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IRISH FREEDOM

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THATCHER TIGHTENS GRIP

SIGNS ARE NOT wanting of the moves afoot to widen the scope and broaden the base of the Hillsborough Deal in order to secure British rule in Ireland well into the 21st century.

Mr. Charles Haughey says he wishes to talk to the Unionists and the Official Unionist party leader Mr. Molyneux responds that he will talk to both the Dublin and London governments under certain conditions.

Mr. Hume's talks with Mr. Adams are either about party as did Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil. Then in the United States Mr. Haughey falls back on the Forum Report of 1984 which accepted the Unionist veto on any moves to National Unity and Independence. He hinted at a federation of the 26 Counties and the Six Counties by referring

Mr. Paisley, in a statement on April 13, says he will talk to Free State Sinn Féin provided they reform their organisation totally as a constitutional

to the arrangement "such as you have here in the USA".

UNWORKABLE FEDERATION

This kind of federation, which would divide sovereignty between the two statelets and a central authority, would perpetuate the present Six-county system that Mr. Haughey himself has labelled "an unworkable political entity". In any case, federal sys-



● THE message on May Day from Liberty Hall in Dublin is just as relevant in 1988 as it was in 1915. On the International Day of the Workers Republican Sinn Féin sent greetings as far afield as Canada to those who are engaged in struggle against imperialism and colonialist exploitation. Ní saoirse go saoirse lucht oibre!

tems with only two units have always proved to be unworkable.

Peter Barry of Fine Gael followed this when speaking on RTE radio on May 2 by advocating, in most imprecise terms, a confederation between the Six and 26-county states. This means leaving complete sovereignty with the Six Counties which is even more unacceptable.

Mr. Haughey also says that Free State Sinn Féin should be included in an all-Ireland conference, called by London and Dublin on condition that they become totally constitutional.

Mr. Haughey and Mr.

Paisley need not worry too much. Mr. Adams' party is already more than halfway there e.g. they accept the 26-county state, have sought permits to sell Easter Lilies and have asked permission of the British Crown Forces to march on Easter Sunday. (see page 3)

British Foreign Secretary Howe has spoken out encouraging Haughey and all the threads in the carefully woven web seem to be coming together.

Two questions for Mr. Haughey from Republican Sinn Féin:

1. Why did he not tell his US audience that he is extraditing Irish political prisoners to the British?
2. Is he himself to all in-

tents and purposes not acting out the role of the mysterious 'third party' who initially brought Hume and Adams together?

NEW SELL-OUT

All in all a new sell-out in the way and Irish Republicans and the national demand for Unity and Independence could lose out badly. Such surrender to British rule would not bring freedom, justice or peace.

Among other things it would effectively block the struggle for cultural rejuvenation and social advance to a New, Radical Ireland. It must be opposed and stopped.



● Easter Commemorations: Pages 5-9.

Airdeall

Euro Alert

THE Euro Alert/Airdeall organisation formed from the 'loose coalition' which campaigned against ratification of the Single European Act (SEA) held its first AGM on Saturday, April 30 in Dublin.

In his opening address Raymond Crotty stated that the organisation was necessary "to combat the creeping erosion of what remains of our neutrality".

It aims to be a broad-based non-party political organisation throughout the 32 Counties acting as a counter-weight to the EEC propaganda office in Molesworth Street, Dublin.

It was revealed at the meeting that the new 'European Community' pass-

port introduced in 1985 contains a hidden computer strip that can be used by international police to monitor Irish citizens' movements.

Euro Alert seems willing to encompass Republicans who wish to advocate withdrawal from the EEC to achieve a sovereign and neutral Ireland.

BODENSTOWN

SUNDAY JUNE 12

Assemble:
Sallins Field 2.30pm

Oration:
Cllr. Frank McCarry
Glens of Antrim

TÉSTIMONIAL DINNER

Saturday, June 11, 9pm. Táille: £10.50.

Spa Hotel, Lucan, Co. Dublin.

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

Submarine Carnage

SINCE 1982 32 fishermen have drowned in five accidents, all in unexplained circumstances, in the Irish and Celtic seas between Ireland and Britain. Both the Irish Fishermen's Organisation and the Six-nation Celtic League have fought a campaign in these years to ban the intense submarine traffic (US, British, French and USSR subs are involved) in these waters.

The most recent incidents involving Irish fishing trawlers were the holing of the *Salve Regina* off Malin Head last December and the sinking of the *Boy Shaun* in the same area in September 1987 when four members of the McDaid family lost their lives.

Both incidents occurred in calm seas and a submarine was spotted by journalists in the *Boy Shaun* incident. The Dublin government, last March, decided that their inquiry into the tragedy was not going to be made public.

COVER-UPS

In the case of the *Salve Regina* the British Ministry of Defence denied in a letter that there was any Royal Navy submarine in the area and stated that it was purely by chance that HMS *Ariadne* was in the area to give assistance to the stricken trawler! In the House of Commons, Ian Stewart, the Secretary of State for Defence, admitted that there was a collision that day between a sub and a fishing vessel, without giving any details.

The cover-ups have been going on for years. The

Breton trawler the *Cite D'Aleth* was sunk off Co. Wexford, near Tuskar Rock, on January 12, 1983. Ten fishermen drowned and with no



official admission of submarine involvement and no survivors, the relatives have received no compensation. It is believed a French sub was responsible.

The Celtic League have logged over thirty incidents since then and point

to the Faslane US submarine base in Scotland and the Brawdy base on the west coast of Wales as the berthing-places of many of the NATO submarines.

SHERALGA

When a British submarine dragged and sunk the 100 ton, 75-foot trawler, the *Sheralga* on April 18, 1982, the authorities' initial denial of responsi-

bility was changed two weeks later to admission of liability after the sub *Porpoise* cancelled a visit to Liverpool because it was damaged.

On April 20 last, four crew members from Clogher Head, Co. Louth, who jumped overboard into the

Irish Sea when the trawler was sunk were each awarded £20,000 compensation in Belfast High Court. The owner had earlier received £350,000 for the loss of boat and earnings.

The Dublin government's cover-up in the *Boy Shaun* tragedy is tantamount to complicity in the carnage which has killed Irish, British and Continental fishermen. Where is their so-called neutrality and concern about Irish citizens dying at the hands of NATO submarines?

The Celtic League call for the International Maritime Organisation to frame legislation to demilitarise the seas around Ireland should be supported and "innocent passage"



● The map shows the location of 29 incidents involving submarines and fishing or other vessels in the seas around Ireland that have cost the lives of 32 fishermen since 1983.

Siopa na Poblachta

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

Skylark Sing Your Lonely Song - Bobby Sands (£4.95)

The Course of Irish History (£4.95)

Liam Mellows and the Irish Revolution - C. Desmond Greaves (£9.00)

The Centre Cannot Hold - Tom Collins (£7.95)

Soul of Fire - Biography of Mary MacSwiney (£7.95)

Prison Letters - Constance Markievicz (£5.69)

My Fight for Irish Freedom - Dan Breen (£3.50)

No Other Law - Florence O'Donoghue (£5.95)

The Singing Flame - Ernie O'Malley (£3.50)

Raids and Rallies - Ernie O'Malley (£3.50)

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

DEFEND THE SMALL FARMERS!

WHILE THERE IS much talk about poverty in the cities little is said about poverty in rural areas. The latter is less noticeable and tends to be hidden by the more affluent farms or in barely accessible mountainous areas.

There is little point in trying to solve urban poverty, least of all with half-hearted work schemes, while people continue to flood in - driven from the land by the failure of the state to devise a coherent agricultural policy. Without such a policy the small farmer has been and continues to be forced off the land.

Since joining the EEC, Ireland has adopted EEC agricultural policy (Mansholt Plan) which was geared towards the interests of the large ranch farmer and factory farms. Yet a large proportion of those employed in agriculture in Ireland work on the traditional small farm family concerns, often employing two or more members of one family. EEC policy has already devastated the small farmer community in most of Europe. Irish farmers are their next victims.

Over 100,000 people have been forced off the land in Ireland during the last decade; approximately 10,000 during last year alone. These people were forced from the land in favour of the large ranch farm which being less labour-intensive created record unemployment in the agricultural industry.

POORLY SUPPLIED HOME MARKET

Depopulation of the countryside and massive unemployment are not the only problems to result from these policies. The large ranch farms that were created are geared towards the export market. The result is an al-

ready poorly supplied home market became ever more dependent on imports which in turn means higher prices for the housewife. Food that could and should be grown and processed at home is now imported.

Many of those who migrate from the land should be to Cork, London or New York find themselves living in poverty and squalor or being exploited as cheap labour. Brian Lenihan said they should be proud "after all we can't all live on this small island". The fact is that Ireland is the least populated country in the EEC.

Tuairim

Martin Heaney

Compare Ireland to the Netherlands for example. Ireland has 82,000 square kilometres of land and 5 million population. The Netherlands has 41,000 square km. land area and 14.3 million population. Ireland has double the land area and just over one third the population. The average farm in the Netherlands is only 15 hectares which compares favourably to farm size in Ireland. The agricultural industry in the Netherlands is the most viable in the EEC. Ireland's is almost bankrupt and is unable even to supply the home market.

Emigration and life in a run-down and already overcrowded city has been and continues to be the lot of the Irish small farmer.

STATE MARKETING AGENCY

Why the difference between the two countries? Well for a start the Dutch state actively supports its farmers through a state marketing agency. This agency helps

farmers find markets for their produce and advises farmers on what crops to grow, market trends etc. Where is the comparable agency in this country?

The recent acquisition of Balieboro Co-op by Goodman International is but one example of how the lack of an efficient state marketing agency places the small farmer at a disadvantage.

The entrepreneur in this case may have a short-term market, but if conditions change and that market closes he can and probably will simply move his capital into another industry or product where profit margins can be maintained. Goodman International did not invest their main money in agriculture but in agri-business. Their main interest is not the farming community but profits. Just weeks after taking over they have announced that 100 jobs are to be lost.

Many would argue that the small farmers are ill-equipped to develop the industry properly. After so many years of neglect this is hardly surprising. But it is not the point. The point is that the state should develop a progressive agricultural policy that will equip them with the capital and the markets to succeed. A state marketing agency should be the minimum demand of all small farmers.

DEFEND SMALL FARMERS

The aim of this policy is to keep people on the land and thus save jobs. This in turn has positive effects on urban development and the entire National Economy. The starting point must be the defence of the small farmer. All possible steps should be taken to ensure that no more farmers are driven off the land by the landlords or their modern-day equivalents - the Banks.

Farmers rallied to the aid of their neighbours when the landlords tried to evict them 100 years ago. Why not today when the Banks do the same?

NGA: Not involved in Easter 'filing'

THE CONTROLLING body of the National Graves Association in Dublin has strongly dissociated itself and the NGA from applications in their name to the RUC in the Six Counties for permission to hold Easter Commemoration parades.

Press reports at Easter stated that the RUC received ten written applications for permission under the 'Public Order Order' 1987 to stage Easter parades throughout the Six Counties. Local papers in Tyrone and elsewhere also carried reports, which were all uncontradicted by any spokesperson for Free State Sinn Féin, who were behind the move.

In a statement issued on April 25 last the NGA objected to their name being used as a 'flag of convenience' especially when their constitution is being contravened. The full NGA statement reads as follows:

'Our attention has been drawn to articles in the press recently under the

heading "RUC given notice for Easter marches".

The controlling body of the National Graves Association wish to scotch the idea that any NGA committee had their permission to make application to the RUC in holding of parades either at Easter or at any previous time.

Our Association which

was founded in 1926 is an autonomous body and is not subservient to any group, political or otherwise. We are a dedicated group of voluntary workers who continue the work for which our Association was founded, i.e. erecting and maintaining Memorials to our Republican dead.

We have always endeavoured to facilitate those who wish to honour our patriots, be it at Easter at various venues or in June at our Wolfe Tone Memorial at Bodenstown, by having Memorials cleaned and tidied and allowing free access to such Mem-

HOME NEWS

RUC notified of big parade

RUC get legal notice of Easter ceremonies
RUC given notice for Easter marches
Group disowns parade posters

THE Tyrone Branch of the National Graves Association has given notice to the RUC that it will hold Easter ceremonies in Co. Tyrone.

The National Graves Association, which has been set up to look after the graves of the fallen in the Six Counties, has given notice to the RUC that it will hold Easter ceremonies in Co. Tyrone.

The group disowns the posters which were put up in the name of the RUC. It is the name of the RUC which is being used to attract attention to the parades.

The National Graves Association has said it was not involved in the Easter ceremonies held at Carrickmore in Co. Tyrone.

The group disowns the posters which were put up in the name of the RUC. It is the name of the RUC which is being used to attract attention to the parades.

orials, but we object to our name being used as a "flag of convenience" especially when our constitution is being contravened.

We would request such groups in future if they wish to seek permission from an alien power to honour the men of 1916 in their own country that they do not besmirch the name of the National Graves Association in so doing.'

M. Ní Cearnaigh, Rúnaí
C. De Faoite
Cathaoirleach

According to local sources, Free State Sinn Féin in Newry had the NGA on their poster for the Easter Parade, for which they gave seven days notice to the RUC.

A number of ex-POWs approached the organisers in the Mall, Newry, before the parade set off and told them they would not march in protest at their slavish behaviour in going into the RUC barracks in the town the previous week to fill out the form

requesting permission, giving details of the time, route etc.

