

SAOIRSE

IRISH FREEDOM



UIMH. 50 MEITHEAMH - JUNE 1991

30p (USA \$24 per year)

ISSN
0791 - 0002

Bulk Rate
US Postage
PAID
Hummel
Dist. Corp.

Return Address
SAOIRSE
Box 1053
South Orange
N.J. 07079

BRITAIN'S MURDER
CAMPAIGN -
THE SAS IN IRELAND
page 8

Vote REPUBLICAN SINN FÉIN

A Force

For Change



• Tallaght/Old Bawn candidate Peter Cunningham (right) hands in his nomination papers to Dublin County Council with Seosamhín Uí hEidheáin, election agent and Séamas Leonard, Director of Elections.

The local elections in the 26 Counties on June 27 present an opportunity for the hard-pressed citizens of that part of a divided Ireland to return candidates who:

1. have proposals for a new and better Ireland and;
2. will work to change the existing charade that passes for local government.

Sinn Féin Poblachtach is putting forward a high-calibre team of candidates who represent a radical alternative to the present system. They are contesting with proposals - EIRE NUA - to restore real power to District Councils over job creation, health, social welfare, agriculture, education and housing (see 26-county Manifesto, pages 4-5).

All the Republican Sinn Féin candidates are committed to local politics and will NOT be using the election as a springboard for Leinster House, in contrast to the other parties.

The present scandal of double-jobbing TDs, mainly but not exclusively from the big parties, who are also local councillors, has contributed to the neglect of local government by those who regard local office as a stepping-stone to a seat in Kildare Street.

The real problem however is the jealous control of power by the administration

in Dublin. Dr Tom Barrington, an advocate of local democracy for many years, stated on May 27 that the 26-county state is second only to the former dictatorships of Greece, Portugal and Turkey in terms of the centralisation of power by government. Who would deny that this overcentralised system has failed for the past seventy years when we see the wholesale unemployment, emigration and poverty in our midst?

SELF-GOVERNING

Sinn Féin Poblachtach has proposed for

almost twenty years an Ireland of self-governing communities, (including the Gaeltacht) in which people would control their own affairs. During that time we have been prevented from speaking to the people over the airwaves by the other parties' Section 31 ban which is both unfair and undemocratic.

Likewise, the electoral device that requires an organisation to register in Leinster House as a Free State political party (designed to exclude Republicans) means that Sinn Féin Poblachtach will not appear on the ballot paper beside our candidates' names.

Despite these restrictions our candidates will not be deflected from presenting a Republican analysis of the failures of the two partition states in Ireland and the conflict against British rule in the Six Counties. The continuation of British imperialism there magnifies the economic and social problems of the whole island and has severely handicapped our development as a people. We will be reminding the electorate of the £1 million per day

spent on the shameful border collaboration and extradition by the Dublin administration.

CO-OPERATE

Neither will our candidates, if elected, refuse to co-operate with all other representatives who are sincerely endeavouring to serve the people and bring about improvements. The record of Sinn Féin local councillors is one of opposing corruption and jobbery, malpractices, inefficiency and bureaucratic abuse of people's rights. Our candidates are pledged to refuse to allow red tape or managerial veto to stop them from getting progress and justice for all citizens, regardless of social status or financial standing.

Sinn Féin Poblachtach on the Councils will be a force for change and a new democracy in EIRE NUA.

Vote no. 1. Republican SINN FÉIN Poblachtach!

- 26-County local election manifesto and candidates, see pages 4-6.

Vótáil SINN FÉIN POBLACHTACH



WOLFE TONE
COMMEMORATION

JUNE 16, 1991

200th ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING

BODENSTOWN
SUNDAY

OF THE UNITED IRISHMEN 1791- 1991

The Field

sallins, co. kildare

assemble 2.30pm

SPEAKER - TOM SULLIVAN

SHOOT-TO-KILL PUBLIC INQUIRY SET

AN INDEPENDENT public inquiry is being organised for Cullyhanna, Co. Armagh on the weekend of June 22-23 next to investigate the shoot-to-kill incident in which 20-year-old Fergal Caraher was shot dead by British Marines on December 30, 1990.

Following a public meeting in Cullyhanna on April 4 a committee of 30 local people was set up to take action, titled the Cullyhanna Justice Group, and the independent inquiry is being organised by them at the request of the Caraher family to publicly determine the facts surrounding the incident, in which Fergal's brother Michael (23) was seriously injured.

Eyewitnesses to the shooting are expected to give evidence to the inquiry of how they saw the British soldiers open fire on the car carrying the two brothers just after it was waved through a checkpoint. The Marines responsible were back on



• The Caraher family in one of their fields which is divided by the Border, running between the two groups. They are (left to right) Francis, Michael, Peter John, Maria, Fergal, Theresa, Joanne, Phelim, neighbour Turlough McAllister and Cathal Caraher. Photo published in 'Still War' (1989) by Mike Abrahams.

duty the next day.

PANEL

Michael Mansfield QC, who appeared for some of the Birmingham Six in their appeals, has agreed to lead the panel of eminent jurists who will examine the witnesses and the fore-

nsic evidence and later publish their findings. A re-construction of the incident will be held at the scene. Human rights organisations, both in Europe and internationally, have been invited to send observers, as have the British and Dublin administrations, the RUC and Irish

public representatives.

In a message of support to the inquiry, Lord Gifford, the noted lawyer, said that "where the representatives of authority have been responsible for a tragic event, and the established judicial procedures offer no opportunity for redress,

an independent investigation is a necessary means for exposing the truth".

For further details contact the Cullyhanna Justice Group, c/o Peter J. Caraher, 58 Kiltybane Road, Cullyhanna, Newry, Co. Armagh or Thomas Cullen, (co-ordinator) at 4 Sidmonton Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

INNOCENT VICTIMS OF BRITISH INJUSTICE



JUDITH WARD

17 years and four months in jail

GUILDFORD FOUR AND MAGUIRE SEVEN

still seeking to have their names cleared. Giuseppe Conlon died in prison, in January 1980

Candidate hits out at Extradition

A CHALLENGE has been issued to candidates of all groups and parties to state where they stand on political extradition in the light of recent developments in the Dessie Ellis case, by Republican Sinn Féin candidate in the Galway Rural area, Tom Curran.

Speaking to election workers in his local Bearna/Na Forbacha area at the weekend, he said that everybody in their heart and soul knew that it was wrong to extradite Irish people to the North or to Britain in the light of the recent Birmingham, Guildford and Maguire cases. "These are only the tip of the iceberg where the plight of the Nationalist people in the North and Irish people from North and South in Britain are concerned. Anybody who has ever worked as an emigrant in Britain, as I have, could have told our political leaders long before their belated interest in the Birmingham Six, what the real score was in these matters.

"But, even those politicians, who sought to justify the changes in extradition procedures in the light of

the 'Anglo-Irish agreement', and which have made Irish citizens the most easily extraditable in

all Europe, will now have to come clean and state their position in the light of the Ellis case. In this instance, which was seen by everybody as a sort of test case, not only did it become clear immediately that the British side had no real evidence that would stand up, even in their courts, but they sought to substitute another series of charges so as to try and convict him on something or other.

