

Nuacht an Iúir Newry News



4 Samhain

Uimhir 81

5p

IRA SNIPER KILLS RUC MEMBER

A member of the sectarian RUC, on duty as part of the so-called 'ring of steel' around the RUC barracks in Corry Square, was killed by a single shot fired by an IRA sniper at 4.30pm on Sunday afternoon.

The shot was fired with devastating accuracy from a distance of 400 metres and it is latest use of the increasingly effective IRA tactic of using a long range sniper.

The RUC man was critically injured and later died in Craigavon Hospital. In the aftermath of the attack local people reported panic and confusion among the Crown Forces at the scene.



In a supplied statement, the South Down Brigade Oglagh na hEireann claimed responsibility for the daring attack: "Our Volunteers carried out a gun attack on Sunday 31 October directed at an RUC checkpoint in Upper Edward Street. One member of the RUC was critically injured and died later."

CLOUGHREAGH HAIRDRESSER FORCED OUT OF BUSINESS.

A hairdressing salon in Cloughreagh has been forced to close as the result of vandalism. Many of the activities were petty in nature, however it reached a stage where the owner just could not take any more hassle and vacated the building. It is not clear if a replacement tenant will re-open at the site.

Reports about the harassment of the hairdresser were received by Sinn Fein members in the Bessbrook area. Sinn Fein has received co-operation from local people and party members believe the problem can be resolved by the community.

The names of some of those responsible are known and it must be stressed that this anti-community activity has to cease immediately.

Anyone with further information should pass it on through the usual channels.

SDLP AND UNIONIST HYPOCRISY

Sinn Fein councillors staged a protest by walking out of this month's meeting of Newry & Mourne Council when the SDLP and Unionist councillors refused to support a Sinn Fein motion of adjournment in respect of the victims of the Greysteel atrocity.

The Sinn Fein councillors said: "Newry & Mourne Council is inconsistent regarding the adjournment of meetings. The Council adjourned a recent meeting in respect of the Shankill bombing but the SDLP and Unionist councillors decided on Monday night that the victims of Greysteel did not warrant the same respect and refused to adjourn the Council meeting.

"This incident is only the latest in a catalogue of inconsistencies. The Council regularly adjourns its meetings as a mark of respect to people who are killed in the district but did not do so when Loughlin Maginn was murdered by loyalists in Rathfriland. They wholeheartedly condemn bombings in the area but were reluctant to do so when Sinn Fein members were the victims of letter bombs in Hilltown.

"Our party remains unconvinced of the usefulness of adjournment and condemnation motions and as such have never proposed any. However, if the council in its wisdom has decided to embark on an adjournment policy it should be consistent and not follow in the selective path of groups such as New Consensus and the Peace Train."

Around The Constituencies.

MOURNEVIEW PLAY PARK

The play park at Mourneview Park has for nearly two years lain abandoned and unused because of vandalism despite numerous requests by Sinn Fein Councillor Davy Hyland to have the park repaired and upgraded.

Sadly however N&MDC has refused his requests stating that because of repeated vandalism the Council will no longer carry out future repairs. Cllr Hyland commenting on the Council's stance stated: "It's a sad fact that vandalism in the park in the past was carried out by adults, yet children are being penalised. I praise the efforts of some locals who during the summer organised a day trip to Newcastle because of the lack of play facilities in the area. It would however suit the Council to let this park become a permanent bonfire site, as it was this Halloween, but I intend to raise this matter until there is a satisfactory outcome."



DRUMALANE REGENERATION MEETING

A meeting was held recently at the Drumalane and Fathom Park Community Centre to discuss various economic developments being considered by a local Regeneration Group.

In attendance was Seamus Cleary of Newcoe, who are assisting the Drumalane group with advice on economic strategies.

A feasibility study was recently carried out in the area and various ideas were proposed including a mini-market. One resident stressed the need for play facilities for children.

At this stage most of the developments hinge on funding and takeup of retail units. 'Nuacht an luir' will keep everyone posted as soon as details emerge.

News - Nuacht

**Copy deadline -
Tuesday Night
Tel: 68538**

VANDALISM IN BARCROFT

Sinn Fein has received a number of complaints from party members and local residents in Barcroft regarding a recent spate of incidents. The children's playpark lost its last remaining swing last week, now the park is reduced to a single slide. Despite the best efforts of local people and community groups the playpark has been systematically vandalised. Other issues raised focused on the Halloween bonfire and the alleged activities of local young people in the weeks prior to the fire.

