

SAOIRSE



IRISH FREEDOM

THE VOICE OF THE REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT

UIMH 279 IÚIL — JULY 2010 <http://saoirse.info> €2 (£1.50 stg, USA \$30 p.a.)

MARCH FOR POLITICAL STATUS

BELFAST, SATURDAY
AUGUST 7, 2010

Assemble at Dunville Park, 1.30pm
for march to Castle Street
Speakers include ex-Blanketman

While England occupies Ireland

NO! to Queen of England's visit

THE campaign of normalising British occupation in Ireland continues apace. After years of preparing the ground the 26-County administration and the British government announced that the Queen of England will visit the 26 Counties next year.

The purpose of such a visit is to underwrite continued British rule and the partition of Ireland. The Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin Fergal Moore said: "British rule in Ireland can never be normal nor will Ireland be pacified while partition and British rule remain. Republican Sinn Féin will vigorously oppose any visit to Ireland by the Queen of England and calls on all Republicans

to do likewise."

Irish Republicans will actively oppose such a visit and by doing so send a clear message to the world that British occupation and partition is neither normal nor acceptable.

The visit by the head of the British state — who holds the style and title of "Queen of Great Britain and Northern Ireland" — to any part of Ireland will be resisted by Republican-minded people throughout Ireland.

Today Irish Republicans are determined to resist all attempts to normalise British rule, as they have in the past.

In June 1953 when Elizabeth Windsor was crowned "Queen of Great Britain and Northern Ireland" there were protests.

The Dublin-Belfast railway line was severed by an explosion at Kilnasaggart Bridge just north of the border in Co Armagh. One of the few public showings by BBC television in Dublin was interrupted and the television screen smashed. Private showings of the event in various parts of the 26 Counties were

interrupted by protests. Cinemas in Newry and Banbridge, Co Down which screened the event were wrecked by explosions.

In June 1937 when George VI was crowned "King of Great Britain and Ireland" there were protest meetings in Dublin's O'Connell Street on successive nights.

Shots were fired in the air and baton-charges took place. Prominent Republicans Tom Barry and Frank Ryan led those protests and both appeared on the platform on the second night with bandaged heads.

Shop windows in Cork city which featured the occasion in displays were smashed by bricks. In 1911 and 1900 Republicans also staged protests at the visit of British monarchs.

Republican Sinn Féin will lead the opposition to this visit just as they have resisted all other manifestations of this creeping normalisation of British rule in Ireland: the dropping of the ban on members of the British forces playing GAA games; visits to the 26 Counties



• *The Queen of England in full military regalia as commander-in-chief of British forces — she is not welcome in Ireland as long as her government occupies any part of our country.*

by British armed forces, the forcing of a loyalist march through the centre of Dublin, etc. And in the coming years Irish Republicans will be in the forefront of the commemoration of the landmark events in Irish history culminating in the

Centenary of the 1916 Rising.

By their actions Irish Republicans will be giving the lie to any notion that the Queen of England's writ runs unchallenged or unopposed in any part of Ireland.

**29th Annual
Hunger Strike
Commemoration
for Peace
With Justice**

**Bundoran
Co Donegal
Saturday,
August 28
3pm**



Bloody Sunday: 'True face of British rule in Ireland'

ON Tuesday, June 15, 2010 the Saville Report on the Bloody Sunday murders by British paratroopers in Derry on January 30, 1972 was finally released, 12 years after the inquiry began.

The report found that all those shot dead or injured on Bloody Sunday in the Bogside in Derry in January 1972 were innocent. Critically however it absolves the British state of all responsibility laying the blame solely on the soldiers of 1st Parachute Regiment and their commanding officer Derek Wilford.

The Saville Report stated that what happened on Bloody Sunday was not ordered by the British State and government.

The President of Republican Sinn Féin Des Dalton said in a statement that this was a cop-out by the Saville Inquiry: "The long awaited Saville Inquiry acknowledges for the first time that the 14 people murdered on Bloody Sunday in Derry on January 30 1972 were innocent Civil Rights marchers. However it fails on the crucial question of the responsibility of the British state for the murders.

"The belated acknowledgement of the innocence of those murdered and injured on Bloody Sunday is welcome for the families of the victims but the Inquiry fails the critical test of identifying

and admitting the responsibility of the British State for the murder of unarmed Irish people on the streets of their own city.

"The Saville Inquiry lays sole responsibility for the murders on the British soldiers who fired the shots on Bloody Sunday and their commanding officer. This is a cop-out and ignores the chain of command both political and military, which pitted assault troops such as the British Army's Parachute Regiment against a peaceful anti-internment march. In August of the previous year over a three day period the same notorious British Army regiment murdered 11 people in Belfast.

"Bloody Sunday is the true face of British rule in Ireland and the true face of imperialism as experienced today at the hands of the same army by the people of Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Three times in the 20th Century the forces of British occupation have visited a 'Bloody Sunday' on the Irish people. While British rule remains in Ireland the possibility of yet another will always exist.

"The British Government's

apology for the murders on Bloody Sunday is meaningless while it continues to occupy Ireland. A just and lasting peace can only come following a British withdrawal and the creation of a New Ireland built by all of the Irish people Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter," Des Dalton concluded.

The report, which runs to 10 volumes and 5,000 pages, was deeply critical of the British paratroopers deployed in Derry that day and of the orders given to them by their commanding officer.

Brig Patrick MacLellan was responsible for the overall detailed plans to deal with the march and his orders were that any arrest operation was to be mounted only on his orders.

Col Derek Wilford, who gave the orders to mount an incursion into the Bogside to confront an anti-internment march, should not have done so, Saville said. He said that Col Wilford deliberately disobeyed Brigadier MacLellan or failed to recognise the limits of what he was allowed to do.

Dick Grogan, who reported for the *Irish Times* from Derry on January 30 1972, said on June 16, that:

"Gen Ford was, as Saville points out, responsible for

deciding that 'in the likely event of rioting' the parachute regiment units should be employed as an arrest force. We know, however, from the documents adduced to the inquiry, that the arrest operation involving the paras was discussed and cleared at the highest political level in London and Stormont..."

Writing in the *Guardian* newspaper, June 15 Bernadette Devlin McAlisley, who was on the platform on Bloody Sunday, and witnessed the events on the day and its violent legacy: "It is the British government, not their anonymous and brutalised soldiers of their alphabet army who should be in the dock, at the international court of justice at The Hague..."

"Had Bloody Sunday been no more than a violent and disgraceful overreaction or unlawful behaviour on the part of a few 'squaddies' or overzealous commanders, it would not have required the British government and its military to create the complicated labyrinth of lies and deceit which has taken hundreds of testimonies, thousands of pages, millions of pounds and 38 years to unravel."

The report can be viewed online at <http://www.bloody-sunday-inquiry.org/>

Gearrscéalta

'Desist from using the name of the CIRA'

THE following statement was received by media outlets, including SAOIRSE, from the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau on July 2:

"We have been asked to release the following statement:

"Information has reached the leadership of the extortion of money in the name of the Continuity IRA. This has taken place for the purposes of criminality and was in no way authorised. Drug dealers and others have been the targets of such activity. We want those concerned to desist from using the name of the CIRA which is in no way associated with criminality.

"Signed: B Ó Ruairc."

Republicans oppose visit by Queen of England

REPUBLICAN Sinn Féin have consistently opposed any visit by Elizabeth Windsor, Queen of England, to Ireland while the British army are an army of occupation and the British Government claims jurisdiction over six of the nine counties of Ulster. Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin Fergal Moore said on June 24.

The British Army are still in Occupied Ireland – up to 4,500 of them — and Stormont rule is British rule despite the protestations of constitutional nationalists who are in the pay of the British government.

"Republicans must be prepared to take to the streets in protest at any visit.

"Brian Cowen's assertion that no obstacle now exists to prevent a state visit to Ireland by Britain's queen taking place must be seen as a declaration that the process of normalisation is complete and the pacification of Ireland has been successful. British rule in Ireland can never be normal nor will Ireland be pacified while partition and British rule remain. Republican Sinn Féin will vigorously oppose any visit to Ireland by the Queen of England and calls on all Republicans to do likewise.

"Cowen's declaration comes just days after the Saville Report delivered a damning indictment of the British Army and must be seen as a gross insult by the families of those who have lost loved ones as a result of British rule during Elizabeth Windsor's tenure as monarch. Only when Britain leaves Ireland for good and offers an acceptable apology for the wrong doings of 800 years of occupation will the conditions exist for a possible state visit by her to Ireland," he concluded.

Connacht pledge support to Republican Sinn Féin

ON June 10, 2010, Comhairle Chúige Connacht (Connacht Executive), Sinn Féin Poblachtach held a meeting in Strokestown, Co Roscommon where delegates confirmed their support and loyalty to the Leadership of Republican Sinn Féin.

The chairperson Seán Lynch stated that Republican Sinn Féin in Connacht "confirms its support for the current leadership democratically elected at the 2009 Ard-Fheis. Our President Des Dalton has continued the Republican predecessor, our patron Ruairi Ó Brádaigh.

"We pledge ourselves to the true Republican Movement and urge all Republicans to be wary of factions and broad fronts which serve only to dilute the Movement and play into the hands of our enemies."

Joe Murphy Secretary of Comhairle Connacht stated that those who weaken our struggle have not and will not succeed. Having failed in their attempts to subvert the Republican Movement from within, they are now trying to do so from outside.

"Remember this," he said, "you failed in 1986, 1969 and in the 1930s when de Valera banned the IRA. He failed miserably as did Mulcahy and Co in 1922."

Results of Cumann na mBan raffle

1st prize, ticket no 595; 2nd prize, ticket no 171; 3rd prize, ticket no 202; 4th prize, ticket no 426.

Results of Dublin raffle

JUNE results: 1st prize ticket no 361; 2nd prize no 566; 3rd prize no 330; 4th prize no 163; 5th prize no 581; 6th prize no 230; 7th prize no 535; 8th prize no 209.

SAOIRSE August edition published 11/8/2010

Support for Maura Harrington

AFTER the Ard Chomhairle meeting of Republican Sinn Féin on June 28 the Assistant PRO Kevin Devlin sent solidarity greetings to Maura Harrington who was arrested a few days previously.

"Republican Sinn Féin sends our support to Maura Harrington after her arrest and incarceration in Mountjoy jail.

"Maura Harrington has been steadfast in her opposition to Shell's destruction of her local community and the bleeding dry of Ireland's much-needed natural resources, aided and abetted by the Dublin Administration.

"Shell has begun the process of destroying an area of natural beauty to line the pockets of already mega-rich oil barons.

The Dublin Administration had already sold off the royalties to Shell at a time when they thought they didn't need the money.

"Along with 'The Chief' O'Donnell and Niall Hartnett, Maura Harrington has not bowed to the bully-boy tactics of Shell and the 26-County police. We salute them and all of those who oppose the blatant capitalist theft of resources which rightfully belong to the Irish people."

Maura Harrington was



• Maura Harrington.

released, having served her sentence in jail.

Cumann na Saoirse Náisiúnta (National Irish Freedom Committee)

- is committed to supporting prisoners for which CABHAIR is responsible
- is generating publicity in support of Irish national independence.

We need your support. Our website address is:

<http://irishfreedom.net>

REPUBLICAN GARDEN BUNDORAN CO DONEGAL

Special Appeal for Funds - to pay off our loan of €1,500

To date, the garden has had visitors from all over Ireland, America, Europe and beyond, and the response has been positive.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed in any way small or big and ask anyone who wishes to make further donations to forward them to any committee member, head office or Joe O'Neill directly.

NB. DVDs and Videos of the opening ceremony are available, price €20.

Gearrscéalta

Republican principles 'unnegotiable'

IN A statement Republicans based in England pledged support for the elected leadership of Republican Sinn Féin:

"We have watched with interest the changes in the leadership of Republican Sinn Féin and waited for a time when we could - by a review of their actions - ascertain both the quality of intellect and an evaluation of their commitment to the principles of Republicanism.

"In our view they have performed the tasks of leadership generally well and often exceptionally well.

"They have remained steadfast in articulating the Republican analysis and they have proved receptive to new ways of thinking which could accelerate the time scale for the achievement of our collective purpose.

"Those who espouse a 'Broad Front' are driven by a mixture of egocentrism and possibly some misplaced sense of frustration. Perhaps this heady mixture manifests itself to some as a pathway worth following.

"The principles of Republicanism have an un-negotiable trajectory. They are like an arrow which will not deviate from its path.

"If these misguided individuals have thought through or conceptualised some astonishingly precise methodology with which to direct our efforts — it was their duty to articulate these remarkable 'insights' through the appropriate channels and not configure themselves into a petulant distraction.

"We note the unambiguous viewpoint of the Republican Movement and endorse it.

"Let's move on."

Sectarian attack in Coleraine

ST Malachy's Catholic Church in Coleraine, Co Derry was daubed with sectarian slogans on June 16.

The graffiti sprayed on the church attacked the Pope and also related to Kevin McDaid, who was murdered by loyalists in the town last year.

A window was smashed and attempts made to set St Malachy's Church at Nursery Avenue alight with burning rags. In Rasharkin, Co Antrim, a GAA club in the Dreen area had its walls sprayed by sectarian graffiti on June 16/17.

Paisley under pressure over Reavey apology

DEMOCRATIC Unionist Party member Ian Paisley has come under increasing pressure in June to apologise for linking innocent murder victims to the IRA.

The former DUP leader made the allegations in the British House of Commons in 1999 amid growing speculation of British Crown force collusion in the 1976 murder of the three Reavey brothers in South Armagh.

A special debate in Stormont on June 30, 2010 heard how Paisley used parliamentary privilege to quote an RUC file that he said accused the dead men's brother, Eugene Reavey, of being a leading Republican responsible for a notorious sectarian attack. Paisley failed to appear at the debate in Stormont.

An investigation subsequently cleared Eugene Reavey, and his brothers John Martin (24), Brian (22), and Anthony (17) of any wrongdoing. Stormont Justice Minister David Ford on June 30 repeated in the Stormont Assembly that the family was entirely innocent.

At the time of the Reavey murders, 16 people were killed in 24 hours. The victims of the spate of sectarian shootings included three members of the nationalist O'Dowd family who were killed by gunmen on the same night as the three Reavey brothers Joseph O'Dowd, aged 61, and his nephews Barry O'Dowd (24), and Declan O'Dowd (19) were killed, while Barney O'Dowd, father of the boys, was seriously injured.

The deaths were blamed on a gang comprising loyalist paramilitaries acting in collusion with members of the RUC, the RUC Reserve and the UDR — known as the Glenanne Gang — responsible for at least 18 gun and bomb attacks in which 58 people were murdered.

Tom Maguire remembered in Cross

ON Monday, July 5 Republicans from all parts of Connacht and beyond assembled in Cross Cemetery, Co Mayo to remember Comdt-General Tom Maguire, who died on July 5, 1993.

The oration was delivered by Ruairi Ó Brádaigh, patron, Sinn Féin Poblachtach. It was the 17th anniversary of his death at the great age of 101 years. Full report in August SAOIRSE.

RUC/PSNI out in force in Craigavon

ON Thursday, July 1 a large force of armed RUC/PSNI in up to 15 Land Rovers entered the Drumbeg estate, Craigavon, Co Armagh at around 8.30am and raided the home of a nationalist.

Reinforcement arrived later in the day and it was obvious from the outset that the large force of armed RUC members were there to intimidate and provoke nationalists.

In a statement the PRO of the Thomas Harte Cumann, Lurgan said:

"As a member of Republican Sinn Féin came out of his home on his way to a local shop members of the RUC 'jumped' him and when he resisted they beat him with their batons. Other Republican Sinn Féin members and local people went to the youth's assistance.

"Men, women and children were hit with batons, punched to the ground and sprayed with CS spray. One member of the RUC/PSNI drew his firearm while in the land rover. The youth was arrested and taken to Lurgan RUC barracks, charged with

disorderly behaviour and remanded in custody until he provides an address in Lurgan, although he resides in Craigavon.

"He has bruising all over

his body, his nose and mouth was bleeding, his face scraped and he had to receive medical treatment by a doctor at the barracks. Several other people were injured during the police attack.

"Local people reacted to the invasion of their estate. Lorries were hijacked and burned to set up roadblocks.

"The RUC/PSNI withdrew to the outskirts of the Drumbeg estate around 3.30pm but remained in the area diverting traffic away from the Drumbeg and Meadowbrook estates."

Two days previously the RUC/PSNI arrested and badly beat a 15-year-old youth in the same area as he was walking his dogs. Local people refused to let him go with the RUC until his father arrived to accompany him to the police barracks.

He was charged with riotous behaviour and it is obvious that the RUC/PSNI is targeting the Craigavon/Lurgan areas in an attempt to stamp Republican resistance to British rule in Ireland.



• A lorry was burned out in Craigavon, Co Armagh on July 1 as local people set up roadblocks to keep the RUC/PSNI out.

Falls Curfew recalled 40 years on

ALTHOUGH it is forty years since the Falls curfew in Belfast, Kevin Burns remembers the night his brother was killed by the British Army.

