

# SAOIRSE



## Irish Freedom

The Voice of the Republican Movement

UIMH 293 MEÁN FÓMHAIR — SEPTEMBER 2011 <http://saoirse.info> €2 (£1.50 stg, USA \$35 p.a.)

### 1798 REMEMBRANCE DAY

FORDSTOWN MEMORIAL SITE  
CO MEATH

SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 25

Assemble Fordstown  
3pm

Organised by Republican  
Sinn Féin, Co Meath

Contact: 086-732 6922



**Honour them by ending British rule**

# Legacy of the hunger strikers

**THIS year marked the thirtieth anniversary of the 1981 H-Block hunger strikes in which ten Irish Republican POWs died.**

Republicans commemorated this anniversary with a series of events throughout Ireland marking their place in the pantheon of Ireland's heroic dead. In remembering the sacrifice of Bobby Sands and his comrades it is timely also to reflect on the legacy of the hunger strikers for Ireland today.

The H-Block hunger strikers died for a new and better Ireland for their own and future generations. The sacrifice they made demanded nothing less. Yet thirty years later Ireland is partitioned and while the Irish people remain under the heel of the old imperialism of British

occupation, to it has been added the new imperialism of the EU/IMF/ECB.

Despite the spin of the Provisionals and their media cheerleaders the anti-democratic and abnormal nature of the Six-County State cannot be disguised. Political repression and censorship are still the stock-in-trade of British rule in Ireland.

Examples of this are the arrests of and charges brought against the President of Republican Sinn Féin Des Dalton, Vice-President Fergal Moore and several others for participating in a march calling for the release of interned veteran

Republican Martin Corey.

Ard Chomhairle member Cáit Trainor and ex-POW Seán Moloney were arrested and charged in relation to an interview given to *Channel 4* news. Veteran Republican Marian Price was also arrested and charged under the same legislation and remains interned in Maghaberry Prison. All of this is of course intended to muzzle any dissent to the *status quo*.

In a year when the sacrifices of the hunger strikers for the right to political status is remembered another generation of young Irish men are involved in a dirty protest against the same enemy in defence of the same principle. Yet in an Orwellian twist those who signed away, under the terms of the 1998 Stormont Agreement, the rights won by the 1981 hunger strikers commemorated their deaths while at the same time presiding over the attempt to criminalise a new generation of Irish Republican prisoners.

The recent case of Brendan Lillis – interned without trial despite a debilitating illness – only serves to highlight the vindictive nature of British rule. The continued internment of Martin Corey and Marian Price and the threat to any other released Republican prisoners of a return to jail if they dare even to question British rule is a reminder that in essence nothing has changed.

In the 26 Counties our people are being sacrificed in order to



**A large crowd attended the 30th anniversary hunger strike commemoration march in Bundoran, Co Donegal on August 27, showing that the sacrifice of the H-Block hunger strikers and their comrades has not been forgotten.**

prop up the euro and the undemocratic EU superstate. The Leinster House Administration has the same relationship with the people as the agents of the old absentee landlords had. Both act to protect the interests of their masters, not the welfare of the people. The political and economic masters are in Brussels and Bonn and it is they who set the political, social and economic policy. They do so not with the interests of the Irish people at heart but rather in furtherance of their own ideological agenda and financial interest.

All of this is a far cry from the New Ireland based on the principles of the 1916

Proclamation which Bobby Sands and his comrades deemed worthy of their lives. If we are truly to honour their sacrifices and indeed all the Irishmen and women who gave their lives that Ireland might live we must continue the struggle for that free All-Ireland

Republic. The ÉIRE NUA proposals contain the means to make that Republic a reality for all of the Irish people. As Bobby Sands wrote on the first day of his long hunger for justice "what is lost here is lost for the Republic."

## REPUBLICAN RALLY

**EVE OF  
ALL-IRELAND RALLY  
SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 17  
Assemble GPO, O'Connell Street  
Dublin, 2pm**



**SEÁN CRONIN, KERRY AND USA  
Scattering of his ashes after 11am Mass  
Saturday, September 17  
Ballinskelligs, Co Kerry  
Reception in Waterville Lake Hotel afterwards**

**HUNGER STRIKE SEMINAR  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8  
12.30-5pm**

**WYNN'S HOTEL,  
MIDDLE ABBEY STREET,  
DUBLIN**

**Speakers:  
Ruairí Ó Brádaigh  
Richard O'Rawe  
Songs, poems and  
readings of the 1981  
Hunger Strike**



## Daily protests against Shell in Mayo

**ACTIONS are taking place on an almost daily basis against Shell E&P in Co Mayo.**

Between lock-ons, mass trespasses, lorry climbing and a breach of security at Shell's refinery, the last week in August week brought a lot of people out protesting.

