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IRISH FREEDOM

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**BRITS SEIZE LANDS
IN SOUTH ARMAGH
P. 3**



RUTHLESS DEALERS AT WORK!

THE PLOT TO secure the new political re-settlement of Ireland gathered force during May. The pieces of the jigsaw are fitting into place more and more.

The 'talks about talks' between Thatcher's Six-county Secretary King and Unionist leaders Molyneux and Paisley have settled on discussions parallel to the Hillsborough Deal which will remain in place for the time being.

Interviewed on RTE's Today Tonight on May 17, Molyneux said there would be "no negotiations" with Dublin now, but discussions could take place with an exchange of papers and a summit later. During the month this process began when he quietly met Fine Gael leader Alan Dukes in London.

Giving one of his rare smiles on television Molyneux buttered up Charles Haughey, calling him "a tough, ruthless and efficient statesman".

Meanwhile under Haughey's auspices the Hume/Adams talks continued with back-up teams on both sides. It was agreed all round on Thames TV on May

15 that a New Agreement to supercede Hillsborough is the aim.

Thatcher and Haughey want to get both the Unionists and Adams and as many as possible of Free State Sinn Féin into this net.

Tom Hartley, a member of Adams' team told Unionists publicly to talk to Nationalists on both sides of the border; that there was definitely something in it for them. The Pan-Nationalist Front was early in operation.

Both the SDLP and Free State Sinn Féin have publicly placed a limit of mid-July on their continual discussions. The count-down to the review of the workings of Hillsborough by November 15 has begun.

SHARED PLATFORM

At a protest meeting on May 22 in Glasdrummond, South Armagh against British army seizures of land to erect new look-out posts, SDLP and Free State Sinn Féin councillors co-operated on a shared platform - the first such get-together since the days of the Civil Rights movement. The pieces are indeed falling into place.

But what does it all mean for Irish Rep-

ublicans? One thing it certainly does not mean is the restoration of the All-Ireland Republican Dáil of 1919.

It is interesting to recall what happened in the past on such occasions. In 1921, stage one of the Treaty of Surrender which cemented the partition of Ireland was sold to the gullible on the basis that stage two, the Boundary Commission would reduce the Northern Statelet to two-and-a-half Counties; and that stage three, the Council of Ireland, would be the bridge back to an All-Ireland parliament (which the settlement effectively suppressed).

Stages Two and Three never happened, of course, because the dynamic in the situation - the people's struggle - had been demobilised by a bloody and ruthless counter-revolution.

Remove the dynamic and all movement stops - that is what Thatcher and Haughey are trying to achieve in these months of 1988.

On the Thames TV programme of May 15, the Editor of the Irish Times said that Haughey models himself on de Valera, who reached a compromise situation with the 26-county state in the 1930s.

IN THE LATTER half of 1922, Churchill as British Colonial Secretary was anxious to stabilise the Treaty of Surrender settlement in all of Ireland. His connivance and his delicate balancing-act between those in power in Belfast and Dublin is illustrated as follows in Michael Farrell's 'Arming the Protestants' (p. 179):

"He (Churchill) wrote 'private and personal' letters to both Craig and Collins on 7 July, drawing Craig's attention to the possibilities now that Collins had 'definitely drawn the sword against the enemies of the British empire'.

"He urged Craig not to make any hasty statements about the Boundary Commission and suggested that a settlement might now be possible which would win the support of the 'best of the Catholic elements' in the North for his government.

"To Collins he suggested the idea of a new Craig - Collins pact and hinted that a United Ireland might be possible when the Republicans had been suppressed".

Can we assume that Mrs. Thatcher is writing contradictory 'private and personal' letters to the various participants in the current talks?

With his new constitution in 1937 and his trade agreement with England in 1938 which gave back the Treaty Ports, de Valera had come to a halt.

When the Irish Republican Army pushed past him with the Sabotage Campaign which opened in England in 1939 de Valera responded with savage and total repression.

Executions by firing-squad and the British hangman, internment camps and death on hunger strike, shooting dead of Republicans on the streets and in the jails . . . these were the order of the day in the 1940s.

Whether Haughey models himself on de Valera or not, the situation into which we are all being stealthily moved demands just such an outcome: total repression of those who will not accept the new Treaty of Surrender.

Again SAOIRSE says: Republicans must expose and reveal what is going on NOW. It may be too late when the euphoria and indeed, the hysteria generated for this treacherous deal stampedes people along without thinking and the prospects for Irish freedom are set back for quite a long time.

BODENSTOWN
SUNDAY JUNE 12

Assemble:
Sallins Field 2.30pm

Oration:
Cllr. Frank McCarty
Glens of Antrim

TESTIMONIAL DINNER
Saturday, June 11, 9pm. Táille: £10.50 Spa Hotel, Lucan, Dublin

Honorees: Anna Steele - Ulster; Ned O'Shea - Munster;
Sylvester Fitzsimons - Connacht; Jack Butler - Leinster;
Tim Brennan - USA.

THE SIEGE OF CARRIVE

REPUBLICAN Sinn Féin Councillor Eamon Larkin has lashed out at the British army takeover of land in Carrive, near Forkhill in South Armagh on May 17 and 18 last. He described it as the 'Siege of Carrive' at the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting of Newry and Mourne Council on Monday night, May 23.

He rejected the intervention of local MP Séamus Mallon who had received an 'assurance' from British minister of State Stanley that the takeover was only 'temporary'. Mallon and the SDLP talk of the action as being 'insensitive' when it is plain to all Irish people that there can be no 'sensitive' British presence in Ireland, he said.

Cllr. Larkin said that one farmer in particular had lost 12 acres of newly-sown

grassland and accused the British army of trying to 'corral' the people of South Armagh behind a wall of steel and electronic surveillance equipment regardless of the horrific consequences to the farmer and his family.

He added that Republican Sinn Féin fully supported the legitimate demands of farmers throughout South Armagh for the return of all property occupied by the British Forces and joined in the demand for the removal of all British military installations, spy-posts and surveillance equipment.

REMOVED AT GUNPOINT

Cllr. Larkin stated that one farmer had been removed at gun point from his own land and that land which has belonged to his family for generations was closed to him.

He added that the British army had claimed it was a temporary imposition, but he said that such measures in other

areas proved to be permanent, such as part of the Crossmaglen Rangers Football field which is still under British army control after 15 years.