BLATANT

"All this is in blatant defiance of all the most basic legal, moral and even political assumptions that had to be in place before even our supine Dublin government would hand



• Dessie Ellis

Ellis over. The end result is that Ellis is now back in Brixton, detained in very bad circumstances while the politicians test the wind to see if they can find some other lame excuse for his detention.

EUROPEAN NEUTRALS COORDINATE POLICY

By a Special Correspondent

THE Foreign Affairs Ministries of nine Neutral and Non-Aligned European states met in Vaduz, Liechtenstein on May 16 to coordinate their approach to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe which will be held in Berlin on June 19 and 20. The Conference has 34 members.

The Neutral and Non-Aligned (N&N) has decided to support the creation of a system for the protection of national minorities in Europe. They also decided to press for the admission of Albania as observers to the Berlin meeting.

The N&N group within

the Conference comprises Liechtenstein, Austria, Cyprus, Finland, Malta, San Marino, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

The 26-county administration has always ignored this group and aligns its security policy with that of the EC.

RAIDS RAIDS RAIDS

Raids by 26-county police took place in Co. Sligo recently. Pat McGrath who was released from Portlaoise Prison a year ago on completion of a five-year sentence for possession of arms and ammunition, was arrested and held for 24 hours.

In Co. Roscommon the business premises of P.J. McKenna at Ballinlough was raided by three car-loads of plain-clothes men based in Tuam. During the hour-long search they seized raffle tickets and threatened the owner with court proceedings.

BEARNA ULADH RAFFLE

DRAW results in Bearna Uladh, May 29. Winners were as follows: 1st Prize (Framed Proclamation) Curtis, The Market, Newry; 2nd Prize (Local Landscape Paintings) Christopher McKeever, Bernia Park, Meigh; 3rd Prize (Bottle of Irish Whiskey) no 17 c/o John Gallagher.

DUBLIN DRAW RESULTS

COMHAIRLE Ceantair Atha Cliath, Sinn Féin Poblachtach 400 Draw was held on May 12. Winners were £100, no. 161; £50, no. 385; £30, no. 320; £20, no. 18; five prizes of £10, nos. 150, 187, 222, 394, 95. Next draw for CABHAIR (Republican Prisoners Fund) on June 9.

IDIRDHEALÚ BIOGÓIDEACH FÓS

Tá an idirdhealú biogóideach go hiomlán chóir a bheith mar an gcéanna sa lá atá inniu ann agus a bhí sé faoi réim Stormont - fiche bliain ó shoin nach mór. Muna bhfuil sé ar eolas ag éinne cheana féin thig leis na firicí a fháil ó leabhar. *Inequality in Northern Ireland* le David Smith agus Gerald Chambers. Leabhar faoi staid na Caitlicigh san Sé Chontae is ea seo.

Léiríonn an leabhar cáidre mar a úsáideann na Sasanaigh na 'Trioblóidí' mar leithscéal le neamhaird a thabhairt ar an idirdhealú biogóideach seo i gcoinne na Caitlicigh. Rachaidh mé i mbannaí duit nach mbeidh an leabhar seo ar fáil sna leabharlannaí thíos anseo san Sé Chontae is Fíchid. An dtógfá orthu? I ndiaidh

FOSTAIOCHT

O thabhf fostaíochta de - de réir an leabhar seo is dóigh ná a mhálairt go bhfuil Caitlicigh difhost-

aithe anois faoi réim Sasanaigh díreach macasamhail leis an am nuair a bhí Stormont i mbláth a réime.

Fíú amháin nuair atá siad ag obair - bíonn caighdeán maireachtála níos ísle acu siocair go bhfaighfeann siad níos lú airgead ar shon a gcuid oibre i gcomrútas leis na Protastúnaigh. Anuas air sin agus uilig, ní móide go mbeadh dhá thuarastal ag teaghlaigh Caitliceach - rud nach bhfuil annamh leis na Protastúnaigh (agus mar bhall ar an donas, is amhlaidh go mbeon níos mó páistí ag na Caitlicigh - ar an méán).

Is beag combartha dóchr-

ais le sonrú sa leabhar seo - agus sin gan trídairt ar bith ar an méid leatrom a imrítear ar na naisiúnaíthe ó lá go lá. Nuair a shilleann tú go bhfuil na meán chumarsáide thíos anseo ag déanamh a ndícheall chun chur ina lú orainn go bhfuil an Rialtas Shasana neodrach ó thaobh na Cainteanna Brooke de. 'Neodrach', mar dheadh!

Níl sna cainteanna seo ach níos mó sínteoireacht aimsire.

Cruthaíonn an leabhar *Inequality in Northern Ireland* nach bhfuil i gCainteanna Brooke ach cur amú ama.

ANGER IN WAKE OF FULLERTON KILLING

THERE IS considerable anger among county councillors and the public in Co. Donegal following the assassination of Councillor Eddie Fullerton at his Cockhill Road, Buncrana home, in the early hours of Saturday morning, May 25 last.

The killing was claimed by the UFF, the cover name for the UDA, but the nature of the circumstances points to the involvement of the SAS or other British Crown Forces. The *Irish Times* in Dublin, for example, (May 27) stated that the "murder had all the marks of a coldly-perpetrated, professional attack" and was "carried out with

clinical precision".

Much of the local feeling is being directed at the 26-county police who effectively 'set up' Councillor Fullerton in the aftermath of the killing of UVF member Ian Sproule on April 13 last near Castleberg, Co. Tyrone. The 26-county police stated publicly that photocopies of a Garda wanted list which named Sproule as a



• Eddie Fullerton

UVF member were handed to journalists near the Co. Council buildings in

Lifford. This statement fingered certain Donegal county councillors including Eddie Fullerton.

Anger was expressed also at the slow response of the 26-county forces after the killing when those involved had to travel through the town of Buncrana into the Six Counties where their car was found burned out at Culmore, Co. Derry.

SYMPATHY

In an expression of sympathy Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, Sinn Féin Poblachtach President said that Eddie Fullerton was "a kind and gentle person, he was extremely popular and

quite a character in his own way. Sinn Féin Poblachtach mourns his passing and extends sincere sympathy to his wife and family.

"The collusion of the British forces must have been part of this ruthless butchery. The careful planning and execution is evidence of that. Further, it would appear that Border collaboration, on which hundreds of pounds are spent annually, is a one-way street with pro-British gangs being at liberty to operate in such a blatant fashion."

The cold-bloodedly

planned and callous murder of Councillor Fullerton is a striking example of loyalist negotiation in action, he said. The official politicians put forward the demands while the unofficial death squads put on the pressure. "The message to the Dublin government is clear: capitulate to the demands of the Unionist negotiators or else . . ." Ruairí Ó Brádaigh said.

Sinn Féin Poblachtach was represented at Eddie Fullerton's funeral on Tuesday, May 28 by Bundoran Councillor Joe O'Neill, among others.