On August 24 at 6am protestors trespassed onto Shell's compound in Aghoose. Soon after a few people went to join the locals who are at the refinery gates every morning, and six people sat down in the road wrapping arms and legs around each other to stop a tractor.

Gardaí dragged people out of the road for the tractor to pass. Later that day Shell illegally extended their Aghoose compound into the public road, using harris fencing to reduce the road to one lane. As protestors gathered Shell's private security assisted by the Gardaí pushed people into ditches to clear the road.

Direct quote from MY 31 Sergeant Richard Mahony, explaining why people must clear the road: "For your own health and safety, or we'll throw you in the ditch."

On August 25, MEP Paul

camp at 085 114 1170 or at rossportsolidaritycamp@gmail.com



• Protesters at the Shell compound in Aghoose, Co Mayo.

Murphy was assaulted as he took part in the protest. He has since made a complaint to the garda Ombudsman.

On Friday, August 26, three campaigners occupied Aghoose Road. They formed a triangle in the middle of the road using a set of especially made arm-tubes.

The Rossport camp is located in a field overlooking the Shell compound in Aghoose, between Bellanaboy and Pullathomas. Contact the

Related Link: <http://shelltosea.com>

On August 25, Socialist Party MEP Paul Murphy said he intends to lodge a complaint with the 26-County Police over his treatment at a Corrib gas protest in north Mayo.

Paul Murphy says he was "assaulted by Gardaí" as he participated in a sit-down protest on a public road close to the Corrib gas terminal at Ballinaboy.

"I was punched in the

head, I had my pressure point targeted – as in my ear was deliberately twisted to a point of excruciating pain and my stomach was repeatedly poked and prodded at very sensitive points," Paul Murphy said.

He said the action was "deliberately to cause severe pain, trying to get me to stop participating in the protest".

Paul Murphy said he heard Gardaí directing each other to "go for the pressure points" as they removed up to 20 people involved in a demonstration.

The incident arose when he and up to 20 others staged a "peaceful sit-down" around a truck which had halted on the road, after a protester boarded the truck and sat on top of it.

Gardaí brought a cherry-picker vehicle to remove the protester. He says he may take the issue further, and will make a statement to the Amnesty International-FrontLine human rights observer who has been assigned to monitor the response to demonstrations at the Corrib gas project.

"What I have seen here today only deepens my solidarity with the people of Mayo who are resisting Shell," he added.

## Gearrscéalta

### Cut in student grants 'scandalous'

**ON September 4 PRO for Republican Sinn Féin Geraldine McNamara described as scandalous the decision by the Leinster House Administration, which ironically includes the so-called Labour Party to increase the adjacent distance to college for students.**

What this means is that a student who previously qualified for a full grant will now be expected to live on a third of it.

Previously a student living within 24 kilometres was deemed to be able to commute daily to the college and live at home. This year a student living 45 kilometres is expected to live at home.

The hardship on parents and students caused by this stroke of a pen cannot be quantified by just the economic hardship. It will add an extra four hours a day travel for many, plus during the harsh winter many will be unable to travel at all.

Most students use the bus service when travelling and are not car owners and will have to stand in all weathers to get one if not two or three buses to college. The cost of travel will be approximately the same as accommodation yet the grant is just a third for the student. A student spends many hours studying and uses the library for this. Because of this new hardship very little study time will be available for the student.

If the student cannot continue their studies or fails their exams because of this draconian stroke of a pen by the minister for education, they will have no option but to claim jobseeker's allowance. This will cost the State at least €5,200 per annum and condemn another generation to a life in poverty. Depression and alcohol and/or drug addiction is common amongst young unemployed people as they see no future in life.

Education should be a priority, Geraldine said, and she called for an immediate reversal of this disgraceful decision.