"The presence of an unwanted, unjustified army on Irish fields and hilltops is but the latest development in a longer occupation which brutally denies democracy and justice to the Irish people as a whole."

GLASSDRUMMOND

In an earlier statement to the media on Sunday May 15, Eamon Larkin repeated his support for the legitimate demands of the residents and farmers of the Glassdrummond area for the return of all lands seized by the British Crown Forces.

He stated that he was unable to attend the rally that day in Glassdrummond as it was held under the auspices of the 'Public Order Order':

"I do not accept the authority of the RUC, British army or the British government to impose any restrictions whatsoever"



Cllr. Eamon Larkin

ever on the people of South Armagh. Nor do I accept their attempts to dictate where the march, protest or parade should or should not take place," said Councillor Larkin.

Hunger Strike Commemorations

REPUBLICAN Sinn Féin held ceremonies during May to commemorate the 1981 hunger strike martyrs Vols. Francis Hughes and Raymond McCreesh in their native Bellaghy, Co. Derry and Camloch, Co. Armagh.

On Sunday, May 15 about 100 people gathered after last Mass in Bellaghy Cemetery at the graveside of Vol. Francis Hughes who died after 59 days on hunger strike on May 12, 1981.

Cllr. Michael McGonigle chaired the proceedings

and welcomed first of all the Hughes family of Tam-lachtduff, Bellaghy; the McCreesh family, who travelled from Camloch; and the family of fellow hunger strike martyr Thomas McElwee also from Tam-lachtduff, Bellaghy, who died in Long

Kesh on August 8, 1981.

A decade of the Rosary was recited by Seán Lynn and a nephew of Francis Hughes (also Francis) laid the wreath on behalf of the family who were all in attendance. Tommy Toner laid the wreath on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin.

Cllr. McGonigle then called on veteran Republican Seán Keenan of Derry city to give the oration, in which he spoke

of the unconquerable spirit of Francis Hughes that was and is an inspiration to his fellow Irishmen and women who are day and daily confronted with the British Forces of Occupation.

CAMLOCH

On Friday, May 20 Beama Uladh Republican Sinn Féin held a wreath-laying ceremony at the grave of Vol. Raymond McCreesh in Carrickcruppin Graveyard, Camloch. He

lies with his comrades Vols. Art McAlinden, Brendan Quinn and Peter Doran in the Republican Plot there. A decade of the Rosary was said and a wreath was laid on the grave by a local cumann member. The speaker called on all those present to remember with pride the achievements of the Volunteers who lay buried in the Republican Plot. After a minute's silence in memory of them the ceremony concluded.

TIPP MEETINGS

ON THE weekend of May 21-22 Ruairí O Brádaigh, Uachtarán Shinn Féin Poblachtach, addressed after-Mass meetings in Borrisoleigh, Boher and Ballina, Co. Tipperary.

Pádraig Mac Suibhne, Tír Conaill, spoke at Newport, Ballinahinch and Temple-derry also in Tipperary. Leaflets *"In Answer to Church and State and in*

Defence of Irish Republicanism" were distributed at all meetings and SAOIRSE was sold.

Both speakers made particular reference to the Rod Licence dispute and the firing of shots by the Free State army at Portlaoise Prison in furtherance of political extradition.

Local sources reported the meetings as being highly successful with encouraging local support.

CLARE TRAGEDY

THE 26-county State continued raiding the homes of Republican Sinn Féin members during the month of May. Following the Post Office raid in Caher, Co. Clare on Friday, May 6 last the Treasurer and PRO of Clare Comhairle Ceantair, Republican Sinn Féin, were arrested and held for over 24 hours before being released. The Chairman of the Comhairle Ceantair had his house raided.

Clare Comhairle Ceantair, in a statement said that it views the taking and use of a car belonging to their Treasurer (a well-known Republican) in the affair as a

deliberate attempt to shift responsibility for the Caher Post Office raid onto Republican Sinn Féin members.

The statement also expressed sympathy with the widow and children of Hugh Hehir of Clarecastle, shot dead by the 26-county Special Branch at Caher.

There were also reports of intensive surveillance in North Leitrim, with the use of helicopters to spy on Republican houses in the area. In Dublin the home of John O'Connor, National Treasurer, and other members of Republican Sinn Féin, were raided during the last week of May.

MISCHIEF AFOOT

AN ARTICLE in AP/RN (May 19) by Danny Morrison contained a claim that a *Today Tonight* journalist admitted to him that his source for some questions was Republican Sinn Féin.

We are in receipt of a letter from Brendan O'Brien, the journalist involved, which denies that he admitted any such thing or revealed any of his sources to Mr. Morrison. The letter states:

"Seeing as you wrongly linked alleged statements of mine to alleged Republican Sinn Féin sources I

part of your statement: you said 'the journalist involved admitted that his sources are not a million miles away from those people who left Sinn Féin in 1986'. This a completely false statement. I did not indicate any such thing. Nor did I reveal any of my own copying this letter to Ruairí O Bradaigh."

Brendan O'Brien
Journalist: Today Tonight
31 May, 1988

"With regard to another

PRIVATE BIN SERVICE

WHILE Dublin bin-men are confined to a 40-hour week having had all overtime stopped because of 'cut backs' residents of Greenhills Estate in Walkinstown paid £2 per house to have domestic refuse removed by a private company.

On the morning of Saturday, May 28 a 'Clearway' bin lorry went about its very profitable work collecting bins.

No doubt many of those who paid the two quid to have their bins emptied 'privately' are members of Trade Unions who perhaps up to now enjoy a bit of overtime for the little extras.

JOBS TO BE SACRIFICED?

Dublin County Council and Corporation have not only cut out overtime but would dearly love to hand over refuse collection to a private company and make their workers redundant and still insist on service charges. The powers that be now have the evidence of Greenhills Estate that not only will they pay £30 a year service charge, but are also willing to pay four times that for bin collection and sacrifice the jobs of lower-paid workers.

This is playing into the hands of the Dublin government's attack on the weakest sections of society in the interests of the privileged few. Fight the cut backs!