In a statement on March 30 last Ruairí O Brádaigh, Uachtarán, Shinn Féin Poblachtach, stated that this was a sign of Free State Sinn Féin's "getting enmeshed further into the system. The direction in which they are going is unmistakable. It is constitutional and reformist. They are going down the same road as the Workers' Party."

Paris Visit

UACHTARÁN Shinn Féin Poblachtach, Ruairí O Brádaigh, broke off a tour of Brittany to visit Paris over the St. Patrick's Day weekend and was the guest of the Solidarité Irlande Committee, which supports the Irish struggle.

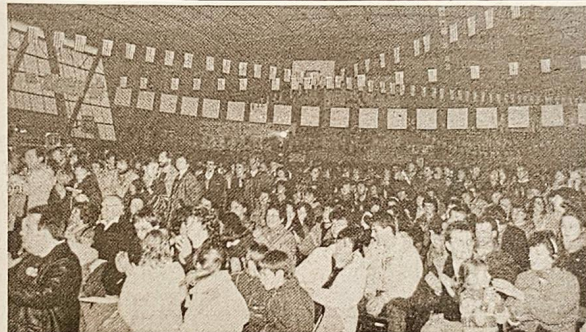
On St. Patrick's night he attended the weekly seisiún of the Irish Association in the Mission Bretonne, Montparnasse. Céilí dancing, Irish traditional music, conversation and socialising in the Irish language were, as usual, the norm at this event.

On Friday, March 18, Ruairí O Brádaigh met the Officer Board at which an interchange of views on the situation in Ireland

took place. The officers were given an update and interpretation of events, particularly the series from the suppression of the Stalker report on January 25 to the Gibraltar killings on March 6.

5,000 IRISH

The following night the venue was the annual Fête and Fest Noz of the Irish Association, which represents over 5,000 Irish



Over 5,000 Breton enthusiasts attended the weekend Fest at Karaz in Brittany on March 18/19 last. It was organised jointly by Diwan, (Naoscoilleana Briotáinacha); Stourm ar Brezhoneg the militant Breton language organisation and Emgann, the Breton nationalist political movement. Karaz has a Bobby Sands Street and the Mayor of the town, Jean-Pierre Jeudi, personally welcomed Ruairí O Brádaigh. See next issue.

people now living in the French capital. Doors had

to be closed eventually because of an overflow atten-

dance of the young Irish exiles and their friends.

The RSF president said afterwards that he spoke more Irish in those three days in Paris than in three weeks in Dublin!

CO-OPERATION

Over the weekend brief interviews were given as *Gaeilge* for the Irish Press and *Raidio na Gaeltachta* to an Irish journalist who works for the French radio station France-Inter. An extended interview took place with the weekly political journal *Politis-Le Citoyen* which was carried in its issue of March 24.

Assurances of further mutual co-operation between Republican Sinn Féin and Solidarité Irlande were exchanged and on March 20 Ruairí O Brádaigh returned to Brittany to continue his tour.

SOUTH ARMAGH HARASSMENT

THE DROMINTEE, Jonesboro and Meigh areas of South Armagh have been subjected in recent weeks to an increased level of British Crown Forces intimidation and harassment, Newry and Mourne District Council has been told by Councillor Eamon Larkin, Republican Sinn Féin.

At a meeting of the Council on Tuesday, May 3 last Cllr. Larkin detailed threats to one young man in the Jonesboro area. The individual concerned is regularly subjected to threats from British sol-

diers such as "I'd like to meet you on a dark night" etc.

Children in Dromintee have been similarly harassed and their parents have complained to the Councillor. In Meigh village workmen have been stopped coming from work, taken from their vehicles and forced to strip down almost to their underpants.

In the Council's debate on the RUC's 'Annual Report' for 1987 Councillor Larkin made it clear that to the people of South Armagh the RUC is nothing but a terrorist force securing British rule.

AT A well-attended meeting of parents and teachers of the Alliance for Vocational Education in Ballybofey, members of Donegal VEC and representatives of the Teachers' Unions condemned the Education Cuts and proposed lower pupil-teacher ratios.

The meeting was told that the 26 Counties stood to lose 700 jobs in Vocational Schools, 200 jobs in Community Schools and 150 jobs in Third Level Colleges.

Subjects will be lost to thousands of students, and services such as remedial and guidance which have already been drastically cut in the past five years will be decimated.

Republican Sinn Féin Councillor and VEC member Joe O'Neill of Bundoran got a rousing applause and cheers when he asked

a number of questions and made some hard-hitting suggestions as to how Fianna Fáil could save money other than by depriving further the weakest and powerless sections of the community.

"Why is it that the children and teachers must suffer the Education Cuts and not the corrupt and costly administration? Why is it that the student nurses and domestic staff who suffer in the Health Cuts and not the Consultants and Administrators? Why don't they start with themselves if they want to save money, let them drop their 'Jobs for the Boys'

policy and take a cut in their own inflated wages", he stated.

Councillor O'Neill went on to say that the lack of

forward planning and general state of education and health was yet another symptom of the failure of the 26-county State.

Sinn Féin Councillor Attacks Donegal Education Cuts

The Wolfe Tones
at
Wexford Inn
DUBLIN
Tuesday, 24th May.
Doors open at 7.30 p.m.

Table **BAR EXTENSION** £5

Pat Ward—An Appreciation

by

An tAthair Piaras O Duill

WHEN we come to die the mystery of death will be confirmed — so too the fullness of freedom. Hence, the reason why our mortal/human nature yearns and strives for freedom. In the prison of this life the dignity of freedom is the goal of all our aspirations.

For God's people, death is not an end but a continuing growth towards freedom and liberty, on to a new dimension of life in God. It is this phenomenon that gives dignity to man's hunger for justice and spurs his readiness to sacrifice (the sacrifice even of life) for liberty.

This was borne home to me quite effectively when I visited Pat Ward in his cell of the prison hospital during his protracted hunger protest that very nearly claimed his life at the time.

Health-wise we know how much that immolation cost him, and while he bore the stigma of self-sacrifice in his body and limbs he continued,

for the rest of his too short life, to apply his fine mind and intellect to the cause of truth and justice in his country.

The real destructive influence of our day is the horrid fear of the virtue of such men, and the influence of their selflessness and sacrifice. Alas, the preference today is to call such sacrifice by false names rather than acclaim its testimony which is that "Love of country is part of the love of God".

Small wonder therefore his impatience with the dismal mediocrity of leadership who refuse to see what young men and women like those who died in the hail of bullets at Gibraltar and Loughgall will always continue to see: that is, the continuing denial of the dignity of self-rule and freedom and justice for all the people of this island is to our enduring degradation, decay and ruin. Indeed, it should be the concern of every churchman that because of the intensity of sincerity of young men like Pat Ward, that such love for their people and country often surpass and ignore the formalities of religious ritual and ceremony.

With love that surpassed all, Pat Ward loved his family, Mary and his two children, (with

deep appreciation of Mary's courage and support). His love for his people and his country was a sincere and genuine love that has now drawn everything together in a single relationship with God.

Is ag Críost an síol, síol agus buntobar deaghéithe an uile, Críost a d'fhág grá comharson agus grá tíre mar oidhreacht spioradálta, treoir-iúil againn, éist lenár nguí chugat ar son Pádraig Mac an Bháird.

Tabhair luach a shaothar dó ar son a d'fhuaing sé i dtaobh na síochána agus an chirt. O bhás go críoch, ní chríoch ach athfhás.

NEW YORK MASS

ON Saturday March 19 last a special Mass was said for the late Pat Ward, Donegal in the Carmelite Church, Manhattan, New York.

Fr. Maloney said the bi-

lingual Mass and the Fenian Five, Bundoran, Co. Donegal sang during the ceremony. Mike Flannery gave a reading as did Pete Farley and Madge Forde. Joe O'Neill also spoke.

RTE

Still 'An Arm of Dublin Government Policy'

PD Communications spokesperson, Pat O'Malley's double-think, where he could not apparently make up his mind if he wanted RTE to be more severe on widows or to ban them totally under Section 31, while insensitive in the extreme, at least had the honesty of good old-fashioned "no free speech for those we do not like" rhetoric where his deliberate assertion of a right to editorial dictation over RTE was concerned.

The timid reaction of RTE and the broadcasting unions to this approach was probably due in part to their own problems over Section 31 — an affair that is as dishonest in its conduct and in the reactions of most of those involved as was the (temporary) defence of basic communications principles in 1972 when Gerry Collins was the last person to decide, publicly, that the censorship machine in Montrose was not operating to the satisfaction of Government.

On that occasion at least the RTE Authority and Management took the rap and got fired rather than firing their own staff as sacrificial lambs. Kevin O'Kelly was sentenced to imprisonment and the station closed down for 48 hours.

Contrast that with the row that broke out in 1966 when the then Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Haughey, rang RTE and asked that his side of a story be given as well as that of the IFA. All hell broke loose when this became known. The end result was the resignation of the Head of News for allowing a member of the Government to exercise even that minimal amount

of editorial influence on a public service which is (all political parties please note) 'legally protected from political interference' and (Mr. O'Malley please note!) is also bound by Section 18 of the Broadcasting Act to be 'fair and balanced' in its coverage of News and Current Affairs.

SECTION 31 SELF—CENSORSHIP

But a week is a long time in politics. And the unchallenged attempt by the PD man to give Leinster House politicians a direct and threatening input into RTE editorial policy, within a week of the above, had progressed — if that is the word — to the open objection by Fine Gael's Education spokesperson to the expression of any viewpoints to which she takes exception, even where these are factually widely held throughout the country even if the self-censorship necessitated by Section 31 means that these have gone largely unreflected in on-going debates for years.

RTE is legally as well as morally obliged to report on, examine and reflect all strands and shades of opinion that factually exist in any given situation or context or area.

Thus while Gemma Hussey would probably have been allowed by 'Questions and Answers' to get away with the dishonest smear that all those who want to see British policy on Ireland moved towards a phased and orderly withdrawal from the mess she has made and continues to make of our country should be banned under Section 31, were it not for the presence of Labhrás O Murchú (are there no sterner Fianna

Progressive Democrats' Pat O'Malley attacks RTE for their interviews in Belfast with the widow of Danny McCann, following his execution in Gibraltar. Gemma Hussey of Fine Gael wants anyone advocating British withdrawal (53 per cent of those questioned in the 26 Counties want the British troops out of Ireland within five years, according to the April *Irish Independent/Irish Marketing Surveys* poll) to be banned from the airwaves under Section 31. TOMAS O NEACHTAIN examines the 26-county establishment's dissatisfaction with RTE for not slavishly, and on every occasion, giving only the pro-British side of the argument. Those in power in Dublin listen only to those they wish to hear on the North, regardless of election results, he says. This fascist thinking assumes that if the people do not hear the Republican message on the airwaves it will not exist in society outside. RTE is now more than ever "an arm of government policy".

Fáil hearts acceptable to P J Mara in the higher ranks of that party?)

And surely not even Ms. Hussey can claim that the *Daily Mirror* is "infiltrated by the Provos" when in response to the latest Tom King statement, it editorialised again with the consistent line of the last 15 years, first initiated by Cecil King that just about the only logical approach to the 'Irish question' is for London to cut its losses, swallow its pride and concede that, in the long run, the people of all Ireland would probably make a better job of working out their destiny and running their own affairs — by whatever arrangement they might democratically devise amongst themselves — than Westminster (where Irish affairs were always seen as little better than a marginal 'bloody nuisance') ever did or could do.

If Ms. Hussey's mind is so closed that she objects to seeing such views expressed on RTE in her living room, then she can always switch off — or switch over to BBC or ITV where in fact she will see such views expressed much more frequently and prominently if only be-

cause these stations have (still) the freedom to reflect what everybody knows is an important and significant segment of opinion in both Ireland and increasingly in Britain as well.

CHILDISH SUGGESTION

The reality is that Ms. Hussey, like Mr. O'Malley, wants RTE to broadcast only what she feels they should broadcast. This is clear from her childish suggestion that in some way, audience make-up should reflect the make-up of party strength at the last election — the type of 'dynamic' search for ideas that one associated with 'balanced' party political broadcasts before elections.

But even on that basis the views she herself holds might not get the prominence they do on RTE in the light of the last election results, not to mention more recent opinion polls. Pavlovian reaction to Republicans on BBC/UTV — which we do not see on RTE though 'liberals' like Ms. Hussey have over the years advocated 'greater choice' in the form of more British television competition for RTE — cannot blind us to the fact that like it or not, Repub-

licans/Sinn Féin have won seats in the North in several General Elections.

And a member of the Fine Gael party which in 1979 joined with Michael D Higgins of Labour to elect a Sinn Féin Chairman of Galway County Council — only because there was no other way to dislodge the Fianna Fáil holder of the office — should stop the hypocritical posturing about elected mandate as well as their frequently expressed concern for toleration of all shades of political opinion within the community.

DUBLIN'S DEAF EAR

One of the most consistent lessons of the history of Northern politics is that those in power in Dublin only listen to those they wish to hear in the North regardless of electoral results or situations.

