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An Phoblacht

REPUBLICAN NEWS

Déardaoin, 31 Márta
Thursday, 31 March 1994

**FULL EASTER STATEMENT FROM THE LEADERSHIP OF
OGLAIGH NA hÉIREANN — SEE PAGE 3**

IRA moves to break impasse

THE IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY has announced a three-day suspension of offensive military actions next week in a move which it says reflects its "willingness to be positive and flexible" in the search for peace. The suspension will be put into effect from midnight Tuesday, 5 April, to midnight Friday, 8 April.

The IRA announcement comes in its leadership's annual Easter message to republicans at home and abroad. The historic announcement represents a significant development in the efforts to achieve a real peace process and is the first such suspension, apart from those at Christmas, in many years.

Oglaigh na hÉireann, in its statement, again reiterates its view that the Irish Peace Initiative, "its underlying principles and dynamic which emerged publicly from the Hume/Adams talks", contains the basis for a lasting peace.

The need for continued efforts by all involved to push forward the peace effort is stressed and the statement re-emphasises the IRA's positive attitude. This positive approach was evidenced by its offer last year to suspend operations for two weeks, an offer intended to "enhance the success of proposed meetings between Sinn Féin and the British government". At that time, the British government went back on its own proposal for talks and, says the IRA, in so doing "closed down the potential opportunity for progress which this represented". Announcing next week's suspension, the IRA goes on to say:

"Our statement of 13 March reiterated our continued willingness to be positive and flexible in exploring the potential for moving the situation forward.

"As further evidence of that, we will unilaterally suspend offensive military actions for 72 hours from Tuesday, 5 April until midnight on Friday, 8 April."

This latest move by the IRA creates further space for all genuinely seeking peace to move the situation forward. The IRA's hope that the British government will use this opportunity to good effect will surely be echoed by all those seeking an end to the conflict and a peaceful and just resolution. — See pages 3/6/7

**1916
Cáisc
1994**

**HONOUR
IRELAND'S DEAD
WEAR AN
EASTER LILY
ATTEND YOUR LOCAL
COMMEMORATION**

— SEE PAGE 10 FOR DETAILS



News

Rocket and gunfire at Falls Road centre

Sinn Féin office attack exposes collusion

IT WAS NO COINCIDENCE that another UDA rocket and gun attack was launched on Sinn Féin offices on Tuesday morning, 29 March, when final preparations were being made for a press conference on collusion between the crown forces and loyalist death squads for later that day.

The rocket-propelled grenade bored through an outside wall before continuing through a further two interior walls, narrowly missing four people in the office which deals with prisoners' relatives. This was followed immediately by a sustained burst of automatic gunfire which also struck a confectionery shop next door. Several young children buying sweets were lucky not to be killed as assault rifle bullets passed inches from them. One of Sinn Féin's three EU election candidates in the Six Counties, Dodie McGuinness from Derry city, who was entering the offices, had a similar lucky escape with bullets striking the exterior wall beside her.

It was the third time loyalists have fired a RPG7 rocket at Sinn Féin offices. In two previous attacks one was fired at a Sinn Féin advice centre in Ardoyne and another at Sinn Féin's Belfast headquarters at Connolly House in Andersonstown several weeks ago.

Countless other loyalist rifle and bomb attacks on offices have taken place over the last 25 years with perhaps the most serious taking place two years ago at the Falls Road offices attacked on Tuesday. On that occasion an RUC member gained entry to the building by posing as a journalist. He then opened fire killing three local men and wounding two others. Those multiple murders were probably the most clear example of naked collusion between 'official' and 'unofficial' state execution gangs.

The loyalist murder gang deployed last Tuesday drove off after the attack down Leeson Street facing the damaged office building. They later abandoned their Austin Montego getaway car, stolen earlier from the York Street area, in Tigers Bay, North Belfast,

another loyalist area. To make their escape they passed two RUC barracks at Grosvenor Road and North Queen Street.

It was only the greatest of good fortune that none of the offices' staff were injured in the 11.10am attack. Nevertheless it was "business as usual" for all departments in the Sevastapol Street offices soon afterwards.

What did emerge from the press conference which went ahead on time as planned was the fact that high-level collusion was continuing between the British crown forces and loyalist death squads. As reported in *AP/RN* on 3 September, 1992, loyalist death squads admitted that they get their information from the crown forces. In a revealing interview earlier that year with the US-based information bulletin *Northern Ireland Report*, a UDA spokesperson admitted:

"We get our information from the security forces. I could show you computer print outs in the other room. Security force print outs, with precise intelligence."

Providing the array of journalists and news camera teams with two new comprehensive documents outlining this ongoing collusion was an obviously under-estimated Dodie McGuinness accompanied by party colleagues Councillors Annie Armstrong and Joe Austin, both of whom have recently survived loyalist bomb and gun attacks at their homes.

Fielding questions from journalists, Dodie McGuinness pointed to the fact that the attack took place within sight of a high rise British army observation tower at Divis Tower and less than 500 yards from both the joint British army/RUC bases at North Howard Street and Springfield Road.



● Blast damage inside Sinn Féin's Falls Road office after last Tuesday's UDA rocket attack

Asked the question as to why loyalists should have stepped up the level of their attacks Joe Austin began by stating that there was no one at the press conference who did not believe that collusion did not exist:

"We believe that in periods of time when the British government policy is either under stress or in turmoil, there has been a pattern of an increase in loyalist attacks. That is how it was in 1972, in 1974 or indeed now."

"The common enemy for the British and loyalists is change and loyalist are firing rockets at this change, we are not surprised, it's not new, not reactive," continued Austin who then took the opportunity to highlight his remarks by displaying the one foot long tail-fin of the RPG7 which the RUC's 'scenes of crime's' officers had 'missed' in their less than arduous search for evidence of the UDA attack.

It was a fragment of one of many thousands of rockets, grenades, pistols and assault rifles shipped into the Six Counties from South Africa in 1988 with the full knowledge of British intelligence,

and in particular their agent Brian Nelson, who with others organised three shipments. The arms, many Czech-made weapons, were initially used by the PLO in Lebanon where they had been captured by the Israelis and sold to Armcorp the South African state-owned company.

Concluding the press conference Austin called for journalists to use the information contained in the party's two collusion information packs, particularly the sections covering loyalist links with South Africa.

And with the emergence of the *Goldstone Commission Report* in South Africa (see last week's *AP/RN*) Austin gave an assurance that the investigations being conducted in South Africa at present will be provided with comprehensive documentation from Sinn Féin.

"We will be forwarding the well-documented

collusion between the British governments intelligence agencies, senior, now discredited figures in the South African Defence Forces and loyalist death squads. The real facts will eventually come out, journalists here today have a duty to expose those links or be seen as gullible stooges of failed British government policies."



● Divis Tower army observation post which overlooks the Falls Road office



● Sinn Féin's Dodie McGuinness, Annie Armstrong and Joe Austin at the press conference on collusion held after the UDA rocket attack



● Dodie McGuinness with part of the rocket which was overlooked by the RUC after the attack

News

Easter message from the leadership of Oglagh na hÉireann CALL ON BRITAIN TO USE OPPORTUNITY

THE 1994 message from the Irish Republican Army leadership reiterates republican commitment to Irish freedom and national self-determination and announces a three-day suspension of offensive military operations next week. The IRA says it hopes the British government will use this opportunity to the advantage of both the Irish and British people. Here is the full text as supplied to AP/RN.

“The leadership of Oglagh na hÉireann extends seasonal and fraternal greetings to all its friends, activists and supporters both at home and further afield.

Easter for republicans, marks a time for reflection and rededication. As we gather in groups large and small we call to mind all those who have died in the cause of Irish freedom. We especially call to mind those who have died over the past year. We extend sympathy and solidarity to all their families particularly those of Volunteers Jimmy Kelly and Thomas Begley.

Our struggle is a long, a proud and a resilient one. At this juncture as we celebrate and commemorate the 78th anniversary of the Easter Ris-

ing of 1916 we renew our republican faith and rededicate ourselves to the cause of Irish freedom.

Our objectives, which include the recognition and the exercise of the Irish people's right to national self-determination are well known. Our commitment and our unity of purpose remain steadfast.

Our commitment to peace is also a matter of public record. This is evidenced in the welcome we gave in October 1993 to the Irish Peace Initiative, its underlying principles and dynamic which emerged publicly from the Hume/Adams talks. It remains our view that this could provide the basis for peace.

Recently we reiterated the abiding and enduring nature of our commitment to the development of a genuine peace process. We stated our view that all involved should leave no stone unturned. We recognise that this commitment is shared by others, but from our perspective there is little evidence that this includes the British government.

Last year in an effort to enhance the success of proposed meetings between Sinn Féin and the British government we agreed to a British government proposal to suspend operations for two weeks. In the event the British government

rejected this and in so doing closed down the potential opportunity for progress which this represented.

Our statement of 13 March reiterates our continued willingness to be positive and flexible in exploring the potential for moving the situation forward.

As further evidence of that we will unilateral-ly suspend offensive military actions for 72 hours from midnight Tuesday, 5 April, until midnight Friday, 8 April.

There are no conditions attached to this unilateral initiative but we hope that the British government will accept this further opportunity in the spirit in which it is offered and utilise it to the best advantage of the British and Irish people.

Making peace is a difficult business for all involved, but the difficulties must be overcome. That is the responsibility of all involved but particularly the British government. We hope that the further opportunity here provided is used to that purpose and effect.

In conclusion, we republicans, as we celebrate and commemorate Easter, will draw strength and inspiration from our fallen dead and will face the tasks, challenges and opportunities of the coming year with commitment and unity of purpose. Beirigi bua.

Adams calls for direct talks with British government

Sinn Féin welcomes IRA announcement

In a response to the IRA's announcement of a 72-hour suspension on Wednesday night, 30 March, Gerry Adams welcomed the move and called for a positive response from the British government:

"Sinn Féin welcomes tonight's development. It represents an important initiative and has created an opportunity to break the stalemate in the peace process.

"This stalemate was created and is sustained by the British government's repeated refusal to provide clarification to Sinn Féin about the Downing Street Declaration and the processes envisaged in it. Such clarification has been provided to all the other parties. It should now be provided to Sinn Féin as a matter of urgency.

"Direct dialogue is the obvious and most effective method of doing this. I call upon John Major to authorise direct and immediate talks between our party and his government representatives so that the peace process can be moved forward.

"Just as importantly, direct dialogue would also indicate a genuine interest on the part of the British government, in developing a real peace process through the essential recognition of Sinn Féin's rights as a political party, the validity of our mandate and the democratic integrity of our electorate.

"Sinn Féin has no great concern to be engaged in bilateral discussions in constitutional matters with the London government. I have publicly outlined my position in this regard on a number of occasions. This is properly the business of future talks involving the two governments and representatives of all the Irish people including Sinn Féin.

"This however, is not the point of our reasonable calls for clarification.

Clarification clearly is not negotiation. "Clarification is required so that Sinn Féin and everyone else can properly and fully explore how the peace process can be moved forward at this time and specifically, how the Downing Street Declaration fits into this.

"I understand that Mr Major faces many difficulties. Tonight's announcement clearly eases some of these. It should be built upon. The search for peace requires imagination and determination."

Earlier in the week Gerry Adams responded to comments by British government ministers.

"The British government has once again ruled out talks with Sinn Féin," he said. "Patrick Mayhew in a recent public statement has attacked me for seeking to engage him and John Major in order to find a way out of the current deadlock. Mr Mayhew has also described Articles Two and Three of the Irish Constitution as an anachronism. The tone of these statements, as with Douglas Hurd's recent remarks, are disappointing."

Adams continued: "The refusal of the British government to communicate is at the nub of this critical phase of the peace process. Perhaps John Major's internal problems, particularly his dependence on the Tory right wing, may be dictating the tenor of these statements. If so, it is very feeble grounds for persisting with such obduracy given the importance of what is involved."



