?

Police spokespersons then told of a gun battle where shots were fired and they responded. An elaborate account of how firearms, ammunition and explosives had been recovered was given,

deliberately misleading the public into believing the people inside the house were armed and in possession of a large quantity of explosives. Nothing could be further from the truth!

None of the men arrested were armed or even had a gun, yet alone explosives. These were actually discovered 15 miles away in a rented garage in North London.

The media, deliberately misinformed of the facts continued with the hysterical and biased reporting in England and in Ireland which we have come to expect whenever Irish people are arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. This misleading reporting acts as a judge and jury, finding those implicated guilty without the benefit of a trial.

Since the first reporting of his death and the circumstances surrounding it we now know that Diarmuid was in fact UNARMED and neither guns or ammunition were found in the house where he was killed.



Fuascailt and Irish groups protest at Downing St

On Sunday the 6th October the monthly picket was dedicated to Diarmuid and was the largest and most emotive one we've had, a call was made for a full public enquiry and a letter demanding the same was handed into Downing St. The picket attracted a large number of people from all sections of the Irish and British communities urgently calling for O'Neills killers to be brought to justice and seeking the immediate end to the use of the PTA.

Fuascailt will continue to campaign for a full public enquiry and will be seeking to raise the issue in the forthcoming weeks, in the media and on the streets.

To this end we hope you will show your support in whichever way you can-either by joining our future activities and giving your support in whichever way you can - write to your local MP and to the press demanding justice for Diarmuid. Perhaps you have ideas or advice on ways to raise the issue and make it more effective. Please contact us at the Fuascailt PO Box number or phone for further information.

WEAR A GREEN RIBBON TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE PRISONERS

Duffy's release shows corrupt Diplock system.

In the last issue of this newsletter we carried a letter from Colin Duffy. We are delighted that the RUC frame up against Colin was overturned and 3 years of false imprisonment ended. The case had many worrying aspects especially the prosecution relying on the evidence of (subsequently convicted) U.V.F. gun runner Lindsay Robb.

Outside the court Colin said that the courts were forced to admit they were wrong in sentencing him and his release "only proved what we knew all along that I was an innocent man". When asked by reporters why he was targeted he replied "Because I am a republican." Duffy's solicitor, Rosemary Nelson said that while she was delighted with the appeal court's verdict she was "very disturbed by the nature of the prosecution." Sinn Fein's Barry McElduff said the "verdict was an indictment of the whole Diplock system." Fuascailt sent its best wishes to Colin and Susan Duffy their daughter Caitriona and all those who worked to secure Colins release. Fuascailt received a thank you card from the family for our support.

Press conferences on Repatriation and transfer of republican prisoners to Ireland.

"Interminable British delays" which have resulted in the repatriation of just two Irish prisoners from England almost a year after the ratification by the Dublin government of the European Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced prisoners were condemned at a Dublin news conference. Sinn Fein POW dept spokesperson Michael Brown demanded "an immediate and proper implementation of the repatriation facility." Sinn Fein vice president Pat Doherty (whose own brother Hugh has served over 20 years in English jails) told how despite the IRA cessation conditions for prisoners had deteriorated considerably over that period and since. This had been a negative factor in the peace process and combined with British footdragging on the repatriation was a recipe for disaster. Margaret Doherty, mother of Dublin prisoner Derek Doherty one of the three men who were finally cleared to be repatriated told of her frustration at the delay. "every time I contact the Department of foreign Affairs they say he is on his way. The papers have been there so long I can't understand what the delay is."