What attention, if any, did Leinster House give to any of the three anti-Unionist MPs, (out of a total of 12) which the Northern Nationalist/Republican people elected in 1970? Gerry Fitt was the only favoured one at the time — and that only after he had given up the Republican/Labour tag on

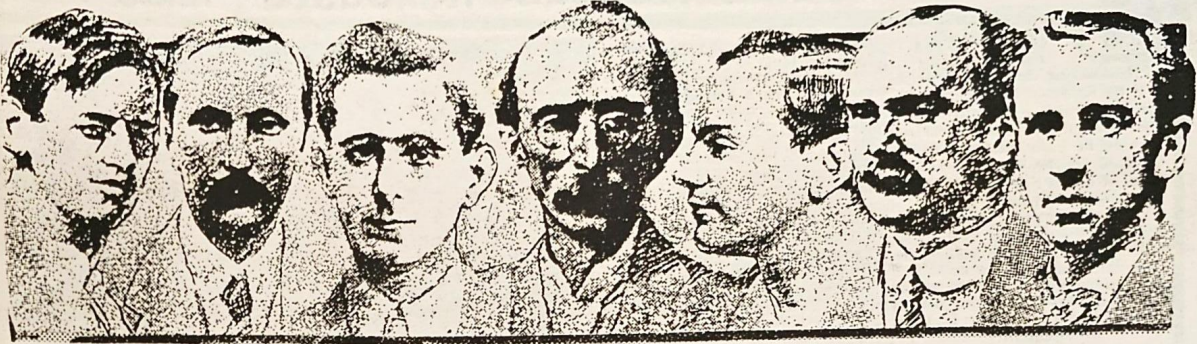
which he had been elected and become Leader of the new SDLP caucus.

How many RTE-only viewers in the South can even recall seeing the late Frank Maguire, who was MP for the one-and-a-half counties out of Six, Fermanagh and South Tyrone from 1974 to 1981? RTE archives did not have enough film to do a decent tribute on his death.

Contrast that with the RTE platform given to the current Unionist MP for that area, Mr. Ken Maginnis, who regularly preaches his particular viewpoint as the spokesperson for that constituency, even though we all realise that his Loyalist sentiments are very much a minority view within the area and that he owes his seat to the accepted unsuitability of the British electoral system to the Irish situation. Perhaps his associations with the UDR in the past have something to do with it?

Any honest analysis of the factual situation in Fermanagh/South Tyrone — or Mid-Ulster for that matter — would accept there is more support for a non-Unionist viewpoint in these areas — that which Ms. Hussey says RTE should not allow on air — than for the pro-UK view. RTE has a legal as well as a moral duty to inform us about these matters. But the most disturbing thing about the Hussey attitude — basically a throw-back to the Blueshirt imitation of Fascism in the 1930s — is that she like Mr. O'Malley seem to feel that all we have to do is to keep it off RTE (whatever about Galway County Council) and all will be well. In a word they have come to believe their own propaganda — it is easier than facing factual realities.

1916 Mairtírigh na Bealtaine 1916



● The seven signatories of the Easter 1916 Proclamation of the Irish Republic. (Left to right) Joseph Mary Plunkett, Eamon Ceannt, Séan Mac Diarmada, Tom Clarke, Pádraic Mac Piarais, James Connolly and Thomas MacDonagh. All were executed 72 years ago this month from May 3 to May 12 along with William Pearse, Séan Heuston, Michael Mallin, John MacBride, Michael O'Hanrahan, Edward Daly, Con Colbert and Thomas Kent. Roger Casement was executed in London on August 3, 1916.

1916 Cuimhneacháin na Cásca 1988

ANTRIM

A CROWD of 50 people attended the Republican Sinn Féin Commemoration in Milltown Cemetery, Belfast, at 11am on Easter Sunday morning. They marched from the gates to the Republican Plot led by three flag-bearers carrying the National Flag, the Starry Plough and the flag of Cumann na mBan.

Bob Murray acted as Cathaoirleach and Liam Burke recited a decade of the Rosary as Gaelige. Three wreaths were laid on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin in Belfast and Cumann na mBan.

Mary McDermott read the 1916 Proclamation and Bob Murray read the Easter Statement from the leadership of Republican Sinn Féin. Councillor Frank McCarry from the Glens of Antrim gave the oration.

A wreath-laying ceremony was held at the Republican memorial, Shane's Cairn, Cushendun at 3pm on Easter Sunday afternoon. Prionsias McCarry laid a wreath on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin in North Antrim. Aileen McCarry recited a decade of the Rosary as Gaelige.

ARMAGH

MULLAGHBAWN

On Easter Sunday evening a brief wreath-laying ceremony was held at Mullaghmore, at the grave of Vol. Gerry McKiernan. Joe Cunningham, of Beama Uladh Republican Sinn Féin, placed a wreath which was inscribed "for the principles you held and the Republic you served were most high and honourable, and to both we shall remain true."

CAMLOUGH

Beama Uladh Republican Sinn Féin's programme of commemorations resumed at Camlough at 8pm on Sunday evening with a dignified procession of 50 people to the Republican Plot at Carrickcruppin Graveyard. Not even the presence of the RUC, intent on executing the vile Public Order Order, could succeed in preventing Republicans from honouring the dead in the time honoured manner.

Led by a flag-bearer carrying the National Flag the people proceeded to the grave of Volunteers Peter Doran, Brendan Quinn, Art McAlinden and Raymond McCreech.

Councillor Eamon Larkin, Vice-Presid-

ent of Republican Sinn Féin, welcomed all who were present on this occasion at this historic Republican Plot. He gave a very special welcome to members of the

Veterans of the Dromintee Company, 4th Northern Division, IRA, also lie buried at Dromintee.

Councillor Larkin opened the proceed-



● Republican colour party at the Republican Plot, Saint Finbarr's Cemetery, Cork city on Easter Sunday.

Quinn family and spoke of his sadness that so many people in Camlough had not come along.

The commemoration continued with the recitation of the Rosary in Irish. The 1916 Easter Proclamation was read by Tom Lonergan; the South Armagh Roll of Honour was read by Eamon Larkin; the Easter Message from the leadership of Republican Sinn Féin was read by Eamon O Mathúna. Wreaths were laid by Mrs. Quinn on behalf of the Quinn family and by Deirdre Quinn on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin.

Eamon Larkin introduced the guest speaker Emmett Walsh from Tullamore, Co. Offaly, a member of the Ard Chomhairle of RSF. Mr. Walsh spoke of his pleasure at being invited to come and speak at commemorations in South Armagh. This was his first visit to this area and afforded him the opportunity to meet British aggression first hand and to meet the people who have long withstood all the worst that the Brits have been able to inflict on them in their last colonial war.

Media reports that night reported the Camloch parade as the first breach of the Public Order Act in 1988.

DROMINTEE

The first commemoration on Easter Sunday was at Dromintee at 9.30am. A group of 30 people marched to the Republican Plot, the grave of Vol. Jim Loch-

ings with a recitation of the Rosary in Irish. Michael Donegan read the Proclamation of Easter Week, 1916, and Joe Cunningham read the Easter Message from the leadership of Republican Sinn Féin.

Wreaths were laid in memory of Vol. Jim Lochrie and the Veterans of the Dromintee Company who were buried nearby, on behalf of Beama Uladh Republican Sinn Féin. Councillor Larkin reminded those present of the sad loss suffered by the Irish people at Loughgall and Gibraltar. He spoke also about the recent tragic deaths of Volunteers Brendan Burns and Brendan Moley and offered his sympathy, and the sympathy of RSF to the families of the fallen volunteers. He praised the heroism of the victims of the attack on Milltown Cemetery. Their heroism undoubtedly saved many more lives. There followed a rendition of The Last Post played by a bugler.

The Councillor then introduced Emmett Walsh who delivered a stirring oration, commending those present for their stout and resolute defence of the Republic of Pearse and Connolly.

Referring to moves afoot which would inevitably lead to some kind of compromise, a so-called "internal" settlement, Mr. Walsh stated the position of Republican Sinn Féin in the clearest terms possible. "Republicans" said Mr. Walsh, "will accept no compromise, no negotiations,

no settlement with an occupying power, which by force of arms denies freedom to the Irish people. There can be nothing short of a British withdrawal which can be accepted. Talks only aid the British to stabilise their position in the Six Counties. Compromise serves only as a process of infiltration for the purpose of the enemy. Such infiltration has been all too evident in recent times. It took an armed struggle to throw the Brits out of the 26 Counties and only armed struggle will finish the job."

"War" Mr. Walsh continued "is the ultimate political act and no revolutionary ever asks permission to fight, no more than he or she would ask permission to commemorate their dead."

KILLEEN

Republican Sinn Féin held its next commemoration of the Easter Rising and all those who gave their lives for Irish freedom at the grave of the O'Reilly Brothers at Killeen. Assembling at 10.30am 50 Republicans paraded to the grave of Volunteers John and Thomas O'Reilly who along with Peter McGinnity, whose grave is only a few yards away, were taken from their homes in the early hours of July 6th, 1921 by the then B-Specials and murdered only a short distance from the McGinnity household.

Among the people present were members of the O'Neill family who are relatives of the O'Reilly Brothers.

The commemoration commenced with the recitation of the Rosary in Irish by Margaret Mathews. Martin McNally read the Proclamation and Sarah Murphy delivered the Easter Message from the leadership of Republican Sinn Féin. The Roll of Honour was read by Councillor Eamon Larkin and wreaths were laid on both graves on behalf of the O'Reilly Bros/McGinnity Cumann and Beama Uladh RSF.

In his brief oration at this patriot grave Emmett Walsh spoke of the contempt that the British government holds for Irish lives and our people's right to freedom.

The meeting ended with a few words of thanks from Eamon Larkin to the O'Neill family and to Mr. Walsh for making this a very successful commemoration.

Beama Uladh RSF held brief wreath-laying ceremonies at the Edentubber Martyrs Memorial, at the Vol. Michael McVerry Memorial in Cullyhanna and at the grave of Vol. Francis Jordan who lies in the Republican Plot in Jonesborough's cemetery.

NEWRY

The final commemoration of the day was held at the Republican Plot in St. Mary's Cemetery in Newry. Assembling at



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3.30pm and led by a flag-bearer carrying the National Flag, the party of 60 marched to the Republican Plot. Eamon Larkin started off by reciting the Rosary in Irish. The Proclamation was read by Tom Lorgan and the Easter Message was read by Mrs. Sarah Murphy. Wreaths were laid on behalf of RSF in Newry and the Roll of Honour was read by Eamon Larkin.

DERRYMACHASH

St. Patrick's Cemetery, Derrymacash was the scene for a wreath-laying ceremony on Easter Sunday when 30 local Republicans gathered there to honour Vol. Michael Crossley who died on active service in Lurgan on November 22, 1971.

LURGAN

50 people turned out for the Republican Sinn Féin commemoration which was to St. Coleman's Cemetery in the town. Jimmy Burns, whose son Séan was shot by the RUC in the Shoot-to-kill episode on November 11, 1982 along with Geravase McKerr and Eugene Toman, presided at the graveside ceremony. His son and his two comrades, all from Lurgan, are buried in St. Coleman's.

Jim McCrystal recited a decade of the Rosary in Irish and Leila McKerr read the Easter Statement. Brendan Maquill gave the oration and welcomed especially the relatives of the dead volunteers who were being honoured.

CAVAN

OVER 200 Republicans from all over Co. Cavan turned out on Easter Sunday at Kill Cemetery. Kilmaleck for the annual Easter Commemoration, organised by Republican Sinn Féin.

The parade, headed by a six-man colour party, formed up at Drumboe Cross at 3pm and marched the half-mile to the cemetery to honour Captain Edward Boylan, who is buried there. Capt. Boylan was shot while attempting to escape from Cavan Barracks by Free State forces on 25 June 1922.

Liam Minnagh, Cavan, chaired the proceedings at the graveside and after reciting a decade of the Rosary, he called on Charlie Boylan, Redhills, a nephew of Capt. Boylan, to read the 1916 Proclamation. Hugh McGovern, Corlough, read the Co. Cavan Roll of Honour. The Easter Statement from the leadership of Republican Sinn Féin was read by Gerard McGovern, Swanlinbar.

A wreath was laid by Charlie Boylan on behalf of the Co. Cavan Easter Commemoration Committee. Peter Reilly, Redhills, laid the wreath on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin. An oration was then delivered by Ruairi Og O Brádaigh, Roscommon, during which he said:

"The list of British assaults on the Irish people in the last two months is not without purpose, in British eyes. With the review of the Hillsborough Security Pact next November and the proposed setting up of a new Stormont to replace it, Mrs. Thatcher can then throw some crumbs to the 'constitutionalists' north and south by appearing to give back what she has steadily taken away."

After the ceremony the parade formed up again and marched to the assembly point.

CLARE

A CROWD of about 70 people assembled in Crusheen for the County commemoration and marched half-a-mile to the Republican Plot where Captain Seán O'Halloran, killed in action at Bunnahowen Bridge by Free State forces in July 1922, is buried.

The march was led by a three-man colour party and the National Flag was carried by Des Brennan, Ennis. They were

followed by two pipers from the Clonboney Pipe Band.

At the graveside the proceedings were chaired by Martin Calligan, Kilmurphy/McMahon, who called on Pamela Nic Chárthaigh to read the 1916 Proclamation in Irish. The Clare Roll of Honour was read by Máire Ní Chathasaigh, Ennis, and a decade of the Rosary was recited in Irish by Maitiú O Seandúin, Doolin. Wreaths were laid by Vincent McDermott on behalf of the Sands/Clancy Cumann, Ennis; by Tony Mac Carthaigh on behalf of Clare Comhairle Ceantair and by Jack Brown on behalf of the Martin Keane Cumann, Kilrush.

The Statement from the Leadership of Republican Sinn Féin was read by Mick Hegarty of the Ard Chomhairle and the oration was delivered by Cathleen Knowles, Ard Rúnaí, Republican Sinn Féin.

The ceremonies concluded with the playing of Amhrán na bhFiann.