● GERRY ADAMS

News

Another barracks busted

YET ANOTHER British crown forces' base came under fire from IRA mortars last week, just five days after a similar attack destroyed a helicopter in Crossmaglen barracks. The latest attack was at Newtownbutler, County Fermanagh, where a jeep was used to fire a mortar at the barracks.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, 29 March, the IRA's South Fermanagh Brigade said:

"On Thursday evening last at 7.25pm a jeep, containing a Mark 16 mortar, was driven to within 50 yards of Newtownbutler joint British army/RUC Barracks.

"A warhead containing 260 pounds of home-made explosives was launched and contrary to RUC suggestions the device landed inside the perimeter of the base."

According to the statement two explosions were heard by local people which would indicate that



the mortar detonated inside the base. The extent of the damage to the base could not be gauged from outside.



workers in struggle...workers in struggle...workers in struggle...workers in struggle...workers in struggle...

New tax burden for low paid

■ BY NEIL FORDE

TWO NEW TAXES were to come into force next week. One is the property tax, which is now a standing joke as Dublin government climbdowns have made it ineffective. The second is a tax on unemployment benefit.

Effectively from next week, part-time and seasonal workers in the 26 Counties could be subject to a new tax levy. In a full year this will net the revenue commissioners £50 million which is just £2 million short of the total income tax paid by the farming community last year. The INOU described the new tax which will affect up to 80,000 workers as "a disincentive to work".

We have now been told that the tax proposal is being "reconsidered". Nothing short of a complete withdrawal is acceptable. Even proposing the tax shows a lack of understanding of the economic conditions of the people affected who are usually in low-paid temporary or seasonal work.

■ CWU silence on post crisis

As An Post finally admitted that its £15 million computerised postal service in west Dublin was

in trouble and that Dublin mail was being sent to provincial sorting offices, there was silence from the Communications Workers Union (CWU) on the issue.

Nearly 100 workers have been laid off from the Sheriff Street sorting office after being told that there was no work. Workers still kept on are being asked to do overtime to make up the loss.

On 25 March, An Post Chief Executive John Hynes admitted that there had been problems, that mail for Dublin had been sent to provincial sorting depots rather than the Sheriff Street depot, which is being run down. Hynes told reporters that he was confident that the mail would be back to normal by the end of the week.

Within three days Hynes admitted that late deliveries were set to continue. The problems at the new depot do not cover up the fact that the introduction of the

new £15 million system has corresponded with a reduction in postal services.

Dublin's commercial district has lost its three deliveries a day. Instead, deliveries are reaching business premises in the late morning. The effect on the business community in Dublin has been disastrous.

AP/RN contacted the CWU for their feelings on the issue and were told "no comment".

■ Aer Lingus in profit?

Champagne and a barrage of publicity hype greeted Aer Lingus' first direct flight from Dublin to New York last Sunday, 27 March. Aer Lingus Chairperson Bernie Cahill used the occasion to declare that from the beginning of the new financial year in April, the airline would be in profit.

On the same day a Sunday newspaper profiled two more asset disposals by Aer Lingus which gained the company nothing, but will cost them £6 million.

Aer Lingus unions said there was no consultation with the workforce on the sales. The com-



● Bernie Cahill, Aer Lingus chairperson, avoiding questions about the £150 million equity injection into the company following the disposal of two of its subsidiaries

panies were sold despite assurances that workers would be consulted beforehand.

Aer Lingus sold the two 'loss-making' subsidiaries Aer Turas, a freight company, and Shannon Repair Services (SRS). The sales amounted to £14 million, with SRS being sold for £450,000. However Aer Turas had \$25 million in debts which Aer Lingus still have to pay.

Both firms are being sold as economically viable firms. Cahill claimed to the TV cameras on Sunday that Aer Lingus did not have the cash to invest in the companies and they were better off outside the group. This begs the question as to just what was the £150 million equity injection into Aer Lingus for? Anybody for more champagne?

If you have a story at your workplace, let us know. Contact AP/RN at phone 8733611 or Fax 8733074.

Sectarian arsonists strike

A CATHOLIC CHURCH has been attacked by arsonists for the second time in a year. St Coleman's Catholic church in Drogheda had recently reopened after a £200,000 refurbishment after the first blaze. It is believed that flammable liquid was poured through a window and set alight just before midnight on Sunday.

The church was saved from total destruction by a neighbouring Methodist clergyman who alerted the firebrigade. There has been significant rise in the number of vandalism and arson attacks on Catholic churches in the Six Counties in recent years.

In Belfast three vans were damaged by loyalists in an arson attack in Howard Street. One was

destroyed while the others received paint and window damage.

A fire at a Belfast drop-in centre has forced it to call off its opening ceremony. The centre was due to open this coming Monday.

Suffolk young adults centre, which comprises of two houses, was broken into, vandalised and set on fire on Saturday night, 26

March. Sinn Féin Councillor Máirtín O Muilleoir, condemning the attack on the unemployed centre, said:

"This deplorable arson attack has deprived the community of a valuable local resource. The statutory agencies should immediately undertake to rebuild this centre or provide an alternative site among the other empty flats or houses in the Blacks Road estate."

The perpetrators daubed republican slogans on exterior walls in a cynical attempt to shift the blame to republicans.

Loyalists continued to attack

nationalists in vulnerable areas. On Saturday night last a Catholic man in Greencastle narrowly escaped injury when a petrol bomb was thrown through the window of his upstairs flat at Fairhill Park. The man lives in a predominantly Protestant housing estate.

A 26-year-old man and his friend were also the victims of a vicious sectarian attack in Belfast on Saturday night. The two were attacked in an off-licence on the corner of the Falls Road and North Howard Street by two men who came into the establishment.

Pretending to be intoxicated, one of the men fell against one of

the victims, gripping him around the neck. He then stabbed the victim in the back. The men ran off in the direction of the loyalist Shankill Road, stopping briefly to shout sectarian taunts at a group of people who came to the man's aid.

The victim lay in agony for several minutes waiting for the emergency services to arrive. During that time a motorised British army patrol passed the attackers and the victim but did nothing. The victim received 15 stitches and was hospitalised for two days.

Regular sectarian attacks take place at this junction, even though the gangs have to pass a British army/RUC base to get to it.

Attack on SDLP councillor deplored

COMMENTING ON THE ATTACK on SDLP Councillor John Fee who was beaten up by persons unknown on 24 March, Sinn Féin Councillor Jim McAllister commenting on the attack, said:

"The brutal attack on SDLP Councillor John Fee was unjustified and unwarranted.

"The efforts of some to link republicans with this assault is a cynical exercise in cheap political

point scoring. I am quite confident that no republican was responsible for this vicious attack."

Responding to comments by the SDLP deputy leader Séamus

Mallon and Dick Spring on the beating of Councillor Fee, Gerry Adams said:

"Councillor Jim McAllister has spelled out Sinn Féin's attitude to the attack on Councillor John Fee, rightly describing it as 'unjustified and unwarranted'. I hope Mr Fee has a speedy recovery.

"I consider Séamus Mallon's

efforts to link me and Sinn Féin with this deplorable incident as despicable and opportunistic.

"Dick Spring's attempt to climb on the bandwagon is equally contemptible, especially given his silence when Sinn Féin councillors and their families are killed or the victims of murder



● JIM McALLISTER

THORP protest brought to London

WITH OPERATIONS BEGINNING at the THORP nuclear waste reprocessing plant at Sellafield this month, anger is growing on both sides of the Irish Sea at the way in which British Nuclear Fuels (BNF) and the British government ignored all objections to this deadly operation. Sinn Féin's EC candidate in Dublin Larry O'Toole handed in a letter of protest at BNF headquarters in London on Monday.

Larry O'Toole said he was protesting on behalf of the Irish people, especially those living on the east coast who are in most danger in the event of an accident. In his letter to the BNF bosses he said:

"Your attempts to smokescreen the potentially catastrophic dangers of this plant — on top of the

already deadly threat from the existing Sellafield plant — have fooled nobody in Ireland and few in Britain. Last year your company admitted 'errors' which underestimated radiation discharge levels in your application to operate the new plant.

"The Irish Sea is probably the most nuclear polluted sea in the

world and it is estimated that the THORP plant would involve an increase in emissions into the sea of 600% and of 800% into the air. Local councils throughout Ireland, especially those on the east coast where people are most in danger, have opposed THORP and called for the closure of Sellafield. My party, through its elected representatives on those bodies, including my colleague in Dublin, Councillor Christy Burke, will continue to vigorously oppose your operations.

"Irish people will not desist until your deadly plants are closed down for good and until people in Ireland and Britain can be certain that these potential Chernobyls no longer threaten them."

O'Toole told AP/RN that THORP was a key issue in the Euro election campaign and criticised the lack of firm action by the Dublin government.



● Sinn Féin's EU candidate Larry O'Toole trying to hand in a letter to the BNF office in London

FORD WORKER FACED LOYALIST THREATS

EVIDENCE of Sexual and religious discrimination against 39-year-old Catholic woman and mother of two Mary Daly was heard by a Fair Employment Tribunal (FET). Daly is employed by the US multinational car manufacturers Ford.

The hearing heard what was described as "a litany of wrongdoing" by Ford, which made a mockery of the company's claim to be an equal opportunity employer.

Mary Daly decided to pursue her complaint after Ford appointed a Protestant to a job vacancy even though an interview panel had given Daly the highest mark in the summary sheets of the interviews for the post. She also claimed that a supervisor had subjected her to continual sexual harassment from 1985 until she was moved to a new department in 1991.

As reported in AP/RN on 27

August 1992 two of the main trade union representatives who might have been expected to assist Daly in her attempts to highlight job discrimination are actually members of the sectarian Orange Order.

Ford's Belfast Convenor, Ray Kelly of the Amalgamated Engineering Union (AEU) and Ford's senior representative for staff, Robert Graham of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union (MSF) are both members of the Orange Order. Graham is in fact Deputy Master of Loyal Orange Lodge 490.

Giving evidence at the tribunal,

Daly said she had been subject to harassment by senior Ford executives over many years. The tribunal heard that the chairperson of an interviewing panel which failed to appoint Daly to a new post had written letters which showed he was "deeply resentful" of fair employment investigations within the firm.

Daly said that Ford "one of the largest organisations in the world" went to great lengths to state that it was an equal opportunity company and produces a booklet every year on fair employment in the Six Counties. Indeed, the company has its 'Ford Principles' which includes the call for affirmative action to be taken in areas where minority groups are under-represented.

Daly applied for the post of

Programme Timing Coordinator in the engineering department, where no women were employed. Her qualifications provided Ford with a perfect opportunity to put their affirmative action principles to the test. However, the company failed the test when Daly was refused the job.

Giving evidence, sometimes in tears, Daly said her employment at Ford had become "a nightmare" after the staff were informed she had sent the letter of complaint to Peter Pestillo at the company's HQ.

Following this letter, her husband Gerry received a Christmas card with a threat from the UVF. After the delivery of this card the RUC told the Daly family that their house was being watched

and they should take the threat seriously. On 30 January 1992 a senior RUC officer told them they were in serious danger of being shot. The Dalys were forced to move house and were off work for three months.

As the hearing continues this week it was also revealed from the United States that Ford was the only company which had testified at a state hearing against the MacBride Principles. With another seven high-profile cases against Ford due to be heard by the FET within the next 12 months the spotlight presently on the company is a major embarrassment. This embarrassment is more acute because the Ford plant, sited in an area of massive nationalist unemployment, has a majority Protestant workforce.

Tax set to penalise street traders

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL at a meeting on Monday, 28 March, has called on the Minister for Employment and Enterprise Ruairi Quinn to amend the new Casual Trading Bill after Sinn Féin Councillor Christy Burke said that if it was passed traders would find themselves in Mountjoy Jail. The council vote follows strong opposition to the bill by the Sinn Féin councillor since its introduction.