### Cancellation of Slane bypass welcomed

**ON August 9 the Save Newgrange Committee said the announcement from the Minister for Transport, Leo Varadkar, that the National Roads Authority (NRA) is to halt plans for the Slane Bypass, and 44 other new roads was welcome.**

The group formed in 2009 after it was announced that the preferred route for the dual carriageway bypass was to run within 500m of the Brú na Bóinne UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Speaking to RTÉ Radio One's Drivetime show this afternoon, Mr Vincent Salafia, a spokesperson for Save Newgrange said:

"We are relieved that the economic and heritage arguments we made against this particular proposal, in submissions to the Transport Committee, have prevailed. This proposal has been described as 'idiotic' and 'gold-plated' infrastructure by Dr Edgar Morgenroth of the ESRI.

"The County Council's own expert, along with numerous internationally renowned experts, advised against the proposed route, because of the damage it would do to the World Heritage Site. We are calling on Meath County Council, the NRA and the Minister to work together to implement the HGV ban that was passed by Meath County Councilors, in 2009, in order to stop the toll-dodging HGVs and protect the village residents.

"We see this as an opportunity to go back and design a cost-efficient and sustainable, long-term solution that will protect both the residents, and the heritage of Slane. We will be happy to work closely with the authorities to that end."

### DUP MP wants death penalty restored

**DUP MP Jeffrey Donaldson has said he would be in favour of restoring the death penalty in cases of "terrorism".**

His comments were made as the British Government launched its new 'e-petitions' website on August 4, where members of the public can submit demands and, if they can raise the support of 99,999 other like-minded individuals, see their point debated in the British House of Commons.

The Lagan Valley MP said: "We have stated consistently that in cases of terrorist murder, we believe that there should be the death penalty."

### Results of Dublin raffle

**AUGUST** Draw results were as follows: 1st prize ticket no 231; 2nd prize ticket no 653; 3rd prize 140; 4th prize 060; 5th prize 052; 6th prize 579; 7th prize 465; 8th prize 146.

**SAOIRSE October edition published 5/10/2011**

## Protests continue over cuts in bus services in Dublin

**PROTESTS against bus service cuts continued in Dublin during August.**

On August 25, local residents in Ballymun temporarily slowed traffic on the main road into the city centre.

A small but vocal group protested at the side of Ballymun Road and then marched along the city-bound side of the dual carriageway, waving placards and chanting. Buses and motorists crawled behind them until Gardaí insisted the protesters return to the footpath.

The event was part of a series of protests organised by residents against bus service changes as part of Bus Átha Cliath's Network Direct plan.

In Ballymun, Bus Átha Cliath wants to amalgamate four routes into one service. This will travel from Ikea's store and Harristown

across the city to Clondalkin. According to Bus Átha Cliath the service will run every 12 minutes at peak times and 15 minutes off-peak. The local estates of Shangan, Sillogue and Coutry, currently served, will be bypassed.

The Save Our Bus Services group took to the streets on August 19 with a picket on the offices of Bus Átha Cliath in Dublin in protest over proposed cuts to the numbers 3, 13, 13A and 19 bus services.

Again on August 26 a protest was held outside the offices of Bus Átha Cliath in protest at cut in the 19 bus.

However Bus Átha Cliath said on August 28 that "the number 19 bus will travel its route



• Campaigners protesting outside the offices of Dublin Bus in O'Connell Street.

for the last time in Dublin tomorrow".

The Save our Bus campaign group said the number 19 has been travelling the route, either as

a bus or a tram, since the 1930s.

Bus Átha Cliath is to run the 68 bus through the affected areas instead and said the move was part of an effort to provide better value for taxpayers.

### Concern at aircraft for US troops at Shannon

**A LEADING anti-war campaigner expressed concern about the dangers of ageing passenger aircraft transporting US troops and munitions through Shannon airport.**

On August 14 Dr Edward Horgan, International Secretary of the Peace and Neutrality Alliance (PANA), issued the warning follows a series of incidents at Shannon airport this year involving one model of aircraft operated by Omni Air International.

Omni operates under contract to the US department of defence's Air Mobility Command, which transports more than 200,000 troops through Shannon every year, many of them on DC-10 aircraft.

In the latest incident last week, a Shannon-bound Omni DC-10 had to declare an emergency and dump fuel after experiencing engine problems over Canada. There were 256 US military personnel on board. Anti-war groups in Ireland have long warned of the unreliability of Omni's ageing DC-10 fleet, many of which are more than 25 years old.