Siopa na Poblachta

Amongst books available at our bookshop at 21, Shaw Street are

- The McGarrity Papers - ed. by Seán Cronin (£4.95)
- The Connolly Column - Michael O'Riordan (£7.00)
- Kevin Barry - Seán Cronin (£1.30)
- The Tale of a Great Sham - Anna Parnell (£9.90)
- The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists - Robert Tressell (£4.40)
- Labour in Irish History - James Connolly (£1.35)
- The Re-Conquest of Ireland - James Connolly (80p)
- Labour, Nationality and Religion - James Connolly (50p)
- Socialism Made Easy - James Connolly (50p)

Available by post; cash with orders, postage extra. A wide range of books, pamphlets, tapes, posters, badges including James Connolly badges at £1.20 each, available. Opening hours: 11am to 6pm

BREIZH ATAO! (a Breton visit)

Le Ruairí O Brádaigh



THE FIRST STOP was at Roazhon/Rennes (250,000 population) where I was met by the Director of International Relations of the Breton Nationalist movement EM-GANN. At the University, Eamonn O Ciosáin as Baile Atha Cliath who is lecturing in Irish introduced us to some of his students in the Celtic Department.

One of the many discussions, which were a feature of the tour, followed on Celtic cultural matters and particularly on Iwerzhon Iag Breizh (Ireland and Brittany). A man who had been in a French prison as an FLB activist until the amnesty by Mitterand in 1981 compared with me the repressive systems of the British and French, with the added factor of the 26-county neo-colonial regime in the case of Ireland.

EMGANN REPRESENTATIVE

Later Eamonn acted as an Irish-Breton language interpreter as I interviewed the EMGANN member in depth regarding his movement. It was founded in December 1982 by former political prisoners, people who had worked for their amnesty and Breton nationalists generally.

Its programme is one of independence for Brittany, cultural regeneration, a socialist system with maximum decentralisation socially and economically as well as politically, and neutrality and non-alignment in international affairs. It was all very reminiscent of Sinn Féin's programme in the 1970s.

A remarkable feature of the two-hour-



long interview was that not one word of French or English was spoken. Later I regretted that the exclusively Gaeilge/Brezhoneg conversation was not recorded as a remarkable example of inter-Celtic co-operation.

Next I was entertained to lunch by Prof. Pere Denez, President of the Cultural Council of Brittany and Head of the Celtic Department in the University. He knew very well who I was and showed a great grasp of Irish affairs. We discussed recent events in the Irish struggle and he asked for details of the Birmingham Six case as he wished to write an article about them.

During the day I was brought on a tour of the city which included the bookshop and secretariat of SKOL AN EMSAV, the Breton language body, at 8 Straed Hoche (memories of Wolfe Tone in Bantry Bay in 1796 on General Hoche's expedition).

The secretary here, Lena Louarn, could

not have been more helpful and gave me presents of children's books in Breton, posters, postcards, badges and other examples of their publicity material.

We also visited Breton language bookshops which promised to stock a small number of SAOIRSE each month. Finally, we made a call to the headquarters of DASTUM, the organisation for Breton music which is the equivalent of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. Everywhere, it was only necessary to say I was from Ireland and a great welcome ensued.

In the late afternoon I arrived in Brest where I was welcomed by a representative of the local Solidarité Irlandaise committee. That evening we had a most interesting discussion on Irish and particularly Breton cultural matters with a Breton expatriate, an American multi-linguist (!) living in Brittany and a Breton teacher who had lectured in University College Galway for two years and spoke perfect Irish.

Left: Street in Karaez, Brittany, named after Bobby Sands. Above: Badge of Skoazell Vreizh, the Prisoners' Dependents organisation for Breton Political Prisoners.

FRENCH NEGLECT AND REPRESSION

It was generally agreed that the Breton nation was in danger because of the French policy of neglect and often of repression. It was felt too that having regard to the Irish situation, a neo-colonial partitioned statelet was no magic solution. (The French state excludes the industrialised *departement* Loire-Atlantique from their Region Bretagne.)

Later that night I was taken on a tour of pubs like Bar Triskell and La Mouette at the harbour (shades of Wolfe Tone's two expeditions to Ireland from here) where I met some Irish and an English friend. Animated discussions took place in four languages, as the company often broke up into small groups, and Irish, Breton, English and French were heard.

Next day I was taken to see Brest (150,000-200,000 population) city councillor Guennegiant of FRANKIZ BREIZH who again discussed our relative situations with me. His organisation had split from the UDB (Union Democratique Bretonne) and he is one of 12 councillors out of 60 who left. They formed FB because they felt the UDB had become less Breton and more caught up in the system, especially through its electoral arrangement with the French Socialist Party. (UDB relates to the Workers' Party in Ireland.)

PART TWO: JULY

From the Rosses to Knocknadruce -NEIL PLUNKETT O'BOYLE

IN BRILLIANT sunshine on Sunday, May 15 last Republicans from Wicklow and Dublin gathered at Knocknadruce, Vallemount, Co. Wicklow to commemorate Vol. Neil Plunkett O'Boyle from the Rosses, Co. Donegal who was shot dead there by the Free State while surrendering on May 15, 1923.

The ceremony took place at the memorial plaque outside Nolan's farmhouse in Knocknadruce, which marks the spot where Neil Plunkett O'Boyle was killed. The dead patriot is buried in Kincasslagh, Co. Donegal.

Matt Conway, Kilcullen, introduced Pádraig O Baoighill, a fellow Rossesman, to give the oration, during which he gave a fine account of the life and struggle of O'Boyle and his comrades:

"I am also privileged to have with me here today another brave comrade of O'Boyle's - the only member of the Plunkett Column I believe is alive today - Myles Reilly of Hollywood. He was only in his teens when he joined the column and his brother Thomas of the 3rd Batt., Dublin Brigade

made the same supreme sacrifice as Plunkett did in the fight for freedom at Timahoe on July 11th, 1922.

Neil Plunkett O'Boyle was born in Leac Eineach near Burtonport in the Rosses in Donegal in 1898 - a member of a family of three boys and four girls. He went to the local school and worked with his father on the small farm by the sea. Times were tough in the Rosses in the early twenties and after his father's death in 1916 Plunkett went to work for the Derry and

Lough Swilly railways. He read Irish history carefully and took a special interest in the 1916 leaders. He became a dedicated supporter of Sinn Féin and came under the attention of the police.

In 1918 like many other young lads from the Rosses, he emigrated to Scotland and got work in New Mains Colliery in Glasgow. He became involved with the Republican Movement and was attached to B. Comp., 2nd Batt., Scottish Brigade of the IRA.