Speaking after a meeting of between 90 and 100 Moore Street traders in Dublin's ILAC Centre on Thursday, 24 March, Christy Burke said that he was making representations to Ruairi Quinn in an attempt to secure changes to the bill.

Christy Burke said: "I have been in contact with the office of Minister Quinn in an attempt to secure changes to the bill. Traders who have

operated in most cases for generations will be put out of business if this bill is passed. Commonsense should tell the minister that street traders do not fall into the high-wage earners bracket.

"That they should be expected to hire accountants to prove that they have little or no taxable income is bureaucracy at its most ludicrous. This bill as it stands poses a very real

threat to hundreds of livelihoods and should be amended."

Burke said that plans to introduce a tax which further crucifies working-class people is particularly reprehensible in light of the government's climbdown on the property tax issue which he said affected a small minority of well-heeled people.

Mount Forest Road closed again

The Mount Forest Road between counties Monaghan and Tyrone which was opened on 6 March at a special road opening to mark International Women's Day was closed again by British forces in a massive operation last week. This latest destruction was achieved with what Sinn Féin councillors described as "unprecedented cooperation" from the Garda and army in the 26 Counties.

Heavy machinery, armoured vehicles and helicopters were moved into the area on Thursday, 24 March, and worked for two days to destroy the road which had been made accessible to agricultural machinery. Several families were effectively held under house arrest near the scene and people were prevented from going to a local wake. Dungannon Sinn Féin Councillor Raymond MacMahon said there had been an increase in harassment of locals by British forces. Monaghan Sinn Féin Councillors Brian McKenna and Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin criticised the cooperation given to the British forces on the 26-County side with large numbers of troops and Gardaí drafted in, and helicopters used. "This runs counter to the govern-

ment's alleged criticism of road closures at Anglo-Irish conference meetings," they said.

Jimmy McKenna of the South Tyrone/North Monaghan Community Association vowed that they would return to reopen the road.

Motorway blocked in anti-dump protest

Dublin's West Link motorway was blocked on Saturday, 26 March, as local people protested against plans by a private company National Toll Roads (NTR) to create a 336-acre "super dump" in the Mulhuddart area.

The massive dump would be 15 times the size of St Stephen's Green and take 1,000 tonnes of municipal refuse a day for up to ten years. The planned dump has incensed locals, who have joined other community and environmental groups from other parts of Dublin and elsewhere to form an alliance to fight it.

Attending the protest march was Blanchardstown Sinn Féin representative Jim Heffernan, who pledged the party's support for the community's demands. Heffernan delivered a message of support too from Sinn Féin EU candidate Larry O'Toole who was unable to attend the rally as he was in Britain.

Councillors' expenses to be made public

Monaghan Urban District Council agreed unanimously at its meeting of Monday, 28 March, on a motion brought by Sinn Féin Councillors

Owen Smyth and Pádraigín Ní Mhurchadha that councillors expenses for the last three years be made public.

Owen Smyth also called on Monaghan county councillors to follow the UDC's example, adding that any money claimed as expenses by councillors should be a matter of public record. Sinn Féin county councillors in Monaghan have long supported such a move.

The decision by Monaghan UDC is an historic one with significance for all other UDC's and indeed county councils around the 26 Counties.

Supporting another motion at the Monaghan UDC meeting condemning the recent attack on SDLP Councillor John Fee in South Armagh, Sinn Féin Councillor Owen Smyth said it was hypocritical of the council not to have condemned the repeated assassinations and attempted assassinations of Sinn Féin councillors and members in recent years.

SF discriminated against

In Shannon, County Clare Sinn Féin Town Commissioner Mike McKee has written to Shannon Development to protest at their refusal to grant the use of the Tullyvarragga Hall for a Sinn Féin meeting.

Shannon Development had turned down the request, saying that only those who "unequivocally renounce the use of violence can be accommodated in premises under the control of the state".

McKee replied that he had not heard of any group being asked to "renounce violence" — which Sinn Féin does not advocate anyway — before hiring the hall. He said it was ironic that this ban was imposed on a meeting on the peace process. He is to raise the issue at the next meeting of the Town Commission.



● Local residents blocking the road during last Saturday's protest against the proposed dump in the Mulhuddart area



An Phoblacht

REPUBLICAN NEWS

31 MARCH 1994

■ BRITAIN SHOULD SEIZE THE MOMENT

THIS WEEK'S IRA announcement of its intention to implement a three-day suspension of offensive military operations from Tuesday, 5 April, to provide space for positive political movement towards a peace process, is welcome.

The IRA initiative is a unilateral one and is without preconditions. It is not the result of a request by Sinn Féin or anyone else. Sinn Féin though has welcomed the IRA announcement and it is hoped that the British government will respond positively by taking advantage of the development provided.

Sinn Féin's electoral mandate entitles it to the treatment afforded any other representative political party. That mandate stands on its own merits. But the fact of this latest gesture by the IRA should leave nobody in any doubt as to the flexibility and willingness of Irish republicans to do all in their power to facilitate a peace process. The British government should now seize the moment to improve the current situation by meeting Sinn Féin face-to-face.

The IRA decision was taken in spite of the recent negative statements from British government spokespersons and stands in marked contrast to the intransigent stance which that government has adopted in recent weeks and months. This has included the determination of the British government to push through the notorious Prevention of Terrorism Act, without any amendments to allow for a changing situation, and in particular the use of exclusion orders against Sinn Féin.

Negative signals to nationalists and republicans have included also the creation of the Unionist/Conservative dominated Select Committee and the gerrymander-based proposals of the Parliamentary Boundaries Commission.

As Martin McGuinness said earlier this week: "The British government talks of peace but its policies and action suggest a strategy for victory, not peace."

"Republicans are being asked to judge the intentions of the British government in the Downing Street Declaration, but the British government's message appears singular and discouraging."

That government has continually refused to meet Sinn Féin representatives to provide clarification of their intentions in light of the Downing Street Declaration, even when it has been made explicitly clear that what is sought is not negotiations on constitutional matters.

In contrast to British intransigence, republicans have shown themselves to be imaginative and flexible.

As republicans gather for Easter commemorations around Ireland and we rededicate ourselves to the struggle to attain the ideals of the 1916 Rising, let us recognise this period as one of struggle also. The IRA's decision to suspend offensive operations for three days is part of that struggle. That decision, like every other, has been made in pursuance of republican aims.

This is not a time for spectator politics by republicans. All of us must do what we can, wherever we are, to ensure that this period is utilised to concentrate minds on the causes of conflict in Ireland and to point the way out of conflict and towards peace. We must face the British government with the united demand to move from its intransigent position.

News



● Patrick John O'Neill, Brendan Doris and Una McGrath at the INC press conference to highlight continuing crown forces harassment

TYRONE HARASSMENT CONDEMNED

■ BY LIAM O COILEAIN

TYRONE NATIONALISTS travelled to Dublin on Wednesday, 30 March, to speak out against a concerted and brutal campaign of crown forces harassment in Coalisland and Omagh.

The press conference, hosted by the Irish National Congress, heard how in recent weeks the crown forces have launched unprovoked attacks on nationalists with plastic bullets and live rounds, the culmination of a long period of harassment and intimidation in these predominantly nationalist areas. Local people have picketed the RUC barracks in Omagh once and the Coalisland barracks on three occasions in protest.

Coalisland Sinn Féin Councillor Brendan Doris told how three months ago he intervened when he saw an RUC officer harassing a youth on the street. The youth was roughly arrested. The officer told Doris the incident was none of his business and refused to answer any queries. Three days later, Doris was arrested and charged with two assaults, disorderly behaviour and obstruction, "all for asking why they

were arresting this young fellow".

He told how, on 5 March, the RUC had indiscriminately opened fire with plastic bullets on people returning home from pubs in Coalisland, also firing live ammunition in the air. Five people were injured. On Friday, 11 March, in Omagh, the RUC attacked young people returning home from a dance with plastic bullets and batons. Serious injuries were caused and some of those arrested were denied medical attention until the following morning, despite broken limbs. Sixteen people were subsequently charged with riotous behaviour.

Human rights campaigner Father Joe McVeigh said that the upsurge in harassment was reminiscent of the situation before the clashes with paratroopers a couple of years ago. He felt that the British were giving the message to young people

that if the Downing Street Declaration wasn't accepted, they could expect more harassment. He criticised the SDLP in the area for not supporting the people and slated the Dublin government for its "disgraceful attitude towards the oppression of northern nationalists". He said that if, as Albert Reynolds said recently, he did not expect to see a united Ireland in his lifetime, "then what is he going to do about the plight of nationalists who are living with this situation during his lifetime?"

Una McGrath told how she had been injured on the night of 5 March in Coalisland. British soldiers were spread out across the road and as she reached them, one pushed her to the ground, chafing her hands. The soldiers and RUC then opened fire with plastic bullets. One passed through her son's jacket pocket, grazing his hip, while a second grazed her knee. Two days later the RUC arrived at her home and arrested her. She was charged with rioting, assault, disorderly behaviour and criminal damage. She spoke of the constant harassment of young men, particularly in the Clonoe/Coalisland area. "They cannot even go out to a football match or for a game of snooker or even to go to work without being stopped and harassed."

Patrick John O'Neill was a victim of the same unprovoked attack. He was struck twice by plastic bullets, fired at point-blank range, one grazing the side of his face, the other hitting him in the foot, breaking three bones. "They just seemed to go mad", he said. "They were also firing their revolvers in the air like fireworks."

INC national chairperson Bobby Ballagh said that they would be preparing a statement for Dublin Foreign Minister Dick Spring demanding that he take action on this issue through the channels available to him.



● Bobby Ballagh and Joe McVeigh at the conference

News

TOWARDS A LASTING PEACE?

■ BY HILDA
Mac THOMAS

THE THREE-DAY CESSATION announced on Wednesday night by the IRA is a major development. Christmas ceasefires are seasonal gestures of goodwill. This, however, is not a gesture. For the first time in 20 years, the IRA has decided on a unilateral suspension of hostilities for the express purpose of creating space for political developments to take place.

This initiative is set against the background of Sinn Féin's ongoing peace strategy, and the momentum it has generated, particularly over the last year. It clearly creates the opportunity for the British government to remove the fog that surrounds the Downing Street Declaration caused by its refusal to provide clarification for Sinn Féin.

The three-day suspension, with its six-day advance notification, provides the British government with an opportunity to give clarifications to republicans. Not the type of megaphone diplomacy which they have engaged in over the past few months, or even the type of confidential contacts which took place over the years and up to last November (the content of which could all too easily be mis-

represented later), but clarifications given directly, through face-to-face talks, and publicly acknowledged as such.

The past 25 years have witnessed an intense political and military struggle. Through it, republicans — activists and supporters — have shown considerable steadfastness, built a solid electoral base and waged a remarkable struggle on many fronts.

The IRA's Easter initiative is an important development in the search for a democratic and lasting settlement. Republicans must rise to the occasion and become more, not less, active in promoting and consolidating the Irish peace initiative, and making sure that political developments follow a democratic agenda.

There has been a palpable new confidence and strength in Irish nationalism since 25 September, when the agreement between Gerry Adams and John Hume became news. The 'Hume-Adams initiative', as it became known, triggered an unprecedented wave of hope, expectation and enthusiasm throughout nationalist Ireland and beyond. The demand and potential for a real settlement based on democratic principles has never been greater.

Since 25 September, Sinn Féin spokespersons have publicly shown that the party is prepared to be flexible in the search for a lasting peace. This flexibility was evident in Sinn Féin's attitude to the Downing Street Declaration and its request for clarifications in order to dispel the ambiguities in the document and the negative backdrop to it created by subsequent commentary.

Sinn Féin also gave strong signals to unionists that they accepted the need for unionists to be

fully involved in whatever form of political organisation Irish people devise for themselves. They recognise, in the words of Mitchel McLaughlin at the Ard Fheis, "the immensity of the difficulties for unionists in negotiating for the first time their own future, freed from a crippling dependence on the British state."