Billy Burns (54) was shot by the British Army during the Falls Curfew in July 1970. He was one of four people who were killed as a result of the three day curfew imposed by the British Army on the people of the Falls Road.

Kevin recalled getting the news that his brother had been shot on the first day of the curfew, Friday, July 3.

"I got down as far as the Springfield Road and they [the British army] weren't going to let me past. As far as I remember a priest came and he managed to get me down to 57 Falls Road. My two brothers and sister were there, so I arranged for them to come up and stay in my house for two days."

Billy's son Paul said that the as "rioting had started earlier that afternoon further down the Falls and the soldiers had fired tear gas", Billy had helped his neighbour secure shutters to the shop.

Billy was shot in the chest and the bullet had gone straight through into his heart and lungs. "It was a soldier's bullet from a 7.62 mm SRL rifle that was recovered from his body," said Paul.

One of my aunts went down and tried to get through the barricaded Springfield Road," adds Paul. "A soldier said to her that Billy had no business standing at his own front door. That was the reception she got. The anger



• The British army patrolling the streets during the Falls Road Curfew in July 1970.

came from all that, there was always a feeling of helplessness as well. Remember this was the time that the Stormont government was still in power."

Because of the curfew,

Billy's body couldn't be brought back to his own parish of St Peter's.

The inquest into Billy's death was held three or four months later and the verdict of the jury was of misadventure.

M3 motorway a 'ruthless desecration'

THE M3 motorway past Tara, the ancient capital of Ireland, finally opened on June 4. The construction of the motorway was subjected to many delays as opponents of the route through one of the oldest historical heritage sites in the world protested on site and through the courts.

Colm Toibin, Seamus Heaney, Paul Muldoon, Louis le Brocqy, Jim Fitzpatrick, Robert Ballagh, the Chieftains and arts group Aosdana were among those who condemned the construction of the motorway, through the Hill of Tara landscape and archaeological complex.

Speaking from Kerry, where he was Chairman of the Listowel Writer's Week

ColmToibin called the M3 a "ruthless desecration".

Protestors were denied a last attempt to protest by a Garda police presence which ensured that their banners were kept at a distance from the official ceremony.

The European Commission is currently taking a case against the 26-County State, in the European Court of Justice, for breach of the

Environmental Impact Assessment Directive, due to the decision to demolish a national monument, Lismullin.

Tara was nominated to UNESCO to be a World Heritage Site, this July. Tara was also placed on the List of 100 Most Endangered Sites by the World Monuments Fund (WMF) in 2006, and other international organisations, such as the Smithsonian Institution, the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA), Sacred Sites International, and the World Archaeological Congress (WAC).

Vincent Salafia of

TaraWatch said: "We have been completely vindicated in our campaign against the route of this road. The majority of Irish people, including most of our leading artists, as well as the EU and the major international archaeological bodies, have condemned it.

"The real kicker is yet to come, when traffic levels will show that the taxpayer will start paying millions of euro every year to the toll company, because of traffic fails to meet the traffic guarantee which was secretly written into the M3 contract by the NRA."

For The Record

THURS. JUNE 3: Migrant workers protested outside the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Innovation in Dublin demanding the right to change their employer.

FRI. JUNE 4: The crew of the *Rachel Corrie* bringing humanitarian aid to Gaza refused to unload its cargo in Ashdod, Israel and continued its journey in International waters. Two Irish aid workers who were among those on board the aid ship *Mavi Marmara* when it was boarded in international waters arrived back in Ireland.

Ex-Provisional councillor on Banbridge Council Dessie Ward said he has been physically threatened and harassed by his former colleagues since he resigned from the party two months ago.

A pipe bomb was thrown into a car in the Springtown Road area of Derry city. The back window of the car was broken and the bomb thrown in.

A jury at Belfast's Crown Court acquitted nine anti-war protestors of breaking into the offices of Raytheon, a weapons development company, in Derry in January 2009. They were charged with criminal damage.

The RUC said it was considering drafting in members of the police from Britain during the Orange 'marching season'.

The 1901 Census is now online at census.nationalarchives.ie.

SUN. JUNE 6: The Progressive Unionist Party (PUP) is to hold talks this week on the future of the party.

Of the 270 cases referred to the Fair Employment Tribunal hearings in 2009/2010, [in the Occupied Six counties] only one was upheld.

MON. JUNE 7: Pádraig Barton, an 18-year-old student, died in hospital after he was hit by a car on the Letterkenny Road yesterday. Pádraig is the grandson of Seán Keenan, veteran Republican from Derry who was one of the founders of the Civil Rights Movement and a leading member of the IRA in the late 1960s. Seán was interned in the 1940s, '50s and '70s.

Unionist politicians successfully prevented the Stormont assembly from passing a resolution that demanded an end to the Israeli blockade of Gaza.

Four Palestinian scuba divers were shot dead by Israeli forces off the Gaza coast.

Hundreds of interpreters who work for the courts and the Gardaí have no formal qualification, nor do they have to as there are no written regulations or laws governing interpreting in the 26 Counties.

TUES. JUNE 8: Twenty-six former pupils of the Stella Maris secondary school in Newtownabbey, Co Antrim lost their lives in the last two decades. The school closed in 1993 but an online archive was set up by former pupils and staff and can be accessed at www.stellamarissecondary.com.

Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas met with US president Barack Obama in the White House. **WED. JUNE 9:** John Larkin QC was appointed Attorney general in the Occupied Six counties.

Public sector workers in Spain brought strikes to a standstill as they went on a one-day strike.

The Continuity IRA said it expelled two senior members after they tried to stage an internal coup to gain control of the organisation.

THURS. JUNE 10: A viable explosive device was found in the Mount Crescent area of Downpatrick, Co Down.

A suspect device was found outside St Paul's primary school in the Galliagh area of Derry city. On the day before a pipe bomb was found in Strabane. The RUC classified the security alert level in Derry and Strabane as 'severe'. Sixteen pipe-bombs were dealt with in the north-west so far this year according to figures from the RUC.

A prisoner in Maghaberry jail, Co Antrim was granted permission to challenge prison authorities over strip-searching. The Ombudsman's report on prisons in the Occupied Six Counties made sixteen recommendations relating to conditions in Maghaberry.

Rent supplements paid to landlords of tenants claiming social welfare payments, are to be cut by one-third.

Fine Gael tabled a no-confidence motion in Brian Cowen.

FRI. JUNE 11: The Metropolitan police in England are to oppose the release of Ronnie McCartney from Maghaberry prison despite his being acquitted twice on a charge of conspiracy to blackmail. Ronnie McCartney was released under the Stormont Agreement and his licence



• *The International Criminal Court at the Hague (see quote Monday, June 14).*

was revoked in 2008 when he was arrested in London.

A viable device was discovered in the Glebe area of Sion Mills, Co Tyrone.

SAT. JUNE 12: Over 4,000 people protested in Mullingar over erosion of services at the Midland Regional Hospital in Mullingar.

More than 1,500 affordable housing units have been transferred for use as social housing as local authorities try to address the glut of unsold properties.

A man was arrested in connection with a bomb attack on Armagh barracks in February.

Two-fifths of the votes polled in the 26 Counties rejected both Brian Cowen and Enda Kenny as Taoiseach.

The High Court in Dublin reserved judgement on whether a district court judge was correct to find Shell E&P Ireland acted in contempt of court orders when it went onto commonage land at Rosport, Co Mayo two years ago.

SUN. JUNE 13: The annual Republican Sinn Féin Wolfe Tone Commemoration took place in Bodestown, Sallins, Co Kildare.

Amr Moussa, the Arab League chief, visited Gaza via Egypt. He said that the blockade must be broken and that "the Arab League is decision is very clear on that".

Polish authorities arrested a suspected Mossad agent with links to the killing in January of Mahmud al-Mabhuhi, the Hamas leader murdered in Dubai.

According to the United Nations, 5,900 Afghan children have been smuggled into Europe in the last year.

MON. JUNE 14: Britain, France and the United States blocked moves to give the International Criminal Court (ICC) the powers to investigate the crime of aggressive war. They argued that a decision on how to respond to the world's conflicts should stay with the UN Security Council. The crime of aggression will be added to the law books but prosecutors won't have the power to bring a case for another seven years. The definition of 'crime of aggression' was defined as that a state cannot go to war unless it is attacked or unless the war is sanctioned by the Security Council.

Ethnic Uzbeks in Kyrgyzstan said military-backed gangs were carrying out genocide, burning residents out of their homes and shooting them.

Shell E7P Ireland plans to drill a satellite well north of the Corrib gas field which could produce additional gas reserves. The Sedco 711-submersible rig arrived 80km off the Mayo coast last week and is booked there for the summer.

TUES. JUNE 15: The Saville Report into the murder of 14 civilians in Bloody Sunday in January 1972 was published. Saville found that all the men were innocent civilians and had been murdered by the British army. The British government stated that "What happened on Bloody Sunday was both unjustified and unjustifiable."

The Irish Lighthouse Service is 200 years in existence today and covers 7,500km of coastline. **WED. JUNE 16:** The main Church leaders in the Occupied Six Counties united to condemn the banks for "imposing untold suffering" on thousands of families because of their "undue haste" to return to making profits.

Complaints from prisoners to the Prison Ombudsman in the Occupied Six Counties are up 50% since last year.

THURS. JUNE 17: The Orange Order refused to apply to the Parades Commission for permission to march at the main Drumcree parade on July 4 and to walk down the nationalist Garvaghy Road in Portadown despite having applied every week since 1998 to do so.

Brian Kelly, Ballymena, Co Antrim claimed that the RUC threatened to kill him and to frame him for Republican attacks unless he agreed to work for them. His efforts to sue the British

Special Branch are being blocked he claims by the Police Ombudsman's office who are refusing to disclose the identity of the Special Branch to his solicitors.

MON. JUNE 21: The family of Roseanne Mallon, shot dead by the UVF at her home outside Dungannon, Co Tyrone in 1994, expressed their 'extreme frustration' at a further three-year delay into her inquest.

A British soldier who shot dead a teenage boy in July 1972 in Derry, six months after Bloody Sunday, applied to be excused from the inquest into the murder of Daniel Hegarty due to ill health.

Graeme McDowell from Portrush became the first Irishman to win the US Open.

More than 300 people are on an organ transplant list in the Six Counties, 266 of which are awaiting kidney transplants.

The Chief Inspector of Prisons in Britain Anne Owens is to chair a committee set up by minister of justice at Stormont David Ford to review prison conditions in Britain and the Six Counties.

In a visit to the Occupied Six Counties, Enda Kenny, leader of the Fine Gael party in the 26 Counties, ruled out coalition with the Provos because "the IRA Army Council has not been stood down".

The brickwork sculpture at the Gasyard centre in the Bogside, Derry in memory of the victims of Bloody Sunday 1972 was badly damaged by vandals.

Kyrgyz troops killed two and wounded more than 20 in assaults in the Nariman village, near Osh in Uzbek in what residents claim is an ethnic cleansing exercise. Last week 2,000 Uzbeks were killed and up to 400,000 fled the region.

Iran banned two UN nuclear inspectors from entering the country.

UN officials in Afghanistan began relocating some of the 300 staff due to "rising violence".

Israel is to demolish 22 Palestinian homes in Jerusalem to make way for a new tourist centre.

A device, left in a beer keg in a field near Keady, Co Armagh was discovered by a farmer who reported the find.

WED. JUNE 23: Hundreds of protesters shouted 'thieves', 'robbers' and 'scum' at Taoiseach Brian Cowen and other politicians and 'big business' as they entered the Mansion House in Dublin for a €1,300 a table banquet. Cowen was the guest speaker to launch the Annual IBC (Irish Business and Employers Confederation) President's Dinner. Those attending were protected by the Gardaí, with the riot squad on standby outside the back entrance of Anglo Irish Bank and mounted police across the road.

THURS. JUNE 24: Michael Feeney, founder of the Mayo Peace Park in Castlebar which commemorates the British soldiers killed in both world wars, welcomed the news that Brian Cowen invited the Queen of England on a state visit. Feeney was recently awarded an MBE from the English Queen.

Dublin-based group Justice for the Forgotten is in serious financial difficulties. The group has campaigned for years for justice for the victims of the Dublin and Monaghan bombings. No one was ever charged in connection with the loyalist bombings.

RUC informers may be publicly named in court as ten ex-RUC members begin personal compensation proceedings for post-traumatic stress suffered in the course of their work. The members lost a class action last year.

The Queen of England is expected to visit the 26 Counties before the end of 2011 on an invitation by Taoiseach Brian Cowan. The visit will cost the hard-pressed taxpayers 8million.

FRI. JUNE 25: It was made public this week that the US government awarded nearly a quarter of a billion dollars in contracts to the notorious Blackwater firm – renamed Xe and pronounced zee – to guard US consulates in Afghanistan. Last January two Blackwater employees were charged with shooting dead two Afghan civilians in Kabul in May last year. In April the US justice department charged five high-ranking Blackwater officials with 15 offences including attempted bribery, hiding weapons and obstructing justice in the investigation of the illegal possession of automatic weapons on the company's 7,000-acre private military base in North Carolina.

A Lurgan man appeared in court charged with possession of information 'likely to be of use to terrorists'.

The new justice minister in the Stormont assembly claimed expenses in 2009 from the assembly to pay a legal bill for the Alliance Party.

Appeals by four men held responsible after a civil court case for the Omagh bombing will be held in January next year.

Loyalists erected flags at a council-run community centre in Ahogill, Ballymena, Co Antrim.

Shell to Sea campaigner Maura Harrington

was arrested for non-payment of fines and taken to Mountjoy prison, Dublin for the fifth time in two years. Up to 40 people protested outside the jail.

TUES. JUNE 29: A 15-year-old youth was arrested by the RUC in Craigavon, Co Armagh as he walked his dogs. Locals refused to let the youth go in the Land Rover until his father arrived at the scene. He was charged with riotous behaviour.

Two members of the RUC were injured when a lorry ran them down as the driver was fleeing from customs officials in neigh, south Armagh.

WED. JUNE 30: A County Tyrone couple facing mortgage fraud charges have failed in their legal bid to be tried by a jury. It was the first judicial review challenge to be brought against a provision under the Justice and Security (Northern Ireland) Act 2007.

THURS. JULY 1: A heavy presence of the RUC were again in Craigavon harassing nationalists. A youth arrested suffered cuts and bruising to his face and body at the hands of the RUC. He was remanded in custody until he supplied an address in Lurgan, although he lives in Craigavon.

The chairman of the British Police Federation in the Occupied Six Counties Terry Spence said it was now time to let the [RUC/PSNI] and Gardaí cross the border if in pursuit of criminals. Four members of the RUC were disciplined for failing to investigate properly loyalist intimidation of nationalists in the village of Stoneford, Co Antrim over a number of years. Over the last 10 years 10 families fled their homes in Stoneford because of loyalist attacks and a nationalist bar closed after 70 attacks on the premises.

Four members of the RUC were disciplined for failing to investigate properly loyalist intimidation of nationalists in the village of Stoneford, Co Antrim over a number of years. Over the last 10 years 10 families fled their homes in Stoneford because of loyalist attacks and a nationalist bar closed after 70 attacks on the premises.

FRI. JULY 2: Ian Paisley said it was a "mistake" to invite Pope Benedict XVI to Britain.

Shots were fired at Crossmaglen RUC barracks in south Armagh.

A High Court judge dismissed a last-minute challenge to a loyalist flute band parade in the mainly nationalist County Fermanagh village of Newtownbutler. A resident sought a judicial review of the lack of restrictions placed by the Parades Commission on the Newtownbutler Border Defenders parade today.

At least 220 people were killed in the Democratic Republic of Congo when an overturned oil tanker exploded and set fire to parts of a village. Scores more were injured in the accident in Sange, near the border with Burundi. Some of those who died were trying to collect leaking fuel, but others were trapped inside buildings, including a cinema, by the fire.

Almost 800 companies went out of business between January and June in the 26 Counties -- that represents four companies a day. Insolvency Journal.ie says Dublin firms account for 40% of the total. The number of insolvencies among Irish companies was higher in the first six months of this year than in all of 2008.

The Labour Court in Dublin recommended a pay cut of 7.5% for construction workers. This follows an application from the Construction Industry Federation seeking pay cuts of up to 20% because of the collapse of the sector. Direct employment in construction has fallen from 286,000 at its peak to 129,000, with further job losses in construction-dependent industries.

Thousands took part in the opening of this year's Féile na nÓg in Derry.

SUN. JULY 4: The annual Drumcree Orange march took place in Portadown, Co Armagh but they did not parade down the Garvaghy Road. A delegation of those taking part handed over a letter to the RUC protesting at the Parades Commission's refusal to allow them to return along what they say is their traditional route. The Grand Secretary of the Orange Order Drew Nelson says Drumcree is still one of the main issues that need resolution when it comes to parading in the North.

Lebanon's Grand Ayatollah Sayyed Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, one of Shia Islam's highest religious authorities, died aged 74 in a Beirut hospital. He was a supporter of Iran's Islamic Revolution and the spiritual leader and mentor of Hezbollah in the first years after it was formed in 1982. He was very critical of the USA and in his final sermon, delivered by a deputy on Friday, he condemned Israeli settlements in east Jerusalem and criticised the US for 'giving cover to the enemy (Israel)'.