Wreath-laying ceremonies were held at the Republican Plot in Drumcliff Cemetery, Ennis; Doonbeg Republican Plot in West Clare and at Vol. Martin White's grave in Lisdooonvarna in North Clare.

CORK

THE EASTER Commemoration, attended by 200 people, began at the National Monument, Grand Parade, Cork City, at 2.30pm. Before the parade set off a wreath-laying ceremony was held at the Monument. En route to the Republican Plot in St. Finbarr's Cemetery a wreath was laid at the gates of the old Cork Gaoil.

Alfie McAvoý presided at the Graveside and wreaths were laid by a representative of Cumann na mBan, a member of Republican Sinn Féin and by Liam Dunlea on behalf of the Irish Republican Comrades Association.

A decade of the Rosary was recited by a member of Cumann na mBan and the Last Post was sounded by Christy Murphy of the Cork Volunteer Pipe Band. The Easter Statement was read by Kitty O'Brien.

Ard Chomhairle member Peter Cunningham, Dublin, then delivered a fine oration which was well received by the attendance.

He stated that recent events in the 26 Counties have seen Mr. Haughey allowing the Free State army and police to become an extension of the British forces who react when Maggie Thatcher demands that they do so.

In relation to the 26-county debt of £26 billion he said that £16 billion of this was owed to Irish banks who have not suffered any restriction or cut-backs on their profits. There would be no need for cut-backs in services if these debts were cancelled in the national interest.

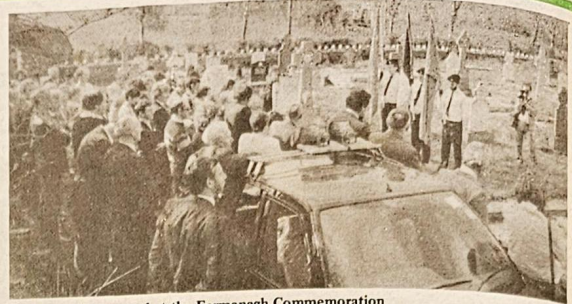
Alfie McAvoý then called on the piper to close the ceremony with the National Anthem.

DERRY

150 PEOPLE attended the Derry City Commemoration at the Cúchulainn Memorial on Easter Sunday. Johnny Johnston chaired the ceremony on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin in Derry and Veteran Republican Seán Keenan recited a decade of the Rosary in Irish.

The 1916 Proclamation was read and Councillor Micky McGonigle then read the Easter Statement. A minute's silence was observed for all those who died for Ireland, Gerard Mac Cárthaigh, Cork, gave the oration.

Seán Keenan, in his concluding remarks, stated that since 1947 Republicans had gathered in the City Cemetery at Easter to commemorate their dead and would continue to do so without first seeking



● Part of the crowd at the Fermanagh Commemoration

and thus made inevitable the armed resistance of an oppressed people. "It will take the concentrated effort of a united people to end British rule. That was the lesson of 1916 when a group of heroic people asserted in arms our nation's right to liberty. The great national movement which followed came within an inch of securing freedom. But British guile and Irish gullibility lost the day and the great unity was shattered.

"We must return to the message of Easter Week. There can be no place for compromise or a selling out on fundamental principles. People fight for liberty; they do not fight for a few people to obtain seats in partitionist assemblies. Easter week gave us our Charter of Freedom. Let us strive to ensure its implementation and by doing so we will achieve the unity of purpose our people so badly need."

A wreath-laying ceremony was also held at the grave of Brig.-Gen. Seán Larkin, one of the Drumboe Martyrs, in the Loup Cemetery, South Derry.

DONEGAL

OVER 200 PEOPLE and an accordion band from the Glens of Antrim attended the Republican Sinn Féin Commemoration in Drumboe on Easter Sunday. A colour party led the parade to the memorial site in the woods of Drumboe where wreaths were laid on behalf of a number of Republican organisations. Councillor Joe O'Neill, Bundoran, was the Chief Marshal.

The ceremonies were presided over by Tommy McGinty of Lifford and the Donegal Roll of Honour was read by Ted McGarrigle of Ballybofey.

A statement from the Leadership of Republican Sinn Féin was read by Conal Gallagher and a decade of the Rosary was recited by Bernadette Cullen, Bundoran. The main oration was delivered by Dáithí O Connail, Chairman, Republican Sinn Féin. In the course of his oration, Mr. O Connail said:

"A lot of media attention is focused on the Hume/Adams talks. People's expectations are being built up without any great thought about the purpose of such talks.

"John Hume is very explicit as to what he wants, namely 'an end to all violent and military activities'. Mr. Adams in his usual evasive and deceptive way defines no objective but speaks of pious platitudes. The reality is that neither party can deliver a just and lasting peace to this troubled land of ours.

"The British government alone is the only authority that can end the age old conflict between our two countries. The cold-blooded killing of the Gibraltar three shows clearly that British policy in treating Irish people has not changed one jot from the days of the Black and Tans. The contemptuous manner in which the London government treated Dublin in relation to the Sampson/Stalker affair, the Birmingham Six, and the PTA is but a reflection of England's arrogant claim to rule this country.

"The cause of all political violence now and in the past is the British presence and until that is removed, this country will never enjoy justice and genuine peace. Never let it be forgotten that violence was rampant in the North before the Provisional IRA was ever founded. The peaceful movement of Civil Rights was batoned into oblivion by Crown Forces

and thus made inevitable the armed resistance of an oppressed people.

"It will take the concentrated effort of a united people to end British rule. That was the lesson of 1916 when a group of heroic people asserted in arms our nation's right to liberty. The great national movement which followed came within an inch of securing freedom. But British guile and Irish gullibility lost the day and the great unity was shattered.

"We must return to the message of Easter Week. There can be no place for compromise or a selling out on fundamental principles. People fight for liberty; they do not fight for a few people to obtain seats in partitionist assemblies. Easter week gave us our Charter of Freedom. Let us strive to ensure its implementation and by doing so we will achieve the unity of purpose our people so badly need."

A commemoration ceremony was held on Easter Saturday evening at Clady Bridge where Vol. James McGinn was killed on active service on December 15, 1973. A wreath was also laid on the grave of Comdt. John James Kelly in Doneyloop Cemetery, Castelfinn, who was killed on November 28, 1938.

DOWN

THE SOUTH DOWN commemoration was held at Aughlinnafin Churchyard on Easter Sunday morning. A lone piper and a six-man colour party led by Eamon McNulty, Castlewella, headed the crowd of about 70 people who paraded to the grave of Comdt. James Johnston.

A decade of the Rosary was said by Raphael McElhone, Castlewella Republican Sinn Féin. Wreaths were laid in memory of Comdt. James Johnston, local South Down Volunteers and the men of 1916 by Edmund Fitzpatrick, Kilcoo and John Sloan, Castlewella. A lament was played by the lone piper, Padraic Rooney, Longstone.

Danny Fitzpatrick of the Peter McNulty Cumann, Castlewella, chaired the proceedings and called on Joe McCnickard to read the Roll of Honour. The 1916 Proclamation was read by James McClements and after the Easter Statement was read Eamon O Mathúna, Newry, gave the oration. The piper concluded the proceedings with Amhrán na bhFiann.

DUBLIN

A CROWD of about 70 people marched from Parnell Square to the GPO at 12 noon on Easter Sunday, led by a Cumann na mBan colour party, for the Dublin Commemoration. This was the site of Easter Ceremonies for years after the 1916 Rising, but the staging of Free State Army parades there in the 1930s saw a switch to Glasnevin Cemetery.

At the GPO the crowd swelled to over 150 people. The commemoration was

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● **Tralee parade halts outside Rath cemetery.**



● **Laying a wreath on Vol. Thomas Behan's grave during the Kildare ceremony.**

chaired by Andy Connolly, Cathaoirleach, Comhairle Ceantair Atha Cliath, Republican Sinn Féin. A wreath was laid by Tony Ruane, Honorary Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin. Trudy Mullally read the 1916 Proclamation, a decade of the Rosary was recited in Irish by Peig King and Seán O Sé read the statement from the Leadership of Republican Sinn Féin.

After the Dipping of the Flags, the chairperson introduced Liam Cotter, Kerry, who gave the oration.

In the course of his speech Liam said that we stood at the holiest spot in Ireland, where Pearse and Connolly and the men and women of 1916 had proclaimed the Irish Republic, a Republic that had been sold out in ensuing years by people who used the Republican cause for their own profit.

Republicans had struggled throughout the years to re-establish the Republic of Pearse and Connolly and in the last twenty years many had sacrificed their life and liberty to that purpose. Former comrades were now going down the same path as Michael Collins, De Valera, Frank Aiken, MacBride and Goulding and he said they were engaged in talks with John Hume and his collaboratorist SDLP, talks which Hume reported back on to Haughey and King.

He concluded by reiterating the need for Republicans to redouble their efforts in the coming years to ensure that the Republic would not be sold out once again. Following the National Anthem the parade dispersed.

A wreath-laying ceremony took place on Easter Sunday afternoon at the 1916 Memorial in Glasnevin Cemetery.

At 1pm on Easter Monday Republicans in Dún Laoghaire held a wreath-laying

ceremony at the Republican plot in Deansgrange Cemetery.

FERMANAGH

ON EASTER SUNDAY wreaths were laid on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin on the graves of Volunteers at Arney, Enniskillen, Roslea and Newtownbutler.

Over 100 people gathered in Swanlinbar for the Co. Fermanagh Commemoration on Easter Monday. The ceremony this year took place at the Memorial in Killaduff Cemetery over the grave of Vol. Pat McManus who died on active service on August 15, 1958. Pat was a native of Kinawley, Co. Fermanagh.

Welcoming the crowd Mick McManus, who presided, extended a special welcome to Katy B. Keaney, Killyclogher, a niece of the 1916 leader Seán Mac Diarmáda, and to Veteran Derry Republican, Seán Keenan.

An Cathaoirleach then extended sympathy to the relatives of all those who died in the past 12 months and he mentioned in particular the loss of Jim Lynch, Monaghan and Pat Ward, Donegal who both had long associations with Fermanagh and Cavan.

He condemned the action of a group calling itself the National Graves Association, Fermanagh, who filed for permission to the RUC to march in Roslea to honour those who died for Ireland. This filing under the 'Public Order Order' was not mentioned in advertisements in the local press.

A decade of the Rosary was recited by



● **Liam Cotter at the GPO**
Seán Keenan. A wreath was laid by Kevin McManus, Derrylin, on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin. A second wreath was laid to all Volunteers killed on active service duty in Fermanagh down through the years. A bugler sounded the Last Post. Ann Magee, Belcoo, read the 1916 Proclamation and Mick McManus read the Fermanagh Roll of Honour.

The oration was delivered by Emmett Walsh, Offaly. The ceremony ended with *Anúráin na bhFiann*.

GALWAY

400 PEOPLE turned out for the Co. Galway commemoration in Donaghpatrick on Easter Sunday. A lone piper led the colour party and marchers who formed up at Quealies Cross at 3pm.

Councillor Frank Glynn, Milltown, chaired the proceedings at the Republican Plot. The Rosary was said by Peadar Hughes, Kilbeg. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Darcy family and Republican Sinn Féin cumainn in Galway. The piper played the lament.

Joe Darcy, Headford, the son of Tony Darcy who died on hunger strike in Mountjoy Prison, Dublin on April 16, 1940 and is buried in Donaghpatrick Republican Plot, read the 1916 Proclamation.

Murt Qualter, Athenry, read the Roll of Honour and Jim Neary, Carnmore, read the Easter Statement. The oration was given by Patsy Sweeney, Sligo. All in all, it was the most successful commemoration for many years.

UACHTAR ARD

The commemoration of the 65th anniversary of the execution by counter-revolutionary forces of Vol. Séamus O Máille, East Conemara Brigade, 4th Western Division, IRA, took place outside the church in Uachtar Ard on April 10, a few hundred yards from where Séamus lived as a young man. The ceremonies were introduced by the Mayor of Uachtar Ard, Patrick Gibbons, a cousin of Séamus O Máille. The Chairperson was Caoimhghnín Mac Cathmhaoil and the oration was delivered by Cathleen Knowles, Dublin.

During the oration, Cathleen Knowles recalled how Séamus O Máille had been taken aside in Galway Jail and told that he would be executed the following morning, April 11, 1923. Along with five others he was taken to Tuam Workhouse, lined up by the Oratory wall, blindfolded and shot by a Free State firing squad.

Following the oration the group marched a mile or so to the cemetery, led by a lone piper. The National Flag was carried by Seán Mac an Iomaire, Caoimhghnín Mac Cathmhaoil carried the Starry Plough and Dáithí Joyce the Fianna Flag. The banner of Liam Mellows was also carried.

At the graveside a decade of the Rosary was recited in Irish by Seán Mac an Iomaire and the Easter Statement read by Séamus O Náirigh of the Ard Chomhairle.

KERRY

A WREATH-LAYING ceremony took place at Killbanivane Cemet-

ery, Castleisland, on Good Friday.

This was the first ceremony to take place there for many years. A colour party led the assembly to the Republican Plot, where the Rosary was recited by Eamon Breen. Wreaths were laid by Margaret Doherty on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin and by Margaret Scanlon on behalf of Cabhair. The colour party then proceeded to the grave of former hunger striker Brendan Doherty, where a wreath was laid by Brendan's mother on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin.

LISTOWEL

On Easter Sunday morning a group of Republicans assembled at Listowel Cemetery, from where they were led by a colour party to the Republican Plot. The Rosary was recited by Willie Walsh and wreaths were laid by Patrick Dilane on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin, and by Mike Kissane on behalf of Cabhair. The oration was given by Brian Smullen.