Sinn Féin spokespersons, in particular Gerry Adams in his St Patrick's Day speech, have also pointed out that Sinn Féin's electoral mandate must be accorded the same recognition as that of other political parties. This is, of course, a separate issue from that of negotiations. Future negotiations on constitutional issues are properly the business of talks, involving representatives of all the Irish people and the two governments.

No such flexibility has been in evidence on the British side in the past six months. They have been intransigent up to now, and failed even in their stated objective of treating nationalists and unionists

equally. The IRA initiative must be seen as an encouragement to the British to show such openness, flexibility and imagination.

On 10 May 1993, the IRA had made a similar offer, a two-week suspension of hostilities, aimed at enhancing the success of proposed delegate meetings between Sinn Féin and the British government (see *Setting the Record Straight* — A record of communications between Sinn Féin and the British government October 1990-November 1993). This never materialised because the British walked away from this process.

The IRA is again offering an opportunity for movement. Repeatedly over the past six months, the IRA has expressed support for the Irish Peace Initiative. Again yesterday, they said the Irish Peace Initiative was the "basis upon which a lasting peace can be established". Their announcement of a 72-hour suspension of hostilities is, in that context, a historic development, which if properly received could set in train a real peace process. The British government needs to move from conflict management to conflict resolution. The IRA's Easter initiative gives them the opportunity to move in this direction.

'British must take risks for peace' — McGuinness

THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY of the killing of IRA Volunteer Jimmy Kelly was marked on Sunday, 27 March, with the unveiling of a fine headstone at Glen Cemetery outside the County Derry town of Maghera.

Several hundred people turned up to pay their respects to Volunteer Jimmy Kelly, murdered with James McKenna, Robert Dalrymple, and Noel O'Kane at Castle Rock on the 25 March 1993, by a pro-British death squad. Republicans from across the 32 Counties came to pay their respects to the courageous young IRA Volunteer.

The grave was blessed by Fr Joe McVeigh, followed by a wreath-laying ceremony by his family, friends and republicans. The main speaker was Sinn Féin Ard Chomhairle member Martin McGuinness.

"I am proud to be here," said McGuinness, "Jimmy Kelly was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him, an admired and respected republican. This headstone is a testament to the respect which Jimmy Kelly commanded.

It shows that he will never be forgotten."

McGuinness said that the most lasting monument to all who had died would be freedom, justice and peace and spoke of "new realities":

"At the Sinn Féin Ard Fheis I acknowledged that comments at that time by several British ministers appeared to give rise to the view that they were grappling with new realities. I also expressed the concern that those remarks might be no more than opportunistic efforts to put Sinn Féin under political and media pressure immediately prior to our party conference. Regrettably, in the weeks since then my fears appear to have been well-grounded. One after another, British ministers have issued a succession of



● Martin McGuinness delivering the oration at the unveiling of the memorial to Volunteer James Kelly on Sunday, 27 March

uncompromising, hard-hitting comments.

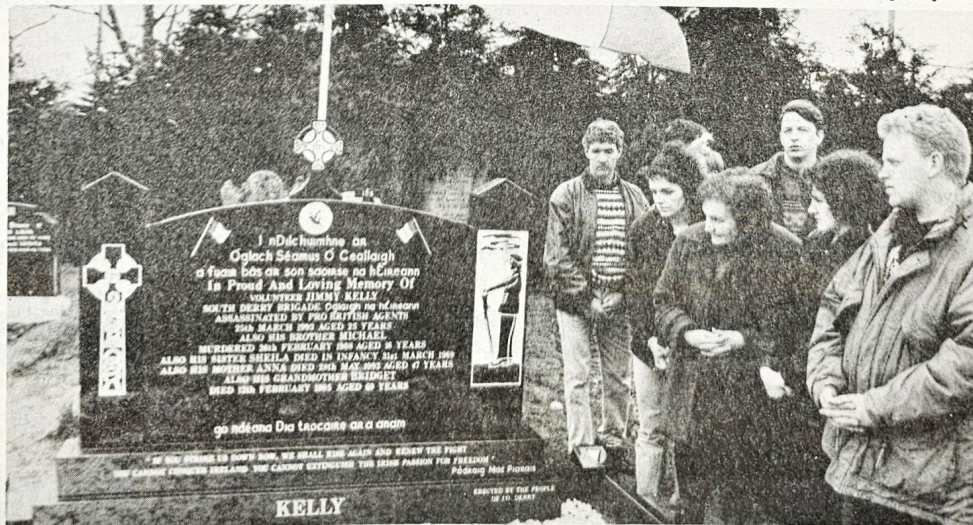
"Our desire, and that of all those who wish the peace process

to develop and succeed, has been frustrated as Britain has rejected the reasonable request for clarification. Sinn Féin is a political party representing an important section of political opinion on this island. Our democratic rights and those of our electorate must be recognised by the British government. Direct talks to clarify the declaration and Britain's long-term political objectives are essential if we are to move the process out of this crucial stage.

"The British government, which appears to equate peace with victory, must accept that change is necessary. The British government talks of peace, but its policies and action suggest a strategy for victory, not peace.

"Advancing the peace debate requires trust and a willingness to examine new possibilities. The creation of an atmosphere of goodwill is necessary and in this regard we all look to each other for any indication that each is serious and prepared to be flexible.

"It is easier to make war than to make peace. Making peace is riskier, but the prize is worthwhile and is a goal which all must pursue."



● The memorial unveiled in honour of Volunteer James Kelly — a republican held in the highest esteem by all who knew him

Notices

EASTER SATURDAY

ARMAGH

Assemble 7pm, Mullach Bán.

DUBLIN

Assemble 2.30 pm, Crumlin Shopping Centre. March to Eamonn Ceannt Park

EASTER SUNDAY

ANTRIM — BELFAST

Assemble 1.00pm, Beechmount Avenue. March to Milltown Cemetery. Organised by National Graves Association.

CAVAN

Assemble 3pm, Swanlinbar.

CORK

Assemble 2pm, National Monument, Grand Parade. March to St Finbar's Cemetery.

Assemble 12.45pm, Tadhg an Asta Monument, Clonakilly.

DERRY/SOUTHWEST ARMAGH

Assemble 12 noon, Dungiven. Assemble Ballyronan Road, 2.30pm. March to the Loup. Wreath-laying ceremonies: Newbridge 10.45am Lavey 11.45am Glen 11.45am Desertmartin Bellaghy 12.15pm Cargin

DONEGAL

Assemble 3pm Johnstown's Corner, Stranorlar. March to Drumboe.

DOWN/ARMAGH

Assemble 10.30am, Francis Street, Newry. Assemble 10.45am, Church Carpark, Dromintee. Assemble 10.45am, the Monument, Camloch. Assemble after 10.00am Mass, Lislea. Assemble 10.45am, Rangers' Hall, Crossmaglen. March to St Pat's Church. Assemble 4pm following Volunteer Michael McVerry Tournament Final. March to Republican Memorial. Assemble 1.00pm, Kilcurrey. Assemble 2.00pm, Ferla Crossroads, Ballymacnab. Assemble 4.00pm, Cullyhanna.

DUBLIN

Assemble 2.30pm, GPO, O'Connell Street. March to Glasnevin Cemetery

FERMANAGH

Assemble 2.45pm, St Tierney's Primary School, Roslea.

LEITRIM

Assemble 3pm, Selton Hill. March to Fenagh Cemetery.

EASTER COMMEMORATIONS

All nationalist, cultural and sporting groups, and trade unions, are invited to take part in Easter Commemoration ceremonies which are organised by local Commemoration Committees.

For further information please contact the Republican Press Centre, 51/53 Falls Road, Belfast (Phone 624421) or 44 Parnell Square, Dublin (phone 8726100).



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 all of 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 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,

John Doherty
Seán MacBride
John Doherty
Seamus MacNeill
Joseph W. Plunkett

LIMERICK

Assemble 11.45pm, Bedford Road. Assemble 3.30pm, Templethra Churchyard, Athea.

LOUTH

Assemble 11.30am, St Peter's Church, Drogheda. Assemble 2.30pm, the Square, Dundalk.

MONAGHAN

Assemble 3pm, O'Hanlon's Memorial, Clones Road, Monaghan.

All Commemoration Committees are asked to send reports and photographs of the ceremonies to AP/RN, 58 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, before 12 noon, Tuesday, 5 April, for inclusion in that week's edition. (If sending film, preferably send Black and White ASA 400 35mm.)

Wreath-laying ceremonies at graves of those on Monaghan Roll of Honour in morning.

OFFALY

Assemble 3pm, at the grave of William Duignan.

TIPPERARY

Assemble 3pm, Banba Square, Nenagh.

TYRONE

Assemble 3pm, Patricia Hall, Carrickmore. Local graveside commemorations in morning:

Aghyran 11.30am
Altmore 10.30am
Aughnagar 9.30am
Broughderg 9.30am
Carrickmore 12.15pm
Clonoe 12.30pm
Coalisland 12 noon
Dunmoyle 11.00am
Edendork 10.30am
Eglisli 11.30am
Galbally 11.30am
Greencastle 11.45am
Kildress 12.45pm
Lough Shore (Ardboe) 12.45pm

Loughmacrory 12 noon

Moy 10.30am

Pomeroy 11.30am

Rock 11.30am

Tullysaran 10.30am

Wreath-laying ceremonies:

Castlederg

Cookstown

Cranagh

Donaghmore

Dungannon (Carland Road)

Drumagh

Seskinore 1.00pm

Trillick 10.30am

WEXFORD

Assemble 11.30am, Foley's Garage, The Quay, Ennisclorthy. March to St Mary's Cemetery

EASTER MONDAY

ANTRIM — BELFAST

Assemble 1.30pm, Carlisle Road, New Lodge.

DOWN/ARMAGH

Assemble 11.30am, Belleeks. Assemble 2.00pm, Armagh City.

DERRY/SOUTHWEST

ANTRIM

Assemble 2.30pm, the Diamond, Swatragh.

DUBLIN

Assemble 2.30pm, Baker's Corner. March to Deansgrange Cemetery.

MEATH

Assemble 12 noon, Main Street, Ashbourne.

EASTER TUESDAY

ANTRIM — BELFAST

Assemble 1.00pm, Herbert Street, Ardoyne.

POLITICAL COLLAPSE

"Practical politics consists in ignoring the facts" — Henry Adams.

THIS LUCID little insight sadly reflects what passes for much of politics in the Six-Counties today. That much, at least, was evident in the third part of UTV's *Understanding Northern Ireland*.

Truth to be told, it was a pretty dull episode. Jim Molyneux, unlike Paisley the week before, is too dour to delight, and too uninspiring to be unpredictable.

Michael Farrell did his best, but with Jim in the ring it all smacked of shadow boxing.

Even the deep intonations of tenor John McCormack proved less than uplifting.

The programme's focus this time was on the 1930s. Molyneux, while conceding the existence of terrible poverty spoke in glowing terms of how it invigorated

the people. He managed to sound too much like Thatcher hankering after the 'good old days' of Queen Victoria and her values, when the cap was doffed and the woman knew her place at the sink. Farrell told it as it must have been. Poverty is never uplifting and he compared the era to the abysmal situation that prevails throughout much of the 'Third World' today. Workers actually rioted in the street to get into the workhouse — in today's

terms, a bit like republicans fighting to get into the H-Blocks for a meal.

The Outdoor Relief (ODR) riots of 1932 invariably get a mention in any coverage of the '30s. For many they were a demonstration of how unionist and nationalist working-class people could unite if only left to their own devices free from the corrupting influence of sectional leaderships. Farrell pointed out that the unionist leadership were in a state of panic over this unity and set about the malign task of featuring it through the beating of the big drum. This is true, but

to complete the story viewers should read the work of Munck and Rolston, *Belfast in the Thirties: An oral History*, in which they show that the unity at the time ran parallel to a very strong and completely undiluted strain of sectarianism amongst Protestant workers, which existed independently — although very much complemented by the sectarianism of the unionist leadership.