The 26-County Administration said it will appoint an expert group to assess the scale and value of semi-State companies' assets and liabilities.

British police attacked in west Belfast

A Belfast Chronology

Friday, June 4, 2010. Loyalist gangster Bobby Moffett, shot dead by three shotgun blasts on the crowded Shankill Road, was buried. His execution was ordered by leading UVF members after a dispute when Moffett's nephew was put out of the area for anti-social behaviour.

Sunday, June 6, 2010. A protest was held outside Belfast City Hall in support of the Palestinian people against the Israeli war machine. Bernadette Devlin McAliskey addressed the crowd.

Monday, June 7, 2010. A woman in her fifties was arrested after members of the British colonial police searched a house in Castlereagh in East Belfast. Two firearms were found during the raid.

Thursday, June 10, 2010. Owen Patterson, the British supremo for the Occupied Six Counties, agreed to meet the families of the eleven people murdered by the Parachute Regiment in what became known as the Ballymurphy Massacre.

Loyalists withdrew from interface talks with nationalist residents over the Parades Commission's decision not to allow 'The Tour of the North' to pass the Ardoyne shops, where residents have been subjected to severe sectarian violence many times in the past.

Saturday, June 12, 2010. Republican Sinn Féin Belfast Cumann members put up banners on the Falls Road in support of the POWs. However they were pulled down soon after.

Sunday, June 13, 2010. A pipe-bomb exploded outside a home in Kansas Avenue, north Belfast. A man, who was treated in hospital for injuries to his hands, was later arrested. The occupants were uninjured. On the same street two families, one from Nigeria, the other from Zimbabwe, say they have suffered racist intimidation for the last two years and they are now moving

out.

A man was arrested in north Belfast for questioning in connection with a bomb attack at Palace Barracks in April.

Monday, June 14, 2010. Paddy Barnes returned to Belfast after winning a gold medal in the European Amateur Boxing Championships in Moscow.

Tuesday, June 15, 2010. A 45-year old man from North Belfast was arrested for questioning about the bomb attack on Palace Barracks in April this year.

Wednesday, June 16, 2010. The Parades Commission in the Occupied Six Counties banned an Orange feeder parade from passing the Ardoyne shops in Belfast. Loyalists said they would not rule out protests.

Thursday, June 17, 2010. Desmond Kearns, Lurgan, was acquitted of involvement in an alleged arms smuggling operation after the judge in the High Court in Belfast ruled he had been entrapped by MI5.

Robin Masefield, head of the Northern Ireland (sic) prison Service, tendered his resignation, just days before ten suspended prison warders were to be reinstated.

The Ballymurphy Massacre Group called for an independent inquiry into the murder of 11 people in Belfast in August 1971 over a three-day period.

A West Belfast man accused of robbing a Northern Bank branch was refused bail. Two youths, one 19 and one 16, were arrested after rival gangs of up to 30 youths threw stones at each other. When police arrived they threw paint and petrol bombs at the police.

Friday, June 18, 2010. A group of around 50 people staged a peaceful protest in the New Lodge Area of North Belfast against Orange Order marches being allowed near their area. It passed off without incident.

A 13-year-old nationalist girl was knocked unconscious when she was hit by a brick



• Members of the Orange Order parading through the nationalist Short Strand, Belfast, on July 3, protected by the RUC/PSNI.

thrown over a west Belfast 'peace-line'. She lost three of her front teeth and received 15 stitches to her upper lip.

Saturday, June 19, 2010. The names of almost 60 nationalists on several A4 sheets of paper were posted around Belfast, including the Shankill Road. The list included 57 names and was entitled 'ONH, CIRA, RIRA scum not wanted by community'. There was a star beside several names indicating 'top operator'.

Monday, June 21, 2010. Closing statements were made in the trial of Paul McCaugherty, Lurgan and Dermot Gregory (also known as Michael Dermot) from Crossmaglen at the High Court in Belfast. McCaugherty is charged with conspiracy to procure guns and explosives, membership of an illegal organisation and three counts of using money for the purpose of terrorism. Gregory is charged with making property available for terrorists. Both men pleaded not guilty. MI5 agents posing as arms dealers between August 2004 and June 2006, video-taped meetings of themselves and the men as the men attempted to buy explosives, guns and rocket launchers. A third man, Desmond Kearns, Lurgan was acquitted last week. The trial began on May 5.

Willie Frazer (FAIR) launched a bid in the High Court in Belfast to activate a writ he claims he served on Deputy First Minister at Stormont Martin McGuinness

in relation to his membership of the IRA in 1972.

Fourteen alleged members of the UVF appeared in court at Belfast's magistrates' court on a variety of charges including murder and a series of punishment attacks. Nine of the men are charged with the murder of UDA man Tommy English.

A 13-year-old girl was attacked and seriously injured around 12.30am. The young girl was sitting at a park in Moyad Crescent when a brick struck her in the face coming from over the Ballygomartin 'peace wall'. She was initially knocked unconscious before being further assaulted, which included biting of her arms and attempts to break her wrists. She lost three teeth and required 15 stitches to her face, arm and hands. The motive is believed to have been sectarian.

Enda Kenny and other senior Blueshirts met the Provos in Stormont. Kenny ruled out any coalition government with the Provisionals in the 26 Counties due to the continued existence of their army council.

A group of eight masked men forced their way into two houses in the Village area of South Belfast. They proceeded to smash furniture and assault a man. They moved onto the next house smashing furniture, windows and slapping a woman. One of the attacks is believed to be racist, while the other was sectarian.

Wednesday, June 23, 2010.

Leading loyalist Andre Shoukri was believed to have been the intended target of a blast bomb found in Newtownabbey, north Belfast.

Thursday, June 24, 2010. A man suspected of being a member of the Basque ETA Movement was arrested in Belfast for questioning. Spanish police claim he is wanted on three international arrest warrants.

Saturday, June 26, 2010. The éirigi group, which consists of former members of the Provisionals, held a protest with around 100 demonstrators against English 'Armed Forces Day' outside Belfast City Hall. The RUC were out in full force taking video footage of the protesters.

Sunday, June 27, 2010. Forty years ago three men were shot dead and dozens injured as nationalists defended St Matthew's Church in the Short Strand area of Belfast from loyalist mobs.

Residents living around the lower Old Park Rd, North Belfast, were attacked by young thugs around 7.30pm throwing petrol bombs across the interface area.

Wednesday, June 30, 2010. Paul McCaugherty (43), Beech Court, Lurgan was found guilty of attempting to import weapons and explosives from a dealer who was actually an MI5 agent. Declan Dermot Gregory of Concession Road in Crossmaglen, was found guilty of making a Portuguese property available for the purpose of terrorism. They will be sentenced in September.

The High Court in Belfast refused permission to Margaret Keeley, wife of MI5 agent known as Kevin Fulton, to sue another British agent Freddie Scappaticci in her claim for damages against the RUC Chief Constable.

Thursday, July 1, 2010. A man was found murdered in a flat in Ardmonagh Parade, West Belfast.

Friday, July 2, 2010. Four police Land Rovers were damaged during rioting in west Belfast. Crowds of up to 100 people threw bricks, bottles and petrol bombs at the RUC in the Broadway area at about 8.30pm. Missiles were also thrown between rival groups and a number of fights took place at the roundabout. The RUC again came under petrol bomb attack after midnight, while missiles were thrown at passing cars. The British police patrolling in the Bog Meadows area also came under petrol bomb attack. One person was arrested on suspicion of possession of an offensive weapon and another on suspicion of riotous behaviour.

Belfast City Council is to finance the loyalist bonfire at the Donegal entrance to Belfast City Hospital. Loyalist bonfires are being erected several areas of the city including one in the middle of the road at Hogart Street in Tiger's Bay, in the Cragh estate and at Shaw's Bridge.

Saturday, July 3, 2010. Two men were treated in hospital as a result of being struck by baton rounds fired by the RUC/PSNI following disturbances in Belfast following a loyalist band parade in the Short Strand area.

Sunday, July 4, 2010. The RUC claim that five of their members were injured after a second night of trouble in Belfast. One man is believed to have attacked an RUC/PSNI vehicle with an axe during the disturbances in the Broadway and Bog Meadows areas.

Threats were made against the life of Belfast based Republican Sinn Féin Vice-President Geraldine Taylor in the *Sunday World*.

TEACH DÁITHÍ Ó CONAILL RENOVATION FUND

The Trustees and Ard Chomhairle have decided to set up a fund to renovate the Republican Sinn Féin Ard-Oifig, Teach Dáithí Ó Conaill, 223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1.

Donations will be gratefully received from members and supporters of the true Republican cause. All moneys received will be acknowledged and receipted.

Donations should be sent to:

The Dáithí Ó Conaill Memorial Fund
223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1.

Republican leader remembered in Carlow

ON Sunday, June 20 the annual Tony Ruane commemoration was held in Carlow town.

More than 40 people marched to Tony Ruane's grave, led by a Colour Party from Wexford, where proceedings were chaired by his granddaughter, Laura Nolan, who is also secretary of the local Republican Finn Féin Tony Ruane/Myles Shevlin Cumann.

A wreath was laid by Jimmy Corcoran and a minute's silence was observed for the dipping of the flags.

The oration was delivered by Kevin Devlin, Dublin who said that was an honour for him to pay tribute to Tony Ruane, a dedicated and true Republican. Though he never met Tony he said that "...those who knew him admired him and speak highly of the dedication and hard work he put in for the cause he held so dear.

"No words can properly

describe the admiration felt for men and women like Tony, who gave their all for the cause of Irish freedom".

Kevin went on to outline the Tony's involvement in the Republican movement from the time he joined Na Fianna Éireann as a boy.

"Tony Ruane retired as National Treasurer in 1980 but after the Provos' treachery in 1986, despite ill-health, he returned to help make sure the Republican Movement kept to the path he so firmly believed to be the right one.

"There have been many over the years who have taken the easy road but as Joe McKelvey said, and I quote 'The way to freedom is a hard and bloody one' and those of us who choose that and who take guidance and inspiration from comrades like



• Ard Chomhairle member Kevin Devlin giving the oration at the Tony Ruane commemoration.

Tony Ruane. They give us the strength to carry on the struggle for Irish freedom and self-determination.

"We regard our part in that

struggle as nothing more than our duty and like Tony did, we carry out that duty for the greater good and not for personal gain or recognition."

'Wall of silence is being constructed around Maghaberry jail'

THE conditions in Maghaberry jail, Co Antrim are continuing to deteriorate for Republican prisoners in Roe House despite widespread publicity and calls for changes to the regime.

The Republican prisoners are continuing their protest to regain their right to political status, but conditions are causing serious concerns to the families and supporters of the POWs.

In a wide-ranging report issued on June 11, Pauline McCabe, the Six-County Prisoner Ombudsman, made 16 recommendations for change in Maghaberry jail, Co Antrim after a prisoner in the jail complained about being locked up for 23 hours a day. Among the recommendations was for a review of lockdowns and strip searches.

She also said that the twenty-eight Republican prisoners who barricaded themselves into a dining room at Roe House over Easter had served their punishment as for more than 69 days they had been confined to their cells or were part of a regime which was similar to being confined to cells. She also ruled that books, newspapers and writing materials should not be removed as punishment and that a line be drawn in the respect of any outstanding adjudication for the Roe House prisoners.

The full report can be viewed at: www.niprisonservice.gov.uk/publications.

The day before the report was made public a prisoner in Maghaberry jail, Co Antrim was granted permission by the courts to challenge the prison authorities over strip-searching.

The following communication was received from the Republican POWs in Maghaberry jail on June 16,

2010:

"After having exhausted every other avenue available to us, we the POWs have been forced to engage in a protest to bring about an end to the degrading and inhuman conditions we find ourselves being subjected to.

"Our protest began after Mass on Easter Sunday when we secured the recreation room and erected barricades to prevent the screws [prison warders] from gaining access. We held this position for 2 [two days] with upwards of 200 screws plus RUC in riot gear taking up positions around the area we had seized.

"Prison officials (accepted in consultations) in which we agreed to hand back control with the understanding that within 48-hours further negotiations would take place within the aim of resolving our concerns. The prison service reneged on their promise of negotiations, to no surprise to ourselves.

"Since then we have refused to participate in degrading strip searches and have been covering the observation flaps on our cell doors. Since then we have wrecked our cells in response to the search team removing a POW to the boards, where he was handcuffed to a steel bed and had his clothing cut off.

"We then had to pour urine under our cell doors to get rid of it, as we have been locked down for 23 hours a day.

"In our efforts to resolve the protest we have met with the prison governors and found them uninterested to discuss in any detail the issues concerning



• Members and supporters of Republican Sinn Féin placed a picket on Maghaberry jail on June 27 while President Des Dalton and Patron Ruairí Ó Brádaigh along with former POW Stephen Daly visited the OC, Republican Prisoners.



• Republican Sinn Féin members picket in Wexford on June 26.

us. We have also met with seven delegations of the so-called Justice Committee, which comprises members of PSF [Provisional Sinn Féin] and the SDLP [Social and Democratic Labour Party]. A further meeting was held with the Prison Ombudsman but to no avail.

"Having once again exhausted all avenues to us we feel the option left to us is to step up our protest.

"We call upon our families, comrades and supporters to organise again and step up their efforts outside with protests,

letter writing campaigns, leaflet drops and all other appropriate actions to highlight our plight.

"We salute your efforts to date and know we can rely on you in the future. For our part, on Sunday, June 13, 2010 we will commence a Dirty Protest.

"PRO, Republican POWs, Maghaberry jail."

The POW Department Republican Sinn Féin said on June 16 that: "The report and recommendations from Pauline McCabe fall far short of what is really needed at Maghaberry -- an independent investigation into the conduct of the prison

warders would go a long way to resolving the issue and restoring political status to the Republican prisoners in Roe House, who now find themselves in the appalling situation where they have to urinate and defecate into a milk/juice carton.

"We call on people to register their protest by writing/contacting all media outlets and also in particular those nationalist politicians who sit in Stormont claiming to speak for the prisoners. Far from acting in the interest of the prisoners, it is in the interests of these British paid politicians, Adams, McGuinness, O'Dowd etc, to make sure this prison protest is not given oxygen.

"The last thing the Provisionals want is to be reminded of the part they played in betraying all the 1980/81 hunger strikers by signing away the status they won by 10 deaths in 1981. These people are part and parcel of the British government which is standing over the conditions in Maghaberry. They draw their

big salaries' and would indeed occupy the office of Minister of Justice in the partitionist Stormont had not the Unionists objected to such a deal. But the Provisionals backed David Ford for the position, a man who believes the prisoners are 'in a situation of their own making', according to Josephine Hayden, spokesperson for the POW Department.

On June 17 the director-general of the [British] Northern Ireland Prison Service for the last six years, Robin Masefield, announced his resignation just as ten prison wardens, suspended in the wake of the death by suicide of a prisoner in the mainstream prison in 2008, are to be reinstated.

Members of Republican Sinn Féin protested on June 24 at a District Policing Partnership (DPP) meeting in Newry at which RUC Chief Constable Matt Baggot was in attendance. The protest was two-fold: to highlight the conditions in Maghaberry jail in Co Antrim and to protest at the presence in Newry of the head of the British police force in Ireland.

A statement was read to the BBC by a sister of a POW in which she stated, among other things, that "Over the past number of years Republican prisoners have been subjected to physical and mental abuse at the hands of the screws [prison wardens]. It is the conditions in Maghaberry jail that have led to the political protest. The tactics of the screws are to humiliate and criminalise the men but these efforts will fail as said by our comrade Bobby Sands 'never will they label our liberation struggle as criminal'.

"The screws treat the POWs with a hostile nature and on a daily basis the POWs are strip-

IMEACHTAÍ

HUNGER STRIKE REMEMBRANCE MARCH & RALLY
SATURDAY, JULY 10, DUBLIN
Assemble: Garden of Remembrance, 1pm for march to GPO.

PATRICK CANNON COMMEMORATION
BALGRIFFIN CEMETERY, DUBLIN
SATURDAY, JULY 17, 11.30am
Assemble at Cemetery gates.

GATHERING AT CASTLEREA PRISON, CO ROSCOMMON
SATURDAY, JULY 17, 2pm
To mark the release of Pat 'The Chief' O'Donnell and to protest about the continued imprisonment of Shell-to-Sea stalwart Niall Harnnett.

POLITICAL STATUS PICKET
GPO, DUBLIN, JULY 17, 12.45-1.45pm

RALLY IN SUPPORT OF THE REPUBLICAN POWS
SUNDAY, JULY 18
ST TIARNACH'S GAA GROUNDS
CLONES, CO MONAGHAN
Family, friends and supporters of the Republican POWs will collect signatures for the reinstatement of political status and leaflets will be distributed outlining the conditions in Maghaberry jail, Co Antrim.
Organised by Comhairle Uladh, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

BALLAD SESSION IN AID OF POWS
SATURDAY, JULY 31
THE 79+ PUB, BALLYFERMOT, DUBLIN
Doors open 9pm; Admission: €5

MARCH FOR POLITICAL STATUS
BELFAST, AUGUST 7, 2010
Assemble at Dunville Park, 1.30pm for march to Castle Street
Speakers include ex-Blanket man.