A second press conference Belfast heard that there were 33 republican prisoners held in jails in England. Of these six were now into 22nd year of imprisonment while a further 17 were held in the special secure units in Belmarsh prison. The damaging physical and psychological effects of these units have been widely documented and their continued use condemned by a wide range of human rights bodies and medical experts. Sinn Fein's Michael Browne said the "continued ill-treatment of Irish political prisoners" and the failure of the government to implement the transfer arrangements fell far short of the confidence building measures required and therefore lends nothing of a positive nature to the current situation. Marie Magee whose husband Paul is staging a no-wash and blanket protest against the regime in Belmarsh prison and the delay at being repatriated to Ireland, said she has not seen him for two years. Marie Magee said "Paul will not allow us to visit him because the visits take place in closed conditions. We talk on the telephone for 10 minutes about once a week." We have some of our family in the Republic so Paul has applied for transfer to both north and south. It would mean the end of a nightmare for us if he was transferred. Sinn Fein's northern chairman Gerry O'Hara said that republican prisoners must not be used by the British government in a peace process bargaining role.

Ella O'Dwyer Urgent appeal for action.

Ella has served 12 years of a discretionary life sentence. Her father whom she hasn't seen for more than 2 years is now seriously ill and unable to travel to see her. Because she is on temporary transfer to Maghaberry the home Office refuses to allow her compassionate parole to visit her seriously-ill father. We ask all readers to write as a matter of urgency to the Home office requesting that Ella be allowed compassionate parole. Please send any replies from the home office to Fuascailt or to Ella direct @ B1 Mourne Hose

Maghaberry Prison,

County Antrim.

Lisburn,

Fuascailt continues to campaign on behalf of Irish Political Prisoners in English jails and the barbaric conditions under which they are held. If you would like to be involved in any activities of the group please fill in the form at the back of this newsletter or join in any of the forthcoming events.

O S C A I L A N D O R A S

DIARY OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

MONTHLY PICKET DOWNING STREET 12-1pm	SUNDAY 3rd
FUASCAILT MEETING CAMDEN IRISH CENTRE 8pm	THURSDAY 7th & 21st
PUBLIC LAUNCH OF FUASCAILT PTA CARD 3-5pm CAMDEN IRISH CENTRE, 50-52 CAMDEN SQ, NW1.	THURSDAY 21st
WOLFE TONE SOCIETY BENEFIT SOCIAL 8pm YOUNG IRELANDERS. <i>DIRECT FROM SCOTLAND.</i>	SATURDAY 23rd TICKETS £5 IN ADVANCE.
FUASCAILT CHRISTMAS BENEFIT SOCIAL 8pm VICTORIA PUB, HOLLOWAY RD. N7	THURSDAY 28th TICKETS £3/£2 IN ADVANCE

DECEMBER - IRISH POLITICAL PRISONERS MONTH

MONTHLY PICKET DOWNING STREET 12-1pm	SUNDAY 1st
FUASCAILT MEETING CAMDEN IRISH CENTRE	THURSDAY 5th & 19th

JANUARY 1997-

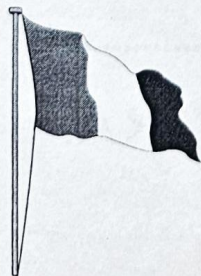
HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE PRISONERS AND TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

NEW YEAR PICKET OF DOWNING STREET 12-1pm	SUNDAY 5th
FUASCAILT MEETING CAMDEN IRISH CENTRE 8pm	THURSDAY 9th & 23rd
'THE YEAR AHEAD' MEETING 7pm & SOCIAL 9pm CAMDEN IRISH CENTRE, 50-52 CAMDEN SQ, NW1	FRIDAY 31ST MEMBERS ONLY

If you would like more information or would like to help at any of the above events please contact: Fuascailt, PO Box 3923, London NW5 1RA

please remember the prisoners still in jail
at christmas and on their birthdays

forthcoming birthdays



07/10/96	hugh doherty, 338636
14/12/96	liam o'duibhir, mt2485
31/12/96	derek doherty, en3887
02/01/97	liam mccotter, lb83693
18/01/97	jan taylor, en1977
31/01/97	paul[dingus] magee, BR3783



FUASCALT ACTIVITES

Fuascalt members have been extremely active over the past months leafletting North, South, East & West London highlighting the plight of Republican prisoners. We have picketed the infamous Paddington Green on numerous occasions to protest at the detention of Irish people under the PTA. Many of our activities have been well documented in the Irish Post, APRN and most recently on London Weekend Television News, GLR, The Times, The Mail, Irish News and the Irish World.