At one point, during the coverage of the 1935 riots, the programme surrendered any claims it may have made to a sense of balance by informing viewers that

the police were caught in the middle of a sectarian conflict and then illustrated this with footage of B-Specials manning their tenders. Enough said.

It was not the best of the three programmes so far broadcast in the series, and people will be excused for turning elsewhere for their viewing. If so, for capturing the imagination they could not have gone past the experience of Margaret Thatcher fainting during her visit to South America. Many, no doubt, will welcome the collapse of something other than democracy in Chile.

Great victory for Down

IWANDERED into Croke Park last Sunday to see how Down and Kerry would get on in their Division One National Football League play-off. At the end of the day I was left with an indicator of the current strength of Ulster football. Despite missing two of their best defenders, DJ Kane and John Kelly, Down won easily enough.

After losing, narrowly, to Donegal in another play-off the previous Sunday, this was a great victory for Down, who now play Meath, in a repeat of the 1991 All-Ireland Final, in a mouthwatering quarter-final at Croke Park next Sunday as part of a double bill with Donegal vs Laois. Down went ahead after the first minute, but Kerry kept in contention until the last six minutes or so, when Down's Gerard Deegan scored his side's second goal to give the Ulstermen a 2-8 to 0-10 lead. From then until the end Down, aided by a strong wind, were totally in control. Deegan's goal as well as being a terrible blow to Kerry at the

time, seemed to act as a spur to his side who began to play as a cohesive unit for the rest of the match, leaving the Kerry men in their wake.

Kerry's problems were further compounded by their failure to take advantage of a penalty kick five minutes before the end. Down were leading by 2-11 to 0-10 when their goalkeeper, Neil Collins, pulled down Seán Geaney after a great move. Pat Laide took the kick and hit it quite well, but Collins dived to his left and saved magnificently. Down manager Peter McGrath has to be happy with this performance as he looks towards the first round Ulster

championship clash with All-Ireland champions Derry at Celtic Park, Derry, on 29 May. His midfield will have to improve as will James McCartan and Geg Blaney, but overall things are looking good.

The same cannot be said about the Kerry manager, Denis Moran. His side has many problems, the biggest of which is in the attack. They depend too much on Maurice Fitzgerald to make up for deficiencies in the rest of the forward line. Fitzgerald tried his best to get his colleagues moving but to no avail. Michael Magill, the Down full back, followed him wherever he went and along with the rest of the Down defenders restricted the opportunities for the Kerry men.

Kerry's midfielder Noel O'Mahony played well in the first half but Gerard Colgan and Brian Burns began to shine for Down in the second half. Mickey Linden



● Down's James McCartan is sent flying into the air after a collision with Kerry's Seán Burke

and Gerard Deegan were the stars of the Down attack. Ciarán McCabe, who scored his side's first goal, also did well as did Greg Blaney, in patches. Eamonn Breen, Connie Murphy and Billy O'Shea did well in a Kerry defence that was over-stretched at times. They lined out without Liam Flaherty, who was injured during the week.

Down led by 0-4 to 0-3 when McCabe scored their first goal in the 11th minute. Kerry didn't let that upset

them and only trailed by 1-8 to 0-9 at the break. Although they were against the wind in the second half, Kerry started off well. Fitzgerald scored a point from a free kick to leave just one point between the teams, but after that the scores wouldn't come. Indeed, Kerry only scored two points in the second half, the second also from a Fitzgerald free (one of seven) in the 59th minute.

Down tried to play a short passing game for a while in the second half but when they

got no reward they went back to more direct football, which paid dividends as it had in the first half.

Deegan scored the second goal in the 54th minute to put his side 2-8 to 0-10 ahead and that was that. It wasn't a great game, but for most of the hour it was enjoyable for the 7,000 or so present. If this weekend's games in Breffni Park, Cavan, where I find myself this Sunday, are as entertaining, I for one, won't complain.

SINN FéIN £1,000 ELECTION FUND DRAW

Sinn Féin's Six and 26-County Comhairlí are running their annual £2 ticket draw. Tickets are now available and can be ordered from the 26-County Comhairle at Head Office and Francie Molloy in the Six-County office.

There is an attractive £1,000 first prize and areas retain 5% of the money raised.

This draw allows areas to raise the necessary funds for the forthcoming local and EU elections.

Sinn Féin

THE DRAW WILL TAKE PLACE ON 30 APRIL.

Supplementary Register of Electors



Sinn Féin election directors in the 26 Counties should note that application forms (form RFA2) for late inclusion in the Register of Electors are available until 25 May. Sinn Féin voters not included on the register should be registered now. The forms can be obtained at local authority offices around the 26 Counties.

Féile an Phobail ag dul i nirt

SEOILEADH plean forbartha chúig bliana d'Fhéile an Phobail Iarthar Bhéal Feirste, i gCultúrlann Mhac Adaim O'Faigh, Dé Luain, 28 Márta. Tá Féile an Phobail anois ar an fhéile comhphobail is mó sa tír agus leagann an plean forbartha aidhmeanna agus spriocanna amach chun bonn daingean a chur faoin imeacht.

Tháinig Féile an Phobail ar an saol i 1988 i ndiaidh sraith cruinnithe sa cheantar de dhaoine agus oibrithe pobail a bhí ag iarraidh dúshlán a thabhairt d'fomha diúltach an cheantair a bhí na meáin ag cur i láthair an domhain.

D'éirigh thar barr leis an chéad fhéile i Lúnasa 1988 agus tháinig fás millteanach ar an imeacht ó shin.

Maireann an fhéile don chéad seachtain de Mhí Lúnasa agus bíonn réimse mór imeachtaí ag dul ar aghaidh do dhaoine de gach aois. Bíonn léirsithe, drámaí, léachtaí, seisiúin cheoil de gach sórt, comórtais spóirt chomh maith le cuid mhór cóisirí sráide agus imeachtaí eile i gcomharsana áitiúla an cheantair ag dul ar

aghaidh le linn na seachtaine.

Ach tá an fhéile ag brath go hiomlán agus go huile ar iarrachtaí oibrithe deonacha agus ní bhfuair an fhéile ach an chuid is lú de thacaíocht ó shoinse reachtúla. Ar ndóigh, eagraítear an fhéile uilig as seomra beag amháin atá ar cíos ag an choiste sa Chultúrlann.

Tá sé de rún ag an choiste an réimse cuimsitheach d'imeachtaí na féile a leathnú sna blianta le teacht. Beidh an coiste a lorg na n-acmhainní cearta chun seo uilig a dhéanamh.

Tá roinnt príorachtaí leagtha amach acu sa tuairisc fhorbartha. Tá foireann bheag forbartha le cur ar bun chun an plean a thabhairt i gcrích. Beidh an grúpa ag iarraidh oifig oiriúnach le siopa a aimsiú.

mar aonad poiblí d'obair na féile.

Tá sé de rún ag an choiste measúnú a dhéanamh ar amhainní iomlána na féile agus beidh siad ag iarraidh airgead a fháil ó fhoinis reachtúla le daoine a fhóstu lán aimseartha agus le cuid de na costais reatha den fhéile a ghlanadh. Meastar go mbeidh ar a laghad £300,000 de dhúth leis an fhéile a reachtáil do thri bliana.

Ag caint ag seoladh na tuairisce dúirt eagraí na féile Deirdre McManus gur thug an fhéile seans do mhuintir iarthar Bhéal Feirste a gcuid bróid ina gcumas cruthú a chur in iúl.

"Is é fíis Fhéile an Phobail," arsa sé, "go mbeidh achan fhail ag pobal Bhéal Feirste Thiar a chumas agus a chultúr a cheiliúradh, a scileanna a fhorbairt, a fhéin mhuinín agus fhéin mheas a mhéadú agus athbheochan áitiúil eacnamaíochta a spreagadh. Déanfar forbairt ar Fhéile ar bhealach chun cultúr agus teanga na hÉireann, cothromaíocht agus comhtháthú sóisialta den pobal uilig, a chur chun cinn."



Clipeadh leanúnach i dTír Eoghain

RINNE Grúpa Gníomhaíochta de Ghaolta san Omaigh picéad ar bheairic an CRU ag Bóthar Ghoirtín Dé Sathairn seo caite, 26 Márta, le haire a tharraingt ar an chur isteach leanúnach ar dhaoine óga sa chathair ag fórsaí na coróine.

Tháinig an agóid i ndiaidh ionsaí a rinne fórsaí na coróine ar dhaoine áitiúla sa bhaile coicís ó shin. Tógadh roinnt daoine go dtí an t-oispidéal de thoradh an ionsaí agus tógadh 16 duine chuig beairicí éagsúla i gContae Thír Eoghain. Bhí an t-ionsaí ar an cheann ba

mhaille i sraith ionsaithe atá déanta ag baill d'fhórsaí na coróine ar náisiúnaíthe i mbailte ar fud na Sé Chontae. Le mí anuas tá ionsaithe den sórt seo déanta ar náisiúnaíthe i gCrois Mhic Leannáin agus in Oileán an Ghuail.

san agóid chiúin Dé Sathairn a mhair leath uair a chloig. Bhí cúigear comhairleoir de chuid Shinn Féin i láthair ag an agóid, ina measc an t-ionadaí do Lár Ulaidh, Barry McElduff.

Cháin Barry McElduff iarrachtaí fhórsaí na coróine leis an phobal áitiúil a scanrú ó am an ionsaí. Arsa sé:

"Scaip an CRU líon mór dá mbail isteach agus thart ar an

Omáigh don tríú deireadh seachtaine de réir a chéile.

"Dé hAoine seo caite, 25 Márta, bhí an CRU le feiceáil lena mbatafarraingte agus réidh le húsáid, agus bhí ní ba mhó saighdiúirí de chuid arm na Breataine ar na sráideanna ná mar a bhíonn de ghnáth."

Chuir McElduff i leith fhórsaí na coróine nach raibh ina ard-phróifil sa bhaile ach iarracht chun

"an t-aos óg a thagann le chéile sa bhaile le cairdeas a dhéanamh ar oícheanta Aoine agus Sathairn a chur le cuthach. Ní fada go mbeidh eachtra eile den sórt a tharla i gceantar Shráid John sa bhaile Dé hAoine, 11 Márta, nuair a d'ionsaigh an CRU ógánaigh ag teacht amach as áiteanna siamsa."

Dúirt McElduff gur chreid sé go raibh sé de rún ag an CRU clampar a thógáil sa cheantar.

Dúirt sé "gur chóir do dhaoine óga bheith curámach agus gan a bheith spreagtha chun troda ag an CRU san Omáigh".

Ar thóir Chorn an Domhain

Ba thua nach raibh siúd a bhfuil den tuairim go bhfuil an Gaeilge marbh ag áras Bhord na Gaeilge Dé Luan nuair a chualathas don chéad uair slua-amhrán Gaeilge do 'Airm Jack' atá ag taisteal go SAM i Meitheamh.

Seasca ceathair amhráin nuachumtha ar an téama "slua-amhrán Gaeilge do sraith Chorn an Domhain i Meiriceá" a bhí curtha faoi bhráid na moltóirí. Is léiriú ann fhéin seo ar an borradh atá tagtha ar úsáid na Gaeilge agus nach bhfuil sé ceangailte leis an stair nó le dearca áirithe.

I gcomhair le Raidió na Gaeltachta, dhéan Bord na Gaeilge a fhógairt ar an Luan gurb iad Barry McCrea agus David Downes a bhain an duais, £1,000, dá amhrán "Seo linn go Meiricá!" Mic léinn chéad bliana ó Choláiste na Tríonóide iad. Bhí a leanas le rá ag Cathaoirleach Bhord na Gaeilge Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh faoin amhrán.

"Tabharfaidh sé an-mhisneach do lucht leanúna fóireann na hÉireann amhrán slógtha a bheith acu as Gaeilge. Nuair a bhíonn daoine thar lear is mór leo go n-aithneofaí iad mar phobal faoi leith. Ceol meidhreac agus liricí simplí ag amhrán "Seo Linn go Meiricea!" rud a chabhróidh go

mór chun dul i gcion ar an
pobal."