HUNGER STRIKE COMMEMORATION
WATERFORD CITY
SATURDAY AUGUST 14
Assemble The Glen at 3pm
March to John Roberts Square

90th ANNIVERSARY JAMES DALY COMMEMORATION
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31
TYRELLSPASS, CO WESTMEATH
Speaker: Des Dalton

THE REPUBLICAN PRISONERS MAGHABERRY
are looking for books and publications about Irish history and Republicanism. The books may be sent to Head Office at 223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1 or the Ulster office at 229 Falls Road, Belfast or directly to Maghaberry c/o Daire McKenna, Roe House, Maghaberry jail, Old Road, Ballinderry Upper, Lisburn, Co Antrim, BT28 2PT.

JOIN NA FIANNA ÉIREANN IRELAND'S REPUBLICAN YOUTH MOVEMENT
Contact for details: 085-824 2617

REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN REPUBLICAN FLUTE BAND THE TOM MAGUIRE/DÁITHÍ O CONAILL RFB
Anyone interested in joining please contact 01-8729747 or 085-8242617

TEAGMHÁLACHA

Anyone wishing to join Republican Sinn Féin should contact:

Cork: Mac Curtáin/Mac Swiney Cumann: 086-3352006 or rsfcork@gmail.com

Waterford: 086-1244158; e-mail: reiaim@hotmail.com
Dublin: 01-8729747 or e-mail: saoirse@iol.ie Roger

Meath: Niall Fagan/Thomas Allen Cumann: 086-7326922
Wexford: contact Mick at 0876150484

Kildare: desdalton@eircom.net, 086-329 1809, www.rsf-kildare.ie

Longford: 087-2240061 or 086-3384017
Enniscorthy: 086-0608382 or 087 6284338

Belfast: rsfbelfast@googlemail.com
Donegal: rsfdonegal@googlemail.com

Newry: Brendan Watters/Joe Conway Cumann: rsfnewry@aol.com

Roscommon: Kevin Coen Cumann: Joe Murphy, 086 1281 861

Mayo: McNeela/Gaughan/Stagg Cumann: 087 0926420

Galway: Cumann an hAithrí Ó Gríofa: Tomás, 087 2933 782 or Seán at 091 525 977, rsfgallimh@live.ie
Leitrim: Micheál at 071 9641 804 or John at 086 4061454

London: Roger Casement/James Stephens Cumann, 0044-7926357676
Glasgow: Francis Hughes Cumann, rsfglasgow@yahoo.com, web:rsfglasgow.webs.com

Dumbarton: John Torley/Séamus McElwaine Cumann dumbartonrsf@live.co.uk

RSF Germany/Austria: www.irish-solidarity.net
irish-solidarity@gmx.net, 0664 170 02 92
RSF Italy: rsf-roma@email.it

Support the campaign for political status...Support the campaign for political status...Support the campaign for political status...

searched. Over the past year the screws have been actively violent towards the prisoners which resulted in several POWs being assaulted.

"The prisoners are subjected to 23-hour lock-downs with only two meals a day which are served in disposable containers and slid along the floor to the prisoners. The POWs are denied proper medical facilities. The POWs' visits are stopped when they refuse to strip for the screws. The screws are also using their drug dogs to stop the POWs' families from visiting.

"The protest in Maghaberry will continue and we the families and Republican Sinn Féin will engage in street

door of the regime which allows these degrading searches. Another excuse for a refusal of a visit is when the drugs dog sits down beside a visitor. No drugs have ever been found on visitors to the POWs or on the POWs themselves.

After the meeting Des Dalton and Ruairí Ó Brádaigh addressed the crowd who had marched back to the car park.

He said that "Despite assurances by the Northern Ireland Prison Service the Duty Governor failed to meet with us today". The purpose of the proposed meeting with the Duty Governor was to put forward the five demands of the Republican prisoners for



• Members of Republican Sinn Féin from Dublin and Donegal at the picket at Maghaberry on June 27.

Ireland and the deteriorating situation in Maghaberry.

Dieter Blumenfeld, spokesperson of Republican

Sinn Féin in Central Europe writes:

"We, the activists and supporters of Republican Sinn Féin in Central Europe, are confronted with a media blackout not just relating the injustice in Maghaberry and the protest of the Republican prisoners but on British occupation and injustice in Ireland as such.

"Over the last two months we have translated the statements of the Republican POWs and the Republican Sinn Féin POW Department in various languages including German, Italian and French (Liberation Ireland). The material is published on the internet on our website www.irish-solidarity.net.

"Our Swedish comrades of

the Ireland Information Group are highlighting the plight of the POWs in their country too.

"We have organised stalls with leaflets and other material to inform the people about the Republican struggle and the POWs. At the Mayday rally in Vienna, Austria, hundreds of leaflets informing about the situation of Martin Corey from Lurgan and further British human rights abuses were distributed.

"Letters by Republican Sinn Féin Vice-President and director of the RSF International Relations Bureau, Fergal Moore were read at international conferences in Istanbul, Turkey and Haifa Israel/Occupied Palestine to highlight the protest of the POWs and the Republican struggle for Irish freedom.

"Beir bua! Freedom for all political prisoners!"

Throughout the month well-attended pickets in support of the five demands of the POW were held in various centres in Ireland; on June 5 in the Square in Crossmaglen, South Armagh which was attended by up to 30 people and one in Dublin city centre. On June 19 in Strabane, Co Tyrone; on June 26 at the Bullring in Wexford with members from Waterford and Carlow also in attendance. At every protest hundreds of leaflets outlining the conditions in the jail and the demands of the POWs were distributed. Every Saturday a stall in Shop Street in Galway collects signatures and distributes leaflets. All areas would like to thank those who participated and reported a good response from the general public.

On Saturday, June 26 members and supporters of the National Irish Freedom Committee/Cumann na Saoirse (NIFC) staged a protest in support of Republican POWs outside the British Consulate in Manhattan, New York, USA. The group displayed posters protesting the treatment of Republican prisoners by prison authorities and handed out leaflets to the general public — most of whom were unaware of the appalling conditions in which the POWs live.

"NIFC stands firmly behind the prisoners in demanding an end to these violations of basic human rights and to the reinstatement of political status, which was signed away by the Provisionals when they signed the Stormont Agreement.

"NIFC urges all supporters of the Republican Movement and those concerned with civil rights and social justice to get involved — write and/or phone your US Senators and Congressional representative. Ask them to demand that the British government end the abuse of Irish Republican POWs; contact the British Consulate in NYC by phone at 212-754-0272, by fax at 212-754-3062 or write them at 845 3rd Avenue, New York, NY 10022 (address letters and faxes to Sir Alan Collins, Consul-General). Write letters to the editors of your local newspapers; join NIFC, Contact Mike at nifcmem@optonline.net"



• Members of Republican Sinn Féin in Galway and Mayo have erected huge banners in support of the POWs.

protests, marches and leaflet drops until the POWs receive their five demands: the Right to free association; End controlled movement; Right to full time education; End to strip searching; Adequate medical facilities

"Political Status Now! Victory to the POWS!"

On Sunday, June 27 people from Lurgan, Armagh city, Belfast, Tyrone, Fermanagh Kildare and Dublin gathered at Maghaberry jail to protest at the conditions in the jail while Des Dalton and Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, President and Patron of Republican Sinn Féin respectively visited the OC of the CIRA prisoners.

Fergal Moore, Vice-President, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, spoke to those gathered outside and called on everyone to keep up the protests and to being a friend along the next time. He called for people to get in touch with the media on a personal basis which would make the conditions in the jail "more real to them".

Cáit Trainor, Ard Chomhairle member and Chair of the Steering Committee also addressed the crowd. She pointed out that it is the screws who are in charge of the jail and do as they liked. They make life as difficult as possible for the POWs.

One family member was visibly distressed as her visit was refused. The POW refused to be strip-searched so the visit was refused by the prison. This is a common occurrence whereby people travel, often long journeys, only to be refused a visit.

The prison administration try to lay the blame on the prisoners for non-visits but the families and comrades of the POWs know exactly where the blame lies — it lies firmly at the

political status as well as to highlight the internment of veteran Republican and political hostage Martin Corey. However, they did meet with the OC of the Republican prisoners.

"The conditions being endured by the Republican prisoners are a gross violation of even the most basic standards of human rights and are likely to have a detrimental effect on the health of the men," said Des Dalton.

"Republican Ireland stands by the POWs and the campaign for political status must be intensified to bring these conditions to an end.

"By their actions the men in Maghaberry are not allowing themselves to be passive victims of the British state but instead are giving the lie to the normalisation of British occupation. The struggle of the Republican prisoners in Maghaberry proclaims to Ireland and the world that British rule in Ireland is neither normal nor acceptable.

"The five demands of Republican prisoners must be met now."

Ruairí Ó Brádaigh also addressed the relatives, friends and supporters of the POWs: "The cause of the political prisoners is the cause of humanity. A wall of silence is being constructed around Maghaberry and we must break it down and ensure the people of Ireland know what is being done to the Republican prisoners here in Maghaberry."

A well-attended POW picket was held at Stephansplatz in the centre of Vienna on Saturday, June 19 organised by Republican Sinn Féin International Relations Bureau along with Turkish friends. The picket was for all political prisoners but RSF spoke and addressed the campaign in

Des Dalton describes the details of a visit to a POW

THE visit of Ruairí Ó Brádaigh and Des Dalton — Patron and President respectively of Sinn Féin Poblachtach — to Maghaberry Prison on June 27 provided an opportunity to focus public attention on the conditions endured by the Republican prisoners as well as to hear first hand exactly what is going on inside that grim jail.

"The visit began at the café and advice centre run by the Society of Friends or Quakers situated beside the visitor's car park. From there a short bus-ride to the visitor reception area. "First-time visitors are photographed and a scan of the finger print of the forefinger is taken. A pass containing photo as well as the name of the prisoner who is being visited is then printed which must be presented along with the finger print scan. The visitor must have their finger print scanned six times in total including entry and exit.

"Each visitor is allowed to take a maximum of £10 in coins, which they can use to buy tea/coffee and sandwiches or snacks in the visiting area during the visit.

"Here visitors leave personal belongings and other items which are prohibited from being brought into the visit. A copy of the Celtic League magazine CARN that contains a reply received by the Celtic League by the Northern Ireland Prison Service, which Ruairí Ó Brádaigh wished to bring on the visit, was refused.

"You pass through a metal detector and are then frisked before passing on to another waiting area. The visitors must wait until the name of the prisoner is called before they can board yet another mini-bus which takes them to the visiting area. Here the pass and finger print are again scanned and visitors are

subjected to the degrading experience of the drug sniffer dog. "The tight control exercised over the dog by the leash wielding prison warder shows how easy it is for them to manipulate the dog's reactions. Each visitor must stand on a numbered coloured square while the dog is run around and past them.

"The visiting area resembles a large cafeteria containing two lines of tables and benches separated by a barrier and walkway. Each visitor/visitors are given a table number where they await the prisoner they are there to visit.

"The length of time varies as on some occasions the prisoners are only taken from their cell when their visitor has arrived in the visiting area. In past months this has resulted in visits, which should last one hour ending after only 30/35 minutes. This was not the case for this visit.

"Over the course of the visit the OC of the CIRA prisoners gave a graphic description of what the men in Maghaberry experience on a daily basis.

The men have no running water in their cells and so are forced to put their urine and excrement into a milk carton, they then mash the contents to the point that it can be funnelled out the side of their cell door.

This has resulted in an over powering stench on the landings as the prison

warders do not clean the landings. "An absorbent material is sprayed over the floors every couple of days while the warders wear protective clothing and masks when they enter the landings. When the men's food is brought to their cells the warders often do not wear gloves, meaning that contamination of the food is highly likely.

"The OC said that it is only a matter of time before this results' in serious infections and illness. One prisoner suffering from infected tonsils despite being told he requires surgery has been given no date or even an indication as to when he will be treated.

"Despite all of this the OC said that the spirit and morale of the men is strong and they are determined to continue until their right to political status has been secured.

"Meeting such men is both humbling and uplifting and should inspire Republicans outside to redouble their efforts on behalf of the POWs.

"Despite assurances given to the Ulster Office of Sinn Féin Poblachtach by the Northern Ireland Prison Service in advance of the visit that the Duty Governor would meet both Des Dalton and Ruairí Ó Brádaigh the meeting did not take place."

As they drove away from Maghaberry jail the car in which Ruairí Ó Brádaigh and Des Dalton were travelling was stopped at a checkpoint obviously erected specifically for that purpose.

The occupants of the car had their names taken and were asked to get out of the car while it was searched.

Move forward a strike a blow

ON Sunday, June 13 members and supporters of Republican Sinn Féin from all over Ireland and from England marched behind the National Colour Party, contingents of Cumann na mBan and Na Fianna Éireann and a lone piper to the annual Theobald Wolfe Tone commemoration in Bodenstown, Co Kildare.

In atrocious weather, people from all over Ireland as well as from England and the USA assembled in the graveyard where the Father of Irish Republicanism is buried.

The Chief Marshal was Seosamh Ó Maoileoin, Iar Mhí. Proceedings in the graveyard were chaired by An Chomhairleoir Tomás Ó Curraoin, Gaillimh. A wreath was laid on behalf of the Republican Movement by Matt Conway, Cill Dara, Peig Galligan spoke on behalf of the National Graves Association who are responsible for the upkeep of the monument and are to be highly commended for their work...

The oration was delivered by former Republican POW Stiofán O Dálaigh, Co Tyrone who said:

“A chairde agus a chomrádaithe
“It is a great honour for me to address you all here today. As you and I gather here today we remember with pride not only the name of Theobald Wolfe Tone but the legacy he left behind. In the eyes of genuine Republicans he is viewed as the father of Irish Republicanism, a description truly deserving of a great man.

“Wolfe Tone was only 35 years of age when he died for the cause in which he believed. That cause was to unite the people of Ireland, and I quote:

“To subvert the tyranny of our execrable government, to break the connection with England, the never-failing source of all our political evils, and to assert the independence of my country – these were my objects. To unite the whole people of Ireland, to abolish the memory of all past dissensions, and to substitute the common name of Irishman, in the place of the denominations of Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter – these were my means.

“To unite Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter under the common name of Irishman in order to break the connection with England, the never-failing source of all our political evils, that was my aim.

‘If the men of property will not support us, they must fall. Our strength shall come from that great and respectable class, the men of no property.’

“Tone was a revolutionary, he accepted in the short-term that debate on reform would have to take place but when talking would fail, revolt would happen. In 1798, like today, the United Irishmen would be scourged with informers like all revolutionary struggles throughout the world. There were

is true of today’s struggle that we face many enemies; we have those whose sole desire is the total destruction of Irish Republicanism.

“These people have been corrupted by their greed and as a result they have allowed themselves to become entrenched in criminality. The British government has a vested interest in Republicanism, they have for decades infiltrated all of the revolutionary bodies. However it must be stressed that the British would fail in their attempts if not for the help they undoubtedly receive from the hateful type of person that becomes an informer.

“Today’s struggle is no different from the struggle faced by



• **Former OC of the Republican POWs, Maghaberry jail, Stiofán O Dálaigh, Tyrone, gave the oration at Bodenstown on June 13.**

and are those who are driven by the love of monetary wealth. In the case of Wolfe Tone his plans were betrayed to the British by a corrupt attorney.

“The history of Wolfe Tone and the United Irishmen is known to all you who attend here today. It is imperative that we, the Republicans of today, lead from the front as our forefathers did. It

Plunkett, Pearse and Tone. We the Republican people of today find ourselves in the minority. Our dedication to see our country free from the chains of British imperialism has been used by our enemies not only on the outside but from within. We have seen those who pretend to be Republican tarnish the good name of the Republican Movement by



• **The monument to Theobald Wolfe Tone, Father of Irish Republic is the care of the National Graves Association.**



• **The National Colour Party led the parade from Sallins Village to the grave of Wolfe Tone at Bodenstown.**

involving themselves with criminals, drug dealers and known informers. These people have asked for support in their actions claiming they are involved in taking ‘military action’. What are these military actions they speak of, extortion, protection of drug dealers, racketeering and the shooting of teenagers; these are not the actions of a revolutionary

Republican Movement. These are the actions of a criminal gang. Criminality cannot and will not be tolerated. The Republican Movement will no longer allow such gang lords to operate under the banner of Republicanism. Your dirty deeds have been uncovered.

“As a result of these actions by criminals and informers, we the

and once again v for Ireland



nism at Bodenstown Cemetery outside Sallins Village, Co Kildare is in



• Members of Kildare Republican Sinn Féin carrying their banner.

shoulders and call us elitist. Well we say to you, the path we remain on is the same one our forefathers stood on, and if it was good enough for them than its good enough for us.