NEW LIGHT ON DUBLIN BOMBINGS

STARTLING revelations with political consequences for the Dublin administration may be expected from an ITV documentary on the Dublin, Monaghan bombings of 1974 which is presently being prepared and likely to be screened next year.

It has been indicated that senior members of the 26-county police will not come out very well from the revelations made in the programme. The fact that no one was charged let alone convicted for any of the 33 murders, the single biggest loss of life in the present struggle, is bound to cause deep embarrassment in the 26 Counties, and pose a number of serious questions.

It is understood that among the revelations made in the documentary is the involvement of the British secret service in the planning and carrying out of the bombings.

Also on Friday, May 17 a memorial to those killed in the Dublin bombings was unveiled at a site adjacent to the Garden of Remembrance. The ceremony was organised by Dublin Corporation.

The ceremony was chaired by Frank Feely, Dublin City Manager, among those who spoke were Angela O'Neill, whose father was killed in the bombings and Kevin Walsh who initiated the erection of the memorial. The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Michael Donnelly, performed the unveiling after which a minute's silence was observed.

Amongst those who attended were Mrs Maura Fay whose husband was killed. Mrs O'Neill who also lost her husband and Anne Corrett whose brother John Walsh was killed.

Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, President of Sinn Féin Poblachtach also attended along with Ard Chomhairle member Des Dalton and Mick Hegarty.

BELFAST MEETING HEARS PROPOSALS

THE LATEST public meeting to promote Sinn Féin Poblachtach's three-point plan to break the political deadlock in Ireland was held in the Conway Mill, Belfast on Tuesday, May 21. A crowd of over 50 people heard Mary Ward of Sinn Féin Poblachtach's Ard Chomhairle point out that the Brooke initiative will fail as any attempt to reconcile Irish national aspirations with British rule in Ireland is trying to "square the circle".

Fr Des Wilson also spoke and welcomed the *Towards a Peaceful Ireland* proposals. He said that all democrats should come together and pool their considerable intellectual resources while keeping a firm hold on their own principles and views.

And the previous week, there was a welcome call

by T.J. Maher, the independent Munster MEP, for a declaration of intent by the British government to withdraw politically and militarily from the Six Counties within 10 years.

On May 3 the Campaign for Democracy launched a pamphlet in Belfast which also argued that the real agenda should be on ob-

taining consent to a process of British disengagement. The group includes radical Protestant figures in the Six Counties.

The Brooke talks will fail on two counts, Mary Ward said at the Belfast meeting. Firstly it does not address the fundamental issue of the national question, which can only be resolved on the basis of the sovereignty and unity of the Irish people.

Secondly, the talks do not include all the Irish people and without the participation of the people of All-Ireland it cannot succeed, she said, referring to the warning given by Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa during his recent visit to Ireland.



Fr Des Wilson

• Due to the coverage of the 26-county local elections our report on the Dublin public meeting "Ireland's War — a Political Solution?" and the contribution by former 26-county minister Kevin Boland has been held over.

MUNSTER CELEBRATES 1916 RISING

THE MUNSTER celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the 1916 Rising took place at Castlelyons, Co. Cork on May 12 at ceremonies organised by the National Commemoration Committee in honour of the Kent family of Bawnard House, who held out against a siege of their home by British Crown Forces following the Easter Rising in Dublin. Thomas Kent was executed by a British firing squad in Cork jail on May 9, 1916.

At 12.30 on the Sunday morning wreaths were laid on the grave of Mrs Kent, mother of Richard, David, William and Thomas, at Macrone Cemetery, Kilmorth. The Last Post and Reveille were sounded by two buglers. Among the attendance was Tom

Rice, nephew of Thomas Kent.

In the afternoon a crowd of several hundred from all over Munster assembled in Castlelyons where Tom O'Connell was chief marshal of the parade ceremony.

HARASSMENT OF ELECTION WORKERS

ON THE night of the Sinn Féin Poblachtach convention in Athenry, Co. Galway, April 9, the newly-selected candidate for Galway Rural, Tom Curran of Bearna, and two election workers from the city were detained on their way home by uniformed 26-county police (names supplied).

They were held outside Kenny GAA Stadium in the rain for half-an-hour when they refused to give their dates of birth. They supplied names and addresses on request.

On April 27, the home of Pól Ó Croidheán at Bóithrín Fada in Galway city was raided before 9am by three plain-clothes Special Branch. They demanded to know the identity of people in photographs found in the house but were told they were all "in

the cemetery".

Following the hunger-strike commemoration march and ceremony in Galway city on May 4, watching Special Branch (names supplied) manhandled on the public street a youth who had participated. They too demanded date of birth and were refused. "You were associating with known IRA members," the young man was told.

He was followed through the town, waited for outside a shop and invited for a drink, which request was not acceded to. Another election worker was raided at her home in Galway on May 4. Will this type of harassment be a feature of the local election campaign, SAOIRSE asks?

• The other side of the coin can be seen in the fact that a Detective-Inspector of the Special Branch was identified by name out canvassing for the Progressive Democrats in Co. Clare.

NEW LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

THE NEW Leinster House Local Government Act of May 1991 does not implement many of the

recommendations of the Barrington Report of December last. The question of financing local government is completely shelved and while much in the direction of decentralisation is promised, the Minister takes a great deal of power to himself.

Generally speaking, it may be a start but there is a long road ahead which may lead in the wrong direction. New powers are given but taken away again. Ministerial orders, regulations and "directives" point back towards centralisation once more. While some central oversight is necessary, the basic question is one of local government versus local administration. Leinster House still favours the latter.

DÁITHÍ Ó CONAILL MEMORIAL FUND

The Ard Chomhairle of Sinn Féin Poblachtach has established a National Dáithí Ó Conaill Memorial Fund and appointed a committee: Tony Ruane, Cathleen Knowles, Joe O'Neill, Mick McManus. We are making an appeal for donations. All contributions, large or small will be acknowledged. Please send donations to Dáithí Ó Conaill Memorial Fund ÉIRE NUA office, 13 Aston Place, Dublin 2.

4
26-CO. LOCAL ELECTION CANDIDATES ENNIS

TONY McCARTHY (42) of Cloughleigh, is standing for Sinn Féin Poblachtach in the Ennis Electoral Area. A married man with four children, Tony has been a life-long Republican and is presently secretary of the Cloughleigh soccer club.

GALWAY



DAVE JOYCE (27) is contesting the North-East Ward of Galway Borough Council. He is a salesman by profession and has lived in Glenna Heights, Mervue, all his life. Educated at St. Michael's National School, Mervue and St. Joseph's College, Nun's Island, Dave is well known for his teaching of the martial arts disciplines to hundreds of young people in Galway.

Dave has experienced the problems of enforced emigration by having to seek work in England during the late 1980s. He was one of the main organisers of the successful H-Block Hunger Strike Commemoration in Galway city recently, held on the 10th anniversary of the death of Bobby Sands, elected representative for Fermanagh and South Tyrone. He is currently Republican Sinn Féin Youth Officer for Connacht. Tacaíonn Dáithí Seoighe leosan atá ag eagrú "Gaillimh le Gaeilge" agus ag iarraidh Meánscóil Ián-Ghaeilge a bhunú sa chathair.