With other Rosses men, he brought many consignments of arms across the Irish sea, but was caught and sentenced to 5 years imprisonment in Peterhead in Scotland in 1920. There he was held in solitary confinement and suffered the same degradation as Category A prisoners suffer in England today. After serving 14 months of his sentence he was released from Peterhead in February 1922 as a result of the Treaty Am-

nesty and immediately he rejoined the Republican Movement.

At home in Burtonport he was Vice-Commandant of the Burtport Battalion during the Tan war and took part in many daring engagements with the British, in the Rosses, Dungloe, Glenties, Falcarragh and throughout the country - along with Peadar O'Donnell the writer, and his brothers who were neighbours of Plunkett, Seán Lehane, Séamus Mac Gréanna, Séamus McCann, Charlie Daly and many others. They took over Glenveigh Castle and used it as headquarters for the Volunteers.

He was arrested in Crolly in the Rosses in 1922, taken to Dungloe, Finner Camp, Drumboe and on the 'hardy Wicklow' ship from Buncrana to Dublin from where he was transferred to Newbridge internment camp. During this period of detention he made four attempts to

escape and eventually succeeded through a very long sewer tunnel with 160 other prisoners from R. Block Newbridge Prison in October 1922.

His spirit was irresistible and he was back on active service again with the 3rd Batt., Dublin Brigade, operating fearlessly in desperate weather conditions during the winter of 1922 through the mountainous area from Tallaght to Glenmalur.

Myles Reilly was in most of the engagements with Neil Plunkett O'Boyle when Plunkett was OC of the Plunkett Column in Co. Wicklow. With other Wicklow men such as Paddy Farrell, Paddy Reilly, Tom Shannon and men from Mayo, Tipperary, Kildare, Leitrim, Dublin and Donegal, they engaged the enemy from Kylebeg to Hempstown to Blessington to Dunlavin to Vallemount to Tallaght. Dan Magee from a neighbouring parish to Plunkett at home was a prominent

member of the column and only died in America a few years ago.

After the Truce, Joe Sweeney who was head of the Volunteers in Donegal but later became an officer of high rank in the Free State Army told Plunkett that the Treaty was "a stepping stone to freedom". Plunkett told him that there was no short cuts to Irish freedom and that he was going to fight on - which he did to the very end.

It was after the ceasefire in 1923 that Plunkett and the column stayed here in Nortons (now Nolans). Mrs. Nolan lived near hand and often gave food to the column. Myles O'Reilly was in detention in Blessington when the Staters attacked Knocknadruce.

Plunkett wanted the mother, daughter and workman to be let out of the house but the state forces wouldn't hear of it. They riddled the house with bullets and the holes are yet to be seen. Plunkett didn't want the family to be injured and he went out to surrender in order to save them.

He was shot through the eye by the Free State officer although his hands were up and then shot through the head in similar

FREE STATERS — IRISH TRAITORS

PART FOUR

Le Gearóid Mac Carthaigh

WHEN THE first prisoners arrived in Arbour Hill it was obvious that they were going to have a rough time. They were locked into solitary confinement. They were frequently assaulted and beaten by military police, a number of them were driven insane and had to be released to mental hospitals. Finally, on September 13, 1936, Seán Glynn, a young man from Limerick city who had been arrested in the lorry trying to get to Bodenstown in 1936 was found hanged in his locked cell one morning. The Fianna Fáil Staters had committed their first murder, unfortunately not their last.

The verdict at the Inquest held on Seán Glynn was 'suicide' but the evidence presented at the Inquest had been that his body had been found in a sitting position with a towel tied around his head. Who ever heard of a person being able to hang himself sitting down? There was such a public outcry at Seán Glynn's death the conditions improved slightly for the remaining prisoners.

In 1937 the new Free Stater Constitution was introduced and Douglas Hyde was appointed first President of the Free State. An amnesty was declared and all Republican prisoners were released from jail but do not be fooled by

this — it was only a calm before the storm as much worse was to come.

INTERNMENT

In September 1939 Fianna Fáil introduced Internment. At this stage the Internees were held in Arbour Hill Military Prison.

Charlie MacCarthy of Cork city went on Hunger Strike the night he was arrested, demanding unconditional release. He got his demands after 28 days and was released. Immediately he had been released three more Corkmen went on Hunger Strike with the same demand, they were Dick MacCarthy (Charlie's brother), Jack Lynch and Ger Crowley. These were released after 33 days on Hunger Strike.

Within a very short time of the release of the last of the Hunger Strikers a case was brought before the Dublin High Court by Seán MacBride. It was in the name of Redmond Burke of Mayo who claimed that his brother Séamas was unlawfully held in Arbour Hill, since the section of the Offences Against the State Act under which he was held, only allowed for the internment of Aliens, it did not cover citizens of the Free State. The case was won and Séamus Burke was released at once. The following day all the rest of the men were released.

The Free State government at once passed the 1st Amendment to the Offences Against the State Act, which gave them legal power to intern Irish citizens. Internment was to com-



Above: Tony Darcy on his death-bed. Right: Seán McNeela.

mence again in January 1940. Billy Mulligan from Mullingar being the first to be interned, this time in 'The Glasshouse' (the Curragh Military Prison).

On Christmas Eve, 1939 a number of men who had been arrested in the Phoenix Park, Dublin were imprisoned in Mountjoy awaiting trial.

Early in January 1940, Tomás Mac Curtáin, was arrested in Cork and a Brody Harrier was shot dead during the arrest. A number of other prominent Republicans were arrested in Cork the same night including Dick MacCarthy who had been released after the Hunger Strike less than a month previously. While they were being held in Mountjoy awaiting trial a riot broke out. The Free State police were called in to the prison to put down the riot and one of them gave Dick MacCarthy a kick in the back, as a result of the injuries he received he developed TB of the spine which caused his

death in Cork in June 1946. A Republican to the last!

On April 16, 1940 Tony Darcy of Headford, Co. Galway died on Hunger Strike in Mountjoy and the following day, April 17, Jack McNeela of Ballycroy, Co. Mayo died also on Hunger Strike. They had been 56 days on Hunger Strike. Also on this Hunger Strike with them were the following men: Tomás Mac Curtáin, Cork, Jack Plunkett, Dublin, he was a brother of Joseph Plunkett, the signatory of the Proclamation of 1916 who was executed after the Rising, and Michael Traynor, Belfast. The last two named have died since. Many men in the previous months had been interned in the Glasshouse. I was to be arrested and join them on April 25.