“At this moment in time we have Republican Prisoners of War fighting for the reintroduction of political status. These men, some of whom are only teenagers, are

result he gets no fresh air. Republican prisoners are being subjected to strip-searches on a daily basis and now family members of Republican prisoners are being strip-searched on visits to see their sons, fathers and husbands.

“Meals are handed in through locked doors, these meals are either served cold or lukewarm;

from their comrades and placed in isolation.

“The Northern Ireland Office (NIO), the British government and the prison service have denied all of the above, but as a former Republican prisoner I know that all of the reports are accurate. The Prison Officers association (POA) and not the governor run Maghaberry jail (Co Antrim). They have planted names in the cell of a Republican prisoner which resulted in the governor resigning. They are refusing to accept that change is necessary and that contrary to their assumptions the Republican prisoners are only looking to be treated with dignity and respect.

“We the Republican people of Ireland hereby state that we will not stand idly by and let this abuse continue. The Republican Prisoners of War have our fullest support and dedication, we salute you.

“I would like to finish by saying that the struggle in which Tone gave his life for is still ongoing. We the Republican people must move forward and once again strike a blow for Ireland. Let us not forget the sacrifices of the past and that the men and women who died for Ireland did so, not for any fringe benefits, but for the Republican cause and a united and free Ireland. “There are those who are and those who pretend to be.”

“To you, the true Republican people who gathered here today, I would like to thank you for your attendance, you are following in the footsteps of great men and women and their sacrifices and yours will not be forgotten.

Stay true to the cause of Ireland. Tíocfaidh Ár Lá.”

Following the oration, the parade marched back to Sallins, where Amhráin na bhFiann was played and the parade was dismissed. Those who took part are to be congratulated as it was agreed that weather conditions were the worst in living memory.

A function was held in Sallins following the parade, giving people a chance to dry off before the journey back to the various counties. A raffle was also held.



• The banner of the McNeela/Gaughan/Stagg Cumann from Mayo being carried to Bodenstown.

true Republicans must rebuild and regain the trust of not only our communities but of the whole of Ireland and the rest of the world. The road ahead will be difficult, we have a lot to overcome but

these difficult situations are not insurmountable. The path we walk is well-worn, but it has not led us wrong yet. Of course there were those who deviated and they have the audacity to look over their



• Members of Cumann na mBan and Na Fianna Éireann marching to Bodenstown.

involved in the third phase of Republican struggle. For centuries the British imperialist forces have been guilty of horrendous and heinous acts of barbarism against Republican prisoners. Today is no different.

“Republican prisoners are locked in their cells for up to 23 hours a day. If a Republican prisoner has a legal visit he is then denied any form of exercise as a

bread has been handed to Republican prisoners already mouldy. Showers are being denied and some of the Republican prisoners have not have not had a shower in up to three weeks. Republican prisoners have been subjected to attacks by prison staff, one man received a boot in the face, a number of men have been beaten up by the notorious search team and forcibly removed

Conditions in Gaza critical

ISRAEL recently claimed it was about to ease the blockade and publish a list of banned items, allowing all other civilian items into Gaza.

This is a devious attempt to gain a “quick win” for Israel and detract from the real issue of an Apartheid Israeli state that has no regard for international law and treats Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza with contempt.

No timetable has been issued for the publication of this new list of banned items. The crucial issue of whether commercial goods will be allowed to cross into Gaza to allow the recovery of its crippled economy was not explicitly addressed in the statements made. Decisions are still pending, according to an Israeli official.

Unrwa's (the UN relief agency for Palestinian refugees) list of items that have been refused entry at various times includes essential medicine, cars, fridges, computers, wood, cement, light bulbs, candles, matches, books, musical instruments, crayons, clothing, shoes, mattresses, sheets, blankets, lentils, pasta, tea, coffee, jam, fruit juice, canned fruit, chocolate, nuts, shampoo and conditioner.

As well as restricting the above basic items, the blockade has imposed awful living conditions on over 1.5 million people including the following:

- A third of cooking gas requirements are not met
- Electricity is cut for circa 8 hours a day
- 80% of water does not meet WHO needs
- 70% of Gazan families live on less than \$1 per day per person
- There is massive unemployment
- Critical Medicine and Medical equipment is not allowed into Gaza

An estimated \$140 million of damage was done to Gaza business during Operation Cast Lead. These have yet to be rebuilt

- Before the blockade, 3,900 industrial premises were operating, employing 35,000 people - by June 2008, only 90 were still functioning, employing only 860, according to the Palestinian Trade Centre

The UN's FAO says \$180m of trees, fields, livestock, greenhouses and nurseries were destroyed during Operation Cast Lead

- 15% of agricultural land is destroyed
- With agricultural exports at almost zero, thousands of tonnes of flowers, fruit and vegetables have been destroyed or sold at a loss on the local market. One poultry farmer had to slaughter 165,000 chicks because he did not have the fuel for the incubators to keep them alive

This blockade is illegal. It is a collective punishment of 1.5 million people - condemned to face enforced and avoidable poverty, human rights abuses and appalling hardships - often just because of where they were born. It is the duty of thinking individual of conscience to ensure that such inhuman treatment is no longer allowed and ignored by the world. Our work has received backing from politicians from all sides of Leinster House.

As a direct result of the IPSC's efforts, Waterford City Council last week followed what is now a growing trend of council motions against Israeli Apartheid and approved a motion to expel the Israeli Ambassador to Ireland.

Thank you again for your support and solidarity with the Palestinian people.

— Irish Palestinian Solidarity Committee (IPSC).

IAWM: 'Cut ties with rogue Israeli state'

IN A statement on June 15, the Irish Anti-War Movement (IAWM) said the [Dublin] government's decision to expel a single Israeli diplomat over the forged Irish passports used in the Dubai assassination of a senior Hamas official was a “woefully inadequate and tokenistic” sanction against Israel, given its crimes.

The IAWM said the passport scandal was only one instance among countless Israeli atrocities and crimes for which Ireland and other members of the International community should impose severe sanctions.

The IAWM said that Israel's crimes in last years assault in Gaza, the recent killing of nine peace activists, the on-going siege of Gaza and the systematic denial of human rights to the entire Palestinian population, should lead the Irish government to sever all diplomatic and economic ties with Israel.

Cuban celebrations in Ireland

EVENTS in Ireland to commemorate the landing from Mexico of the Granma on Cuban shores by Fidel Castro and his 82 revolutionaries of the 26th July movement are as follows:

A one-day Cuban film festival on July 25 at The New Theatre, Connolly Books, Essex Street, Dublin. The famous feature length documentary “Fidel: The Untold Story” (2001) by US film maker, Estela Bravo, will get a long overdue Irish release along with another chance to see Bernie Dwyer's “The Day Diplomacy Died” (2010) Irish-Cuban co-production.

For full program and admission details see :

WORLD NEWS



• A woman sits in the ruins of her demolished house in Gaza. The situation there is critical and aid is still being restricted by Israel (see left).

www.progressivefilmclub.ie

Red Roof Productions have organised a boat trip on Belfast Lough and an evening function in La Boca restaurant with food and music on Sunday July 25 2010. Songs of international struggle by Pol MacAdaim and Mel Corry. Tickets can be bought for the full event at £20 (waged) £10 (unwaged). Spaces on the boat are limited. Please contact Trademark 90331053 or e-mail: ROD@redroofproductions.com Tickets will be on a first come first served basis.

Also members of Unison International Solidarity Group are holding their annual Feile sponsored walk along the Belfast Hills in support of Cuba: Saturday July 31 at 11.30am. <http://www.centreforglobaleducation.com/sites/default/files/stora/ge/feile-walk.pdf>.

Cuba and the US in migration talks

ON June 18, 2010, a Cuban delegation presided over by Deputy Foreign Minister Dagoberto Rodríguez participated in a new round of migration talks with the US government in Washington.

The US delegation was led by Craig Kelly, principal deputy assistant secretary at the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs.

During the meeting those present assessed the implementation of the migratory agreements between the two countries. They also maintained a fruitful exchange on establishing more effective cooperation mechanisms to confront the illicit trafficking of persons.

The Cuban delegation proposed organising workshops of experts from the two countries in order to combat the use of false travel documents.

The Cuban delegation invited the US delegation to continue these meetings in Havana at the end of 2010.

Control orders challenged in England

ON June 16, 2010, the Supreme Court, sitting with seven judges, issued a significant ruling for the rights of people subjected to control orders under the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005 (all of whom appear to be Muslims), when it held that isolation from family can tip the balance and turn the order into a deprivation of liberty, according to Frances Webber, Institute of Race Relations 2010.

The case concerned the forced removal of AP, an Ethiopian national who lived in London for eighteen years, since he was fourteen, to a town in the Midlands 150 miles from his family. AP went to Somalia and Ethiopia in 2005 and while in Ethiopia he was detained.

On his return he was arrested with a view to deportation. When in 2008 the Home Office decided he could not be returned to Ethiopia, he was placed under a control order, which subjected him to a sixteen-hour curfew, electronic tagging and other restrictions on association and communication.

At first he was allowed to continue living in London, but later

in 2008 he was ordered to leave London, where his mother, brother, sister and extended family live. The justification for the move was to make it more difficult for him to see 'extremist associates'. But as the Court accepted, the move caused AP great distress, since his family could only visit him very rarely.

Additionally, he was isolated by language and culture from the local population, including the Muslim community who were mainly from the Indian subcontinent, and when he went to the local gym his electronic tag made people treat him like a criminal, and his sense of alienation was reinforced.

The High Court described his situation as one of internal exile, and held that the combination of this and the sixteen-hour curfew made AP so socially isolated that his situation was equivalent to imprisonment, and breached AP's right to liberty. The Home Office successfully appealed this decision to the Court of Appeal, but the Supreme Court reinstated the High Court's decision.

In another case, Jordanian Hussein Al Samamara, who is on control order-type bail conditions for two years awaiting deportation on national security grounds, became so desperate about his and his family's plight that he defied a bail condition which banned recording equipment in his home in order to allow journalists to film an interview.

The interview was broadcast on BBC's Newsnight on 16 June. In it, Al Samamara sought to convey the anxiety and frustration caused by facing largely unknown accusations - which kept him locked up in maximum security conditions at Long Lartin prison for two years before his release on bail, and which now confine him to his home for sixteen hours a day.

He spoke about the impact of the order on his wife and children. But retribution was swift - on 18 June the Home Office went to the Special Immigration Appeals Commission to have his bail revoked.

Fortunately, the judge demurred, saying that he did not intend to make a martyr of Al Samamara. Meanwhile, the Court of Appeal is due to give judgment on whether the deportation case against him is fundamentally flawed by the secret evidence.

Download a copy of the AP judgment here: (http://www.supremecourt.gov.uk/docs/uksc_2009_0025_judgmentV2.pdf) (pdf file, 56kb)

Watch the BBC Newsnight report: Terror suspect speaks about life under 'house arrest' (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/programmes/newsnight/8743947.stm>)

Fat Rat Films (<http://www.fatratfilms.co.uk/index/Home.html>) <http://www.irr.org.uk/2010/june/ha000044.html>

Basque separatist to oppose extradition

A LAWYER for a Basque separatist told a Belfast court on June 26 that his client will oppose proceedings for extradition to Spain.

A member of the Basque group ETA, Fermin Vila Michelena has been living and working in Belfast since 2007.

Belfast Recorders Court heard that he had been in possession of a number of high-quality fake identification documents.

He was first arrested on June 24 in a joint-operation between Spanish police and the RUC/PSNI.

He was again arrested on June 26 under a European arrest warrant issued over his alleged involvement in murder and possession of explosives.

Bail was refused on June 28 and Fermin Vila Michelena was remanded in custody until September.

Ashton strikes deal over EU diplomats

EU foreign minister Catherine Ashton has struck a deal with the representatives from the three main political groups in the European Parliament on the shape of the European External Action Service (EEAS) — the new EU diplomatic corps.

The EEAS will ultimately be provided with a staff of more than 8,000 people and at least 60 per cent of EEAS staff should be permanent EU officials rather than national diplomats, 'in an effort to ensure their first loyalty would be to the new service'.

The EEAS' operational budget (including €6 billion per year for development aid) will be part of the Commission's budget, while its administrative budget will be separate. Strategic country planning will take place in the service but the ultimate programming decisions for external assistance will rest with the commission.

Ashton bowed under EP pressure and accepted its calls to have the foreign minister of the country holding the rotating EU presidency as her deputy. In addition, the relevant three EU commissioners (Enlargement, Development and Humanitarian Aid) will also serve as deputies for issues under EU competence.

Ashton, who has a hectic travel schedule, will be deputised by either the relevant EU commissioner or the foreign minister of the country holding the EU presidency.

The budget line for this year is €9.5 million euros. This foresees 1,100 diplomatic staff with about 100 new jobs created. 'These [new posts] are for reinforcing delegations overseas,' said an EU diplomat. Catherine Ashton's team is still hoping to get the service established by December 1 - exactly a year after the Lisbon Treaty, came into force.

WHAT THEY SAID

Limerick republicans formerly aligned to Republican Sinn Féin have taken a decision to “dissolve” the existing organisation in the city.

— *Notice on Limerick website, April 30, 2010.*

Madam — According to Gerry Moriarty (“Conservatives will stand by peace process”, April 27), the Downing Street Declaration of December 1993 stated that the British government has “no selfish, strategic or economic interest in Northern Ireland (sic)”.

The text has no comma between “selfish” and “strategic”. What it means is not that the British government has no selfish or strategic or economic interests in Northern Ireland, but that its strategic and economic interests in the region are not selfish by nature.

CDC Armstrong, North parade, Belfast

— *Irish Times, May 3, 2010, letter to Editor.*

The beginning of the thaw [in the relationship between Stormont’s Peter Robinson and Martin McGuinness] came just over a year ago, after dissident elements had murdered (sic) two British soldiers and a policeman in the space of 48 hours.

— *Irish Times, May 6, 2010, David Adams column.*

The future of the [Stormont] Assembly depended on how [Provisional] Sinn Féin would react to the killings, and on how the DUP would respond to [Provisional] Sinn Féin’s reaction.

A visibly angry McGuinness, standing with Robinson and the then chief constable Hugh Orde, publicly described those responsible for the attacks as “traitors to the island of Ireland”.

— *David Adams column.*

McGuinness did more than save the [Stormont] Assembly and begin to earn the trust of Peter Robinson and the DUP that day. He raised himself in the estimation of the unionist community who recognised his courage and commitment for what it was.

— *David Adams.*

Dúirt Geraldine Taylor, Leas-Uachtarán Shinn Féin Poblachtach, gur chuir imeacht Des Long brón uirthi: “Tá sé ann le fada. Ach le blianta tá siad ag iarraidh Fronta Leathan a bharr, agus dhíoltaigh an Ard-Fheis dó.”

— *Gaelscéal, Bealtaine 7, 2010, alt le hAntón Mac Cábá.*

The Greek crisis is bad news for all eurozone members, and for heavily indebted countries such as Ireland (sic), it leaves little or no room for manoeuvre.

— *Sunday Business Post, May 9, 2010, article by Colm McCarthy.*

The real story of the [Westminster] election was the defeat and death of two projects, the Traditional Unionist Voice (TUV) led by former DUP MEP Jim Allister, and the Ulster Conservative and Unionist New Force (UCUNF), the ill-fated link with the British Conservatives, unkindly dubbed the ‘New Farce’.

Both parties threatened the stability of the North’s institutions. The crushing defeat handed out to the TUV and UCUNF parties showed that unionist votes were supporting stability.

— *Sunday Business Post, May 9, 2010, article by Brian Feeney.*

A comprehensive trouncing by the DUP in the 2005 general election — leaving Sylvia Hermon as the sole UUP representative at Westminster — finally triggered Trimble’s resignation.

The following year, 2006, a newly-strengthened and emboldened DUP signed up to the St Andrews Agreement, recasting itself as a pro-agreement party in the process. The Ulster Unionists suddenly found the centre ground within unionism seriously overcrowded.

— *Irish Times, May 20, 2010, column by David Adams.*

Soon thereafter, the DUP was happily ensconced in an executive alongside [Provisional] Sinn Féin, with the new first minister, Ian Paisley, reborn as a soft-spoken grandfatherly purveyor of moderation.

Under cover of St Andrews, the DUP had performed a complete about-turn, and managed to remain intact. Crucially, it had not only brought its electorate with it, but had increased its support.

— *David Adams column.*

All need not have been lost for the Ulster Unionists when the DUP repositioned itself in the centre ground.

They could have taken a lead from the SDLP, who faced precisely the same problem when [Provisional] Sinn Féin moved to the centre, but survived well enough by holding their position and refusing to play to the lowest common denominator.

The Ulster Unionist Party is probably finished.

— *David Adams column.*

Dissident Republican paramilitary groups remain highly active and dangerous but are still politically “marginal” according to the 23rd report of the Independent Monitoring Commission.

The IMC said the Continuity IRA, which murdered (sic) PSNI Constable Stephen Carroll in Craigavon, Co Armagh in March last year, also remained a “major threat”.

“It was bent on improving its terrorist capability through recruiting, training and the acquisition of weapons. It undertook a number of shootings and other violent incidents, instigated public disorder and its members remained heavily engaged in a wide range of serious crime, some of it involving violence,” the



• One of the victims of the Bloody Sunday massacre in Derry on January 30, 1972 (see quotes below).

commission reported.