Fuascalt has raised money to help provide welfare support for republican prisoners and their families as well as providing practical help, transport and accommodation to those families who have had to travel from Ireland.

IF YOU CAN HELP WITH ANY OF THE ABOVE COME AND JOIN THIS LIVELY AND ACTIVE GROUP.

Heartfelt sympathy from all in Fuascalt to the family and friends of Pat McGeown, on his sudden and untimely death. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him in London.

**Caption Competition Winner
Paul Clancy**

"Thank God You've arrived. I needed a stand for my megaphone"

Apologies for articles submitted we are unable to print due to lack of space this time but will print letters and articles in future issues so keep writing.

IRISH REPUBLICAN PRISONERS IN BRITAIN

NAME		NUMBER	D.O.B.	SENTENCE
Belmarsh Prison				
Magee Paul (Dingus)	Belfast	BT3783	30/01/48	30 YRS
McCotter Liam	Belfast	LB83693	02/01/63	17 YRS
McNamee Danny	Armagh	LA81616		25 YRS
O'Duibhir Liam	Dublin	MT2485	14/12/61	30 YRS
Frankland Prison				
McKenny Joseph	Down	LA6486	07/02/27	16YRS
Full Sutton				
Doherty Derek	Dublin	EN3887	31 DEC	25 YRS
Jack Hugh Tommy	Scotland	EN3177	10/09/57	25 YRS
MacFhloinn Paraic	Dublin	EN1946	25 MAR	35 YRS
O'Brien Micheal	Dublin	BT3782	11 JUN	18 YRS
Quinn Liam	San Francisco	49930	06 FEB	LIFE
Wood Vincent	Cork	EN1049	07/08/64	22 YRS
Sherry Peter	Tyrone	B75880	30/06/55	LIFE
McNulty Sean	Tyrone	CL3440	13 OCT	25 YRS
Liverpool				
O'Connell Joe	Clare	338635	15/05/51	LIFE
Doncaster				
Butler Eddie	Limerick	334627	17/04/49	LIFE
Whitemoor				
Donnelly Vincent	Tyrone	274064	25/09/39	LIFE
Duggan Harry	Clare	338638	31/10/52	LIFE
Hayes Pat	London	EN1978	27 FEB	30 YRS
Kinsella Denis	Dublin	EN1944	12/04/68	25 YRS
Mullen Nick	Sligo	MR0639	02 FEB	30 YRS
Taylor Jan	London	EN1977	18 JAN	30 YRS
Doherty Hugh	Donegal	338636	07/12/50	LIFE
Maghaberry				
Ella O'Dwyer(T/T)	Tipperary	D25135	03/03	LIFE
Martina Anderson(T/T)	Derry	D25134	16/04	LIFE

PRISON ADDRESSES

HMP FRANKLAND
FINCHALE AVENUE,
BRASSIDE, DURHAM,
DH1 5YD

HMP FULL SUTTON
YORK
YD4 1PS

HMP BELMARSH
WESTERN WAY,
THAMESMEAD,
LONDON
SE28 0EB

HMP MAGHABERRY
OLD ROAD,
UPPER BALLINDERRY
LISBURN, IRELAND.
BT28 2PT

HMP WHITEMOOR
LONGHILL ROAD,
MARCH,
CAMBRIDGE
PE15 0QR

HMP Doncaster
Bawtry RD
Doncaster
DN7

HMP Liverpool
Hornby Rd
Liverpool L9 3DF

List Compiled 30th October '96

Join Fuascalt today

Membership is open to all individuals and organisations who support our aims. Individuals: £10/£5concs. Organisations:£20.

Name.....

tel.No.....

Address.....

Fuascalt, PO Box 3923, London NW5 1RA.

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