MILITARY TRIBUNAL

Tomás Mac Curtáin when he had recovered from the Hunger Strike was brought



before the Military Tribunal and charged with murder. Found guilty he was sentenced to be hanged. This sentence was later commuted to Life Imprisonment. He was taken to Portlaoise Prison where an attempt was made to criminalise him. His clothes were taken from him but he refused to wear the convict clothing and so became another 'Blanket Man', held in solitary confinement, deprived of visits, letters and freedom to attend Mass on Sundays or Church Holidays.

As the 40s went on many more men were to join him in similar condi-

tions over the next few years. I will deal further with this later.

In mid-May 1940 the Glasshouse was full and all the Internees there were removed to the smaller of the Internment Camps which had been built on the site of one of the Tintown Camps of 1922 fame. The larger of the two camps was already being built next to it.

MASSIVE SWOOP

On June 3, 1940, Free State Army and police raided all over the 26 Counties, they had checked their files for the past 20 years and any man who had been active at any period of that time and was still alive and living in Ireland was interned. As the small camp in the Curragh could not hold them all some of them were brought to Cork. First they were held in the Collins Barracks Detention Centre but after a short time the local Cork jail which had been closed for many years was re-opened and they were transferred there.

At this time of course any Republican who was serving a sentence as soon as it was ended he was re-arrested at the jail gate the day of his release and interned. Several men who had served long sentences in English jails were arrested as soon as they landed in Ireland after their release and interned.

Many women and girls were also interned in the Women's wing of Mountjoy, Dublin.

(to be continued)

fashion to Gibraltar in 1988. The sound people of Wicklow stood steadfastly by him. Mass was said for him in Kildubney by Fr. Doherty. Mrs Lambert from Lacken where the column often stayed accompanied the funeral to the Rosses where there was a turbulent intervention by Free State forces, some who were his comrades in the Tan war.

MICHAEL DWYER

There is indeed a great familiarity between Plunkett's fight for Irish freedom and that of Michael Dwyer in 1798. Writing to his mother shortly before his death he said "I am now in Michael Dwyer's country and I will fight to the end". Dwyer was in the same position as Plunkett was in Knocknadruff when in Demanuck in Connell's house he asked the English officer to allow the family to go. His wish was granted but not

so in Knocknadruff.

In Dwyer's gallant campaign a Belfastman took a different role to his fellow citizen in Knocknadruff. Samuel McAllister stood steadfastly with Dwyer to the end. Now nearly 200 years later the people of Belfast carry a heavy load of fighting the British on Irish soil in the longest war ever waged against British Imperialism in this country.

All over the North this was a nightly resistance from 1969, led by a beleaguered people who were crushed for years by injustice, brutalisation and sectarian terrorism by the forces of the Crown in the North. And after such a long occupation we find the English attitude to Ireland in a worsening situation as was shown by the murder of three Irish citizens in Gibraltar although they were surrendering as Neil Plunkett O'Boyle was in 1923.

The words of the song Plunkett of the Hills shows the evil of the Treaty which caused the Civil War and gave England the opportunity to divide and conquer.

*"You did your best out in the west
To save our leader true.
But while Irish sons wore
British guns,
There was nothing you
could do".*

It is indeed regrettable that the words of that song 65 years ago are true to this day. Unfortunately present day politicians are collaborating with Britain to extradite Irishmen and women to the torture centres of Castlereagh, Gough Barracks and other cruel detention centres in the North. To the forces that shot dead Aidan McAneupie on his way to a Gaelic football match on Sunday, February 21 last — to the forces who have wrecked Crossmaglen Gaelic football field and continue to harass its mem-

bers. Have they not learned the bitter lessons of history?

No Dublin government should extradite any Republican to the forces of the Crown. Can all Republicans now stand together in a united front to break the connection with England for which there are no short cuts or treaties and create a free sovereign republic — the republic for which Neil Plunkett O'Boyle gave his young life in the Wicklow Hills? The Ireland free and Gaelic which our dead volunteers from the days of Michael Dwyer down through every decade to the long list of our comrades who have made the supreme sacrifice since 1969 — is of vital importance to all the Irish people North and South.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha uasal agus a n-fírib do-sháraithe go dtícofaidh saoire buan agus deiréadh go deo le róimeas damanta na Sasanaigh in Éirinn".



● Myles Reilly, Hollywood, the only surviving member of the Plunkett Column places a wreath on May 15 last at the farmyard wall where Neil Plunkett O'Boyle was shot down. The NGA erected the memorial plaque which marks the spot. Neil Plunkett O'Boyle is buried in Knocknashlagh Co Donegal.

LÉIRMHEAS

OVERWORKED, UNDERVALUED

"IN every country of the world there are meals to prepare, clothes and dishes to wash, children to care for. The difference is that in the Third World housework is combined with the subsistence agricultural work everyone does for survival - and is valued just as highly whereas in the industrialised countries, housework is separated from work done for economic survival and has become isolated, demeaning and undervalued as a result".

Such was the topic in the March edition of the New Internationalist magazine entitled *Life Sentence - The Politics of Housework*. Some of the facts revealed appeared shocking initially.

- Women in Pakistan spend on average 63 hours a week on domestic work.
- Carrying water in Tanzania takes four hours of a woman's time and consumes between 12 per cent and 27 per cent of her day's calories.
- Grinding grain, by hand, for a family in Mexico takes between 4 and 6 hours a day.
- In India grinding grain takes 1-3 hours a day even when a mill is available.
- In Indonesia women spend over three hours a day just preparing food.
- Housewives in Australia do between 50 and 80 hours of housework a week.
- One survey in the USA put the figure even higher, at 99.6 hours a week.
- In a Rwanda village, women do three times as much work as men. This is because women do virtually all the domestic work, three-quarters of the work in the fields and half of the work with the animals. Meanwhile the men tend to the banana trees and do most of the work outside the home.
- Women with small children in Ireland devote over 50 hours a week to child-care.

Evidently there is a need for change, a need to balance the workload

between men and women. But how can change come about? Many writers in the New Internationalist feel it is the duty of men to change in both attitude and practice. Until they decide to share the work load at home and in workplaces outside the home or to give better returns for the work performed, exploitation will continue.

The cleaning women of Alicante, Spain, are an example of how this exploitation can be successfully challenged. They took the country by storm when they laid down their tools and refused to work until their employers' were prepared to listen to them. It was not long until waste-bins in public toilets overflowed and litter-bins became invisible under the avalanche of cokecans and newspapers.