TRALEE

The main North Kerry Commemoration took place at the Republican Plot in Rath Cemetery in Tralee on Easter Sunday afternoon, when about 100 Republicans gathered at the '88 Memorial in Denny Street at 3.30pm.

The parade was led by the Cullen Pipe Band from Cork, and a colour party carrying the National, and the Four Provinces flags. When the parade arrived at Rath Cemetery, Free State Sinn Féin were still there having delayed their ceremony and had blocked the gate to the Cemetery.

After about 30 minutes delay the parade continued into the Cemetery to the Republican Plot, where George Rice, Tralee, was Cathaoirleach.

A decade of the Rosary was recited by Pádraig O Droma. Wreaths were laid by Mrs. Elsie Kerins O'Connor, a sister of Charlie Kerins who was hanged in Mountjoy Jail by the Free State in 1944 and is buried in the Plot, by Geraldine Smullen on behalf of Cumann na mBan and Cumann na gCaillíní and by Willie Walsh and Margaret Doherty.

The 1916 Proclamation was read by Eibhlín Talbóid and Siobhán Cotter of The Spa read the Easter Statement. The oration was delivered by Emer O'Connor, Limerick. As the Commemoration ended with the playing of our National Anthem, the crowd of 100 or so, led by Mrs. George Rice joined in.

On Easter Sunday night the North Kerry Comhairle Ceantair, Republican Sinn Féin, held a very successful dance in the Ballingary House. It was attended by over 400 people, many of whom expressed their disgust "at the carry on of the new Free Staters" at Rath Cemetery earlier in the day.

CAHIRCIVEEN

The South Kerry Commemoration was at Cahirciveen on Easter Sunday. The parade formed up at the Fairgreen at 3pm and a crowd of 400 people marched behind the National Flag, a four-man colour party and the Valentia Island Pipe Band to the Republican Plot in Kilvarnogue Cemetery.

On the way the parade halted at the Republican Monument outside Cahirciveen Library where Mick O'Neill, a brother of Maurice O'Neill who was executed by De Valera's government in 1942, laid a wreath.

At the graveside Seán O'Neill, another brother of Maurice's, recited a decade of the Rosary. The Easter Statement and the Kerry South and East Roll of Honour were read by Derrick McKenna.

Maitiú O Brádaigh gave the oration and he recalled the Fenians of Cahirciveen who, in 1867, had marched towards Killarney to strike a blow for Irish Freedom. The Unionist Bishop Moriarty had attempted to blacken their exploits at the time and his descendants today in the Bishops Pastoral of 1987 only condemn-



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ed 'Republican violence' and attempted to whitewash the continuing violence of British rule in the Six Counties, he said.

"I pose the question to all so-called moral leaders in Ireland, Catholic and Protestant, clerical and lay: Does the British government have any moral right to be in Ireland? It is time that those who denigrate Irish resistance answered this question."

Condemning the government's policy on the ever-weakening Irish language he said: "Tá an lá tagtha go gcaithfear fáil réidh leis an mbaothchaint faoin Gaeilge agus tacú leis na hiarrachtaí macánta atá a ndéanamh muintir na h-Eireann a stiúradh ar an mbóthar fada go athréimniú na teangan."

The solution lies in exerting our own identity as a distinct nation and defending the people of the nation, whether it be the people of the occupied Six Counties, the young jobless who should stay and fight for their right to employment, or the weaker members of society who are suffering under terrible state welfare cutbacks. The Irish Republic of Pearse and Connolly demands no less of us all, he concluded.

After the band played Amhrán na bhFiann the parade re-formed and marched back to the Fairgreen. A Dance was held on Easter Sunday night in Waterville and was a great success.

KILLARNEY

On Easter Monday at 2.00pm a wreath-laying ceremony was held in Killarney. The ceremony was chaired by Brian Smullen, the Rosary was recited by Liam Cotter, wreaths were laid by Margaret Doherty on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin and by Margaret Scanlon on behalf of Cabhair. The speaker was Maitiú O Brádaigh.

KILDARE

THIS YEAR'S commemoration took place in Rathangan at the grave of Vol. Thomas Behan who died in the Curragh Camp on December 12, 1922. Proceedings started with a parade the half-mile from the village to the cemetery, led by a piper and drummer and a four-man colour party.

The crowd of about 40 people at the graveside heard Matt Conway, Kilkullen, welcome their attendance and he then called on Ivor Hawkins to lead them in reciting a decade of the Rosary in Irish.

Kitty Hawkins laid a wreath on Vol. Behan's grave on behalf of Kildare Republican Sinn Féin. John Ryan, Newbridge, read the 1916 Proclamation and Celia Conway, Kilkullen, read the Easter Statement.

After the Dipping of the Flags, Cathleen Sheil, Dublin, gave the oration. The piper then played Amhrán na bhFiann to conclude the ceremony. The crowd ignored the attempted harassment by a large force of Branchmen at the cemetery and the day's events continued with a wreath-laying ceremony at Ballymore Eustace and a successful function which was held that night.

LAOIS

A WREATH-LAYING ceremony was held on Easter Sunday in Camross Cemetery, near Mountrath, at the grave of Vol. Joe Bergin, who gave his life for Ireland at Milltown Bridge, Co. Kildare on December 15, 1923. He was a native of Glencondra, Camross.

LEITRIM

IN NORTH Leitrim a wreath-laying ceremony was held on Easter



● Dundalk Republicans marching through the town on Easter Sunday.

Sunday at Rossinver Cemetery beside the Fermanagh Border at the grave of Vol. Jack McCabe, Omagh Raid prisoner, 1954-61.

Those who attended refused to be intimidated by the large force of Branchmen and at the graveside Declan Cumeen, Glanade, chaired the ceremony and led the crowd in a decade of the Rosary.

Barney McCabe laid a wreath on behalf of the late Volunteer's family and John Brannelly laid a wreath on behalf of local Republican Sinn Féin Cumainn.

After 10am Mass in Gorgagh wreaths were laid on the Selton Hill IRA memorial by Micheál Mac Donnacha, Drumshanbo, on behalf of Leitrim Comhairle Ceantair, Republican Sinn Féin and Michael Kennedy, Gorgagh on behalf of the local Commemoration Committee. Pat McGrath, Drumshanbo, lead those present in a decade of the Rosary in Irish.

LIMERICK

A CROWD OF 50 people marched from Bedford Row in Limerick to the Republican Plot in Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery, Limerick at 3pm on Easter Sunday.

At the graveside Des Long presided. Domhnall O hEidheam led the crowd in a decade of the Rosary in Irish.

Alf Larkin laid a wreath at the Republican Plot on behalf of Limerick Republican Sinn Féin. Tomás Sullivan laid a wreath on the grave of Vol. Seán Glynn.

A drummer and bugler sounded the Last Post and Reveille and the 1916 Proclamation was read. Rory Long read the Easter Statement.

Seán O Brádaigh, in his oration, compared Easter Sunday in Ireland with the 14th July in France and the 4th July in the US.

"Other countries are proud to honour their freedom fighters, but here in Ireland it is now a question of 'who fears to speak of '98, who blushes at the name'.

"The fruits of surrender are clear to see — a subservient role for the 26-county state, collaboration with the British government and an underdeveloped country surviving on handouts, the poor relation of the EEC.

"Sinn Féin Poblachtach has a major task ahead to educate the youth of Ireland, so that they understand what an awful country we now have and why we have it. The task of organising them to build an alternative is no less daunting, but we take inspiration from our patriot dead"

LONGFORD

THE MULLAGHORAN Youth Band provided the music at the commemoration this year which paralleled from Clonbroney Cross, Ballinalree to the Republican Plot to honour Brig. Seán Connolly, Ballinalree and Lieut. Tommy Kelleher,

who died in March and June 1921 at the hands of British forces.

The National Flag was carried by Mattie Casey, Drumlish, and Seán Lynch, Aghnaciliffe acted as Cathaoirleach for the ceremony at the graveside, attended by about 50 people. A decade of the Rosary in Irish was recited by Tomás Mac Ruairi, Conaoh.

Conroy Rogers, Ballinalree, laid a wreath on behalf of the Co. Longford East Commemoration Committee and Stephen Fulham laid a wreath on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin in Longford. Seán Lynch read the 1916 Proclamation and Myles Shevlin, Solicitor, Dublin, gave a fitting oration.

A wreath-laying ceremony was also held at the Tommy Kelleher Memorial in Drumlish which had been cleaned and restored by the local RSF Cumann for the occasion.

LOUTH

THE LOUTH parade formed up at the Adelphi Cinema, Dundalk at 2pm and led by a colour-party marched through the main streets of the town to the Republican Plot in St. Patrick's Cemetery.

At the graveside Paddy Kerr presided and Seán Brady led the crowd of 100 people in the recitation of a decade of the Rosary in Irish.

Patrick Lennon read the Easter Statement, wreaths were laid and the National Flag was dipped to the sounding of the Last Post and raised to Reveille.

In the course of his oration, Ruairi O Bradaigh, Uachtarán, Republican Sinn Féin, said the 32-County Republic proclaimed in Easter Week 1916 was established by the First All-Ireland Dáil in 1919 but was overthrown and suppressed in the counter-revolution of 1922-23.

The Republic of Pearse and Connolly remains suppressed to this day by the 26-County state and the British colonial statelet in the Six Counties. The task of Republicans is to set the Republic of 1916 functioning again in all 32 counties and in the most modern and progressive form.

The British government had nothing to offer any section of the Irish people only violence and contempt. The 26-County parties give no leadership; they appease and collaborate with the British in Ireland, extradite political prisoners to them and pay the cost of maintaining the Border.

They have turned their backs on the ideals of the men and women of Easter 1916 and diluted the demands of the Proclamation.

It is with regret we note this Easter that former comrades have followed on their acceptance of the Free State and Britain's Border in Ireland by asking permission of the British Crown Forces to honour the Dead and seeking permission from the Free State to sell Easter Lilies.

The adoption of worthy left-wing policies was used to cover up the sell-out of the Republic in 1969-70; in 1986, the armed struggle was and is still being used

to cover up what is happening.

Time would relentlessly expose the present departure from the principles of the Proclamation of 1916 but Republicans could not wait for that. To do so would allow the Republic of 1916 and 1919 to die in our time.

The Republican Movement was therefore being re-built on sound principles and the most generous and unselfish of our young people should come forward and help in this vital national work.

We must assert our Irish identity and nationality, strengthen our dedication to democratic ideals and work for the emancipation of our people, socially, economically and culturally.

MAYO

ON EASTER Sunday Mayo Republicans gathered on the Swinford Road, Kiltimagh at 2.30pm for the County Commemoration. They paraded to the grave of Brig. Seán Corcoran, Kiltimagh, who was killed in action at Ballyhaunis in 1920.

Peadar Murray carried the National Flag to the graveside where Dan Hoban, Newport, presided. A decade of the Rosary was recited by Margaret Murray, Newport.

Wreaths were laid on behalf of the Mayo Branch of the National Graves Association by Walter Fitzgerald, Kiltimagh and for Republican Sinn Féin by Paddy O'Reilly.

A piper played the lament and then the chairman introduced Frank Graham, Dublin, who delivered the oration.

A COMMEMORATION ceremony was held in Kilkelly on Easter Monday to mark the Easter Rising and to honour the memory of the Volunteers of the East Mayo Brigade.

The commemoration began with a march from the local Church to the memorial site. A piper led a Colour Party which was followed by 150 local people and visitors from Galway, Sligo and Donegal. Wreaths were laid on behalf of a number of Republican organisations and a decade of the Rosary was recited by Margaret Murray. A veteran of the Brigade, John Snee of Kilkelly, read the Roll of Honour and a statement from the Leadership of Republican Sinn Féin was read by Paddy O'Reilly of Kiltimagh.

Tributes were paid to the late Frank Colgan who was instrumental in erecting the Kilkelly memorial. Among the attendance were Mr. Colgan's daughter, Lynda, and sons Gerry and Pat. The ceremonies were presided over by Dan Hoban assisted by Peadar Murray of Newport. The main oration was delivered by Dáithí O Conaill, Chairman, Republican Sinn Féin.

MEATH

THIS YEAR'S traditional Easter commemoration was held by the local Republican Commemoration Committee at the grave in Ardbraccan Cemetery, Navan, of Volunteer George McDermott of the IRA who was killed in action at the Curraghtown Ambush on July 5, 1922.

Wreaths were laid by Mr. Frank Hanley on behalf of the Meath Committee and by Aine Ní Fhearligh on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin.

A decade of the Rosary was recited in Irish by Mr. Seán McCormack, Dunsany, and the 1916 Proclamation was read by Mr. Pat Farrelly, Trim.

An oration by Mr. Niall Fagan, Summerhill, included a scathing attack on the Dublin government who, he said, were engaging in a campaign of co-operation, collusion and collaboration with the occupation forces and he re-

1916 Cuimhneacháin na Cásca 1988

affirmed the Republican commitment to achieve a British withdrawal from the North.

"In doing so, we are proud to follow in the footsteps of Tone and Pearse and those other men we commemorate today," he added.

Traditional musicians rendered Amhrán na bhFiann on concertina and violin to end the ceremony.

MONAGHAN

THERE WAS a well-attended family commemoration for Vol. Séamus McElwaine at Urbleshanny Graveyard, Scotstown, Co. Monaghan on Easter Sunday.