TOM CURRAN (44) is contesting the seat formerly held by Paddy Ruane for thirty years in the Galway Rural Electoral Area. A native of Fothraí Maola Thiar, Bearna, Tom is engaged in the building trade in Galway city.

Continued on page 5

Éire Nua d'Aois Nua

BUILDING LOCAL IN IRELAND

AS AN integral part of its alternative to the present system in Ireland, North and South, Sinn Féin Poblachtach (Republican Sinn Féin) visualizes and puts forward the objective of an Ireland of self-governing communities in which people will control their own affairs: *EIRE NUA*.

This involves the total re-structuring of local government in this island, not only in administration but also in the nature and functions of local authorities themselves. This re-structuring would be on four levels in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity of function:

1. **VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY COUNCILS** for every 1,500-6,000 people in urban and rural areas with the right of audience at all District Council meetings.
2. **DISTRICT COUNCILS:** This basic unit of statutory government would serve the needs of communities of 10,000-40,000 (depending on local variations) and would have charge of all public services to individuals and families in the sphere of social welfare, education, labour guidance, trading and employment practices, housing, planning permission, agriculture and fishing, small industry development etc.
3. **REGIONAL COUNCILS:** These would concern themselves with (a) public services with a high technological content, e.g. hospitals, major roads, telecommunications and third level education; (b) collection of local revenue and (c) economic, physical and educational planning.
4. **PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLIES:** The provincial legislature would allocate funds to the Regional Councils and co-ordinate regional plans.

Each district would have a local government office where the citizen could conduct all his normal business — housing, agricultural grants and information on the social services — all under one roof in a local town within an hour's drive of each and every citizen. In this way the citizen, with proper training at school, could do all his own business rather than be "beholden" to politicians. Within a special Gaeltacht Region, there would be a local office (as above) in each Gaeltacht district.

For the past 20 years Sinn Féin as a political movement and through its elected representatives has been spearheading the drive for more local control, increased participation in government at every level, a fundamental change in structures, a radical decentralisation of power and administration and the building of a Federal and Democratic Socialist Republic that will ensure peace, freedom, a fair share for all and political recognition to all the communities on this island.

Our candidates will continue this work even within the present unsatisfactory structures of local government. Our members are amongst the hardest working local government representatives in the country as those who voted for them last time know.

IMMEDIATE AIMS

Our attitude to day-to-day problems will be determined on our basic philosophy of more local control, decentralisation and a greater measure of self-government for all communities. Our immediate aims would include:

LOCAL FINANCING

Sinn Féin Poblachtach believes local authorities should have power for local financing. Without control of funds local authorities lose their effectiveness and cannot serve the people they are elected to represent. Sinn Féin envisages local bodies with annual budgets drawn from local and provincial taxation and from central funds.

Revenue for local government should be based on a more equitable taxation

system based on incomes and one's ability to pay. While opposing the present system it will support moves to have certain major items, e.g. national road networks, health, etc. paid from central funds but will insist that the local representatives will determine the way in which the service is administered.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

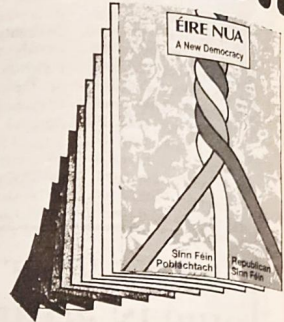
There must be as fair an access to the health services on a geographic basis as possible. In the EIRE NUA structures we envisage all health and social services to the individual and family being available at district level. Large hospitals and expensive medical equipment would be available at a regional level. The endless waiting for clinics and services as opposed to immediate attention for those with money points to a two-tier system. Sinn Féin has pressed continually for a comprehensive free medical service with choice of doctor for all citizens. It will intensify that fight.

We are opposed to the closing of local hospitals. A fair and balanced hospital development programme throughout the entire country would relieve overcrowding in Dublin, Cork and larger city hospitals. We advocate each town having a fully serviced and maintained senior citizens' home. The problems of the aged and infirm are not adequately catered for and our senior citizens should be cared for in a situation as near the home atmosphere as possible.

Social welfare should have a minimum rate of benefit as per the recommendation of the Commission on Social Welfare in recent years. Allowances should be paid as of right in accordance with a code of practice rather than having "discretionary" payments as at present.

HOUSING

Sinn Féin Poblachtach advocates the removal of housing finance from the



hands of commercial interests and the creation of a National Housing Fund to provide the service at nominal interest rates which would allow the maximum number of people to buy their own homes. Speculation in building land should be eliminated through its compulsory purchase with compensation by the relevant local authority.

Due to the cut-backs on local authority housing, a crisis is again developing here. This situation must be faced now with the improvement and acceleration of public housing. Ground-rents should be abolished completely at this late stage and without compensation.

PLANNING

Sinn Féin opposes the "one generation" and "little boxes" suburb where children and young mothers have to cope with the lack of wisdom and stability which the age-range and class-mixture of the traditional village entails. As the new generation grows up, schools, churches, shops and other community services become over-crowded, only to revert into a deserted area of aging parents in a further ten or twenty years.

People from rural parishes are being forced into the new suburbs from places where schools, roads, post offices and other infrastructure are being run down through lack of people. We oppose the economic system which is breaking up inner city communities and support the idea of mixed development in Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Galway etc. We are also opposed to "dirty industries" which are refused location in other countries being sited where they damage the environment.

WATER SUPPLY AND LOCAL CHARGES

Piped water should be provided in all areas as a major priority and the cost should be spread on the community as a large. Group schemes should be set up for 100 per cent grants. When the cost on private dwellings were abolished central taxation was increased to cover

LOCAL DEMOCRACY

**Éire Nua
d'Aois Nua**

1991 26-COUNTY LOCAL ELECTION MANIFESTO

the loss in revenue. Now local charges for water and garbage collection are imposed in what is clearly double taxation. They are not payable in Dublin city and county where one-third of the population of the 26 Counties live. They should be abolished all over.

ROADS AND TRAFFIC

The condition of county roads especially is a disgrace in most counties. The total of road tax, excise duty on fuel oil and purchase tax on vehicles in a local authority area in contributions to central funds merits a far greater disbursement towards road maintenance. In many cases major repairs - rather than filling "pot-holes" - are now necessitated by extensive deterioration.

Main roads should be a regional government function and the rights and objections of local communities will have to be considered in planning. Generally, Sinn Féin supports a reduction in city centre motor traffic and press local authorities to provide public transport in shopping areas. We are opposed to toll charges on roads and bridges.

Road signs and traffic regulations should conform with international practice and the correct Irish names should be given full prominence on signs. Advertising on all roads should be very severely restricted and limited, outside urban areas, to local goods and services.

