

ANNOUNCEMENT

St. Louis Irish Northern Aid (Dick DeLaney Unit) January 1997

January Calendar

4 Demonstration

11:30 a.m. Monthly demonstration in front of the Federal Court building on Market Street downtown. Dress warm!

16 Meeting

7:30 p.m. Monthly Noraid meeting. All welcome.

26 Super Bowl

Starts at 3:00 p.m. Details below.

Super Bowl Party Set To Kick Off

This year's Super Bowl Party will be held on January 26 starting at 3:00 p.m. at the Electrician's Hall on Elizabeth.

Tickets are \$15; admission includes soup, chili, sandwiches, beer, soft drinks, and whatever else is available. Proceeds will benefit the Matt Morrison Defense Fund.

We still need people to help with food preparation. If you can help, or if you would like to buy tickets, please call Dan O'Brien at 846-9523 or Linda DeLaney at 863-1924.

Anti-Deportation Encampment Draws Support

By Francie Broderick
(From Internet)

The vigil and encampment were great. When Katie and I arrived around 11 am, it was cold and desolate and no one was there. I

was starting to regret my impulsive decision to fast and sit up all night. But within the next hour, a miracle happened. People started to arrive and unload things and, really, I know I sound crazy, but it was like a movie. People started working together and erecting a large tent made out of clear plastic with a roof. Banners and flags and posters were hung from trees and walls in the park. Garlands, Christmas angels, and bells were hung all around the tent. Information posters about writing to the prisoners, the deportees, and Roisin McAliskey were set up all around. Candles in little bags of sand were set up outside the tent (it was the winter solstice, you know). The crowning touch was a Christmas tree decorated with green ribbons, white doves, and orange, white, and green angels with the names of people who have helped support us.

It was amazing to watch. It was beautiful. The Labor Tribune had given us a good write-up and urged members to come down, and they did, so we had lots of skilled labor to erect the tents and set up kerosene heaters and work on the ailing generator.

And the people that came were so diverse. There was family, and people from my work, and a 7-year-old and her father from Katie's dance class who spent the whole night. And there was a constant stream of union members dropping by to sign cards to send to Richard Gephardt. And during the night, the local IWW/Wobblie Club came and the staff of the AFSC office and several members of the Catholic Peace and Justice Community and an African-American church donated 25 barbecue dinners for those who weren't fasting.

At no time were there fewer than 15 people with me, and there were at least a dozen who stayed the whole time.

Seven people came in from Kansas City. Two former national presidents of the AOH, Jack Keane and George Clough, were there. Our local INA

chair played the bagpipes for us. We played Gerry Cunningham tapes.

The highlight for me was when someone came into the tent and said, "Hey, Francie, Bill Clay's out there." I said, "Yeah, right," and looked up and saw Congressman Clay with his own package of candles for the vigil. He was great, talked with everyone, pledged his continued support, and said he would start another letter and get other members of Congress to sign on.

I probably am forgetting something. I was cold and hungry and tired. In spite of the heaters, I was bone cold, but I am known at work for always being cold—I sit over an electric heater because my office is so cold. But it was great. I haven't felt such solidarity in a long time, and in the wee hours of the morning in the cold, we huddled around the heater and told stories of various struggles.

Katie cried because she wanted to spend the whole night and I sent her home with my sister. I told her she would freeze, and she said, "I don't care, your love will keep my heart warm." And she was right—everyone's love kept my heart warm. Thank you all for giving us faith and hope and love. Whatever happens to us, we have all made our movement stronger, and there is only good that can come from such solidarity.

Merry Christmas, my friends.

Raffle

The Friends of Matt and Francie in Austin Texas, led by Jackie Dana, held a raffle in December to benefit the Matt Morrison Defense Fund. Each \$10 raffle ticket bought a chance to win prizes including a signed copy of Gerry Adams' autobiography, a handmade leather item made by Matt, a ring, artwork, hunger strike commemoration audiotapes, and other items. The drawing was held on New Year's Day.

Contact Person at INS

Within the past couple of weeks, a supporter of Matt and Francie's case named David Fanning notified an Irish Republican Internet group that his repeated e-mails to President Clinton had resulted in a response from the INS. The letter he received reads in part:

"The White House referred your letter to the Department of Justice, United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, so that the matter could be appropriately addressed by the agency that has jurisdiction over issues involving the deportation, exclusion, and removal of persons from the United States who are citizens and nationals of other countries. The United States does not have a separate immigration policy concerning Irish nationals. The resolution of an individual deportation proceedings depends on the particular facts of the case. While equities such as a U.S. citizen spouse or child may provide a basis for some types of relief from deportation, a criminal history may preclude certain applications for relief. While I certainly appreciate your interest in deportation cases that involve Irish nationals, I wish to assure you that these cases are processed in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Immigration and Nationality Act, Title 8 of the United States Code, Section 1101, et seq., as amended....