Ed Horgan said he was particularly concerned about the safety of DC-10s "which seem to experience an inordinate number of engine problems. These are old aircraft now and they are also licensed to carry munitions, which makes them a significant additional hazard."

There have been a least six incidents so far this year involving Omni DC-10s at Shannon, including two in the same 24-hour period in February.

### Cumann na Saoirse Náisiúnta (National Irish Freedom Committee)



• is committed to supporting prisoners for which CABHAIR is responsible  
• is generating publicity in support of Irish national independence.

**We need your support. Our website address is:**

**<http://irishfreedom.net>**

## Gearrscéalta

### Republican Sinn Féin email hacked

**IN A sinister development on August 14 Republican Sinn Féin's email was hacked resulting in a bogus statement being issued to the media.**

The statement purported to be from the Continuity IRA announcing a ceasefire. Republican Sinn Féin immediately issued a statement alerting the media to the fact that its email had been hacked and that the resultant statement was bogus.

On August 29 the media once more alerted Republican Sinn Féin that the same bogus statement had been issued. In a second statement Republican Sinn Féin said: "It has once again come to our attention from the media that another bogus e-mail has been sent to the media, the graphic displaying what is allegedly the masthead of the SAOIRSE newspaper. This is bogus as was the statement sent from our e-mail address on August 14 and sent to the media on August 15."

It was reported in the media on August 28 that the email of éirigi was hacked which also resulted in a bogus statement being issued.

### Pat Cannon remembered

**THE annual Pat Cannon Commemoration took place in Balgriffin Cemetery, Co Dublin on Saturday July 23. Andy Connolly chaired the proceedings and spoke of the sacrifices men like Pat Cannon made for their country.**



The Tricolour was carried by Diarmuid Mac Dughlása, Runai Comhairle Átha Cliath; a wreath was laid by Cris Ni Coistealbha and a minutes silence was observed in memory of those who gave their lives in the cause of Irish Freedom.

Volunteer Pat Cannon from Edenmore in Raheny, Dublin along with his comrade Volunteer Peter McElchar from Donegal died on active service on July 17, 1976 in a premature explosion. The men were crossing from Donegal into Tyrone and were approaching the town of Castlederg when the device exploded prematurely. Peter McElchar was killed instantly. Patrick Cannon was gravely injured and was taken to Tyrone County Hospital in Omagh. He was being transferred to hospital in Belfast when he died.

### Principled stand of Newry Foresters

**THE following letter was sent out to members of the John Mitchel Branch (No 61), Newry, Co Down, of the Irish National Foresters on July 14:**

"Dear Sir & Bro  
"At the July meeting of the above Branch, held on July 12, 2011, the programme for this year's Annual Convention, to be held in Belfast hosted by Belfast District, was discussed at length and it was unanimously decided that since the Banquet was being held in Belfast City hall, over which flies the Union Jack, that Delegates from this Branch do not attend.

"It was also unanimously decided that as a form of protest that the John Mitchel Branch INF shall not take any part in this year's Convention.

"We are notifying the Executive Council and all Branches of this decision.

"Yours fraternally  
"Chief Ranger."

The Joe Conway/Brendan Watters Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Newry congratulates the John Mitchel Branch for their principled stand in refusing to attend a function over which the Butcher's Apron flies.

### Ceremony at hunger strike martyr's grave

ON Friday, September 2 a wreath-laying ceremony was held at the grave of Vol. Joseph Whitty to mark the 88th anniversary of his death. Joseph died from the effects of hunger strike while a prisoner in Newbridge Internment Camp hospital. He was 19 years of age and was laid to rest in Ballymore Old Cemetery, Co Wexford. Mick Hunt laid a wreath on behalf of Republican Sinn Féin and Tom Malone laid a wreath on behalf of Wexford Republican Graves Association.

## Rioting erupts in England but plastic bullets, water cannons not used

**TWO police cars and a bus were burned out and several shops were attacked and set ablaze in north London on August 6 as violence erupted following a protest over the fatal shooting by police of a local man.**

Mark Duggan, 29, a father of four, was shot dead on Thursday, August 4 by police after the car he was travelling in was stopped by the police's Trident unit. They claim there was an "exchange of gunfire" and Mark Duggan was shot dead.

Up to 120 people marched on Tottenham police station to express anger over the death of Duggan.