AN POST

Sinn Féin Poblachtach opposes the projected closure of 550 local post offices, with the loss of 1,500 jobs and the limiting of rural postal deliveries to 200,000 roadside post office boxes. This is contrary to our long-standing policy of decentralisation. Services should be updated and post offices should provide other services such as local banking, now mainly the monopoly of private commercial banks.

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SCHEMES

The twin evils of unemployment and emigration are again ravaging our people, a sure sign of the failure of successive governments and of full EC membership. Local employment schemes should provide productive jobs for school leavers and others and should not be an opportunity for the exploitation of youth at its most idealistic stage. Trade union wages and conditions of work should be adhered to and the tasks undertaken should be directed towards public projects and the improvement of services and amenities rather than of private interests.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Sinn Féin calls for greater local involvement in education at all levels by local authorities. Primary Education Committees should be established on an area basis to ensure that programmes, policies and facilities are geared to local requirements. At post-primary level, pressure must be applied to integrate the various types of schools and facilities into a truly comprehensive system that would serve the needs of each local community and be subject to its control.

We wish to see the educational system used to train our citizens not only in technical skills and the arts but also in good citizenship. The individual should be equipped to deal with the state, know his/her rights and insist on them. National self-respect, self-reliance, pride in our heritage and training in co-operativism and self-help, along the lines of the Danish educational system, should be encouraged.

Library facilities should include videos, slides, tapes etc. Charges for library membership should be abolished. Consumer education is vital, with emphasis on local realities. Courses in history and heritage should have a strong local base so that learners can proceed from the familiar to the new. The demand for third level education is growing and Sinn Féin will promote the establishment of more Colleges of Technology on an area basis.

We will press for the use of Irish-produced textbooks that allow for regional variations and oppose the take-over of that industry by international Anglo-American companies. We are opposed to the watering down of our history and attempts to reduce the significance of our heritage and leave our people ignorant of their roots. We do not wish to make a cultural battleground of the classroom but we oppose slick and well-financed propaganda about the reality of the Irish neo-colonial situation and our relationship with the EC.

Cultural contacts with all countries should be encouraged and especially with small independent nations, e.g. Finland, Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Switzerland, Austria and nations not yet liberated, e.g. Wales, Brittany, Euskadi.

CONSUMER COURTS

Republican Sinn Féin will seek the establishment of local consumer courts under the supervision of local authorities. Citizens are entitled to compensation for administrative inefficiency and failure to pay benefits in time. Detailed information of entitlement should be as easily available to all in district Citizens' Advice Offices. This service will be free of charge.

GAELTACHT

We have earlier stated our advocacy of Gaeltacht self-government. The use of Irish in local government and equal rights for Irish speakers and their families in all dealings with public authorities will be promoted. All forms, documents etc., should be available bilingually as in Canada and other countries. The general rule that citizens be communicated with in the language of their choice should be enforced and citizens who suffer hardship or expense because of insisting on their linguistic rights should be compensated. Similarly, higher levels of government and administration should communicate with lower levels in the language of the smaller body. A national TV channel, Telefís na Gaeltachta/Gaeilge, should be available as soon as possible (Wales under English rule has its all-Welsh speaking channel for a number of years now).

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Sinn Féin has opposed full membership of the EC from the outset as a highly centralised political and economic power bloc where decisions about our lives are taken in completely undemocratic institutions. Our struggle has been to manage our own affairs and our programme is for maximum power at the base. That is real democracy and the very opposite of EC imperialism.

Under the EC our resources (e.g. fish) are being taken from us, consumer prices were never higher, unemployment at 250,000 was never higher and our youth are being conditioned for emigration. The EC bureaucrats are doing well on their large salaries and so are the big farmers. But the plan is to wipe out the small farmers and restructure industry so that the EC centre can prosper at our expense. Thus footwear and textile factories are being closed down.

In agriculture far from the promised guaranteed level, milk, cattle and sheep prices are down. New standards for milk collection are being brought in to force the small farmer out. Bovine TB, after more than 30 years of attention, is still out of control. We can expect these processes to increase further after 1992. Neutrality is under threat. We are told that in 1992 - as we were told in 1972 - the border will wither away. It will not, no more than will the Border between France and Germany. The British garrison will remain in the Six Counties.

In these and in other matters, Republican Sinn Féin representatives will not hesitate to take issues outside the council chambers into the streets or wherever may be necessary to ensure the interests of the people they serve.

EXTRADITION

Extradition and shameful Border collaboration at a cost of more than £1 million per day are the fruit of sustaining the present system which Britain is attempting to update and make more acceptable through the Brooke talks. The answer is EIRE NUA.

26-CO. LOCAL ELECTION CANDIDATES



FRANK GLYNN, a sitting member of Galway County Council since 1967 is contesting the Tuam Electoral Area once again for Sinn Féin Poblachtach. Frank was chairman of the Council 1979-80 when he and fellow Sinn Féin councillor Paddy Ruane, Carnmore, held the balance of power and broke the Fianna Fáil monopoly on the chair and council committees which had lasted for the previous 45 years, and replaced it with an equitable proportionate system.

A native of Milltown, where he still lives with his wife and family, Frank obtained a B.Comm. from UCG and built up a Hardware and Builders' Providers business in his home town, extending into Tuam in 1967. In recent years Frank initiated a successful campaign to have Galway County Council press for the release of Seán McGettigan and other long-term prisoners.

DUBLIN



PETER CUNNINGHAM (43) is from the Southside of Dublin City and has lived in Old Bawn Avenue, Tallaght for the past 19 years. He was selected at a convention during April to contest the Tallaght Oldbawn Electoral Area in the local elections. He is married with two children.

ROSCOMMON

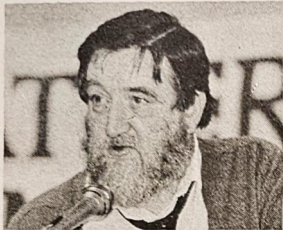
DERMOT MULLOOLY is running in the Strokestown Electoral Area of Co. Roscommon, where he served a term as councillor 1979-85 and narrowly missed being re-elected despite an increased vote.

Continued on page 6

KILLALOE

TONY FOLEY (44) is Sinn Féin Poblachtach's candidate in the Killaloe Electoral Area. A member of the Limerick and Clare District Trades Council Tony is active on issues such as unemployment and the environment. He is married with four children.

DONEGAL



JOE O'NEILL is running in the Donegal electoral area where he has been a member of Bundoran Urban District Council since 1974. A well-known Republican Joe is married and narrowly missed being elected to the Co. Council on his last outing.

LONGFORD



SEAN LYNCH is standing in the Drumlish Electoral Area of Longford County Council for Sinn Féin Poblachtach. Seán represented that area from 1974 to 1985 and was chairman of the Co. Council in 1980-81 during the Long Kesh

• Further conventions are being held as we go to press.

H-Block hunger strike and the candidature of the late Martin Hurson in the Longford-Westmeath constituency.

LEITRIM



DECLAN CURNEEN is a native of Glenade in North Leitrim and will be contesting the Manorhamilton Electoral Area in the elections. A married man with two children, he is a farmer, and secretary of Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht, Sinn Féin Poblachtach. Declan has been active on many issues in the area including the health cut-backs and in opposition to the centralisation of services in the county away from local areas to the large towns.