A large number of tyres which had been stored in a field behind the First Street in Barcroft were set alight behind houses in Dominic Street by local kids. This particular fire was set alight in the early hours of the morning so it's obvious that children were not the culprits.

A number of residents living in the Glen area contacted Councillor Brendan Curran with allegations about young people throwing bonfire material into their gardens. However, local Sinn Fein activists believe that these particular allegations require more

investigation as residents from the Glen area "appear to have an 'attitude' about the youth of Barcroft".

However, this does not diminish the anti-social behaviour of any youth involved in such incidents.

Councillor Davy Hyland commenting on these activities said: "The destruction of the children's playpark is totally unacceptable and only punishes the young children of Barcroft. Local people have informed me that young teenagers are responsible for this vandalism. Whoever it was, their parents must play a greater role in stopping it immediately.

"The complaints regarding the Halloween activities require more investigation. However, Sinn Fein would appeal to the youth to cease any attacks on the 'Glen'. Also, I would urge the residents from the Glen area to build links with the Barcroft community to tackle these problems and produce more evidence about those involved."

Special Features.

TOWARDS A LASTING PEACE

The British Government

'Nuacht an luir' continues its summary of the Sinn Fein document 'Towards A Lasting Peace' by looking at the role of the British Government in the ongoing conflict.

British propaganda consistently claims that it has no 'selfish or strategic' reasons for keeping the six county statelet under its control.

Notwithstanding Britain's alleged lack of 'selfish, strategic or economic' reasons for maintaining partition there are multiple democratic and practical reasons why partition should go.

These include:

- It defies the wishes of the Irish people as a whole;
- It is undemocratic;
- It rejects opinions expressed in British opinion polls;
- It has created a generation of casualties in the six counties;
- It cannot produce lasting peace.

Formal British policy as contained in the Hillsborough deal - the 'unity by consent' formula - which is also ostensibly British labour party policy, supports the maintenance of the status quo.

This stance is an attempt to minimise its responsibility for resolving the crisis and to shift that task onto the shoulders of the Irish people - nationalists and unionists alike.

Britain created the problem in Ireland. Britain has the major responsibility and role in initiating a strategy which will bring a democratic resolution and lasting peace. That must involve, within the context of accepting the national rights of



the majority of the Irish people, a British government joining the ranks of the persuaders in seeking to obtain the consent of a majority of people in the North to the constitutional, political and financial arrangements needed for a United Ireland.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

VOL HARRY McKIGNEY

November 7th, 1921 witnessed a setback for Oglai na hEireann in Newry when 17 year old Harry McKigney from the Mall area was accidentally shot by a revolver he was handling.

The tragic event took place on the Fathom line. At Volunteer McKigney's funeral he was given full military honours by his comrades in Oglai na hEireann. This included the final tribute of a firing party firing three volleys over his grave.

Members of the large procession wore white epaulettes as a symbol of his youthful life ended so abruptly.

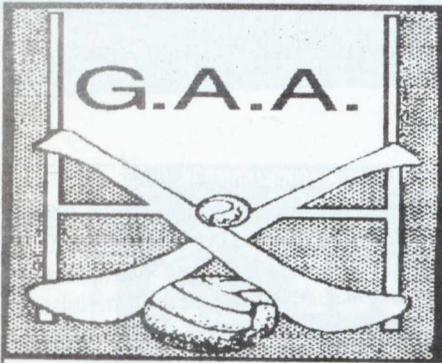
EDENTUBBER MARTYRS COMMEMORATION

ASSEMBLY POINT - CEASERS NIGHTCLUB
DATE - SUNDAY, 14 NOVEMBER
SPEAKER - RITA O'HARE

Duirt Siad

■ A senior Army officer admitted quite openly that the Army did not dominate Protestant areas the way they did Catholic areas and gave his reasons. "Quite frankly, if we were to control the situation in the Protestant areas in the same way as we are controlling the Republican areas, we would need more than double the number of soldiers."

The above quote shows how little has changed. It is taken from a copy of The Guardian from October 1972 (and featured in the People's Democracy newsletter, Unfree Citizen). The same blind eye is still turned towards the loyalist death squads of today. And of course collusion goes even further, considering that British Intelligence facilitated the importation of guns from South Africa which have been used to kill over 160 people since 1988.



GAA NUACHT

Down and Armagh Hurlers Defeated

Both the Down and Armagh hurling teams lost on Sunday in their respective National League exchanges. Despite a great surge in the last 10 minutes of their match with Galway, Down were unable to close the gap opened up by the Connacht men in the first half.