Officers from the Territorial Support Group. Police on horseback, others in riot gear and some with dogs, clashed with hundreds of rioters armed with makeshift missiles. Petrol bombs were thrown at the police and two police cars and a bus were burned out. Some shops were set on fire while others had their windows smashed.

At one point, rioters broke through police ranks and attempted to storm Tottenham's police station, pelting the police with bricks, bottles and eggs.

"It started out as a peaceful demonstration," one woman said. "The police shot a guy here last week and they lied about what happened. They said he pulled a gun but he wouldn't have done that with armed police. They shot him so badly that his mother could not recognise him."

On August 9 the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) said that following investigations it was clear that Mark Duggan had not fired at the police.

criminal damage in south Liverpool, while there was repeated looting in the centre of Birmingham and an empty police station was set on fire.

On August 10 the

vehicles were damaged, windows of houses were smashed and a container of 200 tyres was set alight, according to the force.

In Kent, five people were arrested by police following trouble in the Medway area. The police said fires had been set across Chatham, Rainham and Gillingham overnight.

Three people were arrested on suspicion of attempted murder in London after an incident in Brent, north-west London.

Shop windows were smashed, a police car damaged and there was widespread looting. Gangs looted shops and charged police in Coldharbour Lane and the High Street in Brixton, south London.

A member of the public was shot dead in his car in south London on August 8, while three men died in Birmingham after a car was driven at them on August 9.

On August 10 it was reported that water cannons from the Six Counties were on stand-by to be sent to England at 24 hours notice, according to British Prime Minister David Cameron, who also said the police would have "whatever they need", implying that they might use plastic bullets.

The use of plastic bullets and water cannon has been used by Nationalists in the Occupied Six Counties for many years – seventeen people were killed by plastic bullets, many of them children, and others blinded.

However, when it comes to Britain, a "civilised, consensual approach", the equivalent of a nice chat with your friendly neighbourhood bobby, seems to be the order of the day.



• **The RUC/PSNI routinely use water cannons against nationalist protesters in Belfast.**

Trouble escalated in the following days and widespread rioting took place all over London and beyond for four days beginning on August 8.

Sustained looting, violence and attacks on property stretched from Ealing in the west, Enfield in the north, Hackney in the east, and as far south as Croydon. Shops and businesses were looted while scores of cars and buses were set alight. Huge fires were started in Enfield and in Croydon where a large furniture showroom and nearby homes were engulfed, with fires continuing around London Road.

Trouble spread to other cities in Britain, including Birmingham, Bristol and Liverpool. In Bristol, police reported 150 rioters moving through the city centre. In Nottingham, police had to deal with a crowd of 100. Merseyside police faced burning cars and

Metropolitan police in London reported that 334 people had been arrested, while 69 people have been charged and two cautioned. In Birmingham, police said around 100 people have been arrested.

In Birmingham youths went on the rampage in the city centre's retail area, near the Bull Ring shopping mall. Cars were set alight in Liverpool, and police officers were pelted with makeshift weapons including golf clubs as they tried to contain the gangs.

In Bristol, police dealt with around 150 rioters and residents were urged to avoid the city centre. Nottinghamshire Police said officers dealt with a number of sporadic disturbances in the St Anne's area of Nottingham overnight. The local police station was attacked, up to 40 private

## Derry teenagers arrested

**A TEENAGE girl and a youth were among a number of people arrested in a wave of repression in Derry against Republicans.**

The 17-year-old girl was detained in Derry on August 18 along with a 15-year-old boy as part of a RUC/PSNI operation directed against those resisting British Rule. A spokesperson for

the RUC said the youths were arrested under the Terrorism Act. They were questioned at Antrim police station and released unconditionally the following day.

Under the Terrorism Act

those in custody can be held initially for 14 days after which time an application can be made to the British Home secretary for an additional 14 days.

Michael Madden of Madden and Finucane, Solicitor for the teenage girl, expressed concern at the arrest of children under the Terrorism Act, which should he said be used "as a last resort". The

Committee on the Administration of Justice also condemned the use of the Terrorism Act to arrest children.

The arrests in Derry came after a weekend of rioting which erupted after the loyalist Apprentice Boys marched through the city. The RUC claim a bomb was thrown at them close to the city walls.