DUNDALK

PADDY KERR is standing in the Dundalk Urban area of Louth Co. Council, following his selection at a recent convention. He lives in Hyde Park in the town and is a butcher by trade. A long-standing member of the William Stewart Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach in Dundalk, Paddy has also had a long involvement with Seán O Mahony's GAA club, serving for a time as a selector.

Paddy Kerr is married to Frances Lee, also of Dundalk, and they have five children. Paddy Kerr has stood before as a Republican candidate in local elections and hopes to build on his existing widespread support in the upcoming poll.

1981 HUNGER

South African Solidarity

MICHAEL FLANNERY founder of Cumann na Saoirse, was among the platform at the United Nations rally in New York to mark the 10th Anniversary of the 1981 Hunger-Strike on Sunday, May 5 last. On the previous night, more than 1,600 people attended a commemoration on board the World Yacht in New York harbour which raised an estimated 60,000 dollars. According to the families wishes, this was donated to promote the Irish language in Ireland.

The next day, the anniversary of Bobby Sands death, thousands attended a special Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Manhattan, with Fr Brian McCreesh, brother of hunger striker Raymond McCreesh, as the principal celebrant. Fr Kevin Flanagan, in his sermon, described the British as the oppressors of the Irish people. Fr Des Wilson, Belfast, also took part, along with more than a dozen other priests.

A march followed the Mass, ending up at the United Nations building where one of the messages read was on behalf of Chris Hanni, the Chief-

of-Staff of *Umkhonto We Sizwe* (Spear of the Nation), the armed wing of the African National Congress. The statement read: "Dear brothers and sisters,

"I greet you, participants and supporters of the oldest movement against colonialism and for national liberation in the world. Bobby Sands and the other hunger-strikers who gave their lives 10 years ago stand today as an inspiration, a sign to people around the world that the thirst for freedom is unquenchable.

FREEDOM ROAD

"We in South Africa are

travelling a new stretch of the freedom road as a result of our winning the unbanning of the African National Congress, and the South African Communist Party and the freeing of Nelson Mandela and other leaders. We have taken important strides, but the struggle still takes many turns. Alongside the talks, political prisoners on death row on Robben Island have declared a hunger strike to force the regime to release all political prisoners as it agreed to do last August.

"You have our full support in your struggle for national freedom. And we thank you for your continued solidarity for our struggle for a free, democratic, united, non-racial and non-sexist South Africa.

"Let's keep the pressure on! Amandla!"

Signed: Chris Hanni
Chief-of-Staff
Umkhonto We Sizwe

Republican SINN FÉIN Poblachtach LOCAL ELECTION FUND

Sinn Féin Poblachtach will be contesting the local government elections in all four provinces.

In order to mount an effective campaign finance is urgently needed.

All donations large or small should be sent to:

Local Election Fund
c/o 13 Aston Place
Dublin 2

CABHAIR TESTIMONIAL DINNER



• Munster honoree, TOM MALONE, Milltown Malbay, Co. Clare at the CABHAIR Testimonial Dinner on May 24 in the West County Hotel, Chapelizod. Tom joined the Republican Movement in 1933 and tribute was paid to him by the attendance of over 100 people.



• PADDY FOX (left), Carnmore, Co. Galway (Connacht honoree) receiving a framed 1916 Proclamation from Ruairi O Bradaigh, President, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, who described the honorees as the people who remained rock-like over the years when the tide of popular support ran out.



• PAT MCGIRL (left), US honoree, greets his old comrade Frank MacDonnell at the Testimonial Dinner. The Ulster honoree Paddy McNulty, Castlewellan, Co. Down was unable to travel and his presentation was accepted on his behalf by Marie Carlin.



• MATT CASEY (right), Drumlish, Co. Longford receives his presentation from Sean Lynch, former chairman of Longford County Council, as the Leinster honoree. Matt was interned in the Curragh Camp in 1940 when his brother Barney was shot dead by Free State forces only yards away from him.

STRIKERS REMEMBERED

Relative Addresses Galway Rally

THE TENTH anniversary of the 1981 Hunger Strike Martyrs was marked in Galway by a parade and rally on Saturday, May 4 through the streets of the city, attended by a crowd of several hundred people.

The parade assembled in the Cathedral car-park near the Salmon Weir Bridge and was led by a colour party, a lone piper and a group of young men and women carrying portraits of the ten men who died on hunger strike - Bobby Sands (May 5), Francis Hughes (May 12), Raymond McCreesh and Patsy O'Hara (May 21), Joe McDonnell (July 8), Martin Hurson (July 13), Kevin Lynch (August 1),

Kieran Doherty (August 2), Thomas McElwee (August 8) and Micky Devine (August 20).

After making their way through Eglinton Street and Shop Street, the marchers finished up at Eyre Square alongside the Liam Mellows Memorial where the speakers addressed the crowd from a platform. Benedict McElwee, brother of Thomas McElwee, from Bellaghy, South Derry spoke on behalf of

the hunger strikers' families. He was himself on the blanket in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh during the hunger strike protest and remains as committed as ever to the beliefs for which the men laid down their lives.

Councillor Joe O'Neill, one of the organisers of the annual Hunger-Strike Martyrs commemoration held in Bundoran, Co. Donegal at the end of August, also spoke, as did Galway County Councillor Frank Glynn (Milltown) and Sinn Féin Poblachtach local election candidate in Galway Rural, Tom Curran (Bearna).



Galway Hunger Strike commemoration march makes its way to Eyre Square on May 4

2 Honoured at Bellaghy

A CROWD of over 100 people attended the Francis Hughes commemoration in Bellaghy, South Derry, on the tenth anniversary of his death on hunger strike on May 12, 1981. His cousin Thomas McElwee, who

died on August 8, 1981 and is buried beside Francis Hughes, was also remembered.

The ceremony at the graveside was chaired by Michael McGonigle, Dungiven. He welcomed especially the relatives of the

two hunger strikers present, including Francis Hughes' father Joe and brother Oliver.

Veteran Derry Republican Seán Keenan, laid a wreath on behalf of Sinn Féin Poblachtach and Mary Ward, Ard Chomhairle member from Donegal, gave the oration.

Raymond McCreesh Commemoration

CAMLOUGH—native Raymond McCreesh was honoured at a 10th Anniversary ceremony on the evening of Tuesday, May 21 last at his graveside in the Republican Plot, Carrickcruppin Cemetery. The South Armagh hunger striker died in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh on that date in 1981 after a 61-day fast.

After wreaths were laid, Eamon Larkin, Forkhill, Vice-President, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, spoke in tribute to the ten hunger-strikers.

"Their sacrifice has not been in vain", he said, "and will not be forgotten."

It will stand as an inspiration to whoever is weighed on by injustice and oppression.

"The sacrifice of young men like Raymond McCreesh will surely have to be taken into account in



Benedict McElwee

any future negotiations with the occupiers of Ireland. Raymond's sacrifice demonstrated for all the world to see the determination of the Irish people to be free.