Séamus, one of Ireland's most courageous soldiers and a totally selfless person was killed in action by British undercover soldiers in the townland of Mullaghglass near Roslea, Co. Fermanagh on Saturday, April 26, 1986.

He died defending the life of a nation yet to flourish, guarding the honour of Ireland unconquered. Go raibh suaimhneas síoraí dá anam. Let us all ensure that the Republic so gallantly fought for by the youth of Ireland is not again abandoned to the Sadleir and Keogh politicians of this generation.

A decade of the Rosary was recited for the repose of the souls of all fallen comrades. Séamus' father, James McElwaine called on the Nationalist people especially in the British-occupied Six Counties to be ever-mindful of their history and to guard against settlements that accommodated British imperialist interests in Ireland. Any such settlements would, needless to say, be resisted by the Republican people, he concluded.

OFFALY

A WREATH-LAYING ceremony took place over the Easter period at the grave of Joseph Byrne in Kildonfert Cemetery, Co. Offaly. He was executed by the Free State in Portlaoise Prison on January 29, 1923. Joseph Byrne was a native of Cruit, Croghan, Co. Offaly.

ROSCOMMON

ON EASTER Sunday morning Republicans gathered in Elphin after 11.30 Mass to parade to the County Roscommon IRA Memorial in Shankill. Sam Cryan, ex-Portlaoise POW, carried the National Flag at the head of the march and Joe Kelly, Kilglass, laid the wreath.

In the afternoon Arigna was the scene of the County Commemoration to the graves of Vols. Jim and Michael Cull and Patrick Tynan.

The Chief Marshal of the parade was Sylvester Fitzsimons, Drumsna, and the National Flag was carried by Henry Owens. Raheen Pipers led the colour party and a crowd of over 300 people to the cemetery.

Tom Lavin, Arigna, chaired the proceedings and wreaths were laid by Tom Cull and Mrs McManus, both relatives of the dead Volunteers and by veteran Republican Pat Tiernan and Rosaleen Conroy on behalf of Roscommon Comhairle Ceantair, Republican Sinn Féin.

The 1916 Proclamation was read by Addie Clarke, Hillstreet, and the roll of Honour by Dermot Mullooly, Strokes-town. Tom Malone, Nenagh, delivered the oration. The Raheen Pipers concluded with Amhrán na bhFiann.

SLIGO

AT 3.30pm on Easter Sunday 50 people marched from the City Hall to the Republican Plot in Sligo Cemetery. The colour party, under the direction of Eamon Healy, led the parade and Matt Murphy, Sligo, chaired the ceremony at the graveside.

Seán McGoldrick, Riverstown, recited a decade of the Rosary and wreaths were laid on behalf of the Third Western Division, IRA, 1916-23, the Sligo branch of the National Graves Association, Sligo Republican Sinn Féin and the leadership of RSF.

Vincent O'Doherty, Sligo, read the 1916 Proclamation and Michael Kearns read the Roll of Honour. Eamon Healy read the Easter Statement and Séamus Leonard, Dublin, delivered the oration.

Séamus Leonard concluded his oration by quoting from the late Pat Ward, when he said at the Kevin Coen commemoration in Riverstown, Co. Sligo on January 24 last:

"The only legitimate mandate comes to us from the election of 1918, the last time the whole of the Irish people were asked for their consent, and to Republicans that consent still stands."

TIPPERARY

THE REPUBLICAN monument in Nenagh was the scene for a wreath-laying ceremony on Easter Sunday morning attended by 30 people.

In the afternoon North Tipperary Republicans gathered at Killeacle to parade to the grave of Vice-Brigadier Seán Treacy of the Third Tipperary Brigade, IRA, who was killed in action in Talbot Street, Dublin on October 14, 1920.

50 people marched and at the graveside Cllr. Finbar Kissane, Tipperary Town, presided. Géaráid O Broin read the Easter Statement and Des Long, Limerick, gave the oration.

SOUTH TIPPERARY

On Easter Monday at 3pm a commemoration was held at the grave of Vol. George Plant in St. Johnstown, Fethard. His sister Elizabeth Plant attended the ceremony to honour her brother who faced a Free State firing squad on March 5, 1942.

The crowd of 30 people marched from the roadway to the cemetery watched by four car-loads of Free State Special Branch.

The National Flag was carried by Tom O'Sullivan, Doon, and the ceremony was chaired by Councillor Finbar Kissane, Tipperary Town. A wreath was laid by Tom Burns of Bansha, the 1916 Proclamation was read by Cathleen Knowles, Dublin, and Tom Malone, Nenagh read the Easter Statement. Des Long, Limerick, gave the oration.

TYRONE

ON EASTER Sunday morning a wreath-laying ceremony took place at the grave of Vol. Gerard McGlynn in Castleberg, Co. Tyrone.

The main Commemoration took place in the afternoon to the grave of Vol. Séamus Harvey at Aghyaran. Vols. McGlynn and Harvey died together on active service on August 11, 1973.

Felix McAteer presided at the graveside and a decade of the Rosary was recited in Irish. Wreaths were laid on the graves of Séamus Harvey, Robert Bartley and veteran Republican, John Philip O'Donnell. The 1916 Proclamation was read and Séamus O Caoil, Seaford, Co. Down, delivered the oration.

CARRICKMORE

On Easter Sunday evening a wreath-

laying ceremony was held by the Seán Sabhát Cumann in Carrickmore at the Co. Tyrone Memorial. The chairman, Jim McElhinney, Omagh, read the Easter Statement and sent greetings to all Republicans, POWs and their families on the 72nd Anniversary of the Easter Rising.

On leaving the Garden of Remembrance in Carrickmore the attendance was stopped by the RUC who accused them of having an 'illegal assembly'. An RUC man tore an Easter Lily from the lapel of one Republican and demanded: "Who gave you permission to wear that?"

All in all, the Tyrone ceremonies were very successful as this reaction from the British Crown Forces indicates.



● Marching through Wexford Town on Easter Sunday.

WESTMEATH

UNDER A CLEAR blue sky and under the unwelcome eyes of six members of the Free State political police a group of approximately 50 Republicans marched from the main Fernhill Road to the graves of Vols. Tom Hughes and Kit McKeown in Cornamagh Cemetery outside Athlone on Easter Sunday afternoon. In the cemetery another 50 people joined the procession.

The commemoration began at the grave of Tom Hughes chaired by Seosamh O Maolcoilín, who welcomed the group and commended them for turning out for this, the first commemoration to be held in Cornamagh in fifty-six years.

Cumann na mBan, the Seán Costello-Martin Hurson Cumann, Athlone, Republican Sinn Féin and the leadership of the Republican Movement presented wreaths, which were laid on the graves of Vols. Hughes and McKeown. An Cathaoirleach read the Easter Statement from the leadership of the Movement and then invited a grandson of the late Victor Fagg, Hillery Collins, to read the 1916 Proclamation. Victor Fagg, a well-known Athlone Republican who died on March 8 last, actually suggested the holding of the 1988 Easter Commemoration at Cornamagh and had made most of the arrangements for the ceremony prior to his death. His family were present at the ceremony to hear tributes from all the speakers. His son Brian read the Roll of Honour of the Athlone Brigade, IRA.

The main speaker, John Horan, Dublin, said:

"Hospitals may have to close; school-teachers may be made redundant; old-age pensioners may have to be taxed, all in the name of 'fiscal rectitude' but Britain's Border, which is costing the taxpayers £1 million per day, will not be affected by the cutbacks", he added.

Wreaths were laid at the grave of James Daly, the Connacht Ranger, in Tyrellspass and at the graves of Paddy Geraghty and Paddy Seery in Meedin. The graves of the Malone and Newman families were also remembered.

At the Moate Memorial the Tormey family and Sinn Féin Poblachtach Peter Barnes and James McCormack, hanged in Birmingham on February 7, 1940, were remembered at their graves in Mullingar and a wreath was laid at the grave of Joe Leavy at Enniscoffey near Milltownpass.

WEXFORD

AT 11.30am on Easter Sunday a Mass was celebrated in Rowe Street

Chapel, Wexford Town, for all those who died for Ireland. It was attended by the members of the National Graves Association, Wexford, the Mayor, the Town Clerk, Town Sergeant and other members of Wexford Corporation.

In the afternoon a crowd of 100 people marched through Wexford Town to the Republican Plot in St. Ibar's Cemetery. The parade was led by a Republican Sinn Féin colour party and the St. Patrick's Five and Drum Band.

A decade of the Rosary was recited as Gaelige by George Molloy, who was interred by Fianna Fáil in the 1940s. Wreaths were laid by Mrs. Kavanagh on behalf of the National Graves Association and by Séamus Mac Suain for Republican Sinn Féin. Wreaths were also laid at the Republican Garden of Remembrance, Kyle Cross, and at the graves of George Keegan, Enniscorthy, Paddy Parle, Cross-town and the graves of Matt Furlong, John Lacey and Jack Dunne.

The flag was dipped during the minutes silence in memory of the dead. The 1916 Proclamation was read by Matt Murphy, NGA. Tom Malone read the Wexford Roll of Honour. The Easter Statement was read by Jimmy Kavanagh, Wexford Town. As with all areas in the 26 Counties there was the unwelcome presence at the ceremony of "Maggie's Men" - the Special Branch.

Séamus Mac Suain, Wexford Town, gave the oration in which he said it was no wonder the British had only contempt for the Irish nation when it was almost a crime in the native collaborators' eyes to wear the Easter Lily and not the British poppy.

The ceremony concluded with a word of thanks to all who attended and helped in any way and the playing of Amhrán na bhFiann.

WICKLOW

WEST Wicklow and Kildare Republicans held a wreath-laying ceremony on Easter Sunday in Holly-wood, Co. Wicklow.

LITREACHA

WAIVING THE RULES

A chara,
The hypocritical attitudes of British premier Margaret Thatcher, and her fellow war criminals at Westminster, to oppression and injustice in far-off South Africa and Zionist Israeli-occupied Palestine is in sharp contrast to their ravenous pleasure at equally despicable practices operated by themselves in the occupied Six Counties and on Irish people in general.
Their ritual condemnation of Israeli brutality in the West Bank and Gaza stems from a need to curry favour with the oil-rich Arab states in defence of their profitable arms sales and industrial contracts. When the chips are down David Mellor will still support the Israeli occupation of Arab territory.
Thatcher's recent ritual shedding of crocodile tears and pleading for clemency for the admittedly innoc-

ent Sharpville Six can be of little comfort to them when she has no such compassion for the Birmingham Six. She claims to regret that six innocent people may soon die on a South African gallows even though she has, on several occasions, voted for a return of "capital punishment" in the British House of Commons. So much for her concern!

The Sharpville Six and the Birmingham Six are united in their innocence and their utter helplessness as victims of evil judicial systems. All are innocent and accepted widely as such and must be released but racists have determined that they be denied a fair and just trial.

Had the British parliament permitted the return of death by hanging, then surely the Birmingham Six, the Guildford Four and many more would have long since met their deaths. Thatcher would have been happy to see them die, her glee at the deaths of our hunger-strikers in 1981 proves that. Their deaths would remove the necessity to stage an unwelcome, embarrassing and damaging appeal farce.

The circumstances sur-

rounding the convictions of the Sharpville Six - i.e. they were supposed to have a "common purpose" with others, unknown, who killed a black councillor, are not peculiar to South Africa. The principle of "common purpose" exists under British colonial law in the occupied Six Counties also. It will be used on those gallant Nationalists who acted fearlessly in defence of fellow mourners at a Republican funeral at Andersonstown when two British soldiers drove at speed into the cortege. The British think nothing of waiving the rules at home, or in Irish homes, while posing as self-righteous moral policemen for racists abroad.

No. Thatcher, Mellor and Co. are not opposed to special courts, corrupt judiciaries, brutality or injustice at home or abroad. Their condemnations are momentary interruptions for wider political gain rather than a genuine statement of position. Their interests remain where they always were, with the powers that terrorise oppressed peoples. Norman Tebbit with his barely disguised hero worship of the South African regime is

perhaps more honest than most of his party but his views are certainly typical.

We Irish Republicans have experienced British terrorism for centuries and our memories are not confined to recent episodes at Loughgall, Gibraltar and Andersonstown. We have long and bitter memories of centuries of occupation, misrule, starvation and murder so we can genuinely sympathise with fellow victims of colonialism. Their suffering is ours.

The Thatchers, Mellors and Tebbitts find it safe, convenient and good politics to condemn terror in Gaza and Sharpville while their own terrorists and oppressive laws weigh heavily on the Irish people. We want none of their brutal colonial rule and we applaud all those who resist racism.

Michael Donegan
South Armagh

THE LUBICON CREE

"I strongly feel, win or lose, whatever happens to

the Lubicon will happen to all native people across Canada. It's not just a land claim they're fighting for, it's survival now".

Aaron Greycloud.

This letter comes to you by way of an appeal to your readership in support of the aboriginal people of Canada, the Lubicon Cree in particular.

Until 1980 this band of Cree Indians were self-supporting and welfare and social problems were virtually unknown. Since then, massive oil development has hit the land where the Lubicon live, hunt and trap.

Revenues generated from this development are estimated to exceed one million dollars a day for the resource companies and the provincial government of Alberta. Unfortunately the Lubicon have not profited from any resource development that has sprung up around them, instead they are experiencing dependency on social assistance, alcoholism, suicide and chronic unemployment. Today social and health problems have reached a frightening level, nearly one-third of the Lubicon Cree have tuberculosis.