Serious criminal convictions will foreclose most forms of relief. In some cases, convictions for less serious crimes may be weighed against favorable equities....The final decision in a deportation or exclusion case is not based on political opinion, but on the law as dictated by the United States. Signed, William S. Slattery."

While the letter itself is not encouraging—indeed it is incorrect in many places—it does show that

someone reads the many e-mails sent to the President. Same goes for phone calls, postcards, and letters. They all make a difference, and they all put pressure where it is needed. Please keep up your lobbying of the President, Governor, and Attorney General, and please add William Slattery to your writing list:

William S. Slattery, Executive Associate Commissioner, Field Operations

U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service

425 Eye Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20536

McAliskey's Plight Worsens

Roisin McAliskey, the pregnant daughter of Irish civil rights pioneer Bernadette Devlin McAliskey continues to be held in a women's prison in England awaiting extradition to Germany for questioning regarding an IRA bombing there last spring.

Ms. McAliskey was refused bail a third time on December 20, despite the fact that family and friends have raised \$300,000 to guarantee her bail. She has not yet been accused of **any** crime. She is being held in a prison with no obstetric facilities, and for hours at a time there is no warden with access to her cell in the event she becomes acutely ill. Before that, she was held in an all-male prison where she was stripped searched daily. The strip searches have continued in Holloway prison, despite the fact that McAliskey is almost 6 months pregnant. She has asthma and an ulcer, and has had a difficult pregnancy even before her arrest. She is kept in a cell with no exercise or access to natural light for 24 hours a day. British Home Secretary Michael Howard has refused even the prison warden's proposal that Roisin be allowed to walk in the prison yard 1 hour a day.

You can write to Roisin McAliskey at
TE 2456 HMP Holloway
Parkhurst Road, Holloway
London, ENGLAND N70NY

Also, please take the time to contact any of the people or institutions listed below. Let them know the facts of the case, and ask them to either grant Roisin McAliskey bail or transfer her to Maghaberry prison in Northern Ireland, where she can receive appropriate prenatal care to save the life of her child and be close to family and friends during this difficult time.

Timothy Kirkhope, MP (has responsibility for extraditions and miscarriages of justice)
460a Roundhay Road
Leeds, ENGLAND LS8 2HU
Telephone (office): (0113) 249 2502
Telephone (Westminster): (0171) 219 4059
Fax: (0113) 248 3528
e-mail: timothy@leedsne.demon.co.uk

British Embassy in Washington
3100 Massachusetts Ave, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-3600
Telephone: 202-898-4343
Fax: 202-898-4273

German Embassy in Washington
Telephone: 202-298-4000
Fax: 202-298-4249 or 202-333-2653

British Consulate, New York, phone: 212-754-0200

Other British Consulate addresses:
<http://www.serve.com/inwc/hb4/britad.html>

German Consulate, New York,
phone: 212-308-8700

H-Block Four Update

The H-Block Four are facing serious financial difficulty as their cases progress. Kevin Barry Artt may be

returned to prison if he is unable to pay his rent, and Terry Kirby is in a similar situation. All three have large and growing legal bills.

A fund has been established to defray their expenses. Donations may be sent to the following address:
Attn: Sue Pozo
Wells Fargo Bank
2190 Willow Pass Road
Concord CA 94520
Checks should be payable to "4 The Boys" and include the account number: 6175969526
Updates on the progress of the H-Block Four's cases may be obtained through a new hotline: 415-460-9306

Final submissions are being heard in the extradition hearing in San Francisco of Kevin Barry Artt and Terry Kirby. Both men are under house arrest and therefore unable to work.

According to defense witnesses, some of the documents presented by the British government for this hearing were forged. A forensic scientist employed by the Birmingham police in England for over 25 years stated that documents the British government alleges to have been written in 1978 were shown by analysis as having been prepared after 1981. It also was revealed in court that the government had provided their witnesses with a 56-page briefing paper on the case.

In an interview in the *Andersonstown News*, Kirby said, "We are dealing with pure politics here. We nailed the opposition on forged documents and on perjury, but I still believe the outlook is gloomy. I have described all the beatings I took while in prison, while on the blanket and afterwards, but they simply refuse to believe me or my supporters."

News In Brief

***Orange Group Supports Church Picket** The December 20, 1996, issue of the *Irish Times* reports that the Deputy Master of the Independent Orange Order in mid-Ulster has come out in support of continued picketing of the Catholic Church in Harryville, Ballymena. Protests have occurred every Saturday at the church for over four months. The latest was on December 21. Mr. Roy Ferguson said he supported the demonstrations because they were protests against the refusal of the residents of Dunloy to allow Orangemen to march to a Protestant church in the village, and because he was opposed to the Catholic Mass. Most Unionists and Orange organizations have stated their opposition to the continuing protests, which have led to the burning of churches and schools in recent weeks.