Eiseotar an t-amhrán ar dhlúth-dhiosca agus ar chaiséad agus rachaidh an teacht isteach chun sochar Oispéis na Gaillimhe. Jim Lockhart, RTE, a léirigh an tairféadadh agus bhí lón mór amhránaithe is ceoltóirí i gceist, ball den ghrúpa "The Commitments" agus an t-amhránaí Meiriceánach Greg Trooper, ina measc. Chomh maith thá físeán den amhrán deanta ag RTE.

Seo Linn go Meiriceá

(David Downes/Barry McCrea)

Seo linn Seo linn Seo linn Linn go
Meirice Seo linn Seo linn Seo linn
Linn go Meirice
Jacky agus Packy agus Cascarino
Jacky agus Packy agus Cascarino
Jacky agus Packy agus Cascarino
Linn go Meirice
Seo linn go Meirice Seo linn go
Meirice Seo linn go Meirice Seo
linn go Meirice

Jacky agus Packy agus Paul McGrath
 Jacky agus Packy agus Paul McGrath
 Jacky agus Packy agus Paul McGrath
 Seo linn go Meiriceá
 Seo linn go Meiriceá Seo linn go
 Meiriceá Seo linn go Meiriceá Seo
 linn go Meiriceá

Tá muid ar an bhfoireann chéanna ag
dul go dtí an USA
Fillfidh an corn sin in éineacht linn in
Éirinn ag deireadh an lae
Seo linn le Roy Keane Seo linn le Roy
Keane Seo linn le Roy Keane Seo linn
go Meiriceá
Seo linn go Meiriceá Seo linn go
Meiriceá Seo linn go Meiriceá Linn go
Meiriceá

Seo linn go Meiriceá Seo linn go
Meiriceá Seo linn go Meiriceá Le corn
a thabhairt go hÉirinn
Seo linn go Meiriceá Seo linn go
Meiriceá Seo linn go Meiriceá Seo
linn go Meiriceá

Tá muid ar an bhfoireann chéanna ag
dul go dtí an USA
Fillfidh an corn sin in éineacht linn in
Éirinn ag deireadh an lae
Tá muid ar an bhfoireann chéanna go
dul go dtí an USA

dul go dtí an USA
 Fillfidh an corn sin in éineacht linn in
 Éirinn ag deireadh an lae
 Seo linn go Meiriceá Seo linn go
 Meiriceá
 Seo linn go Meiriceá le corn a thab-
 hairt go hÉirinn

Seo linn go Meiriceá Seo linn go Meiriceá
Seo linn go Meiriceá Seo linn go Meiriceá.



Toothless RUC watchdog barks

THE SUPPOSEDLY 'Independent' Commission for Police Complaints (ICPC) in its second triennial review has asked for increased powers to monitor RUC investigations of controversial incidents involving RUC officers. At present the ICPC cannot investigate an incident unless it is invited to do so by the RUC's chief constable. A similar request for increased powers by the ICPC was turned down by the British direct ruler three years ago.

The ICPC was set up by the British government in 1987 and appointments to its board are made by the British direct ruler. Members of the board cannot co-opt extra members.

Often, the appointments are politically-motivated in an attempt to gain credibility in the nationalist community. For example, it presently has Fionnuala McGrady, the niece of South Down SDLP MP Eddie McGrady, on its board.

The commission can only investigate the death or serious injury of a person if invited to do so by the RUC chief constable, the British direct ruler or the Police Authority. In practice, this means the British can ignore cases that may be politi-

cally embarrassing or expose the extent of their involvement in loyalist murders.

Such a case would have been that of RUC Constable Allan Moore who killed three men in Sinn Féin's Falls Road centre in 1992.

The report admitted that in the past three years there were six cases, one of which was the Moore case, "which had to be investigated" by the RUC. The ICPC thought it should have had a role in these but the RUC ignored it.

"The investigation [the RUC's] and the commission loses vital credibility in the eyes of the public because it is powerless to act", was the report's comment.

The ICPC has no powers of



● The RUC — protected by an ineffective and biased complaints procedure

prosecution and can only make recommendations to the British authorities. Whether these are acted upon, or not, is at the discretion of the British Direct Ruler Patrick Mayhew. Another criticism made in the report was that the RUC has only invited the commission to investigate seven cases since 1988 when it was founded, six of these involved fatalities.

Chairperson of the commission James Grew criticised this lack of referrals by the RUC chief constable and compared the RUC's lack of cooperation to the willingness of the English and Welsh police to refer these sort of cases to the Police Complaints Authority in

London. He questioned the reasons why the RUC lacked the confidence to do this.

The nationalist community in the Six Counties have long doubted the genuineness of so-called independent RUC investigations. With only four crown forces personnel having been convicted over the past 25 years, despite killing 351 people, the scepticism of nationalists is well founded.

In its *Adding Insult to Injury* document, the Committee for the Administration of Justice (CAJ) stated that many families who had lost relatives through crown forces killings, failed to register a complaint, thus "reflecting the

widespread view that the complaints procedure is ineffective".

Even when they do complain they have little guarantee of seeing their complaints through to fruition. In 1991, of a total of 1,440 complaints lodged, the DPP directed prosecution in only nine cases, while there were only five disciplinary charges. Blasting the ICPC, the CAJ stated that "the current complaints procedure is failing to allay the suspicion that it cannot redress the grievances of complainants". CAJ went on to call the RUC's refusal to address complaints as "abhorrent and an abuse of authority".

A report on the RUC compiled by the Inspectorate of Constabulary and published recently, revealed that 336 actions for compensation against the RUC had been taken in 1992. This showed a nearly 100% increase on the previous year's figure. The report also claimed that there was a further 61% increase in legal claims in 1993.

These figures are proof that the ICPC is a paper tiger, having been unable to change even minimally the actions of the RUC. They also show that the RUC is aware of this fact and so continue to abuse their power knowing that their victims have no form of redress and that they are virtually guaranteed immunity from prosecution.

Refused bail to see dying daughter

FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES have been called for by Sinn Féin spokesperson on prison issues Councillor Francie Molloy, in the rules governing compassionate parole for prisoners, following the refusal to grant compassionate bail to Belfast man Patrick Murray to visit his dying daughter, Frances, in hospital.

Frances Murray is two years of age and is dying of cancer. She has tumours on both kidneys and one in the heart artery. Due to the general deterioration in her condition, she was taken into the RVH Children's Hospital to have one of her kidneys removed and

to undergo a course of chemotherapy.

On Tuesday, 21 March, her father Patrick, who was on remand in Crumlin Road Jail at the time, applied to Belfast High Court to be released on compassionate bail to visit his daughter. This request to

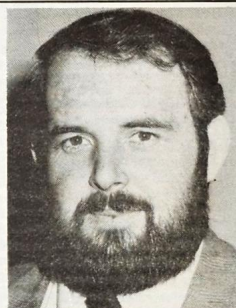
visit his dying daughter for a few hours was refused on the grounds that he might abscond if granted bail.

Councillor Molloy, criticising the court's decision, which he described as heartless and unjust, said:

"What the Patrick Murray case highlights is the totally unsatisfactory and arbitrary nature of compassionate parole to prisoners who have terminally ill relatives. All prisoners should have a statutory right to compas-

sionate parole of at least 48 hours to visit dying relatives and not have to endure the uncertainty of having judges or prison governors making subjective decisions about who should or should not be granted parole.

"Now that Patrick Murray has been sentenced, I call upon the prison administration in the H-Blocks to immediately grant Patrick Murray parole to be with his daughter at this time of personal crisis in his family."



● FRANCIE MOLLOY

Mála Poist... Mála Poist... Mála Poist... Mála Poist... Mála Poist... Mála Poist...

No surprise for ex-soldier

A Chairde,
No one should be surprised by the vindictive, antisocial actions of the RUC during crown forces' house raids in the Markets area of Belfast.

Twenty years ago as a young lieutenant/corporal, I witnessed it all for myself in our 'occupation' of Turf Lodge. One comment made by an RUC plainclothes man in Andersonstown RUC Barracks still sticks in my mind.

"We're just off to find a couple of Taigs," he said. Who I asked? His reply disgusted me: "Anyone, the Fenian bastards are all the same!"

Events like this, the average Brit knows nothing about. Such a pity the press in Britain refuse to follow the lead shown by AP/RN by printing uncensored news. If only the truth were known, the vast majority of Brits would demand an end to the horrors of partition.

James Burns,
Altaincham,
England.

Sports hooligans

A Chairde,

While I can't disagree totally with Fran Dempsey's letter (Rovers 'Louts' AP/RN 23 March), I would like to take issue with him on some points.

Rovers' supporters today are the same as they ever were in Milltown. They follow the traditions of the many hundreds of thousands of working-class Dubs who supported them in Glenmalur. To pick out a few instances and to say something has gone wrong with the old proud Shamrock Rovers is unfair and is an insult to the genuine followers of the sport. An element at many soccer matches in Ireland attend to provoke trouble and promote thuggery; it is not only at Shamrock Rovers matches, nor is it confined to soccer — witness the scenes after a number of GAA matches last year.

To be fair to the administrators of sports in Ireland, as experiences in Ireland have shown, it is virtually impossible to prevent

thugs from infiltrating matches. In England, millions have been spent on Big Brother technology to try to eliminate thuggery and so far it has not lessened the problem.

I don't have the solutions, but a combination of supporters should be capable of stemming the problem and rejecting those who seek to destroy the entertainment of the genuine lovers of sports.

Though not wishing for a return of the faction fights of old, Fran Dempsey ought to be aware that boisterous, unruly behaviour, or even drunkenness, might be loud, unsightly and disruptive but they are not necessarily thuggery.

The grouping in close proximity of any two opposing sets of fans will create a volatile situation but it can be easily diffused into harmless banter between fans, with chants, team anthems, waves, half-time entertainment, bódhráns, etc., as has been successfully done with Jack's Army.

Aisling O Snodaigh
Dublin 8.

British left and Ireland

A Chairde,

In his letter to AP/RN on 17 February, Charlie Walsh makes a number of interesting criticisms of imperialism, in particular on the economic control which imperialist powers exercise over the neocolonialist client states they create.

Mr Walsh states the case with reference to Ireland: "With partition, the southern part of Ireland became a neocolony of British and world imperialism and every aspect of Ireland's political, economic and social life became totally dominated by the imperialist-dominated and controlled world economy and world market."

One of the problems facing a country attempting to establish a politico-economic regime in any way incompatible with the global aspirations of the imperialist world surrounding it, is simply one of survival. Nicaragua, North Korea, Iraq, Cuba are contemporary cases in point.

But the situation is worse

than that. How can a country — Ireland — attempting to be economically free, independent and viable, even get off the ground?

Mr Walsh puts his solution — the socialist blueprint — very clearly: "Only the working class, by smashing imperialism in Ireland and establishing socialism, can lay the basis for a truly free country and people." And, "only socialism and the Irish working class can end partition and resolve the national question for once and for all".

These are bold assertions which may or may not be shown to be true by subsequent events. It is not being defeatist to recognise that in today's world, that of Bush and Clinton's new world order, the working class is involved in struggles all over the capitalist world, some of which it wins and some of which it loses, and is under severe pressure throughout.

The ultimate victory of socialism and of the working class is an article of faith which many of us wish to see fulfilled, but the watchword

should be, I suggest, confidence tempered with caution.

In the meantime, in the real world, Irish people struggling to get the colonial power out of their country, have no other option than to engage in the issues which press upon them, and to fight oppression in ways which seem appropriate to them. The only question is whether the fight for self-determination and British withdrawal is a just and legitimate fight. If it is, it should be supported. At the very least there is a duty not to undermine it, a lesson which those British left organisations which still refer to the IRA as individual terrorists engaged in acts of individual terrorism, refuse to learn.