"The only fitting memorial for the hunger strikers will not be any stone cross or monument but an Ireland free from the centre to the sea", he concluded.

Kiltyclogher Commemoration

THE 75th Anniversary of the execution of Seán Mac Diarmada was marked by a parade through the village of Kiltyclogher, Co. Leitrim, from Straduffly Cross on Sunday, May 5.

A colour-party bearing the National Flag, the Starry Plough and the Sunburst followed by a Children's Band from Riverstown, Co. Sligo, led the parade to the statue of MacDiarmada which was unveiled in 1940 just before the mass internment swoop of that summer.

There, wreaths were laid by Katie B. Keaney, niece of the 1916 leader, on behalf of the family; by Michael Kennedy, on behalf of Leitrim Comhairle Ceantair, Sinn Féin Poblachtach; by Declan Curnean on behalf of local Cumann.

Councillor Joe O'Neill,

Bundoran, presided at the ceremonies. Séamus McGowan said a decade of the Rosary, Bernard McCabe, Rosinver, nephew of Jack McCabe, Omagh Raid prisoner in the 1950s, read the Easter Statement from the Leadership, and Declan Curnean the 1916 Proclamation.

A minute's silence was observed in memory of the late Mícheál Shanley, Vocational Teacher, Kiltyclogher, a trustee of the Memorial, who died during the year. The oration was delivered by Michael Cunningham, a native of Ballagherreen, Co. Roscommon, who now lives in Cork.



Seán Mac Diarmada

The platform party included Katie B. Keaney, Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, Uachtarán, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Mrs. Burns, Lurgan, mother of Seán Burns, killed by British forces in the course of the "shoot-to-kill" policy in 1982, and James Connolly, Tullaghan.

As the ceremony concluded two British army helicopters flew low only 150 yards away at the Border, a physical reminder of the unfinished business that remains 75 years after Seán MacDiarmada's death.

Brón ar an mBás FRANK MOORE

IT WAS with grief I heard of the death of Frank Moore, MacSwiney Street, Dundalk, Co. Louth, on May 10 last. He was 68.

Frank was interned from early in 1940 and was released in June 1944. During this time he became a native Irish speaker and, when he got home, the first thing he did was to help organise a fund to build a monument to his martyred comrades Richard Goss and Willie Gaughran.

He got a job in a boot

factory in Dundalk and became a militant trade unionist, obtaining improved working conditions for his workmates. The last time we met was at his comrades commemoration last August. Go raibh suaimhneas síoraí dá anam.

- Tom Doran Dublin

I gCuimhne

DOHERTY, Brendan - 7th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Brendan Doherty, Droumroe, Currow, who died on June 3, 1984. Always remembered by his mother and his sister Margaret and brother-in-law John Houlihan. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a anam. DOHERTY, Brendan - 7th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Brendan Doherty, Droumroe, Currow, Killarney,

and loving memory of Vol. Brendan Doherty, Currow, Killarney, who died on June 3, 1984 as a result of Free State brutality. "Life springs from death, and from the graves of patriot men and women spring living nations". Always remembered by Seán Ó Sé, Baile Atha Cliath.

SANDS, HUGHES, O'HARA, MCCREESH, McDONNELL, HURSON, LYNCH, DOHERTY, McELWEE, DEVINE, - 10th Anniversary. Bearna Uladh Sinn Féin Poblachtach, South Armagh and Newry remembers with pride the sacrifices of the ten heroic hunger strikers who died in Britain's murderous H-Blocks in 1981. Particular sympathy at this time is extended to the Sands, Hughes, McCreesh, O'Hara, McDonnell, Hurson, Lynch, Doherty, McElwee and Devine families whose terrible loss in that heroic struggle for five just demands remains as grave as it was in those days of heart-break in 1981.

DOHERTY, Brendan - 7th Anniversary. In proud

Comhbhrón

CURTIN, Sincere sympathy is extended to the Curtin family, Garryowen, Limerick, on the recent death of their father, Tom. From Limerick Comhairle Ceantair, Sinn Féin Poblachtach. Leaba i measc na naoimh go raibh aige. The Ard Chomhairle, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, extend deepest sympathy to the Golden

family, Dublin and Kerry, on the death of Doreen Golden. Go raibh suaimhneas síoraí dá hanam. GOLDEN, CABHAIR (Irish Republican Prisoners' Dependents) deeply regret the death of Doreen Golden and extends deepest sympathy to her family circle and friends. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a hanam. GOLDEN, Deepest sympathy is extended to Mick

and family on the death of a dear wife and mother, Doreen, who died recently. Always remembered by her old friends Máirín Delaney and Peig, Dublin. JUDD, Sincere sympathy is extended to Mary Judd and family, Kibarrack, Dublin, on the recent death of their husband and father Kevin. From CABHAIR (Irish Republican Prisoners' Dependents). Ar dheis Dé go raibh

a hanam. KEOGH, Deepest sympathy is extended to John Keogh and family, Doon, Co. Limerick, on the death of Mrs Keogh on May 22 last. From Limerick Comhairle Ceantair, Sinn Féin Poblachtach. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a hanam. MURPHY, The Willie Stewart Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Dundalk, Co. Louth, passed a vote of sympathy to Paddy Mur-

phy, Dundalk, on the death of his brother Johnny. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a hanam. MURPHY, Deepest sympathy is extended to Paddy Murphy, Dundalk on the recent death of his brother Johnny. From Bearna Uladh Sinn Féin Poblachtach. Solas a bhFlaitheas dá anam. O'FLAHERTY, The Ard Chomhairle, Sinn Féin

Poblachtach, at its May meeting passed a vote of sympathy with Eileen O'Flaherty, of the Irish American Fenian Society, New Jersey, USA, on the recent death of her father Tom of Derrymore East, Co. Kerry, Tom, who was in his late 70s worked all his life in CIE. He was a well-known and highly respected figure in the area. Go ndéana Dia trócaire ar a anam.

Leabhar Leabhar Leabhar

BRITAIN'S MURDER CAMPAIGN

• Le Micheál McGuirk

FR RAYMOND MURRAY, former chaplain of Armagh prison and at present Administrator of Armagh Cathedral, has for the past 20 years been a meticulous compiler of British human rights violations in Occupied Ireland. He has also been the co-author with Fr Denis Faul of 33 books and pamphlets and numerous leaflets highlighting these injustices. And despite much harassment over the years from the British establishment has continued as a fearless crusader for human and civil rights in the Six Counties.

In his latest book entitled *The SAS In Ireland* published by Mercier Press late last year, he provides the reader with a highly detailed and informative account of the activities of the SAS in Ireland over the past 20 years.

The opening chapter of the book looks at the origins of the SAS and its organisational make-up. The first SAS unit was founded in Egypt in July 1941 by Captain David Stirling of the Scots Guards. Its first duties were to carry out intelligence and sabotage operations behind German lines in North Africa. But as Fr Murray reveals its first actions were far from successful. In February 1941, 36 men were dropped into Northern Italy and all were captured, something which is ignored in official histories.