The government tried to intervene by ordering the army to clean up but the cleaners did not stand for this. They filled their shopping bags with rubbish and decorated the streets with the contents.

In the early hours of the fourth day their employers signed the papers agreeing to the women's demands:

14 per cent higher wages, job security and the right to the status of full-time workers. Such basic human rights did not exist before their strike.

Those forced to leave their own countries because they are unable to find suitable employment

to support their families or themselves are particularly vulnerable to the exploitation by employers of 'illegal aliens'.

Foreign domestics are separated from their families and friends. They are uncertain, insecure and often ignorant of their rights thus becoming easy prey to the abuse of their employers and the bureaucrats in the Immigration Department.

Women employed as au pairs, nannies, child-minders are often badly treated, overcrowded and underpaid because there is no protective legislation in existence for them.

Irish people are not at all unfamiliar with such a concept. Due to forced emigration, few families here can claim to be unaffected by this.

NEW SLAVE TRADE

Importing domestics has become a lucrative industry in Canada, America and Britain. It is a new variation of the slave-trade. In many cases conditions start off badly and get worse. The victims are helpless, they cannot terminate their employment, for fear of deportation. They cannot return home as it was to support their families at home that they left originally.

The only hope for them is groups like INTERCEDE, a Canadian based group campaigning for better conditions for the 100,000 or so foreign domestics working in Canada alone.

These concrete examples suffice to illustrate the need for changes in attitude and practice. The importance of this in Ireland and beyond is evident in New Internationalist's verdict: "Women's responsibility for housework is the major reason for inequality between the sexes".



TONY AHERN

CORK Republican Sinn Féin honoured Volunteer Tony Ahern on the 15th anniversary of his death, on May 10 1988.

Led by a lone piper from the Cork Volunteer Pipe Band and a member of Republican Sinn Féin bearing the National Flag the group of Republicans including colour parties from Cumann na mBan and Cumann na gCailíní marched into Carrigaline cemetery to the graveside of Tony Ahern.

At the graveside a short

ceremony was chaired by Donal Varian. A wreath was laid on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin and the Last Post was sounded. There followed a decade of the Rosary, recited by a member of Cumann na mBan.

In a fine oration, Gearóid Mac Carthaigh recounted the short but full life of Tony Ahern, and praised

ed his dedication and courage as a Volunteer. Tony Ahern left Cork and went north to play his part in the struggle to rid this country of the British and to re-unite the 32 counties of Ireland. On May 10, 1973 Tony made the ultimate sacrifice in the struggle. Let his sacrifice not be in vain.

Donal Varian then closed the ceremony, calling on the piper to play the National Anthem.



Cumann na gCailíní at the Tony Ahern Commemoration.

The proceeds of the evening were presented to the staff of 'Transition House' a refuge for homeless and battered women and child-

ren in Regina. The traditional May Day march organised by Regina Labour Council was well attended and took place

the following day (May 1). The march began at City Hall and ended on the steps of the Provincial legislature.

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MAY DAY

IRISH EXILES played a role in organising a very successful May Day social and march in Regina, Canada. Some two hundred people attended and were entertained with revolutionary and traditional music from Ireland and Central and South America.

During the evening a

statement was read out from Ruairí Ó Bradaigh, Republican Sinn Féin which was met with a tumultuous response from the audience. The statement included support for all aboriginal people of Canada, in particular the Lubicon Cree of Northern Alberta who are presently struggling against enormous odds to regain traditional lands.

BROMMELL, Sincere sympathy is extended to the Brommell and O Tuathagh families on the recent death of Aine Ní Bhróimhail (née Ní Thuathagh). Cúis mhór bhóirín dá cairde tionsmhara i Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Co. Luimnigh. Solas na bhFlaitheas dá hanam.

CARRAGHER, Deepest sympathy to the Carragher and Britton families of Camloch and Besbrook on the death of their aunt.

I gCUIMHNE

CROWLEY, Dermot - 15th Anniversary - In proud memory of Volunteer Dermot Crowley, Cork Command Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed on active service in County Fermanagh on June 25, 1973. Always remembered by Cork

From the Ard Chomhairle, Republican Sinn Féin. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

CURRY, Deepest sympathy is extended to Niall Fagan, Meath, on the death of his mother-in-law Mrs Frances Curry, from the Ard Chomhairle, Republican Sinn Féin. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

HENSON, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Tim Henson, London and formerly of Cork who died on May 22.

Comhairle Ceantair, Republican Sinn Féin.

AHERN, Tony - 15th Anniversary - In proud memory of Volunteer Tony Ahern, Cork Command Oglagh na hÉireann, who was killed in action at Roslea, Co. Fermanagh, on May 10, 1973. Always remembered by Cork Comhairle Ceantair, Republican Sinn Féin.

COMHBHRÓN

He was a staunch Republican. From the Ard Chomhairle, Republican Sinn Féin. Solas bhFlaitheas dá anam.

LAFFERTY, Deepest sympathy to Margaret Caffrey on the death of her sister Bridget Lafferty, Scotland who died recently. From the Patrick Cannon Cumann, Raheny, Dublin. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

LONERGAN, Deepest sympathy is extended to Tommy Lonergan, Newry on the death of his sister-in-law Cathleen, wife of Emmet. From the Ard Chomhairle, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

McALARY, Deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs.

Sadie Collins, Dundalk on the death of her brother Patrick Joseph McAlary. From the Ard Chomhairle, Sinn Féin Poblachtach. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a anam.

McALARY, Deepest sympathy to Mrs. Sadie Collins, Coxes Demesne, Dundalk on the death of her brother Patrick Joseph McAlary. From the Raymond McCreesh Cumann, Ravensdale and Omearth. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a anam.

McALARY, A vote of sympathy was passed at a meeting of the William Stewart Cumann, Dundalk with Mrs. Sadie Collins, Coxes Demesne on the death of her brother Patrick Joseph

McAlary, Kirley, Maghera, Co. Derry. Ar dheis lamh Dé go raibh a anam.

MacMAHON, Deepest sympathy is extended to Deirdre MacMahon, Spanish Point, Milltown-Malbay, Co. Clare, on the recent death of her mother, Mrs Frankie MacMahon, late widow of Paddy Joe. From the Ard Chomhairle, Republican Sinn Féin. Solas na bhFlaitheas dá hanam.