There are several reasons which render socialist and quasi-socialist blueprints emanating from Britain redundant. Tenacity of dogma in face of the facts is one. In any case, they have no relevance to the evolving socio-political processes of contemporary Ireland.

D Harrop,
England.

Letters to: The Editor, AP/RN, 58 Parnell Square, Dublin 1.
PLEASE KEEP LETTERS SHORT

Imeachtaí

ANTI-EXTRADITION MEETINGS: 6.30pm, every Tuesday, Anti-Extradition Office, 29 Mountjoy Square, DUBLIN

BALLYMURPHY SEVEN PICKET: Every Saturday, 2-4pm, O'Connell Bridge, DUBLIN

PUBLIC MEETING: What is justice? What is peace? — A trade unionist view. 8pm, Thursday, 31 March, Ha'penny Bridge Inn, DUBLIN. Speaker: Des Bonass (ITGWU). Organised by Dublin INC

EASTER LECTURE: Developing the Peace Process. 8pm, Saturday, 2 April, Atlanta Hotel, GALWAY. Speaker: Sinn Féin Councillor Gearóid Ó hEara, Derry

EASTER SUNDAY FUNCTION: Music by Cairde, 8pm, Conway's Pub, Parnell Square, DUBLIN. Taitle: £2

EASTER FUNCTION: 8pm, Sunday, 3 April. Horse and Jockey, Inchicore, DUBLIN

FUNCTION: Featuring The Irish Brigade. 8pm, Easter Monday, 4

April, Wexford Inn, Wexford Street, DUBLIN. Taitle: £2.50

PUBLIC MEETING: Time for Peace — Time to Go. 8pm, Wednesday, 6 April. Buswell's Hotel, DUBLIN. Speakers: Bernadette McAliskey, PJ Caraher and Dublin bombing victim

PUBLIC MEETING: Your future and the EU. Irish job prospects in the EU. 8pm, Thursday, 7 April. ATGWU Hall, Middle Abbey St, DUBLIN. Speakers: Richard Douthwaite (Greens); Larry O'Toole (Sinn Féin); Tony Moriarty (MSF). Organised by the National Platform

FUNCTION: Welcome home ex-POW Jimmy Gavin Saturday, 16 April. Widow Scallan's, Pearse Street, DUBLIN. Taitle: £3

DRAW RESULTS

Cavan/Monaghan Prisoners Dependents Fund Christmas Draw 1993

1st Prize: Framed Portlaoise Mirror, MJ Woode, Tydavet. 2nd Prize: Framed Portlaoise Mirror, G Mohan, c/o Enda McQuillan. 3rd Prize: Hand Crafted Mirror, Felix Meenan, c/o Michael Cuddy. 4th Prize: Leather Wallet, Martin Lovett, Kilmaleck, County Cavan 5th Prize: Leather Bill Folder, Marie McGraue, Mullyknock, County Monaghan.

Leanne, Michael, Patricia, boyfriend Martin and Christopher.

MARLEY, Laurence (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Laurence Marley, who was murdered by a pro-British death squad on 2 April 1987. Saint Martin pray for him. Proudly remembered with love by his loving wife Kate and darling wee son Séanta. XXX.

MARLEY, Laurence (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of my loving father Volunteer Laurence Marley, who was murdered by a pro-British death squad on 2 April 1987. Always remembered with love and pride by his loving son Emmanuel.

MARLEY, Laurence (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of my loving father Volunteer Laurence Marley, who was murdered by a pro-British death squad on 2 April 1987. Always remembered with love and pride by his loving son Sean.

MARLEY, Laurence (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of my loving father Volunteer Laurence Marley, who was murdered by a pro-British death squad on 2 April 1987. Always remembered with love and pride by his loving son Seamus.

MARLEY, Laurence (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of my loving father Volunteer Laurence Marley, who was murdered by a pro-British death squad on 2 April 1987. Always remembered with love and pride by his loving son Joseph.

MARLEY, Laurence (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of my loving father Volunteer Laurence Marley, who was murdered by a pro-British death squad on 2 April 1987. Always remembered with love and pride by his loving son Laurence Jr and Kevin.

MARLEY, Laurence (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of my dear friend and comrade Volunteer Laurence Marley, who was murdered by the UVF on 2 April 1987. Saint Jude pray for him. Sadly missed by Dochara Eileen.

MARLEY, Laurence (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Laurence Marley, who was murdered by pro-British death squads on 2 April 1987. Ireland unfree shall never be at peace. Always remembered with love and pride by Séamus Finucane and family.

MARLEY, Laurence (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Laurence Marley, who was murdered by a pro-British death squad on 2 April 1987. Always remembered by the Finucane family.

MARLEY, Laurence (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Larry Marley murdered by pro-British agents on 2 April 1987. They may kill the revolutionary but never the revolution. Never forgotten by Sean.

Comhbhrón

BLAKE. Deepest sympathy is extended to our dear friend Frances M Blake on the death of her father Charles. From Eileen and Caoimhe.

CURNEEN. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Frank Curneen of Elanade, North Leitrim, who died recently. From Dessie and Carmel Gallagher and family.

CURNEEN. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Frank Curneen of Elanade, North Leitrim, who died recently. From Gerry Casey and Dawn Costello.

CURNEEN. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Frank Curneen of Elanade, North Leitrim, who died recently. From the Republican Movement, South Donegal; From Ballyshannon/Bundoran Sinn Féin.

GAHON. Sincerest sympathy is extended to Finbar Gahon on the death of his mother. Deeply regretted by republicans in Wexford; From Sinn Féin Head Office, Dublin.

HUMPHRIES. Deepest sympathy to the family of Sheila and to her friends in the struggle. From John McGuffin, California.

M McNULTY. Deepest sympathy is offered to Sean and the entire McNulty family on the death of his father. From Seán Kissella, Jimmy Canning and Liam Helferman, Parkhurst Jail.

M McNULTY. Deepest sympathy is offered to Sean and the entire McNulty family on the death of his father. From all the republican remand prisoners in Belmarsh Jail.

McSHANE. Deepest sympathy is

VOLUNTEER HONOURED



● Volunteers of the Irish Republican Army pay tribute to Volunteer Michael Motley, March 1994. Michael died tragically on 12 June 1993

extended to Brian (Portlaoise) and the McShane family on the death of his father. From the Fullerton/McLaughlin/O'Hagan Sinn Féin Cumann, Buncrana.

McSHANE. Deepest sympathy is extended to Brian (Portlaoise) and the McShane family on the death of his father. From Tony, Marie and Toni Kelly.

McSHANE. Deepest sympathy is extended to Brian (Portlaoise) and the McShane family on the death of his father. From Joe Lynch and family, Limerick.

O MURCHU. (Aibhíne Naomh Clára, Corcaigh). 28ú Márta, Diarmuid, eagarthóir Agus. Méala mór a bhás dá bhean céile Máirín, dá chlann, dá mhuintir agus dá chairde uile.

O'SULLIVAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Mary and Danny O'Sullivan, Barrow, Ardfer, County Kerry, on the death of their father. From Bill O'Shea.

O'SULLIVAN. Deepest sympathy is extended to Mary and Donald O'Sullivan, Liselton, and to the O'Sullivan family, Listowel, County Kerry, on the death of their father. From Bill O'Shea.

Beannachtaí

BEANNACHTAÍ NA CAISC do Martin Molloy, Conor Gilmour, Declan Moen (H-Blocks) and Ailish Carroll (Maghaberry) Sticky, Chessor, Danny Boy and Piercey (Crumlin Road). O' Seán Mór, Beal Feirste.

BUTLER. Happy Easter Eddie (Full Sutton). All our love from mammy and dad, brother John and all the gang in New York.

CAMPBELL. Easter greetings to my boyfriend Michael (A Wing, Crumlin Road Jail) and all his mates. Love you always, Wendy; From mum, dad, Karen, Aileen, Seán, Bobby and Fiona.

DRAINE. Easter greetings Séamus (Long Kesh). From mum, Martin and Geraldine; From Gerard and Patricia; From Sorcha and Patrick; From John, Mary B and Barry, your Easter egg is coming up, see you soon. XXX.

EASTER GREETINGS and solidarity to all republican POWs and activists everywhere. From the Dugannon Martyrs Sinn Féin Cumann; From the Coalisland Martyrs Sinn Féin Cumann; From the Clonoe Martyrs Sinn Féin Cumann; From the Jim Lynagh Sinn Féin Cumann; Clogher; From the Colin Keenan/Martin Hurson Sinn Féin Cumann, Cookstown; From the Martin Hurson/Fergal

O'Hanlon Sinn Féin Cumann, Galbally; From the Eoin McNamee Sinn Féin Cumann, Kildress; From the Martin Hurson/Séamus Woods Sinn Féin Cumann, Pomeroy; From the South Tyrone Comhairle Ceantair Sinn Féin; From the Tyrone National Graves Association.

EASTER GREETINGS to all Irish republican prisoners in Ireland, Britain, Europe and the USA. From the Barney Boswell Sinn Féin Cumann, Newtonington.

EASTER GREETINGS to all my friends and comrades imprisoned in Belmarsh, England. Wishing you all a Happy Easter. I'll be thinking of you now and always. Your wee mate the Pizza Kid agus Frank Smith. PS I'll have a few pints and a few pizzas for you, God bless.

EASTER GREETINGS to all POWs at home and abroad. From the Billy Reid Cumann, Omagh.

EASTER GREETINGS to all POWs in jails everywhere. From Pat Bell and family.

EASTER GREETINGS to all POWs in jails everywhere. From the Volunteer Tom Smith/Christy Harford Memorial Band, Dublin.

EASTER GREETINGS to all POWs. From the Séamus Steele Sinn Féin Cumann, Newbridge, South Derry.

EASTER GREETINGS to all republican POWs. From Killyliss, Dungannon.

EASTER GREETINGS to all republican POWs and their families. From the Fullerton/McLaughlin/O'Hagan Sinn Féin Cumann, Buncrana.

EASTER GREETINGS to all republican prisoners. From the Murphy family.

EASTER GREETINGS to all the POWs, especially those from the Markets and Short Strand. From Kieran, Clare and family.

EASTER GREETINGS to Bobby, the lads from the New Lodge, and Mary Ellen in Maghaberry.

EASTER GREETINGS to Danny Boy from your mother and father, Emanuel, and Laura, Angela, Donal and Fionuala; From granny and granda Cosgrove.

EASTER GREETINGS to Ella and Martina (Durham Jail) and to all POWs everywhere. From North Tipperary Sinn Féin.

EASTER GREETINGS to Jan Taylor (Belmarsh). Good luck for the future. Lots of love from Bob and Eileen.

EASTER GREETINGS to John

O'Hagan (H6). All the best son, may your next one be spent in freedom. From mum, dad and the family (including the wee man); From granny and aunt Annie.

EASTER GREETINGS to Kevin Cosgrove. From uncle Danny, aunt Maureen and family.

EASTER GREETINGS to our son Frankie (Long Kesh) and also to Brian Arthurs (Crumlin Road) and to Paddy Fox (Long Kesh) and to republican POWs everywhere. From the Quinn family, Dungannon.

EASTER GREETINGS to Paul Devenny and all the other POWs from the Short Strand. From the Devenny family, Short Strand.

EASTER GREETINGS to Seán Boyle. From Angela, Donal and Fionuala; Also from your mother and father.

EASTER GREETINGS to Seán, Paul and Kieran. Keep the chin up lads we'll have a drink for you.

EASTER GREETINGS to the New Lodge Six, sorry Four! From the O'Hagan family.

EASTER GREETINGS to all our POWs. Always in our thoughts. From the New Lodge RAC; From the Séamus McCusker Sinn Féin Cumann.

KANE. Happy Easter Patrick (Long Kesh) and happy birthday for 1 April. From Tony, Rosaleen and John.

KIRBY. Happy Easter Terry (USA). From Tony, Rosaleen and John. Love mum, dad, Karen, Aileen, Seán, Bobby and Fiona.