— *Irish Times, May 27, 2010, Gerry Moriarty, Northern Editor.*

“On assistance from former Republican terrorists the issue is not a drift of significant numbers of people, which we do not believe has happened, but the provision of developed skills by a few people.”

The commission was satisfied the UDA and UVF were honouring the commitments to end paramilitary actions. While both groups declared they had decommissioned the commission expressed suspicions that some members retained arms.

It said that while the INLA had also said it decommissioned there was no “evidence of a reduction in the involvement of members in non-terrorist criminal activity”.

— *Irish Times, May 27, Gerry Moriarty.*

“We now want to take control of the [SAOIRSE] paper and the whole Republican Sinn Féin organisation. They will be told to evacuate the offices in the very near future,” a source said.

— *Irish News, May 27, 2010, Valerie Robinson quoting an anonymous source.*

His [“Flannery”, spokesperson for a new splinter group] call for unity was aimed at the RIRA and ONI, a dissident faction which has carried out several bombings since January.

— *Sunday Times, June 6, 2010, interview. Information reaching SAOIRSE from several sources says that a written application to form a merger with the RIRA was turned down by that body.*

A few years ago merging with [Provisional] Sinn Féin was unmentionable, when an insider saw the choices with Fianna Fail or Labour, or simply shut up shop.

SDLP voters would have a viable option. “The Shinners are now the Stickies, so why not?”

— *Irish Times, May 27, 2010, article by Fionnuala O’Connor. Declan O’Loan, SDLP member of Stormont, with two councillors, called for a single Northern nationalist party.*

Divisions in the Continuity IRA have surfaced after its leadership yesterday repudiated what it said was a recent “unauthorised” meeting by members seeking to set up a breakaway paramilitary group.

The Continuity IRA said a recent convention of local leaders of the dissident grouping was improperly called and represented an attack on the leadership.

CIRA said it had “dismissed” members from the organisation, while a number of others were “suspended”.

— *Irish Times, June 9, 2010, article by Gerry Moriarty, Northern Editor.*

The Continuity IRA has said it has expelled two senior members after they tried to stage an internal coup to gain control of the dissident Republican organisation.

In a statement, the CIRA said: “An unauthorised meeting which included non-members of the movement was held under the pretence that it was a conference of local OCs (officers commanding).

“When it turned out to be an attack and an undermining of the leadership a number of people departed and reported to Headquarters Staff on what had taken place. As a result the principal people involved were dismissed from membership,” the statement read.

— *Irish News, June 10, 2010, report by Alison Morris entitled “CIRA expels those behind a failed coup”.*

He [Soldier 027] told the tribunal [Saville] that, on the night before the Derry massacre, his platoon had been told to “get some kills” the next day, and he reckoned that two of his comrades had shot between eight and ten of those who died.

— *Sunday Business Post, June 13, 2010, Tom McGurk column.*

He [Soldier 027] has been in witness protection under a new identity since he gave evidence behind screens at the Saville Tribunal and he still fears that either his former comrades or Republicans will kill him.

— *Tom McGurk column.*

By concluding that those who were killed and injured on Bloody Sunday were shot by unjustified firing, the Saville Report has established that the British government was responsible for killing innocent civilians in pursuit of its policies and politics in Northern Ireland.

— *Irish News, June 16, 2010, editorial.*

They [Saville’s findings] show that the British

government had moved from the role of peace-keeper in 1969 to that of partisan participant in 1972.

Saville is now more than an inquiry. It is a history lesson.

— *Irish News editorial.*

History, said George Orwell, is full of ignominious getaways by the great and the famous. Widgery was the British government’s getaway vehicle from Bloody Sunday.

Yesterday, Saville forced them to abandon it.

— *Irish News editorial.*

But his [Saville] report, however exuberantly received in Derry yesterday, may prove to have similar characteristics to those frequently attributed to a Chinese meal — satisfying at the time of eating, but leading to renewed hunger pangs a short time later.

Yet his careful pirouette around the issues of higher-level responsibility for the disastrous military operation on Bloody Sunday could leave one considering the remark of George Bernard Shaw that: “Truth-telling is not compatible with the defence of the realm.”

— *Dick Grogan writing in the Irish Times special supplement on the publication of the Saville Report June 16, Dick Grogan was the main reporter for the Irish Times on Bloody Sunday January 30 1972.*

The British army’s own records show that 1 Para had been involved in the killing of 11 unarmed civilians in Ballymurphy five months before Bloody Sunday.

— *Irish News, June 17, 2010, John Kelly, whose brother Michael was shot dead on Bloody Sunday in Derry 1972, speaking to Barry McCaffrey.*

They came to Derry on Bloody Sunday already knowing they’d got away with killing 11 people... No one has ever been prosecuted for any of these murders.

— *John Kelly.*

They killed our parish priest... they killed the mother of eight children. They left 53 children without a parent.

— *Pat Quinn, in the same article speaking to Barry McCaffrey. Pat’s brother Frank was killed going to the aid of Fr McMullan, one of the 11 killed in Ballymurphy.*

Bloody Sunday victims’ families are euphoric about the Saville Report but it is not flawless. It blames low-ranking soldiers for the killings, exonerating the military high command and dismissing the possibility of political collusion.

— *Sunday Tribune, June 20, 2010, report by Eamonn McCann.*

In this context, it is important to note that Saville fails to explain how the version of events given by [soldier] 027 to Widgery in 1982 [recte 1972] blatantly contradicts his version of events published in this newspaper, and with which Saville’s findings essentially concur.

— *Sunday Business Post, June 20, 2010, Tom McGurk column.*

Not only was it a day of the death of innocents but also of

innocence. Before that day even with growing evidence (such as Ballymurphy) to the contrary, I and my peers held some sort of belief that a democratic state would not ever shoot down its citizens in cold blood and wouldn’t tell deliberate lies. And furthermore outrageously deny and deny again that wrong was done.

— *Irish News, June 25, 2010, Breidge Gadd column entitled ‘Saville highlights ripple effect of a wrong denied’.*

In addition, bruised already by the breath-taking injustice if internment, overnight nationalists and nationalist areas withdrew remaining semblances of support for, or even indifference to the army. Hostility and anger, hate even, became the prevailing emotion.

— *Breidge Gadd.*

Even in 1990 when Karen Reilly and Martin Peake, young joyriders, were gunned down mercilessly the denials afterwards of wrongdoing and the barrackroom defiant celebrations spoke of an army that had learnt nothing.

— *Breidge Gadd.*

Fine Gael leader Enda Kenny has said he accepts the “IRA and its army council are no more”.

The Independent Commission reported in 2008 that the IRA army council was “no longer operational or functional”.

— *Irish Times, July 1, 2010. The foregoing obviously refers to the Provisional IRA. When the majority at an unrepresentative Army Convention in 1986 voted to accept Leinster House, it wrote its own death warrant. It was only a matter of time... The same can be said for the Official IRA in 1969. Only a matter of time...*

Mr Kenny said: “In my presence, following questions, both the president of [Provisional] Sinn Féin and the Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness confirmed that from every perspective they could see, the [Provisional] IRA and its army council are no more. I accept the Deputy First Minister’s statement in that regard.”

— *Irish Times, July 1.*

The hour-long TV3 documentary (A Bloody Friday — the Dublin and Monaghan Bombings) set the events of May 1974 in their political context — the virtual coup d’état staged by loyalists against the power-sharing assembly and executive in the North.

— *Sunday Business Post, July 4, 2010, Agenda TV Review by Emmanuel Kehoe.*

As loyalists had never — and would never again — show such lethal expertise in bombing, it was quickly assumed that there was British army and RUC collusion in the planning and execution of the Dublin bombs particularly. This was “neither fanciful nor absurd,” according to the Barron Report of 1003.

— *TV review by Emmanuel Kehoe.*

Appalling Prison Condition

A chara

I am very concerned about the appalling living conditions of Republican prisoners in Maghaberry Jail. There has been very little media attention to this issue. You would be providing a public service by drawing your readers' attention to the plight of Republican prisoners in the North.

On June 21, 2010, the POW Department of Republican Sinn Féin once again highlighted the plight of the protesting Republican POWs in Roe House, Maghaberry Jail, Co. Antrim and a brief outline of the reasons for the protest:

The protesting Republican POWs in Roe House, Maghaberry Jail, Co. Antrim began a dirty protest on June 6. Their protest escalated when the prison authorities refused to implement an agreement made with the prisoners at Easter to address their concerns at the conditions.

The POWs have for some time tried to resolve the problems which they saw as unacceptable. These included long lock-up from anything between 14 to 21 hours per day, especially at the weekends. The controlled movement operated at the jail meant that only three prisoners were out of their cells at any given time, which also contributed to the long lock-up.

Education facilities were practically nonexistent, and the general atmosphere, and indeed ethos, of the prison wardens was oppressive and restrictive, designed to provoke confrontation.

Today the Republican prisoners are locked-down for 23 hours per day. There is an increase in strip-searching despite the long lock-up and lack of contact between the prisoners/visitors; education facilities are totally nonexistent; yard time, visits, meals and showers must now be taken within the one hour they are unlocked. Because of the controlled/restricted movement the men are lucky if they get a shower every five or six days.

They have no in-cell sanitation facilities in their cell. Having no water they are unable to wash or shave; they have not had their hair cut for some weeks. Many of them have sores around and in their mouths which leaves them very susceptible to infection. Their weight loss has been rapid and their sleeping pattern is seriously disrupted.

The ethos and attitude of the prison wardens is even more vicious and they are in total control of the jail. They make the decisions and as there is no overall governor they have a free hand.

On June 13 they stepped up their protest by embarking on a dirty protest. This protest means they are now using the floor and the walls of their cell to take their excrement and urine. They had been using

juice cartons for their waste but these cartons are no longer available to them.

The men, when asked to, are refusing to strip naked for the screws and be subjected to intimate body searches which often means they don't get their visits.

This situation cannot be allowed to continue and we call on people to register their protest by writing/contacting all media outlets and also and in particular those Nationalist politicians who sit in Stormont claiming to speak for the prisoners. Far from acting in the interest of the prisoners, it is in the interests of these British paid politicians, Adams, McGuinness, O'Dowd, etc. to make sure this prison protest is not given oxygen.

The last thing they want is to be reminded of the part they played in betraying all the 1980/81 hunger strikers by signing away the status they won by 10 deaths in 1981. These people are part and parcel of the British government which is standing over the conditions in Maghaberry.

They draw their big salaries and would indeed occupy the office of Minister of Justice in the partitionist Stormont had not the Unionists objected to such a deal.

But the Provisionals backed David Ford for the position, a man who believes the prisoners are 'in a situation of their own making'.

JANE ENRIGHT
Woodside, New York

Challenging The Orange Order

A chara

With the Orange 'marching season' underway throughout Ulster, including here in Donegal, I feel obliged to challenge attempts to portray the Orange Order and the Loyalist ideology as something they are not.

Attempts are ongoing to present the Orange Order and the other Loyal Orders as harmless cultural groups. Their so called 'cultural' position is one of revelling in the colonising and supplanting of Irish Gaelic culture. They represent the glorification of Britain's brutal occupation of Ireland. The Loyal Orders represent a political ideology; one based on sectarian hatred and racist bigotry. The very foundation of the Orange Order in 1795 was part of British efforts to undermine and destroy the Republican egalitarian movement, the United Irishmen.

The role of Orangism today is the same as it was on its establishment, to protect Britain's interests in Ireland. It stands as a bulwark against a United Ireland. It works openly against the creation of a country that is free of the divisions "carefully fostered by an alien government".

Orangism celebrates



• A prison warden turns his back on the Maghaberry jail protest on June 27.

division and conflict. Indeed, this year the Orange Order and their front organisations are attempting to glorify the Plantation of Ulster. This period in our history would be better described as the colonial occupation and ethnic cleansing of Ulster; the consequences of which are still with us today. The Orange Order stands in stark contrast with the egalitarian and democratic Irish Tradition, which is aimed at "Uniting Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter". The Orange Order has no positive contribution to make in the search for a better Ireland and people are right to oppose them and their intimidating marches.

JIM McLAUGHLIN
Donegal Town

British Queen not Welcome in Ireland

A chara

I have bought every issue of the *Irish World* in London since Paddy Cowan first published the paper and without doubt the most disgusting headline has to be the one of June 4, 2010 entitled "Lend us a hand ma'am".

To read of Kerry folk grovelling to the Queen of England to visit the county to boost its tourism is unbelievable. The Queen is the commander-in-chief of the British armed forces and Kerry of all counties has suffered more than most at the hands of the British establishment over the years. We can supply you with dates and records of the atrocities that they have suffered.

It must be a privilege to be in Frank Murphy's position as

Editor where he can choose what should be written and published. I had always assumed that the *Irish World* was the voice of every Irish person in Britain – not just a one-sided view. Our organisation has written several letters over the years to the *Irish World* – the majority have not been published, probably because we did not sign up to the Stormont Agreement.

Maybe the Kerry businessmen who sent out the invite should look to the real reason for the drop in tourism, ie ripping-off the tourists and the excessive prices in Ireland. We are also certain that they do not speak for the good Kerry Republicans of which there are many.

Great Kerry Republicans can tell tragic tales of the Black-and-Tans in Kerry in the 1920s when the whole province of Munster was under martial law. The Free State collaborators tied men to mines at Ballyseedy, Countess Bridge, Killarney and Bahaghs, Cahersiveen in 1923; The O'Rahilly was killed during the 1916 Rising and Thomas Ashe of Kerry was force-fed while on hunger strike in Mountjoy jail in 1917 and died; Dan Keating who survived the War of Independence (Patron of Sinn Féin Poblachtach until his death in 2007); Charlie Kerins of Tralee who was hanged by the English hangman Pierpoint in 1944.

We could recount many more tales – do the Kerry businessmen expect us to forgive and forget? Kerry along with all the other counties survived the famine and they will survive the recession.

The *Irish World* wrote about the Famine a few weeks ago (prior to the article on the invite to Ma'am) and about the

British rich and industrial nation stood by and watched the wretched Irish people starved but you failed to mention in your account of the Famine that no British Ambassador attended a recent memorial service to the victims of the Famine in Mayo.

Please remember, the Irish

strengthening and normalisation of British rule here in the Occupied Six Counties.

We have seen Republican POWs inhumanely treated in Maghaberry jail by the denial of basic human rights and also being denied political status.

We have even seen Martin McGuinness call Republicans "traitors to the island of Ireland".

These are but a mere few incidents in this long unfinished struggle. The Republican Movement has never wavered, flinched or been shaken by any pro-British elements.

The Republican Movement has done what many great Irish men and women did in 1798, 1916, 1921, 1981 and 1986. They have and will remain at the forefront of this long unfinished struggle.

Sadly we have seen some people of late operate under the name of the Republican Movement; these people who have their own agenda and their own goals, of which none apply to the age-old struggle of a united 32-County Socialist Republic.

These people have tried to discredit, confuse and disrupt the work of the Republican Movement from the inside and now the outside. I greatly applaud the Leadership statement condemning these people.

I along with other Republicans would like to point out to our former comrades in Belfast and beyond that your bid to confuse and halt the Republican Movement failed. The Republican Movement will continue to be at the forefront of the struggle, we will continue to work, we will continue to grow, we will educate our youth and we will as ever stay true to the principles of Republicanism. We will always support and never stride from the Leadership of the true Republican Movement.

Tiocfaidh Ár Lá.
BELFAST READER
Belfast

World should provide a voice for all Irish people in Britain whatever their beliefs.

Whilst there is still one British soldier on the island of Ireland Republicans will object to any visit from the British monarchy on any part of Irish soil. Irish Republicans do not have any love for the British monarchy or establishment.

Tiocfaidh Ár Lá.

PRO

Roger Casement/James
Stephen Cumann
Sinn Féin Poblachtach
London

Stay true To the Republican Movement

A chara

Over the years we have seen

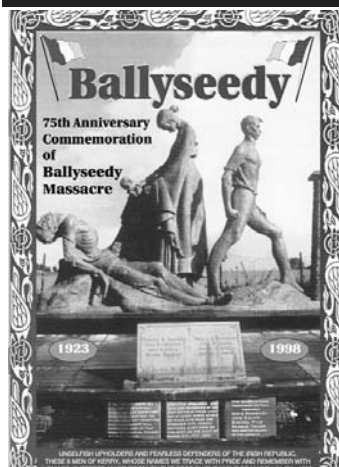
Letters to the Editor should be as short as possible and written or typed in double-spacing on one side of the page. Name and address must be included, but on request will not be published.