***Lawyer Forcibly Removed From RUC Barracks** A lawyer for a client being held at the Grosvenor Road RUC barracks in Belfast was forcibly removed from an interrogation room on December 18 as she advised him not to submit to a DNA swab. Legislation in the Six Counties allows the RUC to take DNA samples by swabbing cells from the inside of the mouth. Although many lawyers feel the legislation only allows DNA swabs to be taken if they have a strong possibility of linking a person to an offense, at least one Belfast lawyer has made a sworn statement that the RUC told him the swabs also are being taken for intelligence gathering and are being stored in a database for future reference.

***IRA Shooting in Hospital** The IRA has admitted responsibility for the shooting of an RUC man in the children's hospital at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast. The officer, who was guarding DUP figure Nigel Dodds as he visited his seriously ill son, was not seriously injured.

***Republican Injured in Car Bomb Attack** 25-year-old Eddie Copeland received serious leg injuries when a bomb exploded under his car as he left his parents' house. No group has claimed responsibility, but the UFF is suspected. The attack is thought to be in retaliation for the IRA attack on the RUC at the Royal Victoria Hospital. Copeland was shot and seriously wounded in 1993 by a British soldier as he attended the funeral of Shankill bomber Thomas Begley.

Write to the POWs

The following prisoners have birthdays this month. Entries are organized as follows: Name/ Birthday/ Prison/ Number or Hometown/ Sentence/ Release Date (if any)

Bennett, Michael / 1/18 / Maze / A7767 Lenadon / 24 / 8/2003

Brady, John / 1/31 / Maze / A1559 Strabane / LIFE

Brogan, Tommy / 1/9 / Maze / A757 Strabane / 30 / 3/2007

Bullock, Martin / 1/20 / Maze / A1928 Dungannon / LIFE

Doherty, Joe / 1/20 / Maze / A8736 New Lodge / LIFE

Draine, Seamus D. / 1/24 / Maze / B161 Toome / 10 / 11/97

Fox, Bernard / 1/27 / Maze / A2105 St. James / 22 / 11/99

Fryers, Robert / 1/21 / Maze / B3903 New Barnsley / 25 / 7/2009

Kerr, Robert / 1/19 / Maze / Poleglass / REMAND

Llewellyn, Barry / 1/9 / Maze / A1062 Downpatrick / LIFE

Lynch, Sean J. / 1/18 / Maze / A586 Lisnaskea / 25 / 9/27/98

Magee, Paul (Dingus) / 1/20 / Full Sutton / BR3783 Tralee / LIFE

Moyna, John / 1/14 / Portlaoise / Monaghan / 7 / 3/99

Murray, Kevin / 1/24 / Maze / A1823 Strabane / 18 / 3/98

McCorley, Rosaleen / 1/14 / Maghaberry / F132 Andersonstown / 22 / 1/2001

McCotter, Liam / 1/2 / Full Sutton / LB83693 Belfast / 17

McFadden, Ciaran / 1/22 / Portlaoise / Derry / 6 / 8/11/98

McGahey, William / 1/16 / Maze / A6755 Derry / 20 / 2/2001

McGuilla Gunna, Michael / 1/31 / Maze / A6064 Andersonstown / 14 / 10/97

McKee, Eugene / 1/23 / Maze / A4183 Andersonstown / 18 / 12/98

McStravick, Steven / 1/27 / Maze / A7905 Markets / 14 / 9/98

Raisey, Anthony / 1/6 / Maze / A9476 Short Strand / 12 / 7/98

Rooney, Francis / 1/24 / Maze / A8539 New Barnsley / 12 / 1/98

Taylor, Jan / 1/18 / Whitemoor / EN1977 London / 30

Addresses:

H.M. Prison Full Sutton
York YO4 1PS
ENGLAND

H.M. Prison Maghaberry—Female
Old Mill Road
Ballinderry, County Antrim
North Ireland BT28 2PT

H.M. Prison Maze
Lisburn, County Antrim
North Ireland BT27 5RP

Portlaoise Prison
Portlaoise, County Laoise
IRELAND

H.M. Prison Whitemoor
Long Hill Road
March
Cambridgeshire PE15 OPR
ENGLAND

Donations also can be sent to:

An Cumann Cabhrach
44 Parnell Square
Dublin 1
IRELAND

Green Cross
51/55 Falls Road
Belfast 12
IRELAND

"Some Mother's Son," a motion picture dramatization of the 1981 hunger strikes, opened in a number of American cities on December 26. It will open wide on January 31. More information on the film and the history behind it can be found on the Internet at <http://www.somemotherson.com>