Monthly downloadable éirígí newsletter November 07



Making Shell Feel The Heat

éirígí activists from across the country played a central role in achieving the suspension of work at Shell's proposed Bellanaboy refinery on November 9.

Members travelled to west Mayo from Belfast, Dublin, Derry, Tipperary and elsewhere to take part in the national Day of Action called by the local community in conjunction with the Shell to Sea campaign.

Once on the road at Bellanaboy, the natural resource activists, who numbered in the region of 300, deployed successful sit-down tactics to prevent supplies entering Shell's building site.

The one truck that attempted to break the blockade took over an hour to cover less than a mile of the 'oil road', as Gardaí engaged in the laborious process of removing the determined protestors from its path.

However, the task of putting a temporary halt to Shell's theft came at a cost.

Two éirígí members were arrested while Gary Ronaghan, a republican who had travelled with the éirígí contingent, was injured when his foot was trapped beneath the wheel of the lone truck after he was pushed to the ground by Gardaí.

Dominic McGlinchey from south Derry and Rab Jackson from Belfast will appear in court this week charged with obstruction.

The fact that 300 people travelled to Bellanaboy for 7.30am on November 9 was proof that, one year on from the Garda baton charges, the Erris community and the Shell to Sea campaign will not be intimidated.

The successful blockade is further proof, if any were needed, that we are as determined as ever to defend the right of the people of Ireland to reclaim their ownership of their natural resources.

The concerned citizens of Ireland are going nowhere - Shell and their goons would be advised to take this

into account.



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Bob Doyle
- The weapons
of victory





éirigi campaigns update

Natural Resources - Bellenaboy and Dublin actions

éirígí activists continued the campaign to prevent the giveaway of Ireland's natural resources in October by participating in a number of protests across the country. On October 12th, members of the party participated in protests at the proposed Ballinaboy refinery site where local farmers returned fencing that Shell had been previously placed on their lands.

éirígí also held solidarity pickets of Shell garages across Dublin on November 1st in preparation for a large

mobilisation to Mayo on November 9th.



• The writings on the wall in Dublin



· Local activists return Shells illegal installation



· éirígí activists on the picket-line

Occupation news

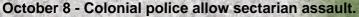
October 16 - Pro-British parties block Irish language bill.

The consolidation of the bigoted nature of the Six County state continued apace in October with the announcement that Irish language speakers will have their rights denied for the foreseeable future.

DUP minister for culture Edwin Poots ruled out the introduction of an Irish language act, for which cultural activists have been campaigning for a number of years.

The British government announced their intention to implement an Irish language act last year but then held off on passing the relevant legislation until the restoration of their Stormont institutions.

It is widely believed they instigated this delay to ensure that a unionist veto in the Six County assembly would scupper any act.



The Garvaghy Road Residents Coalition has described sectarian attacks on two y oung catholic men in Portadown during October as a direct product of unacceptable, partisan policing.

It is understood that the Police Ombudsman's office in the Six Counties is now investigating the RUC-PSNI's behaviour in the lead up to, during, and after both attacks. One young man, received severe facial injuries and a second catholic man, who went to the aid of the first attack victim, was also set upon and kicked and beaten by up to a dozen assailants. The unionist gang responsible had been seen roaming around the area for a considerable length of time before the two attacks. The area where the attack took place has witnessed dozens of similar incidents over the years, including the murder of catholic man, Robert Hamill, in 1997



Edwin Poots



RUC-PSNI

Bob Doyle on the weapons of victory

In August of this year west Belfast hosted the Anti-Racism World Cup as part of the internationally renowned Féile an Phobail.

The annual soccer event brought teams from the Congo, the Basque Country, Palestine, Italy, England, Catalonia, Kurdistan and Germany together with their Irish counterparts in a display of international solidarity in opposition to fascism and bigotry.

In a fitting tribute to one of the most inspiring examples of international solidarity in human history, Bob Doyle, an Irish veteran of the International Brigades who fought in defence of the Spanish Republic in the 1930s, gave the following oration during the World Cup.

"Hello everyone.

I'm an ex-member of the Dublin Brigade of the IRA.

I was born in 1916, in Dublin's north side inner city but when I was five I was put into an orphanage with my sister, and I spent the next eight years in county Wicklow, working on farms and getting a very limited education from nuns. They were my first experience of real oppression.

As a teenager I joined the IRA and was trained by Kit Conway, a veteran of the War of Independence and the Civil War. In 1934 with Peadar O'Donnell, Frank Ryan and Kit, I and many other volunteers left to set up the Republican Congress.

We knew the time had come when the struggle was no longer simply about nationalism but had to become one for the people in the Free State who were facing oppression and injustice. We were still republicans but now we became social revolutionaries also.