FIASCO

The regiment's birthday, November 16, 1941 is the date of yet another fiasco. On that day 60 men were dropped behind German lines in North Africa with the object of destroying an airfield. Only 20 men returned with their mission unaccomplished. Stirling himself, the reg-



• John Boyle, 16 years, murdered by SAS on July 11, 1978.

iment's founder was captured in 1943 and spent the rest of the war in a POW camp.

In chapter two Murray moves on to the main theme of the book, SAS involvement in Ireland. Fr Murray categorises SAS activities in Ireland since 1969 in six phases, which he outlines as follows: (1) Intelligence Gathering (Torture), (2) Sectarian Murders, (3) The SAS in South Armagh 1976, (4) SAS Terrorism, (5)

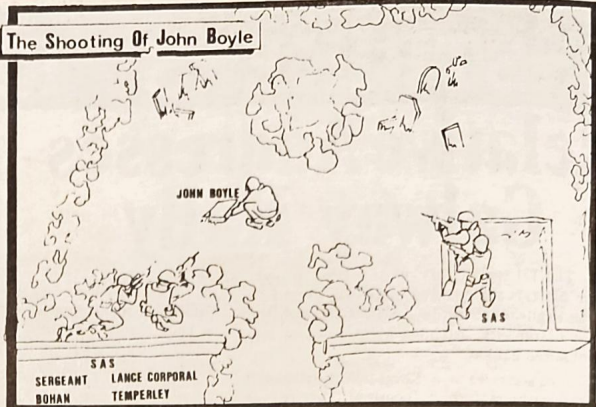
Atkin's Secret Army, (6) Shoot-To-Kill.

Throughout the rest of the book he examines and analyses each of these phases in-depth. Firstly Fr Murray looks at SAS involvement in the so-called hooded men, or the in-depth interrogation by sensory deprivation of 14 men in Ballykelley barracks and throughout the Six Counties during the period of internment. In fact it was the SAS who provided the expertise in these torture techniques to the RUC Special Branch and as Fr Murray highlights SAS members took part in a number of these interrogations. It must be remembered that the British government at this time denied the presence of the SAS in Ireland.

Fr Murray then goes on to look at the second phase which he entitles 'Sectarian Murders'. In the early 1970s the formation of loyalist terror groups was welcomed by the British Army, and they were used, in line with classic counter-insurgency tactics as a third force to intimidate and subdue the Nationalist/Catholic community. Fr Murray also highlights the involvement of ex-British soldiers with these murder gangs who took their orders directly from British intelligence. He cites a number of murders in which they engaged and by so doing illustrates the indiscriminate nature of these killings and the utter ruthlessness shown towards the Nationalist community. As an indication of the official backing these groups received Fr Murray points out that house raids on the homes of members of these gangs was practically nil and almost none of their members were interned.

INDISCRIMINATE

The book also charts the involvement of the SAS in the formation of the Military Reaction Force (MRF) which was made up of members of the regular British Army assigned to intelligence work and members of the SAS. He gives very full accounts of the various murders and dirty tricks operations in which they took part, including the infamous car attacks in which they murdered indiscriminately members of the Nationalist community.



• Detailed sketch of how sixteen-year-old John Boyle was murdered by the SAS at a disused graveyard near Dunloy, County Antrim.

On pages 52-56 Raymond Murray traces the involvement of the SAS in the infamous 'Four Square Laundry' which was used for intelligence gathering purposes in Nationalist areas.

Fr Murray also examines MI5/SAS links with the 'Ulster Workers Strike' of 1974 which brought down the so-called power-sharing executive set up under the terms of the Sunningdale agreement. Support for the strike ran parallel with the policy of British intelligence at the time to bring down the Labour government under Harold Wilson whose policies it regarded as being detrimental to the whole establishment position. Murray also shows MI5/SAS involvement in the Dublin, Monaghan bombings of 1972-74. Murray also

again as a means of breaking the people's will to resist British rule. On a number of occasions, Fr Murray states, the SAS crossed the border into the 26 Counties to carry out kidnapping and murders with complete impunity. In fact in many cases they received information from senior officers in the 26-county police force to aid them in these operations.

Fr Murray goes on to chronicle in some detail the shoot-to-kill campaign carried out by members of the SAS and the RUC E4A unit, which resulted in the deaths of six unarmed men in the early 1980s. He also examines the period of so-called 'Operation Ranc' assassinations which were carried out by the SAS and aimed at members of the IRSP/INLA as revenge for the assassination of Airey Neave by the INLA in 1979. This campaign led to the deaths of Miriam Daly and Ronnie Bunting among others.



• Ronnie Bunting, murdered by the SAS on October 15, 1978.

tells of how they supplied the explosives and the expertise to carry out the bombings, bombings which resulted in the single biggest loss of life in the present struggle when 28 people were murdered in Dublin and seven in Monaghan town on May 17, 1974.

Fr Murray goes on in the succeeding chapters to chart SAS involvement in the 'Ulsterisation' process whereby the RUC and UDR would gradually replace the regular British Army in policing the Six Counties, this of course involved the training by the SAS of the notorious E4A RUC unit which was established to replace the SAS in North East Ireland.

SOUTH ARMAGH

The book also looks at the activities of the SAS in South Armagh during the mid 1970s when the SAS carried out a campaign of murder and kidnapping,

In the final part of the book Raymond Murray looks at the more ruthless turn the shoot-to-kill policy took following the attempt on the life of Margaret Thatcher in the October 1984 Brighton hotel bombing. This stepping up of the campaign led to the massacre of eight Irishmen in Loughgall, Co. Armagh in May 1987. In a detailed piece Fr Murray exposes this massacre for the cold-blooded brutality it surely was, where in a controlled situation all eight men could easily have been arrested, they were instead murdered by the SAS/RUC. He concludes his account of British atrocities with an examination of the events surrounding the murder of three IRA members in Gibraltar in March 1988 when yet again the SAS cold-bloodedly murdered three unarmed people.

One thing that comes clearly across to the reader in reading this book is the complete ruthlessness of the SAS in particular and the Crown Forces in general in dealing with the Nationalist community. The manner in which Irish people are quite simply gunned down without even a murmur from the Free State government.

The SAS in Ireland paints a chilling picture of life in the Six Counties for the Nationalist people. It should be required reading for all Irish people who seek an insight into British injustice in Ireland.

The SAS in Ireland
Mercier Press (Cork and Dublin)
Hardback £16.99



Official Organ of Sinn Féin Poblachtach published monthly. At home or abroad make sure of your copy by taking out a subscription.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR:

Ireland and Britain £7.00

Other EC countries £8.00

Rest of Europe and World £10.00

US edition \$24.00
(Available from P.O. Box 1053, South Orange, New Jersey, 07079, USA)

Ainm (name)

Seoladh (address)

.....

.....

.....

.....

Send to: SAOIRSE - Irish Freedom
13 Aston Place / 13 Plás Aston
Dublin 2 / Baile Átha Cliath 2