In Calgary recently, Chief Bernard Ominayak announced that the decades of peaceful protest were coming to an end. He (Ominayak) said that the band were determined to stop drilling operations on Lubicon land and will take up arms if necessary. Without their own land base the future of this band is in question, a way of life is vanishing, and so are its people in the name of profit and political expediency. The brutal exploitation of the Lubicon Cree has continued for half a century, enough is enough!

Hopefully those of you who read this brief outline of the situation at Little Buffalo Lake, Alberta, Canada will add their voices to the growing tide of support for Chief Bernard Ominayak and the Lubicon band. Letters of support should be sent to:

Lubicon Support Committee
c/o P.O. Box 3962
Regina, Saskatchewan
Canada S4P 3R9

Sincerely,

Mike Quinn
Kevin Daniels
Saskatchewan
Canada

NA FIANNA Éireann (Irish Republican Scouts) remember with pride our comrades, past and present, who have given their lives in the struggle for Irish Freedom.

Their selflessness and their sacrifice is a continuing source of inspiration to the youth of this country. We remember lads like Tony Hacker, Armagh, murdered by the UDR, who worked day and night during the H-Blocks hunger strikes.

We salute our members imprisoned in juvenile detention centres and remand jails throughout the country. They are the victims of war, the impoverished youth of a nation in struggle.

In every generation from the days of the Great Lock-Out of 1913 and the Howth gun-running to the present day, Na Fianna Éireann has passed the torch of militant separatism and democratic socialism to young people.

Today the welfare of our youth is under attack as never before, with rising unemployment and increasing poverty. The most vulnerable section of our society, the young people, are being hit the hardest, turning to drugs, to sleeping rough and once again taking the emigrant ship.

Na Fianna Éireann sees its role in the future as training its members for future involvement in the Republican Movement and bringing to the

youth of this country, and to all freedom-loving people, the message of Wolfe Tone, James Connolly, Liam Mellows and Pádraig Pearse.

While we support armed struggle we condemn those who have reneged on Republican principles by advocating participation in the partitionist assembly, Leinster House.

There exists at the moment a group of scouts styling themselves Na Fianna Éireann. They support this departure and have changed the green shirt of Na Fianna for the semi-khaki of England. They have altered Na Fianna Constitution without consulting the rank-and-file members of the organisation, to allow them to support future participants in usurping institutions. By so doing, they have automatically expelled themselves from Na Fianna Éireann.

Na Fianna Éireann is the revolutionary youth organisation of the Republican Movement founded in 1909 by Countess Markievicz and Bulmer Hobson "to train the youth of Ireland to fight Ireland's fight when they are older and the day comes". We maintain the ideals for which we were founded and offer an opportunity to young Republicans to work for National Liberation through political, cultural and scouting activities - boys seven years to 15 years old join Fianna Óga, 15 years and over join the Seniors.

We stand for the right of the Irish people as

one nation to rule themselves as proclaimed in 1916. We believe that the continued British presence in Ireland is a stranglehold on the future progress of the nation.

While we are a boys' organisation we will accept girls, seven years and over, into our ranks until our sister organisation Cumann na gCailíní reorganises.

In August this year Na Fianna will be 79 years in existence. When founded Na Fianna Éireann was to be an Irish alternative to the pro-British Baden-Powell scouts. Na Fianna, in those days, looked to the legendary Fianna of Fionn mac Cumhail as their inspiration and took for their motto: *Glaine inár geroithe, neart inár néagá* *beart do réir ár mbriathar* -- purity in our hearts, strength in our arms and truth on our lips. Today Na Fianna continues that tradition with young people from all over the 32 Counties hiking, camping, marching in uniform at commemorations and learning about their heritage in music, dance and song.

We urge all Republican families to send their children to enrol. What is a success for Na Fianna is a success for the Republican Movement. We are working for the day when all the people on this island can live in freedom, justice and peace. There is no peace where there is injustice and no justice where there is no freedom.

GHQ Staff, Fianna Éireann

CUMANN NA SAOIRSE

The Irish Freedom Committee
P.O. Box 701246, Trains Meadow Station Flushing, New York 11370-9998
TRUSTEES: Michael Flannery, Joe Stynes, George Harrison

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 you 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*

Pledge

Name of Contributor _____
Address _____
Zip Code _____

I the undersigned pledge to contribute \$5 \$10 \$15 \$20 per month, \$_____ per year to support the dependents of Irish political prisoners:

Name _____
Address _____
Zip Code _____

SAOIRSE - IRISH FREEDOM Notice To U.S. Subscribers

We have completed our first successful year in the United States. As you have noticed we are entering the new year with a tabloid form newspaper that will include more news from Ireland and our development and growth in the U.S.

We reached our goal for the past year, and with your continued support we expect to increase our readership in '88.

To achieve our objectives, we aim to go to press on a monthly basis, consequently there will be an unavoidable price increase.

We thank our present subscribers and request all others to complete the application form below. Please include *18 for annual subscription.

SAOIRSE IRISH FREEDOM P.O. Box 1053
S. Orange, N.J. 07079

Please send me

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____

Enclosed please find *18 for annual subscription.

The organising committee of Cumann na Saoirse (Irish Freedom Committee) in New York voted sympathy to Mick Lally of Boston, the noted boxer, on the death of April 12 of his father Nick Lally of Carraree, Co. Galway and formerly of Lower Abbeygate Street, Galway.

A lifelong Republican Nick Lally served a sentence of nine months in Arbour Hill Prison in Dublin in 1941 and was interned without trial in the Curragh Concentration Camp until May 1945. A contemporary ballad recorded:

"This Camp has lasted five long years It has housed many hundreds of Volunteers

Boland says he'll release no more, Because we're what's known as the 'tough hard core'.

Nick Lally was one of the last dozen or so Republican prisoners to be released from the Curragh in the 1940s. He was indeed one of the "Tough Hard Core" of the Republican Movement at the time. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

SAOIRSE invites readers with relatives in the USA to send their names and addresses to CUMANN NA SAOIRSE at their New York address:

P.O. Box 701246
Tram's Meadow Station
New York 11370 - 9998
USA

COMHBHRÓN

BEGLEY, Bearna Uladh Republican Sinn Féin extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Patsy Begley, Mountpleasant, Dunleak, who died recently. Patsy was one of the last surviving veterans of the Dromitee Company, 4th Division, IRA, and he will be sadly missed by his many Republican friends many Republican friends in South Armagh, Counsellor Eamon Larkin and Cilliar Eamon Republican Mich-Carrill of Carrickasael, Carrick, South Armagh were among the magh were among the mourners at Patsy Begley's funeral. I measc laochra na nGael go raibh sé.

BREEN, Comhairle Chúige Múmhán passed a vote of sympathy in April with the family of Eamon Breen, Castleland, Co. Kerry on the recent death of his mother. Go ndéana Dia trocaire ar a haman.

FAGG, Sincere sympathy to Una Fagg and family on the recent death of Victor Fagg, Athlone. From his

comrades in Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht. Bhí tú dflis go hEag, a Victor. Leaba i measc na bhFínir go raibh aige.

KELLIHER, Comhairle Uladh wishes to extend deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Mrs. Kelliher, Listowel, Co. Kerry who died recently. Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh a haman.

LALLY, Gabhann Ard Chomhairle Shinn Féin Poblachtach comhbhrón le bean-chéile agus clainn Niocláis Uí Mhaolálaí.

LALLY: Rith cruinnú de Chomhairle Ceantair na Gaillimhe rith comhbhrón le bean-chéile, clainn agus gaolta Nick Lally ag cruinnú ar Aibreán 18.

LALLY: Ghlac Comhairle Chonnacht le rith comhbhrón ag cruinnú ar Aibreán 17 le muintir Lally. An Cheathrú Rua, Conamara, de bharr báis Nick Lally, fíor-Eireannach.

LALLY: Comhbhrón le

muintir Nick Lally ó Chumann an Athar Uí Ghríofa, Cathair na Gaillimhe, ó Chumann Mairtíoch Thuama i dtuaisir, ó Chumann Liam O Maolíos i mBéal Atha an Rí, ó Chumann Deartháir-eacha Lachtnáin, Gort - Sean-Eaglais agus ó Chumann Lughaidh O Dorcha, an Cam Mór.

LALLY, Deepest sympathy to the family, relatives and friends of Nick Lally, Cullane, An Cheathrú Rua, Co. na Gaillimhe who died on April 12 last aged 69. Nick Lally was interned in the Curragh Concentration Camp in 1940 at the age of 21. He was always an active Republican, in the anti-EEC and all other campaigns. From Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht, Sinn Féin Poblachtach. Go ndéana Dia trocaire ar a anam.

MURPHY, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Nellie Murphy, Dublin, who died recently. Nellie was a life-long Republican and member of Cumann na mBan. I measc laochra na nGael go raibh sí. From the Executive, Cumann na mBan.

NOLAN, A vote of sympathy was passed at the April meeting of Comhairle Chúige Mumhan with Michael Nolan, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary on the recent death of his mother. Go raibh suainhneas sfór-á dá haman.

O'CONNELL, Deepest sympathy is extended to Daithi and family on the recent death of his brother Jimmy. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam. Pádraig O Pearail Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Loch Garman.

WARD, Sincere sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Pat Ward who died on March 7. Always remembered by Martin Devitt Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Milltown Malbay, Co. Clare.

WARD, Comhairle Uladh deeply regrets the death of Pat Ward and extends deepest sympathy to Mary, Fodhla, Eiru and all of Pat's family, comrades and friends on his untimely death. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

WARD, Comhairle Laigneach deeply regrets the death of Pat Ward and extends deepest sympathy to Mary, Fodhla, Eiru, family circle, comrades and friends. I measc laochra na nGael go raibh sé.

WARD, Sincere sympathy to Mary, Fodhla, Eiru and all Pat's family, friends

and comrades. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam. Pádraig O Pearail Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Loch Garman.

WARD, The Central Committee of CABhairle - Irish Republican Prisoners' Dependents Fund, extends deepest sympathy to Mary, Fodhla, Eiru and all of Pat's family, comrades and friends on his recent untimely death. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

WARD, Coiste Cuimhneacháin Náisiúnta deeply regrets the death of Pat Ward and extends deepest sympathy to Mary, Fodhla, Eiru, family circle, comrades and friends. I measc laochra na nGael go raibh sé.

WARD, Deepest sympathy to Mary, Fodhla and Eiru on the death of Pat Ward, Donegal. He will be sorely missed. Always remembered by his comrades in Comhairle Chúige Chonnacht. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

I GCUIMHNE

DOHERTY, Brendan - 4th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Brendan Doherty, Dromroo, Currow, Killarney, Co. Kerry, who died on 3 June 1984.

Free State police brutality, followed by an eight-year prison sentence in Portlaoise, during which he endured a 47-day hunger strike led by his early death. Always remembered by his mother, his sister Margaret and John Houlihan.

DOHERTY, Brendan -

4th Anniversary. In loving memory of Brendan Doherty, Dromroo, Currow, Killarney, Co. Kerry, who died 3 June, 1984. Always remembered by his widow Margaret and the Linehan family.

McELWAINE, Séamus - 2nd Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Séamus McElwaine, Knockatallon, Scotstown, Co. Monaghan, who was killed on active service near Roslea, County Fermanagh by British Crown Forces on April 26, 1986. Always remembered by his loving family.

McELWAINE, Séamus - 2nd Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Vol. Séamus McElwaine, Knockatallon, Scotstown, Co. Monaghan, who was killed in action by British Crown Forces on April 26, 1986. Ni dhéanaimid dearmad ort go deo, a Shéamus. From the Patrick MacKenna/Séamus McElwaine Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Scotstown, County Monaghan.

katalon, Co. Monaghan, who was killed in action by undercover British troops in Fermanagh on April 26, 1986. Leaba i measc na bhFínir go raibh aige. From his comrades in Comhairle Chúige Uladh, Republican Sinn Féin.

McELWAINE, Séamus - 2nd Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Vol. Séamus McElwaine, killed in action by British Crown Forces on April 26, 1986. Ni dhéanaimid dearmad ort go deo, a Shéamus. From the Patrick MacKenna/Séamus McElwaine Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Scotstown, County Monaghan.

BUIÓCHAS

WARD, The wife and family of Pat Ward (RIP) wish to thank all those kind people who sympathised with them on their recent sad bereavement and all those who sent Mass cards and letters of sympathy; to Cumann na mBan and Republican Sinn Féin who provided support and sympathy throughout the funeral period and those people from the US and Europe who sent messages of sympathy.

A special word of thanks to Pat's comrades in the Republican Movement who provided a Guard of Honour throughout the funeral proceedings; to the people who turned out in large numbers in bad weather to meet the funeral cortege in Ballinamore, Drumshan-

bo, Sligo, Bundoran, Dungloe and at the house; to Republican prisoners in Albany Jail in England and in Long Kesh and at Portlaoise jails who sent Mass cards and letters of sympathy; to Cumann na mBan and Republican Sinn Féin who provided support and sympathy throughout the funeral period and those people from the US and Europe who sent messages of sympathy.

A special word of thanks to An tAth Fiaras O Dúill who officiated at the removal of the remains from the hospital and at the funeral itself. We would also like to thank the staff at Dungloe Hospital and

James Connolly Memorial Hospital in Dublin who did so much to help Pat in his last days and the undertaker who travelled from Donegal to Dublin and back to Donegal during a very long day.

Finally, we wish to thank the hundreds of people who travelled from all parts of the country to say last farewells to Pat and the neighbours whose support and untiring help was invaluable.