O DALAIGH, Gabhann Sinn Féin Poblachtach comhbhrón ó chroife Eilís Bean Uí Dálaigh, a seachtar iníon agus beirt mhac ar bhás a fear chéile agus athair Liam O Dálaigh. Ardán Ghriofa, Baile Atha Luain, Co. na h-Iar-Mhí. Go raibh suaimhneas síorraf dá anam.

O'BRIEN, Deepest sympathy is extended to Cath-

leen Knowles on the death of her cousin, Tom O'Brien, Dun Laoghaire. From the Ard Chomhairle, Republican Sinn Féin. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a anam.

STAGG, Deepest sympathy is extended to George and Mary Stagg on the death of her mother. From the Ard Chomhairle, Republican Sinn Féin.

WALSH, Cork Republican Sinn Féin extends deepest sympathy to Paddy Walsh and his family on the death in England of his sister. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

WARD, Sincere sympathy to Pearse Ward on the recent death of his sister. From the Ard Chomhairle, Republican Sinn Féin. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

MICHAEL 'GYKES' MORAN

REPUBLICANS in Kerry were sad to hear of the death of Michael 'Gykes' Moran on Wednesday, May 25 last at his residence in Strand Street, Tralee after an illness bravely borne. 'Gykes' as he was known to one and all was a member of one of Tralee's oldest and most loved families.

Growing up Gykes formed a lasting friendship with the late Charlie Kerins who was hanged in Mountjoy by the Free State on December 1, 1944.

He was a devoted member of the Republican Movement and was always active in maintaining the Kerins memorial in memory of his comrade. He was a man of the highest principles and was well respected by all who knew him. This was evident by the huge crowd who turned out on Wednesday evening for the removal of his remains. As the cortege left Hogan's funeral home led by a lone piper the coffin was draped with the Tricolour and the Ker-

ins-O'Reilly football jersey. A guard of honour was provided by Republican Sinn Féin and by old comrades from the Kerins-O'Reilly Gaelic football club.

Gykes was laid to rest on Thursday morning after 10am Mass. The cortege was escorted from the church by a Republican Sinn Féin guard of honour and by his comrades from Strand Street. When the cortege arrived at Rath Cemetery the coffin was shouldered from the gate by members of Republican Sinn Féin and by his comrades from the football club. The town of Tralee is all the poorer for his passing.

Michael was a man of the highest principles, a staunch Republican all his life and he always stood by the principles of the Republican Movement on the many occasions when former comrades failed to do so, as he did again in 1986. He had seen at first-hand what the Free State could and did do. He had seen his friend Charlie Kerins hanged for his Republican beliefs. Michael would have nothing to do with the Free State - he lived his life as a Republican and died as a Republican. He will never be forgotten by his many friends.

Kerry Comhairle Ceantair of Republican Sinn Féin extends its deepest sympathy to Michael's brothers Jacko, Paddy, Denis, Bernie and Tommy. Also to his sisters Betty, Breda O'Sullivan and Mary O'Connor and to all his relations. Go raibh suaimhneas síorraf dá anam usall.

BRIDGET FALVEY

THE CLOSE friends and comrades of Tom Falvey, North Kerry IRA veteran, were saddened by the death of his sister, Bridget Falvey, in Ireland last March. The well known Falvey family were weaned and nurtured in the Fenian tradition of their native county, and in the land wars waged by the Moonlighters against landlordism.

The family name is a household word amongst Kerry Republicans and will always be highly respected in the annals of Irish Republicanism. The Falvey brothers served long terms of imprisonment in the 30s and 40s under the successive Free State administrations, and their father, Johnny Falvey, served under the late Paddy O'Mahony in the

Lixnaw Battalion of Kerry No. 1 Brigade IRA.

Tom Falvey will be remembered when he stood trial with the distinguished and respected Michael Flannery defiantly facing their accusers. Bridget lived for over 20 years in America, where her home was always open to the comrades of her brothers, including the late Eoin McNamee of Tyrone, Liam

Cotter of Tralee and John Joe Martin of Leitrim, whom she has now gone to join in the great beyond.

The Republicans of her native county, those who have remained true to the legacy of 1916, of the Ballyseedy martyrs, of Airplane Lyons, of Charlie Kerins, Maurice O'Neill and Liam Cotter, accorded her a traditional Republican funeral which she had earned through the course of her life. May the green sod of her beloved Ireland rest lightly over her and may her faithful spirit rest in eternal peace.

Mass of Remembrance was offered on Sunday, March 27 last in Lazarus House, 606 E. 9th Street, Manhattan, by Fr. Patrick Maloney at the request of her friends and of Tom Falveys.

George Harrison, New York

SEAN MacDIARMADA

A LARGE CROWD of Republicans from Counties Donegal, Sligo, Tyrone, Fermanagh, Longford and Leitrim formed up at Straduffly Cross, Co. Leitrim on Sunday afternoon May 8 for the Annual Seán MacDiarmada Commemoration.

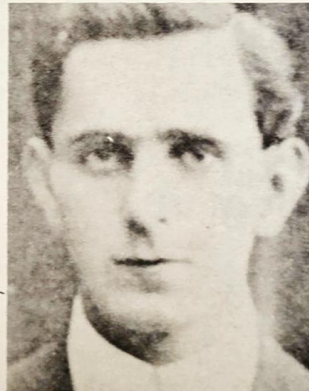
Led by a colour party and a lone piper the parade marched to the MacDiarmada memorial in Kiltyclogher village. Cllr. Joe O'Neill of Bundoran was the Chief Marshal and Michael MacManus, Fermanagh, presided. Declan Curmeen, Glenties read the 1916 Proclamation and Bamey McCabe, Rossinver, read the Easter statement.

Wreaths were laid at the monument which stands in the centre of the village. Pride of place at the commemoration was held by two nieces of Seán MacDiarmada: Mrs. Katie B. Kearney, Kiltyclogher and Mrs. Mary Fallon, Belfast, who were given a great reception by the crowd.

Ruairí Ó Brádaigh gave the oration and stated:

"The poets Dr. Pádraig De Brún, Séamus O'Sullivan, Teresa Brayton and Alice Milligan have sung the praises of Seán MacDiarmada.