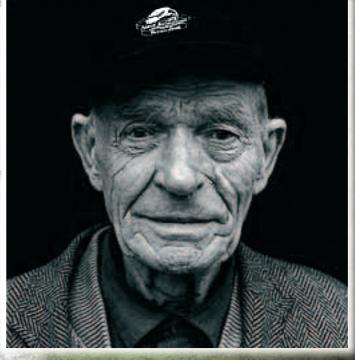
The tactics we developed were organising in support of strikes for union recognition, fighting the evictions of slum tenants, as well as against the Blueshirts on the streets, and against the growth of extreme right-wing policies during the economic crisis of the 1930s.

These struggles meant that we had to form broad coalitions with other groups, who might have differed from us in the past, but who now shared our aims - the fight against the rising tide of fascism, and for social justice in our country.

Had we stayed on in the IRA as it then was, we would have had to remain merely nationalists, like many of the landlords and employers we were now opposing. Our politics were now those of the unemployed, the workers, the small farmers being driven off the land, and the families facing evictions.

In 1936 we realised that the fight was being fought outside Ireland also, sometimes even more brutally and with greater consequences, above all in Spain. This is what led me and my ex-IRA comrades to the International Brigades.

The remainder of this article can be read on page 4



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We joined volunteers from 53 countries who also saw that it was thesame fight in Spain. One of our slogans was "Bombs on Madrid mean Bombs on London" and this was later proved to be all too true, even in Belfast and Dublin.

After the betrayal of the Spanish Republic by Britain's Tory Government, with their French and American allies, Franco, Hitler andMussolini won in Spain. The war which we had fought in Spain toprevent - World War Two - began. This was when the bombs began to fall on cities everywhere.

We had gone to fight for a vision of the future, for a world where all could live in brotherhood, and in harmony with our environment, andnot in one based on oppression and exploitation, which are essential for capitalism.

Looking at the world today, I have to ask: Did my comrades sacrificetheir lives in vain? Today Spain may have a democratic government but it came after 40 years of Franco dictatorship.

Since the Civil War ended in 1939, the world has seen mass murder in Europe, in Latin America and in Asia. It now sees imperialism in Iraq and genocide in Sudan, while ever more powerful weapons are being developed.

Our rights and freedoms are attacked and controlled from above more than ever, while the system of justice is undermined by kidnapping without trial, for torture by democracies, all done in our name. Franco and Hitler may be dead, but has fascism been defeated?

Globalisation is the world-wide triumph of money over unionised workers

Instead of uniforms they now wear suits, instead of striking symbols they use public relations and spin doctors, instead of racist speeches they speak the language of democracy and religion.

Let us not fool ourselves: Fascism is thriving today in the institutions of power, so I ask again: Did my comrades die in vain?

The great crisis of today's environmental catastrophe cannot be solved by capitalism because capitalism is now its cause. Big business hopes that tinkering with the system will allow them to hold onto their wealth and power. The vision of a world where we all live in brotherhood and in harmony with our environment seems as far away as ever, while globalisation flourishes.

Globalisation is the world-wide triumph of money over unionised workers, and over the limited protections which have been won in our democracies. As always, fascism means the rich using the poorest to destroy the organised working class.

If you, the next generation, do nothing, then fascism - raw capitalism - will triumph, and humanity will face disaster, and then my comrades will have died in vain. It is up to you to fight for a different world, but never forget that you are fighting for an idea.

Though we must at times defend ourselves with guns, guns cannot impose an idea. The four weapons of victory today are - education, organisation, civil disobedience and unity.

The unity of all who share a hatred of fascism and a passion for a better world is essential for success. If we have to move forward at the pace of the slowest, then let us be patient. But let us move together. The future of all of us is at stake. These are the lessons which I have learnt, to pass on to you from my lifetime of struggle.

Take up the fight for the noblest of causes, the liberation of mankind. Then our comrades will not have died in vain but will be our inspiration. Together we fight on.

Viva La Republica!"

UPCOMING EVENTS

EU Constitution to "Reform Treaty": No change

Public Discussion. Saturday 3 November, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Speaker: Susan George (political scientist and writer on Third World poverty, underdevelopment, and debt). Liberty Hall (Eden Quay) Admission: €10 (concession: €3)

Organised by the Campaign Against the EU Constitution

Shell to Sea Sit Down Blockade: Bellanaboy

Shell to Sea have called a national mobilisation for a mass sitdown protest at the refinery at Bellanaboy on the



morning of November 9. Buses will be travelling from Dublin, Belfast and Cork. For more information visit www.corribsos.com

Club Tropicana, Cuban Night

Friday November 9th - Setanta GAA club, Ballymun, Dublin. A fundraiser in aid of the Cuban health service.

Mational Anti War Demonstration

November 10th - Assemble Central Bank, 2pm, Dublin .

An Audience with Philip Agee

Internationally acclaimed writer

and former CIA
Whistle Blower,
Mr. Philip Agee, will
address a public
meeting in Liberty Hall
Theatre at 8 pm on
Tuesday 20th
November 2007.
He will describe the
undeclared terrorist
war against Cuba
launched by the USA.