MARLEY; BAKER. Wishing Emmanuel and Shauneen a happy Easter and hoping all is well with you both. Take care and God bless. Your friend always, An fear beag. PS I'll down a few for you.

McCOLGAN. Birthday greetings to Tony. From the Billy Reid Cumann, Omagh.

McGUINNESS. Happy Easter Ginney, Ciarán (H6 Long Kesh). From Tony, Rosaleen and John.

MURPHY. Happy Easter Anthony. Love Orla and the Murphy family.

MURPHY. Happy Easter Dominic. From all the Murphy family.

MURPHY. Have a nice day Kevin. Love from Lorraine and Saoirse and the Murphy family.

O'CONNELL. Happy Easter Joe (Full Sutton). From Eileen and Caoimhe.

QUINLVAN. All the best for Easter Ness (Portlaoise). From Tina. From the Smith family; From Paul.

I nDíl Chuimhne

CARR, Robert; MARLEY, Laurence. In proud and loving memory of Volunteers Robert Carr (died 1 April 1980) and Laurence Marley (died 2 April 1987). "As long as Ireland is unfree the only honourable attitude for Irish men and women is an attitude of revolt." — Pádraig Pearse. Always remembered with love and pride by their friends and comrades in the Republican Movement.

GALLAGHER, Peter (1st Ann). In proud and loving memory of Sinn Féin member Peter Gallagher, who was murdered by a pro-British death squad on 23 March 1993. Always remembered by the Maginn/Rodden/Donaghy Sinn Féin Cumann, Killea, South Derry.

KELLY, James (1st Ann). In proud and loving memory of Volunteer James Kelly, who was murdered by a pro-British death squad on 25 March 1993. Always remembered by the Maginn/Rodden/Donaghy Sinn Féin Cumann, Killea, South Derry.

KELLY, James (1st Ann). In proud memory of Volunteer James Kelly, murdered by pro-British forces on 25 March 1993. Life springs from death and from the graves of patriot men and women spring living nations. Always remembered by the South Derry and County Antrim POWs, Long Kesh.

LOGUE, Gerard (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of my dear brother, Volunteer Gerard Logue, Derry Brigade, Ogligh na hÉireann, who died on active service on 22 March 1987. Quietly today your memory we treasure, missing you always, forgetting you never. Always remembered by your brother Paddy, Teresa and family.

LOGUE, Gerard (7th Ann). In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Gerard Logue, who died on 22 March 1987. Always remembered by the Logue/Marley Sinn Féin Cumann, Dublin.

McCRACKEN, Kevin (6th Ann). In proud and loving memory of my dear nephew Volunteer Kevin McCracken, Belfast Brigade, Ogligh na hÉireann, who died on 14 March 1988. Saint Patrick pray for him. Proudly today your memory we treasure, missing you always, forgetting you never. Always remembered by his uncle Arthur, aunt Alice, Aileen and husband Pat, Patrick,

ARTHUR LOWE'S Dad's Army were crack troops compared to the lack of planning, shambolic organisation and inept application that characterised the British army's assault on his namesake Low's Gully in Borneo.

Last Friday, the world breathed a sigh of disinterest as five severely weak and starving soldiers were rescued from the gully by a Malaysian army helicopter. They had climbed the 13,000 foot Mount Kinabalu and then attempted to descend into the gully on the far side, a steep, mile-deep canyon, swept by rapids and waterfalls.

The soldiers split into two groups on the trip. The second, slower team, which included both officers, were the ones who managed to get themselves into difficulties. The first group emerged from the rainforest a fortnight earlier and raised the alarm. They were eventually rescued by the Malaysian army after they climbed half-way down the remote gully and found themselves stuck. Lt Col Robert Neill, who led the mission, revealed on his return to civilisation that all the five had to eat for the previous two weeks was a biscuit a day. For the last five days of their outdoor fast, the group shared their last biscuit. They were down to their last few Polo mints when they were finally rescued.

Despite this shortage of food, Neill's fellow officer, Major Ron Foster, had commenced the mission by lugging a video camera and charger up the mountain. Among Neill's excess baggage was a supermarket sign reading "How low dare we go?" Nobody thought to bring along unnecessary items such as warning flares. This frivolous attitude to a dangerous undertaking was not appreciated by the Malaysian Brigadier General Yusuf Hussin who was given the unenviable task of finding the lost Brits. He made frequent references during the search operation to the expedition's lack of command, coordination and control, as his 400 troops searched night and day.

The four-week ignominious assault on the unexplored darker regions of Borneo was, incredibly, sanctioned in advance by the British army's "adventure training" section. Of three Hong Kong soldiers who participated, none had any proper training for such an expedition and one had never even abseiled! Major Jim Noble of the British army's Hong Kong adventure training section, admitted that it was "unusual" for somebody to learn to abseil at that stage.

The stiff upper lip spirit lives on however, riding roughshod over any amount of incompetence. Neill and Foster revealed that they had spent their time waiting to be rescued playing chess and discussing house extensions. Neill even claimed that his mission was supposed to be "self-rescuing". Major Foster's wife Jeanette, meanwhile, instead of calling her husband an irresponsible moron, said afterwards: "I think he is a bloody hero. It is like having your own Indiana Jones." Quite.

AS THE LOST TRIBE were being winched to safety in Borneo on Friday, another British soldier was displaying similar map-reading skills — in West Belfast. The squaddie somehow

managed to lose the rest of his foot patrol while attempting to cow the nationalist population of Poleglass. Finding himself lost and isolated, he ran into the nearest house and grabbed the phone. He hurriedly dialled 999, gave a

codeword and a rough guess as to his whereabouts.

The trespassing trooper was promptly ejected by an irate householder and sat sweating outside the house, his rifle cocked, until the flashing blue lights of the RUC arrived to rescue him.

THE BRITISH are also having little luck with their helicopters. Ministry of Defence lawyers have had to step in to avoid the seizure of Navy helicopters by Prestwick Airport in Scotland, whose owners claim the navy owes them £100,000 in fees for navigational services to the nearby HMS Gannet shorebase.

PIK, the company involved, pointed out that it provided the service but then had to sue in order to get paid. "This may be the way in which the MoD does business, but it does not seem canny to PIK."

THE GARDAI HAVE complained that too many members of the public are making use of the Garda Complaints Board. In Gardaspeak this translates as criminals and "subversives" leading a "vicious and planned campaign" against the guardians of the peace.

The Association of Garda Sergeants and Inspectors says that dozens of spurious

complaints every year are causing untold stress and trauma for the officers concerned. The sensitive souls, at their annual conference, forgot though to mention during the debate, the untold numbers of republicans and other groups routinely harassed by the Special Branch. Nobody talked of the stress and trauma caused to campaigners



for miscarriage of justice victims like the Birmingham Six when gardai spied on them and called to their houses to intimidate them. No mention either of the case of Paul Walsh, the Cork republican currently facing IRA membership charges on the basis of books and calen-

dars found during a raid on his home a full year earlier.

Perhaps that is why the Garda Complaints Board has proved less than effective — real investigations of incidents of harassment would presumably cause the poor guards too much mental anguish.

AMONG A NUMBER of cards arriving at Sinn Féin's Ahead Office from supporters of the Peace Train organisation were some fine examples of reconciliation and support for a peace process.

The following is a selection of those messages: "Dear Gerry, Here is the clarification you required — Fascist fuckwits like yourself are the haemorrhoids on the arsehole of the feulent bog politics of Irish cretinism — Is mise le meas..."

"My weapon is bigger than yours. — Squaddie outside Magilligan Prison."

"Your people in London are on our database. We're telling the poll tax and TV licence boys — M15, Curzon Street, London."

"Tommy gives your wife one when you are out at night — Sean."

"Stop the killing you rotten bastards. May you all rot in hell. — Mary Kelly, Cathy Boyd, Eileen Bolger, Nuala Byrne, Alan Tate, Maurice Wilson, Paul Fleming, Shane Rossi."

Dúirt Siad

Republicans have enough to do without beating up John Fee. I hope SDLP councillors never have to walk behind councillors' coffins like I do. — Sinn Féin Councillor Jim McAllister at a Newry and Mourne District Council meeting, Tuesday, 29 March.

You have suffered damn all when you compare Sinn Féin councillors who have walked behind the coffins of 13 of their comrades in recent years. Comrades, male and female, who have been murdered by the British and their allies. — Jim McAllister.

There is definitely something strange going on with the gardai in Cork. No IRA activity has been detected in Cork for some time, nobody has been charged with any such activity, but still the Sinners seem to be hassled on a major scale. If you get involved in anything that's not Fianna Fáil or Fine Gael down here, you're going to get the Branch breathing down your neck. — Dominic Carroll of the Justice for Paul Walsh campaign, Hot Press, 6 April.

We are half of society, so we have to fight. We feel it when we kill Mengistu's soldiers but what can we do? They were told to burn our houses, steal our things, rape our women. We have to retaliate. — Guenit Gebremeden, one of many women who became freedom fighters with the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front, who won their war against the Ethiopian dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam three years ago, the Guardian, Tuesday, 29 March.

We joined because we were bitterly oppressed sexually, politically and economically. I went with my parents' blessing. — Zawdu Ayele, political commissar for five TPLF regiments.

The diaries were not used in evidence at his trial but were shown to various persons, including the American ambassador, as evidence of Casement's homosexual activities, in order to blacken his name and counter the campaign for a reprieve from his death sentence. — Long overdue admission on Roger Casement by the British government, through its Public Records Office, Monday, 28 March.

Back home, the prime minister appears to have been reborn as a Thatcherite nationalist, the Foreign Secretary performs fatigued pirouettes around arcane voting procedures and the tabloids wade in ancient European blood because Nazis might march through the streets of London. But here in Brussels the long, indescribably complex task of building the union goes on. Here 32 poor, bloody foot soldiers — also known as Tory MEPs — race around the corridors, drink coffee and wonder what the hell they are supposed to do. — Brian Appleyard, in Brussels for the London Independent, Tuesday, 29 March.

Notes



"I'm shocked... I'm (not quite) speechless... I've just heard it suggested that the British security forces use 'Dirty Tricks'..."

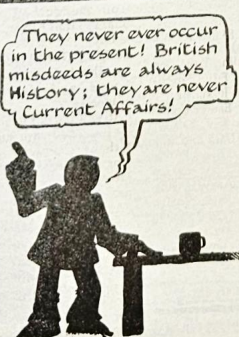
Welcome to the real world! The use of Dirty Tricks by the Brits would not come as a great surprise to most people...



I know, I know!



But everyone knows that these disturbing illegalities occur in the past, ten or twenty years ago...



They never ever occur in the present! British misdeeds are always History; they are never Current Affairs!



On the other hand, perhaps the real world would not be a comfortable residence for you...

EASTER PRESENTS FROM AN PHOBLACHT/REPUBLICAN NEWS

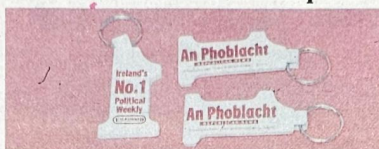
An Phoblacht/Republican News has a range of merchandise to promote the sale of the paper. We have various items for sale including mugs, hats, pens, keyrings, badges, t-shirts etc. Some would make great Easter presents. So don't delay and order now!



Mugs:£3.50



Pens:25p each



No 1 Keyrings:£1 each



Lighters:£1 each



Metal Badges:£3.50 each



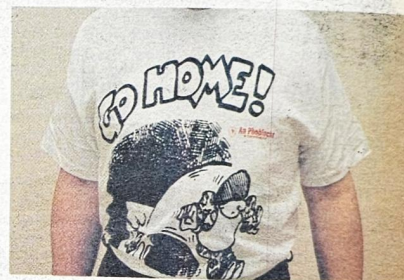
Hats:£5 each



T-Shirt Keyrings:£1 each



Pens:35p each



T-Shirts:£6.50 each

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