We hope that this acknowledgement will be accepted by all in grateful appreciation. Mass will be offered for their intentions.

NICK LALLY An Cheathrú Rua Ar Lár

BA MHOR an chúis bróin do lucht na Poblachta bás tobann Nick Lally as an Ceathrúin Rua, Conamara, ar Aibreán 12.

Rugadh agus tógadh Nick Lally i gcathair na Gaillimhe. Cheangail sé le Gluaiseacht na Poblachta go h-óg agus shaothraigh go dian ar son a thaire.

Gabhadh é ag fórsaí an t-Saoistáit i 1940 go luath tar-éis bháis dá oifigeach ceannais ar stailc ocras i bPríosún Chnoc an Arbaire; b'é síúd Tony Darcy as Ath Cinn, Co. na Gaillimhe. Cathheadh isteach Niocláis i gCampa Ghéibhinn ar an gCúic, maraon le cúig céad Poblachtach eile, gan chúis in a leith, gan triail ar bith.

Bhí Niocláis in a dhalta ag an scríobhóir clúitach Máirtín Ó Cadhain ó'n gCnocáin Glas, An Spideál, in a rang Gaeilge an síúd - rud a d'fhág a rian air go deire a shaoil.

DOSAEN DEIRIDH Scoileadh saor na Poblachtaigh a choinníodh gan triail de réir a chéile ó 1943 ar aghaidh. Bhí Niocláis ar an dosae deiridh a leigeadh saor i mBeirthe na Bealtaine 1945. Thug Gearóid Ó Beoláin, Aire Saoistáth, "the tough hard core" d'Arm Poblachtach na h-Eireann ar an dáiréag deiridh sin. Ba mhór an onóir ag Nick Lally agus a chomrádaithe an teist sin

ortha. Tar-éis a scaoilte d'imirt Nick rugbaí do Galway Rov-ers agus fhoireann Chúige Chonnacht chomh maith. Fear breá téagartha a bhí ann, go ndéana Dia grásta air. Tá a mhac Mike ina dhornálaí i mBoston Mheiriceá i lathair na h-uaire.

Chuaigh Nick mar stiúthóir ag CIE ar an mbus ó Ghaillimh go dtí an Cheathrú Rua. D'fhanadh sé amuigh san óiche; ba Ghaeilgeoir líofa é - a bhfuochas sin ag ranganna Uí Chadhain - agus a'fear Chonamara é feasta.

Phós sé Maisie Nic Donnacha ón gceantar agus chuir-eadar fútha ar an gCeathrúin Rua. Bhí ceangal ag Nick le Gluaiseacht na Poblachta i gCónaí agus is minic a ghníomhaigh sé mar chathaoirleach ag cruinnithe poiblí ag geataí seipéal an cheantair.

GARDA ONORACH Ag fáigil an Ospidéal Reigiúnaigh i nGaillimh dá shocraid bhí an Bratach Náisiúnta

ar a chónra agus Gáirda Onórach dá chomrádaithe i Sinn Féin Poblachtach dá thionlacchain. Bhí Gáirda Onórach breise ag a chomh-obrithe i CIE an freisin.

Tar-éis Aifreann na Marbh an lá dár gcionn, a léigheadh ag an Athair Lang, bhí an Gáirda Onórach Poblachtach ar dualgas arís agus píobaire aonair ag seinn chomh maith. Cois na h-uaghe i Reilig Chladhnaigh, Labhair Pádraig O Sionnachain ó'n Cam Mór a chaith na blianta i ngeibheann in éindigh le Nick.

"Ba mhaith liom-sa, ar mo shon féin, ar son Gluaiseacht na Poblachta, agus go h-áirithe ar son a chomrádaithe a bhí i ngeibheann, leis ar an gCúic ins na daichidí, comhbhrón a dhéanamh le bean-chéile Niocláis agus len a chlainn go léir.

"Is anstín a chuir mé aithne air sa chéad áit. Fear umhal, misníúil a bhí ann; sheas sé an fód anstín go misníúil ar feadh cúig bhliain fada uaigneacha; níor ghéill sé don namhad ná níor threig sé a phrionsabail.

"Tar-éis an achar fhad sin, shíúil sé amach 'is a cheann san aer, saoranáí mar a bhí sé nuair a gabhadh é gan triail gan ciontú. "Tá muid buíochas dá chomrádaithe Maitias Ó Néill agus a dheartháir Críostóir as Bhaile Atha Cliath a tháinig an achar fada sin le bheith i lathair ag a shocraid, chomh maith le Máirtín Standún as an Spideál agus a bhean. Má, Fúrsa Breathnach as

chathair na Gaillimhe, agus Séamus O Morgáin as Cho. Mhuighéo.

"Bhíodar ar fad i bpríosún leis sa champa ghéibhinn ar an gCúic ach tá beagnach leath-chéad bliain ó shoin."

Tar-éis na socraide, bhronn an cainteoir an

Liam O Maolíos a mBéal Atha an Rí, Pádraic O Ruadháin (iar-Chomhairleoir Chomtae) ó'n gCarn Mór, Tomás O Curraoin as Bhearna agus Seán Mac an Iomaire agus Maitiú Ó Brádaigh as Ghaillimh. Ag searmanas speisialta an seachtain ina dhiaidh

Mairéad; len a deartháir-eacha Jim agus Stephen; le Máirtín, ina leis (teach tabhairne an "Crane" i nGaillimh) agus le Pádraic Mac Donnacha, deartháir chéile.

Go ndéanadh a Mhaith air. Nóta: De réir "Tuarascáil"



● Nick Lally, nach maireann, agus a bhean-chéile Maisie

brat a bhí ós cionn an chónra dá bhean-chéile agus dá chlainn. Orthu síúd a bhí i lathair bhí Tomás Ó Cadhain, deartháir do Mháirtín agus cara mór le Niocláis, Séamus Ó Náraí as Ghaillimh ar son Ard Chomhairle Shinn Féin Poblachtach, Antóin de Bhaillís ar son Chomhairle Ceantair na Gaillimhe, John Clarke ó Chumann

sin, leag Uachtarán Shinn Féin Poblachtach, Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, bláith-fheasc ar an uaigne i lathair bean-chéile Niocláis agus a ghaolta. Dúradh deichniúr den phaidrín chomh maith. Gabhann SAOIRSE comhbhrón ó chroí le Maisie; len a chlann mac Pádraic, Seán, Séamus, Mícheál, Pól agus Kevin; len a bheirt iníon Mav agus

an Irish Times (Aibreán 27) agus thair dá dhéanamh do bhás Nick Lally, níl ach seisear fágha anois de rang clúitach Uí Chadhain ar "Ollsoil an Churraigh" 1940-44, agus bhí triúr acu síúd i lathair ag an socraid.

"Is cuid euen stair anois thú, a Niocláis" - Eagarthóir SAOIRSE.

NEWRY HOUSING CUTS

RESIDENTS of Doire Beag Estate in Newry, Co. Down are angry over cutbacks in the Housing budget for 1988. £5m was transferred from the housing budget in the Six-county statelet and given to the Health budget.

Residents of Doire Beag are living in sub-standard, high-density housing and have borne the brunt of the British oppression over the years. Frequently, the estate is surrounded by tanks and guns for days at a time and minutely searched, property being vandalised in the process.

Half of one per cent of the houses have been re-vamped and other tenants had been promised an early improvement of their immediate surroundings; refurbishment of kitchen, bathroom, installation of central heating and double-glazed windows. These plans have now been

postponed due to the transfer of £5m from the Housing budget to Health.

This is not to say that Health is in good shape. Health and Social Welfare are lumped together in the Six Counties and known as the DHSS — the department of stealth and total obscurity. Cutbacks and privatisation are hitting Health; cleaning services have been privatised and ambulance drivers and porters who take home £82 per week are threatened with further redundancies. The hand of the Measley Reaper is taking a chunk out of every pie.



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RAIDS, RAIDS.....

THE HOME of Republican Sinn Fein activist Ted McGarrigle in Ballybofey was raided by a force of plainclothes and uniformed 26-county police on April 28. The raid lasted an hour and much time was spent searching outhouses and gardens. Ted's wife Ma died on March 26. (see SAOIRSE, April issue). Other raids during

April took place in North Leitrim and in Longford. In North Longford a helicopter hovered overhead as police and 26-county military searched bogs and state forestry.

Favourite targets for raiding seemed to have been the homes of people who are up late at night attending to cows calving or sheep lambing!

We began our armed struggle in 1965 because we as Palestinian people sent out our cry to all the world that we are human beings and we want to live in our country. But we got no answer. No reply from any part. And therefore, we were obliged to begin our armed struggle. — ABU JIHAD speaking in Beirut in April 1982 six years before his assassination by the Zionist Secret Service Mossad.

A WORKERS PARTY press handout for their recent Ard Fheis and the retirement of Tomas Mac Giolla was swallowed whole by all of the Dublin newspapers. No one it seems in these papers thought to question the outlandish claim made in the handout that Mac Giolla was retiring as leader of the Workers Party after 26 years. It's one thing to revise or rewrite history as Mac Giolla has been doing since 1970, but to try and create a twenty-six year history for the Workers Party and have it accepted by lazy sub-editors without checking, shows the use to which willing hacks can be put.

WRITE AND INVITE

EVERY HOME in the 26 Counties is at present receiving two post-paid cards in the Write and Invite campaign of Bord Fáilte. Doll, the cartoonist with the Irish Times Tuarascáil feature in Irish, has suggested sending these to the Birmingham Six in England.

Why not write to them and invite them home? If enough people do so it will highlight their situation

and create pressure on the British establishment. The addresses for the Birmingham Six can be obtained (as they are subject to frequent changes of prison) from the Birmingham Six Committee, 16, Merriam Row, Dublin 2.

Send them also to the Guildford Four. It will be an effective use of taxpayer's money in the fight for the release of ten framed Irish citizens. Send them off today!

NORMAN TEBBIT the long time and close confidant of Margaret Thatcher rushed to the aid of British Tory allies in South Africa when he trotted out the well-worn excuse of the corrupt Pretoria Government that Blacks are their own worst enemy, and, pointing to the racial conflict between Zulus and other Blacks, accused the opponents of Apartheid of "Hypocrisy".

The Chairman of the Conservative and Unionist Party omitted to tell the businessmen he was addressing, that tribal violence in South Africa was carefully orchestrated by BOSS, the South African secret police, and was a very important part of the strategy of Apartheid.

WATER TAX BATTLE

LIMERICK city residents are eager to identify a group, known locally as the "Cork Cowboys", who have left some water tax protestors without water supplies. The city manager, Mr. Higgins, has resorted to using these scabs to disconnect householders as a result of Limerick Corporation workers' principled decision not to participate in this dirty business.

The workers see the falseness of Mr. Higgins' claims that the water tax money is needed to protect council jobs. In fact the 'National Plan' specifically guarantees that there will be absolutely no forced redundancies from the public service. The water tax therefore has nothing to do with jobs, but has everything to do with relieving the Dublin government of their obligation to finance local authorities. Fianna Fáil propose to do this by putting

the squeeze even further on the hard-pressed PAYE sector, in effect a form of double taxation.

"These imported chancers are obviously not tradesmen" SAOIRSE was told by Councillor Joe Harrington, PRO of the Limerick City Anti-water Tax Committee, adding "a considerable amount of damage has been caused in the course of these disconnections amounting to over five hundred pounds in a number of cases. When the time comes for reconnection the council are going to be considerably out of pocket."

RIGHT-WING ALLIANCE

Local Councillors from the right-wing alliance are not blameless in this matter. The assistant county manager claims he doesn't know who the disconnectors are. This must raise some interesting questions as to how these individuals were hired and as to what fund they are being paid out of.

In response to a question from Cllr. Joe Harrington, Mr. Higgins said he would reveal the identity of the firm involved only if a majority of Councillors requested him to do so. However, the manager's bluff was not called as the FF/FG/LAB/

PD Councillors refused to support the Harrington motion, demonstrating how phoney and hypocritical their so-called opposition to the water tax is.

By comparison the Council's foreign junket allowance for this year is £15,000, which is equal to the value of the water tax from one hundred and sixty houses. This month the Mayor, Tim Leddin, and another Councillor will travel to the Hague in the Netherlands, followed by Malmo, Sweden, in June and the South of England in November. However, since the Mayor is already busy in May, two other Councillors are going to Helsinki, Finland, in that month.

SCABS

The community under threat is however developing counter-measures, centering on the scabs' fear of publicity and identification. One resident from the old Cork Road explained to SAOIRSE what is involved: "I lifted the cover from the stop valve hole and stuffed in paper up to three inches from the top. I then poured in a mixture of sand and cement. (This mixture is available, free of charge in handy made-up packs from water tax

LIMERICK WATER TAX

Emergency telephone number:

061 - 46841

If you ... have been disconnected ... are being disconnected ... fear you will be disconnected

activists). When they arrived they made such a noise trying to break through this mixture with hammer and chisel that I was alerted and able to gather some neighbours and confront them.

"A friend then phoned (061) 46841. This ensured the speedy arrival of a group from the Anti-water Tax Organisation who were able to offer valuable advice and assistance.

"Since these men are constantly changing their van I suggest people make a note of the registration number, colour and make of their van so that this information can be circulated around the city."

The phone number is available at any time for advice

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Cabhair

Results of CABHAIR — Irish Republican Prisoners' Dependents Fund April Draw are as follows:

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2nd Prize, £50: No. 99
3rd Prize, £25: No. 95
5 Prizes of £5: Nos. 155, 196, 220, 168 and 212