"The historians have assessed his worth. Rev. Professor F.X. Martin said 'that MacDiarmada was the main spring' while Dr. Kevin B. Knowlan had stated that he had made 'a remarkable individual contribution to the moulding of the IRB as an instrument of active revolution'.



INFLEXIBLE DETERMINATION
"Nowadays when talks are taking place to strangle Seán MacDiarmada's Republic and erect a Six-county Free State it is well to quote Fr. Charles Travers's words about him: 'his contemporaries bring out his almost fixed idea of secrecy, his charm and his power over men, his skilful moulding of men and movements, his unremitting backroom work, his inflexible determination to bring about a Rising which made him the mastermind of the Irish Revolution'."

Ó Brádaigh concluded: "there is a great need today for people of the mould of Seán MacDiarmada"

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APPEAL

A. CHARA

In keeping with our objectives to financially support the families and dependents of Irish political prisoners, we, Cumann Na Saoirse are launching a nationwide appeal on their behalf.

In keeping with this undertaking, we are appealing to supporters to pledge a monthly or annual contribution to this worthy cause.

Please complete the attached form and return with your contribution to the address shown above. Please make your check or money order payable to: Cumann Na Saoirse

Signed

Peter Farley
National Chairman

"I ask all my friends to support Cumann Na Saoirse in their efforts on behalf of the Irish political prisoners and their dependents."

Signed

Michael Flannery *Michael Flannery*

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MONEY FOR PRISONS!

DESPITE the cut-backs in health and education, the present Fianna Fáil administration have managed to find the £36 million needed to build the Wheatfield Prison in Clondalkin, in Dublin. The original plans for the prison were for 150 places for male juveniles and 60 places for women, with site work commencing in 1980, and sketch plans being agreed on the following year.

However, for reasons not made public, these sketch plans were soon dropped and new designs were drawn up. Actual construction work on the male juvenile detention centre began in 1984, with the women's section being 'offered out to tender' again having being redesigned - the firms employed in building work on the project were constantly

changed, due to 'security reasons'.

BOASTS

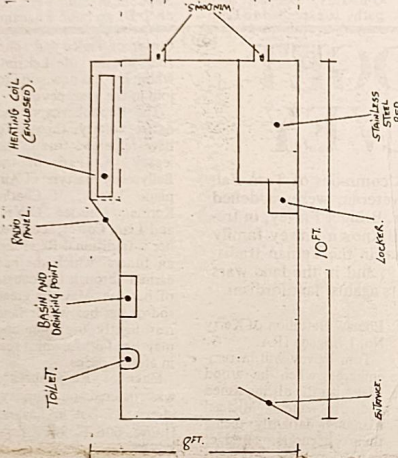
The prison was then set to open in April 1988 with 'accommodation' for 320 young male offenders. The Free State Department of Justice have boasted that the prison, which takes up almost 13 acres, will be - "the most modern detention centre in the State" and, indeed, the recreation centre in the prison (which includes snooker tables) is said to be without comparison to any other State prison.

In February last year the Prison Officers Association stated that the prison will mean an extra 250 - 300 jobs in the prison service and, on May 23 last, the President of the POA, Patrick Kavanagh, called for Wheatfield to open immediately to house "AIDS infected and other ill offenders" and the following day the Free State Justice Minister, Gerry Collins, said that the prison may be used to house 500 AIDS-infected prisoners.

Incidentally, Mr. Kavanagh has stated that the prison will cost £39 million as compared with the Free State government's claim of £36 million - but sure what's a million or three when its spent in 'a good cause'. And we'll lock up the first person to suggest that hospitals have closed for want of less than three million pounds!



● Perimeter Wall of Wheatfield Prison, Clondalkin.



● Plan of one of the 160 cells.

SDLP SMEAR IN US

JOHN HUME has been spreading black propaganda again in the USA, this time using a politician there to spread a lie that Republicans have fire-bombed his home on a number of occasions.

On a nationwide US TV political talk show 'John

McLoughlin's One on One' on Sunday May 15 last the presenter interviewed the speaker of the US House of Representatives, Mr. Jim Wright, (a Democrat from Texas).

Speaker Wright told of how he had a telephone conversation with John Hume on May 5, 1988 during which the SDLP leader made the allegations about "firebombs on his doorstep". Needless to say this is the first that anyone in Ireland or elsewhere heard of these attacks!

A spokesman for the Irish National Caucus in Washington DC, who monitored the story, commented: "It makes one wonder what other sort of things Mr. Hume over the years has been telling US leaders. It raises a serious question as to the credibility of the information that Mr. Hume feeds to US politicians."

Mr. Hume, of course, relies on these smear-stories not being reported on in Ireland where it would tarnish his media image of being 'whiter than white'. He can rely on a large measure of complicity in this from the myth-makers themselves - the Dublin press and media establishment.



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US INDIAN LEADER PLACED IN ISOLATION

UNEXPECTEDLY and for unexplained reasons, American Indian Movement (AIM) leader Leonard Peltier has been placed in isolation in Leavenworth Penitentiary in Kansas, USA. Because of past threats against his life by US government officials, a matter of documented public record, the eyes of the world are now on the administration at Leavenworth.

Peltier, an Anishnabe/Lakota warrior, is serving two consecutive life terms. He was convicted of killing two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota in June 1975 although an FBI ballistics test showed that the bullets which killed the agents were not fired from Peltier's weapon.

The determination of the US government to keep Peltier behind bars is such that last October the Supreme Court refused to even consider his petition for a new trial... 'I've said from the beginning that my freedom will come from the people, not from the courts', Peltier said.

Native leaders across North America have repeatedly

stated that the unjust imprisonment of Leonard Peltier is part of a co-ordinated US government attack on the native struggle on the American continent. A worldwide grassroots support network has organised meetings, demonstrations, speaking tours, concerts and other events to keep Peltier's case before the people.

On May 7 last there was a conference on Peltier's case. The speakers included Ellen Moves Camp, Lakota elder and veteran of Wounded Knee 1973, Nilak Butler, an Inuit woman who was an eye-witness to the government shoot-out at Pine Ridge, a long-time AIM activist and organiser for the Leonard Peltier Defence Committee, local activist Billy Tayac, Chief of the Piscataway Nation and respected AIM spokesperson, and Karen Koassechony, of the Comanche Nation and staff organiser for the International office of the LPDC.

For further information on Leonard Peltier please contact the Leonard Peltier Defence Committee, PO Box 6455, Kansas City, Kansas 66106, USA.

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