Despite opening the game well, Down experienced a major setback when Galway received a penalty in controversial circumstances. Galway's early goal affected the confidence of the Down squad. However, Down shot over a dozen wides in the game and couldn't reflect the accuracy of Liam Burke who scored 1-6 for Galway from place balls.

Despite the best efforts of Down scorers Dermot O'Prey, Noel Sands and Barry Coulter in the closing stages of the match, Galway triumphed with a 6 point margin.

The final score: Down 2-9, Galway 2-15.

Armagh Defeat

Despite level scores at halftime, with both Armagh and Roscommon on 0-5 each, the Orchard County team were no match for the visitors.

Throughout this Division Four clash there was a fine display of hurling from both sides and there was never much between the teams. However, in the second half Armagh were unable to match the Roscommon men.

Final score: Armagh 0-9, Roscommon 1-10.

CAMOGIE

Armagh's Continuing Success

The All-Ireland and National League Camogie Champions Armagh continued on their winning path last Sunday in a tough challenge against Dublin at Mullaghbawn.

At the break Armagh led by 1-3 to 1-1 but the Orchard County girls played with great determination and widened the gap significantly beating Dublin by 8 points.

The final result: Armagh 2-9, Dublin 2-1.

Down No Match For Antrim

Despite previous defeats at 'the hurls' of Down, the Antrim girls pulled off a dramatic victory in the National League Camogie clash on the Ards Peninsula on Sunday.

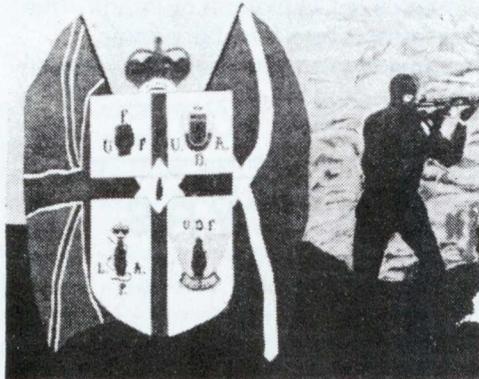
Down displayed several great individual performances including that of substitute Bonny McGreevy, although in the end they were no match for the Saffrons.

Final score: Antrim 3-5, Down 1-5.

SF APPEALS FOR VIGILANCE

Sinn Fein Councillor Brendan Curran has appealed to local people to remain vigilant in the face of recent loyalist attacks throughout the Six Counties. Councillor Curran said: "There is considerable fear and apprehension throughout the North in the wake of the sectarian violence of loyalist death squads. Sinn Fein urges the local community to be extra vigilant.

"Loyalist violence is nothing new to our people. It has continued since the formation of this statelet. Sinn Fein will not be deterred from its task of seeking justice and a lasting peace," concluded Councillor Curran.



COMHBHRON.

The Republican Movement expresses its deepest sympathy to the family of Gerard Murphy of St Patricks Avenue, who died on Saturday 30th October.

Mala Poist

SECTARIANISM KILLS CATHOLICS

A chara,

Since the Shankill bombing the media and many loyalist politicians have reproduced a number of myths about sectarian attacks. I would like to counter these.

Firstly, despite NIO propaganda, it is clear that the IRA is not engaged in sectarian violence.

Secondly, loyalist death squads predate the present-day Ogligh na hEireann. They are not a reaction to the IRA, they are a reaction to any perceived gains by nationalism.

Unfortunately, since the early 70s, the NIO, loyalists, Sticks and many other mirror images of British rule have alleged that the IRA is sectarian. In the mid-70s the disgraced Sticks mounted a massive campaign to reinforce the NIO propaganda.

During this period local Republican youth were subjected to regular beatings from the same Sticks engaged in the anti-IRA poster campaign.

One response to that NIO-inspired campaign comes to mind. In 1976 local Republican youth painted a massive slogan in Main Avenue, Derrybeg. It read: "Sectarianism Kills Catholics".

With the recent spate of loyalist attacks, this statement from the mid-70s is extremely relevant.

Is mise,

Ex-Derrybeg Resident

(Name & address supplied)

Last week a letter was handed in at the Sinn Fein Centre for publication in 'Nuacht an luir'. The letter was not printed because its author did not give a contact name/address. We recently made it clear that no letters will be accepted without a name/address. People who write letters can have their names withheld.

Editor.

Sinn Fein Advice Centre
2 Nicholson's Court