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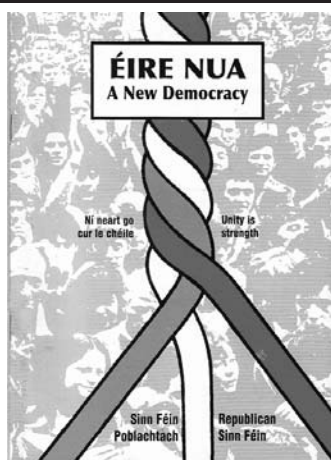
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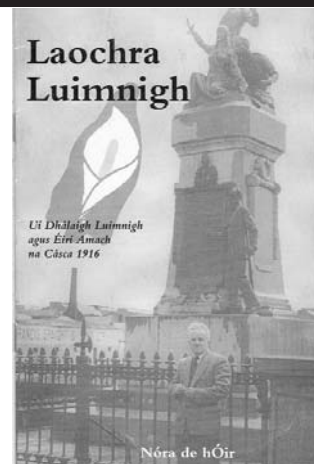
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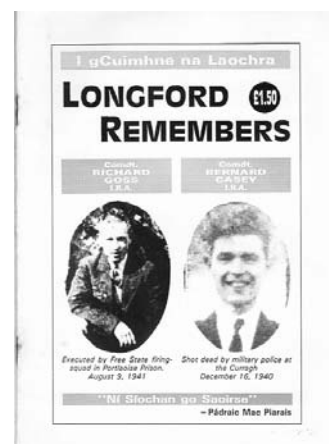
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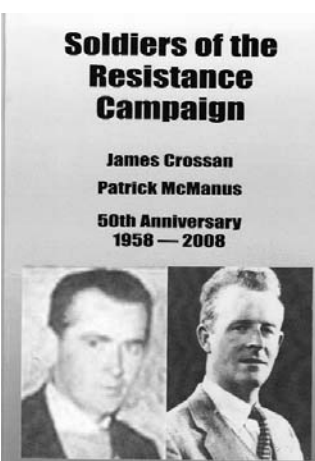
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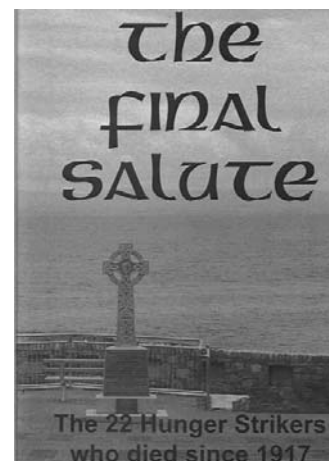
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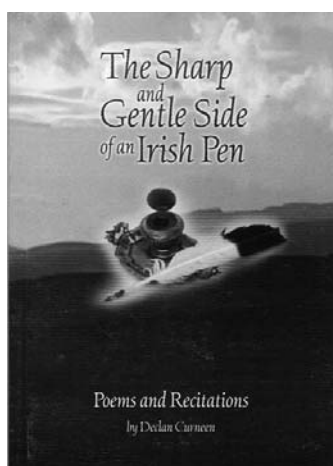
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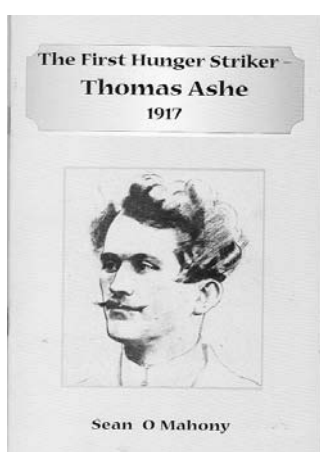
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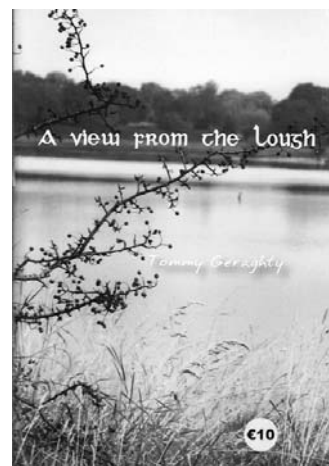
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PEOPLE BATONED IN DUNGIVEN

50 Years Ago

ON Sunday, July 10, 50 years ago, there were scenes in Dungiven, Co Derry when an Orange parade, led by the Bovevagh Flute Band, marched through the town at a time when the streets were crowded with people returning from Mass.

The *Irish Independent* of July 11 and the *Irish Times* of July 12 reported on the situation where “500 policemen” provided “a security screen”.

The *Independent* stated: “The police force on duty in the town yesterday morning under a Co Inspector and six District Inspectors included a riot squad and members of the reserve force.

“They had walkie-talkie apparatus. Householders along the Main Street drew blinds and stayed indoors as the Orangemen marched through on their way to a religious Service in a field near the town.”

People struck by the batons included a number of women. Three men were arrested and held in the local barracks for some hours. One of them received a number of blows to the head for which he was taken to the Roe Valley Hospital, Limavady.

The Orangemen, “all but a handful from outside Dungiven” were leaving in buses when stones were thrown and the local crowd began booing and jeering. The RUC drew their batons twice and charged the crowd who were singing *The Soldier's Song*, the *Independent* reported.

The Parish Priest and a Curate came on the scene and appealed to the local people to go home.

“Nationalist resentment of the Orange parade which, they say, was disguised as a church parade, was based on the fact that the town is 80% Nationalist, and has no Orange Lodge...”

“Several times in recent years there has been trouble in Dungiven arising out of Orange parades led by the Bovevagh band from outside the town. Last year, Mr Topping, the then [Stormont] Minister of Home Affairs, banned an Orange parade in the town.”

For this Topping was severely criticized from Orange politicians. Brian Faulkner, who succeeded him, wanted to curry favour with the extreme Orange element and so 300 Orangemen “from outside the town”, led by the notorious Bovevagh band were pushed through behind a protective screen of 500 RUC men.

Faulkner rose through the Unionist ranks, becoming Stormont Prime Minister and bringing in internment without trial in 1971, which led to his downfall.

On the same day as the Dungiven baton charges, July 10, the *Sunday Review* (Dublin) reported that “more and more young men from Dublin and the West of Ireland – the main areas concerned – are moving into Northern Ireland (sic) to join the police”.

An official in Belfast said: “The height requirement is 5 ft 10-and-a-half inches and the demand is for men of good physique and a good educational standard.”

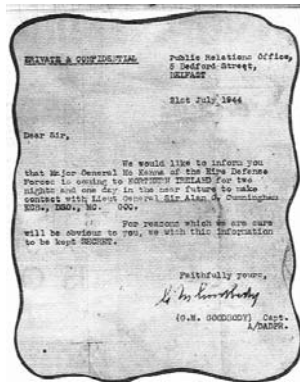
The two RUC men who escorted Dáithí Ó Conaill to the Border on his release from Belfast Prison three years later told him he would be very suitable for the RUC. Ó Conaill, his body still creaking with British lead, was not impressed. At all times he refused to speak to them.

The *Sunday Review* concluded: “Many of the men from the Republic (sic) who offer themselves for enlistment are people with a police tradition – they had relatives in the old RIC.”

Yes, but others with the same “police tradition” fought and gave their lives for Ireland!

The same *Sunday Review* of July 10 carried a photo of a released Republican prisoner. It said underneath.

“Among those who received Bachelor of Arts degrees at UCD yesterday was Mr Patrick J Dolan, 33-years-old, ex-Army officer who was arrested by Special Branch detectives in May 1958 under the Defence Act, tried by court-



• **A letter which the veteran journalist James Kelly received from the British Army Public Relations Office, dated July 21, 1944.**

marital and sentenced to two years imprisonment.”

(He was accused of giving over to a high-ranking IRA officer three belts used to feed ammunition to a Vickers medium machine-gun.)

“He served this in Portlaoise Prison and was released last December.

“Before his arrest, Mr Dolan was ready to sit for his final BA examination and was also studying for his BL and B Comm.

“After his arrest he applied for permission to continue his studies and the Governor of the prison allowed his books and facilities. But the Minister for Justice, Mr Oscar Traynor, ordered these be removed.

[Mr Dolan went on 34 days hunger strike as a protest. When he was released last December he immediately resumed his studies.”

The *Sunday Independent* of two months earlier, May 8, noted another Republican prisoner, this time in Belfast Jail, doing an exam:

“Patrick James Shaw, a 24-year-old Dundalk man, who is a political prisoner in Belfast, will sit for his final examination for a Certificate in Workshop Engineering from the London City and Guilds in a private room in the prison next Friday.

“Special arrangements have been made for the examination in the prison. The scrutineer will be Rev P McAlister, Prison Chaplain.

“Shaw was sentenced to eight years imprisonment in 1957 for the possession of arms.”

The *Sunday Review* of May 15 reported that Pat Shaw of Culhane Street, Dundalk, was “back in his cell in Belfast Prison yesterday, after sitting for his final examination in the prison.”

It went on to say he was arrested near Warrenpoint in 1957. Then the report said that Prison Governor Lance Thompson took an interest in Shaw and encouraged him to continue his studies.

Those who knew and know Pat Shaw would say that he was and is a sound Republican who has adhered to his principles down to the present day.

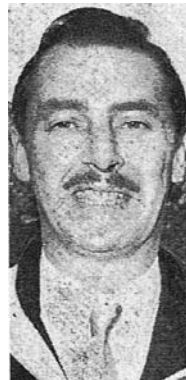
In Dublin on July 12 a Union Jack flag was removed by dockers from a weigh-shed in the port. It fell on to the deck of a vessel named the *Bengore Head* which the dockers refused to unload for an hour.

The flag was then burned on the quayside. (See *Irish Times*, July 13 and 14.)

An interesting piece of history came to light when UD diplomatic papers were published in June 1960. The *Irish Times* of June 20 stated that volume one of the United States diplomatic papers for 1942 revealed that a secret liaison existed during the war (WWII) between the British commanding general in Northern Ireland and the Irish General Staff.

“Mr David Gray, US Minister to Ireland (sic), gave Mr de Valera a memorandum on the subject in Dublin on July 6, 1942, the papers reveal.”

The veteran journalist James Kelly writing in the *Sunday Independent* of July 4 says that he



• **Former Free State army officer Patrick J Dolan, who served two years imprisonment in Portlaoise jail having been convicted at a court-martial of giving weapons to an IRA officer, received a BA degree from UCD on July 10, 1960.**

was sitting in his office in Donegall Street (Belfast) when a [British] military despatch rider arrived with a small envelope marked “Private and Confidential”.

It was from Capt GM Goodbody of the British Army Public Relations Office and he wrote as follows:

Dear Sir

We would like to inform you that Major General McKenna of the Éire Defence Forces is coming to NORTHERN IRELAND for two nights and one day in the near future to make contact with Lieut-General Sir Alan Cunningham, KCB, DSO, MC, GOC.

For reasons which we are sure will be obvious to you, we wish this information to be kept SECRET.

The letter was dated July 21, 1944 from an address at “Public Relations Office, 5 Bedford Street, Belfast”.

James Kelly’s article was headed “A top Irish wartime secret! And ‘reporting on a story that would have shaken Ireland in 1944’.

So much for the famous neutrality during WWII. Dan McKenna was Chief-of-Staff of the Free State Army during WWII. A native of Co Derry he came down to the Curragh in 1922 and joined the 26-County forces. Alan Cunningham was in 1944 General Officer Commanding British troops in the Six Occupied Counties.

The visit and conference in the Six Counties “was revealed to only a small group of journalists who had been accredited as ‘war correspondents’ just after Dunkirk.”

As Kelly was a Dublin newspaper representative he was regarded as a “neutral war correspondent” covering the home front.

Also in mid-July 1960, with Belgian troops about to withdraw from their Congo colony in Africa, the United Nations Organisation took a hand. The Security Council asked the Belgian forces to withdraw.

Day Hammararskjöld, Secretary-General would send an armed UN contingent to the Congo “to restore and maintain order”. The UN troops would stay until the Congolese army and police were organised to take over permanently.

These months were outlined by the Diplomatic Correspondent of the *Irish Times* on July 15. On July 20 and 21 the same newspaper announced that a “Battalion of 650 officers and men” had been selected from 3,000 volunteers of the 26-County forces and that they would be flown to the Congo the following week in United Nations aircraft.

They would be provided with tropical uniforms by the UN on arrival in the Congo. In Leinster House enabling legislation was rushed through. This participation with international forces established by the Security Council or the General Assembly of the UN was described as “the performance of duties of a police character”.

The *Irish Times* of July 21 stated: “The men will carry their rifles – No 4 Lee Enfields; NCOs and officers Gustaf sub-machine guns. The sub-units will also have light and medium machine-

guns – Bren and Vickers – and 6-mm and 81-mm mortars (Brandts).”

A Swedish general Carl van Horn would be the commander of the United Nations troops in the Congo. Later the UN would be calling for a second battalion of 26-County troops.

Republicans generally felt that in a post-British withdrawal from Ireland these troops could be better employed here at home.

Meanwhile, on July 2 the *Irish Times* reported that the last obstacle to Cypriot independence was broken down in the island’s capital Nicosia.

The deadlock over the size of British bases, civil administration and financial aid crumbled at last as the British Colonial Under-Secretary Justin Amery, Archbishop Makarios and the Turkish leader Dr Kutuchuk held meeting after meeting.

The basis of the settlement was the Zurich Agreement of February 1959. The area of the military bases over which Britain “will retain sovereignty” was fixed at about 100 square miles and a formula was reached on “cession” – what would happen if Britain should wish to leave the bases.

Archbishop Makarios would be the first President of the new Republic and Dr Kutuchuk Vice-President. Cyprus would become a full member of the [British] Commonwealth.

On July 8, the *Irish Times* revealed that in a White Paper of July 7 Britain would control a number of strategic sites outside the two “sovereign base areas” Dhekslia and Akrotiri.

These 20 sites would be policed by British troops. Among them were sites at Limassol, Troodos, Mount Olympus and Famagusta. The Mount Olympus installation – a huge white “ball” visible for many miles around – is said to be able to monitor communications in three continents, Europe, Asia and Africa.

Apart from the two “sovereign base areas”, it seemed that the island of Cyprus would be laced by these strategic sites.

Under such arrangements it is difficult to visualise Makarios’s policy of “neutrality and non-alignment” being implemented. Visitors to Cyprus see the Union Jack flying in so many areas and British troops abound.

“Activities likely to promote union with another state or partition of the island are banned, both by Cyprus and by Britain, Greece and Turkey,” the *Times* reported.

Fifty years later Cyprus is partitioned with many thousands of Turkish troops occupying the north of the island. Britain and Greece – “the guarantors” – stood idly by and allowed this to happen.

Asked about the desirability of nuclear weapons being stocked at the Cyprus bases, Julian Amery at a press conference on July 7 said: “We have full sovereignty in the base areas.” Asked if sovereignty would permit Britain to stock such weapons, he said: “It is sovereignty.”

The British forces occupying the base areas and other sites did not oppose Turkish troops overrunning 40% of Cyprus and planting settlers from Turkey in the territory they still hold, the Zurich agreement of 1959 could well be called another “treaty of surrender”.

All the while the agitation for the release of the remaining 120 internees in Belfast jail continued. At peak there were 166 men interned without trial.

The Belfast Council for Civil Liberties kept up the pressure. The question was raised in British trade union circles and also in the House of Commons by Labour MPs Marcus Lipton and others.

An approach was made to the Greek and American Ambassadors in London, and to the Icelandic Minister, to raise at Strasbourg in the Council of Europe the question of civil liberties in the Six Counties.

Then on July 30 the leading Republican **Jimmy Steele of Belfast, John F Rafferty, Mountmorris, Cop Armagh and Peter J Mulligan, O’Neill Avenue, Newry** were released unconditionally from internment.

“Altogether,” Jimmy Steele told the *Sunday Independent* of July 31, “I have spent 18 Christmases in prison, 14 of them in a row.”

(More next month. Refs. *Irish Independent*, July 11; *Irish Times*, July 2, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21; *Sunday Review*, July 10; *Sunday Independent*, May 8, 15; July 4, 31.)

Fenian Notes

From our Washington Correspondent

CONGRESSMAN Mario Biaggi took a leading role when he was in Congress to rectify the visa denials of prominent Irish Republicans. He had a confidential meeting at the US Department of State with a representative of the Secretary of State under the condition that the content of discussion at the meeting would be kept confidential.

What can be said is that Congressman Biaggi tore their heads off about being frontmen for the British to make sure the truth about Ireland could not be spoken by Irish Republican leaders. The meeting was volatile. At that meeting Congressman Biaggi found out that the Dublin government feared the Republican Movement more than the British and they had initiated the request for a visa ban.

Biaggi was told that President Carter wanted an open-visa policy but it was the congressional leaders of his own party that prevented it. They were anti-Republican and pro-Dublin. We all know the leader of anti-Republicanism was Senator Ted Kennedy.

Congressman Biaggi issued a Memo that led up to the meeting. The Dublin government feared that if the Republican Movement were given an open forum in the US their regime might fall bringing Ireland into turmoil and possible civil unrest.

State confirmed this to Congressman Biaggi. The visa ban was later backed by Senators Joe Biden, Chris Dodd and John Kerry among others. Gerry Adams and others got their visas after they had sold out their Republican souls.

— Peadar Mac Fhínní

October 27, 1977

Statement by Mario Biaggi
State Department meeting today
Re: US Visa Policy towards Irish Republicans

The United States has traditionally been a haven for political dissenters and their views. It would be inconsistent for the US to deny free speech to Irish dissidents, yet it happens that this is the case and it needs to be rectified.

The first incident of a visa being revoked occurred seven years ago. Mr

Joe Cahill was flying to the United States in September 1971, when his visa was revoked in mid-flight. Upon landing, he was taken into custody and incarcerated at a holding centre in New York.

Another case of note is that of Mr Ruairí Ó Brádaigh (Peter R Brady). He came to the United States to testify before Congressman Don Fraser's Subcommittee on International Organisations in October of 1973.

He testified on the human rights situation in Ireland. He wanted to come to the US again in January 1974 but was informed his visa was revoked.

When Mr Ó Brádaigh testified, he gave evidence that not only were the British government violating human rights in the North but the Irish government in the South were violating their citizens' rights and he presented the subcommittee with evidence of those violations.

This was a surprise because at that time the Irish government has been successful in deceiving the Congress about their violating human rights.

In the audience at the Hearing were representatives of the Irish government who became indignant when their government was cited for violations notes and entered into the subcommittee record.

The Irish government approached the State Department to have the visas of Republican spokesmen revoked and they were. This was confirmed to me when I called State.

They claimed he was a threat to peace in the North but Secretary of State Cyrus Vance told me they just went along with the request without any investigation. I decided to go to Ireland to investigate this matter first-hand since State did not.

The following people have also been denied visas or had visas revoked. They are: Jimmy Drumm, Máire (Mary) Drumm (deceased), Deirdre O'Connell, Seán Keenan, Patrick Gaughan, Séamus Loughran, John McKeenan and Gerry Kelly (all Provisional) Sinn Féin.

All of these people were personally interviewed by me in Dublin, Ireland in



April of 1975, and I am satisfied they are not a security threat to the United States. If it can be proven that any of those names called for the violent overthrow of the US government, we would not desire their presence.

Many members of the Congress as well as myself were involved in the recent case of Mr Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, including the Honorable Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Peter Rodino, when he applied for a visa in Dublin in June 1977.

Mr John Keane, National Chairman of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, invited Mr Ó Brádaigh to address the New York State Convention of the AOH. He was denied again which was taken as a personal affront by myself and many of my colleagues.

President Carter, as a candidate, promised Mr Keane he would rectify the visa problem at an October 1976 meeting and gave the representatives of all major Irish organisations his word.

The President reiterated his pledge in an address to the United Nations on March 17, 1977, ironically on St Patrick's Day. Mr Keane invited Mr Ó Brádaigh, confident the President's promise would be transformed into a new open visa policy.

Unfortunately, we are still selective and biased regarding Ireland. We permit militant anti-Catholic Protestant speakers, members of the bigoted Orange Order and all sorts of other opinions, but Irish Republicans are denied.

Dr Fred Burns-O'Brien, who was present at the meeting at State, acted on behalf of Mr Keane in negotiations with officials of the State Department.

He told me that Julio Arias, Director of the State Department's Visa Office informed him by phone on June 23, 1977 that he had wired Dublin to have them inform Ruairí Ó Brádaigh that a waiver of ineligibility on his visa had not been granted.

Dr Burns-O'Brien insisted there had to be more to it. Mr Arias, according to Dr Burns-O'Brien, informed him that Mr Ó Brádaigh was a member of the Executive of the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

Dr Burns-O'Brien said if this were correct, Mr Ó Brádaigh would be in prison as the IRA is illegal in Ireland. He informed Mr Arias that Mr Ó Brádaigh was the President of the oldest political party in Ireland, Sinn Féin, founded in 1905. A meeting was set up at State.

Dr Burns-O'Brien had a meeting with Mr John Dewitt, Deputy Administrator for Consular Affairs at the State Department on June 25, 1977. They went through all the facts of the Ó Brádaigh case.

Mr Dewitt informed him that the decision was a political one made by Deputy Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, in the absence of Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who was out of the country.

Dr Burns-O'Brien asked if there were any concrete substantive allegations that would keep Ó Brádaigh from being granted a waiver of ineligibility. Mr Dewitt said no, there were none and under normal circumstances he would be a candidate to get a waiver.

Why is he denied? Dewitt said candidly that Deputy Secretary Christopher Warren determined that weighing all facts, it was not in the interests of peace in Northern Ireland to grant a waiver of ineligibility to Mr Ó Brádaigh. Dr Burns-O'Brien pressed him further about the facts he was referencing.

He was candid and said that Senator Kennedy had approached President Carter and told him that the true spokesman for honourable Irishmen who wanted peace was John Hume of the SDLP and he was who Kennedy and his colleagues listen to in Ireland and to eliminate confusion, people Ó Brádaigh should be kept out.

Mr Dewitt said the president was now following Kennedy's lead. He said that Kennedy spoke with the endorsement of the Irish government. The British also agreed.

Dr Burns-O'Brien informed Mr Dewitt that the topic of Ó Brádaigh's speech to be given to the AOH in New York was A PEACE PROPOSAL FOR IRELAND.

Mr Dewitt said if Mr Ó Brádaigh had violated a law, it would be easier to

challenge than a political decision that was made as a favour to Kennedy, Hume, Dublin and London. Dewitt said they must really be worried about what he was going to say. He was going to speak the truth and that was feared.

A letter was given to Mr Dewitt to be forwarded to Secretary of State Vance, expressing the displeasure of the AOH and appealing what they believed to be a discriminatory decision against the Irish Catholic organisation that supported the efforts of Ó Brádaigh and his party to bring about a United Ireland.

The letter to Secretary Vance was dated June 28, 1977. I am informed that no reply has been forthcoming.

I and my colleagues can only conclude that the US visa police is rigged and served the political whim of State towards those it favours. What is right has nothing to do with it.

With the support of the Judiciary Committee of the US House of Representatives, we will take on the task of sorting out this inequitable visa policy. We want the entire visa situation reconsidered under the McGovern amendment.

According to the McGovern amendment, a waiver should be granted in all cases of ineligibility except those cases where the party concerned is a legitimate national security threat to the United States, and ONLY the United States.

We should only judge for ourselves and make no judgement on a threat to any other nation.

We members of Congress who support freedom of speech for all have no reason to believe any Irish dissident is a threat to the United States.

All opinions in Ireland should be heard and we are surprised that Senator Kennedy does not believe this. Shame on him.

The Irish American Community has been denied information they want to hear. To hear certain views they must travel to Ireland and this presents an unnecessary financial hardship.

The Helsinki Accord provides a free flow of information and protects the right to travel. The United States signed that agreement and should honour its spirit.

Whatever happened to the First Amendment right to free speech and assembly. I have not been told it has been changed.

— Mario Biaggi
US Congress

Why we can't let these parade rules trample over civil rights

THERE will be a civil rights march in Derry on October 5.

The march will assemble at 2.30pm at Waterside Station and proceed along Duke Street, Craigavon Bridge, Carlisle Road, the Diamond and Shipquay Street to Guildhall Square, where prominent speakers will address a rally.

It has been explained to Sinn Féin and the DUP that any ban on the march will be defied.

Some say it's always wrong to break the law. But when a law is undemocratic and has been introduced in an underhand way, and when the parties behind the measure show disdain for anyone choosing to object, then, it can be argued, defiance is not just a permissible tactic but a democratic imperative.

It will be recalled that the proposed Public Assembly, Parades and Protests Bill emerged from the DUP-[Provisional] Sinn Féin Hillsborough talks last February on devolution of policing and justice. The abolition of the Parades Commission was the DUP's price for agreement.

So, a working group to devise a new parades mechanism was established under the auspices of

the Office of First Minister and deputy First Minister, comprising Nelson McCausland, Stephen Moutray and Jeffrey Donaldson (DUP) and John O'Dowd, Michelle Gildernew and Gerry Kelly ([Provisional] Sinn Féin). The draft legislation drawn up by these six was published on April 20.

The group's mandate had been to deal with contentious parades. But the proposal they came up covered public meetings of all sorts. "Public meeting" was defined as "a meeting of 50 or more persons held in a public place to which the public or a section of the public are invited to attend".

An OFMDFM "explanatory guide" specified the sort of gathering the law had in mind: "If a group wanted to protest against the closure of a local sports facility, this...would fall under the definition of a public meeting" — and thus would require notice of 37 working days.

There is provision in "extreme emergency" for applications to be lodged within three working days. Organisers "must leave a copy of

the notice with a member of the PSNI not below the rank of sergeant".

This officer must refer the application to the chief constable who in turn must ensure that it is referred to a proposed new 11-member Public Assemblies, Parades and Protests Body, five of whom will meet and issue a directive.

Recent gatherings which would have fallen foul of the proposed new law include the instant protests against the Israeli attack on Gaza in December 2008, the walkout and meeting at Visteon in Belfast after the announcement of the factory's closure, the demonstrations against violence against Roma in south Belfast last year and car-park protests against the closure of A&E departments.

Under the DUP/[PSF] proposals, any member of the PSNI could arrest without warrant anyone suspected of breaching the law by going ahead with such events.

Conviction of such an offence could result in jail terms of up to six months and fines of up to £5,000. This represents a serious assault on the right of assembly which wouldn't have been out of place in the old Special Powers

Act which the first civil rights movement managed to get rid of.

The main response of [Provisional] Sinn Féiners to criticism of the draft has been to accuse objectors of having no concern for nationalist communities living in apprehension of Loyal Order parades.

In a discussion on Hearts and Minds, John O'Dowd was explicit that the provision for 37 working days notice had been inserted at the urging of residents' groups. This wouldn't begin to justify the extension of the provision to public meetings: and anyway, it's not true.

It emerged at a public meeting in the Bogside last week that the local residents' group had had no input into the draft. This week, Garvaghy Road and Lower Ormeau residents groups issued a joint statement declaring that, "Far from solving the issue caused by contentious parades in Portadown, south Belfast and elsewhere...the Bill creates a whole new range of problems...Instead of specifically dealing with the minority of marches that are problematic, the new legislation proposes to treat all parades and outdoor gatherings

as if they were the same...Those responsible for the bill should go back to the drawing-board to create a workable solution based on common sense and human rights."

[Provisional] Sinn Féin appears taken aback by the hostility of response to the proposal. (The DUP has, wisely perhaps, kept its head down and its lip buttoned.) The indications are that the party will bow to the pressure and back off when the draft comes before

the OFMDFM Assembly committee.

If they are reading the runes right, they will already be on their bikes perfecting their back-peddalling technique.

That stuff about a civil rights march on October 5 if the proposal hasn't been binned? Not a joke.

— Éamonn McCann
(Belfast Telegraph, Thursday, July 1, 2010)

I gCuimhne

93rd Anniversary. In loving memory of William Partridge, Irish Citizen Army, Ballaghaderreen, Co Roscommon, who died as a result of wounds received during Easter 1916. **88th Anniversary.** In loving memory of Cathal Brugha, murdered by Free State forces in July 1922. A dedicated Republican soldier who lived and died for an All-Ireland Republic. **48th Anniversary.** In loving memory of Margaret Buckley, a lifelong Republican and President of Sinn Féin 1937-1950. She gave a lifetime of dedicated service to her country. Always remembered Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht.

HURSON – 29th Anniversary. In proud memory of Vol Martin Hurson, Irish Republican Army, who died on hunger strike in the H-

Blocks of Long Kesh on July 13, 1981. *Far dearer the grave or the prison, illum'ned by one patriot name, than the trophies of all who have risen, on liberties' ruins to fame.* Always remembered by the Seán Costello-Martin Hurson Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Athlone; the Martin Hurson memorial Committee, Longford/Westmeath; Cumann Séamus Ó Dálaigh, Kildangan and the Barnes-McCormack-Moynihan Cumann, Mullingar.

HURSON – 29th Anniversary. In proud memory of Volunteer Martin Hurson, who died on July 13, 1981 after 46 days on hunger strike in the Maze prison, always remembered by your Republican comrades. From the Casey-McCreesh Cumann, Longford. A wreath will be laid at the Monument in Mostrim by Republican Sinn Féin Cumann, Longford on July 13.

Supporting MI5 is OK for Gerry & Co

(or this is not the final series of Big Brother!)

IN Birmingham, England the observation cameras in the city of Birmingham have been turned off; those ones that is which were being specifically used to monitor the movements of people of the Islamic faith.

Here in Ireland this is not the case. Our Stormont MLAs (Capos for short) have allowed the building of MI5

headquarters on Irish soil and have blessed that organisation's efforts to install observation cameras in all areas and use the camera footage of ordinary everyday life in nationalist areas in a mass intelligence-gathering plot.

It is worth noting that MI5 deals with internal British security matters whereas MI6 deal with external threats. In other words Stormont has signed up as a member of the so-called UK and allows its

citizens to be observed at all times during the course of their everyday lives.

The new [in]Justice Minister, a former social worker, is it seems intent on spying on Irish people.

In Birmingham, England it appears community leaders have more power or is it just that they make a request which is then granted.

Is it possible that Gerry *et al* NEED to have their populations spied on for THEIR own safety?

ANYWAY, whatever the truth, the next time you pass that 'silent policeman' in your area remember that camera which logs your every movement and relays it to MI5 headquarters at Palace Barracks does it because your so-called leaders haven't had the courage of their Birmingham counterparts. Just how gutless does that make them?

Did you really believe this was the last series of Big Brother? Have a nice

humiliating July marching season and just remember peace doesn't come cheap. It costs the ordinary population their self-respect and the British pay the financial cost of Stormont.

So who gains out of this all I wonder? Well, maybe it is the Brits and those whom they pay to police the nationalist areas. Augh. Conspiracy theories. Here we go again.

Next thing people will believe that Birmingham's Islamic community have

more rights than Ireland's Protestant loyalist population. If so, what hope for nationalists?

Anyway, Lights, Camera, Action, Smile! Hug a tree and grow chestnut trees for your friends. Someday you may be a "nationalist hero" too.

"It's all in the way you tell them" as Frank Carson used say. Is it just me or do other people feel like throwing up?

— Mac Cool

Reflecting on factions

THE recent emergence of another splinter group styling themselves Republican begs the question of what such groupings can hope to achieve and what effects they could have on the Republican cause and the Republican Movement.

Since the Adams-McGuinness faction called a military cease-fire several sub-groupings have emerged from this parent body, all of which share two characteristics: reckless military adventurism and a total lack of a principled, coherent political strategy.

It was the first of these traits which largely caused the disaster in the town of Omagh, resulting not only in immense human suffering but also enabling the black propagandists opposed to true Republicanism to label anyone who spoke out against the "Good Friday" sell out as "dissidents" and "fellow travellers to mass murderers".

Any group with its political origins rooted in the post-1986 Provisionals must by its nature lack any genuine

principles having first accepted partition by recognising Leinster House as the "Irish Government" and latterly even helping in the revival of the Stormont regime. It would without doubt lead to a catastrophe for the Republican Movement to link itself to such bodies, the reported goal of this new schism.

This is a point not lost on Ireland's enemies, MI5 having gone to a great deal of trouble through the FBI agent Rupert to try to bring such a linkage about.

Of course these sorts of events are not new in the history of Republicanism.

Prior to the launch of the "Border Campaign" of the 1950s a group of mainly Fermanagh-based people broke from the Movement citing the slow pace of preparations for active resistance as their reasons.

This group, called Saor Uladh/Fianna Uladh, did involve itself in armed action on a limited scale. Similarly in the early 1980s Dominic McGlinchey, after a personal dispute with some of the then leadership, led a small number of Derry-based Republicans into the INLA and again had some short term military success. But what were their long-term results and where are these bodies now?

It seems obvious that any revolutionary organisation must have a clear ideology and a firm commitment to its core principles to survive and prosper. It is undoubtedly the case that historically the cause of Irish Republicanism came closest to total victory during the period of 1919-22 and that the National Government of the day was laid low not by the force of arms of the enemy but by internal compromisers whose actions undermined the Movement.

Throughout the last



• Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin Fergal Moore, speaking at a protest at Maghaberry jail on June 27. Behind him is a banner saying 'Continuity not Compromise'.

century various and diverse revolutionary and/or anti-imperialist movements have succeeded in their aims by expressing a total commitment to their varying causes, ranging for example from the Israeli Zionists, the Algerian FLN or the Vietnamese Viet Cong, and gradually gaining more and more mass support until victory was won.

The second part of this process cannot take place in the absence of the first. It is not enough merely to be "anti" something as the Cuban counter-revolutionaries illustrated at the Bay of Pigs where a relatively large and well armed force failed miserably as they had no declared ideology to appeal to the people with.

At home the self-styled

"Official Movement" while proclaiming loudly their anti-capitalist and anti-imperial beliefs did nothing to advance these causes but actively hindered those struggling for their country's freedom as that party grew ever more reformist until becoming a mere branch of the occupier's security services, their rhetoric proving to be empty and not backed up by genuine belief.

Republicans can however take comfort in the fact that in spite of many defections and splits with former comrades over the years the Republican Movement has never been destroyed. There have always been those who will defend the Easter Week Republic. As Kevin Barry wrote in his last message before the gallows we need to "stand firm and stick to the Republic". Or as the modern slogan would have it: "Continuity not Compromise".

— George Grivas

Join

Republican Sinn Féin

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