## Torture policy of MI5 and MI6 outlined in secret document

**A TOP-SECRET document revealing how MI6 (British intelligence) and MI5 (British security service) officers were allowed to extract information from prisoners being illegally tortured overseas has been seen by the Guardian newspaper.**

The interrogation policy – details of which are believed to be too sensitive to be publicly released at the British government inquiry into Britain's role in torture and rendition – instructed senior intelligence officers to weigh the importance of the information being sought against the amount of pain they expected a prisoner to suffer. It was operated by the British government for almost a decade.

A copy of the secret policy

showed senior British intelligence officers and ministers feared the British public could be at greater risk of a terrorist attack if Islamists became aware of its existence.

The fact that the interrogation policy document and other similar papers may not be made public during the inquiry into British complicity in torture and rendition has led to human rights groups and lawyers refusing to give evidence or attend any meetings

with the inquiry team because it does not have "credibility or transparency".

The decision by 10 groups – including Liberty, Reprieve and Amnesty International – follows the publication of the inquiry's protocols, which show the final decision on whether material uncovered by the inquiry, led by retired judge Peter Gibson, can be made public will rest with the British cabinet secretary. The inquiry will begin after a police investigation into torture allegations is completed.

The document shows how the secret interrogation policy operated until it was rewritten on the orders of the British coalition government last July. It also:

• Acknowledged that MI5 and MI6 officers could be in breach of both British and international law by asking for information from prisoners held by overseas agencies known to use torture; and explained the need to obtain political cover for any potentially criminal act by consulting ministers beforehand.

The secret interrogation policy was first passed to MI5 and MI6 members in Afghanistan in January 2002 to enable them to continue questioning prisoners whom they knew were being mistreated by members of the US military. It was amended slightly later that year before being rewritten and expanded in 2004.

# For The Record

**SUNDAY 31 JULY:** Republicans in Derry claimed there has been an upsurge in searches of their families' homes by the British colonial police. A public meeting was held in Creggan last week organised by a number of community groups to highlight the concerns of people in the area about RUC/PSNI tactics, particularly around searches.

**WED. AUGUST 3:** A man was arrested in Portadown, Co Armagh after thirteen guns were seized during the search of a house. The search was a follow-up after the man was arrested in Craigavon. About 400 rounds of ammunition were found when a vehicle was searched in Lake Road. The RUC said a quantity of counterfeit currency was also found in the vehicle.

**THURS. AUGUST 4:** Lagan Valley DUP MP Jeffrey Donaldson has said he would be in favour of restoring the death penalty in cases of "terrorism".

Facebook closed a page on the site which urged people to monitor and post the activities of the RUC/PSNI.

Three loyalists were arrested and charged in connection with rioting in Ballyclare, Co Antrim on July 9.

A Cleveland Chief Constable and his Deputy arrested over corruption claims were released on bail. A third person was bailed yesterday. Warwickshire police are conducting the investigation.

The inquiry into British complicity in allegations of torture lacks credibility and threatens to be a waste of time and public money, according to a letter sent by ten human rights groups to the solicitor for the inquiry.

**FRI. AUGUST 5:** Shots were fired at a house in Derry; no one was injured.

**SAT. AUGUST 6:** The RUC was attacked as they responded to an emergency call in the Dunclug Estate in Ballymena, Co Antrim. Bottles, stones and bricks were thrown at the patrol.

Two Gardaí in Waterford were convicted of assault and another convicted for attempting to pervert the course of justice.

**MON. AUGUST 8:** Three men from Antrim were charged in connection with the attempted murder of a teenager and remanded in custody. Jordan Duffy was subjected to the sectarian attack on Friday night in Antrim.

Fr Alex Reid is seriously ill in a Dublin Hospital.

UUP member Tom Eliot questioned the decision of the *Impartial Reporter* to allow a sister of Provo assembly member Mary Lynch, to write a weekly column for the paper.

The number of people driven out of their homes by racist attacks in the Occupied Six Counties has doubled since 2017.

The POWs in Maghaberry jail, Co Antrim began a 48-hour fast in protest at the denial of the British government and Stormont to grant political status.

NGOs estimate that 29,000 children have already died as a result of famine in east Africa. An estimated 12 million people are starving in the Horn of Africa as a result of drought.

**TUES. AUGUST 9:** To mark the 40th anniversary of internment, bonfires will be lit in several nationalist areas.

Dozens of Arab and international organisations and leading personalities joined an urgent call from Gaza to permanently re-open the Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt.

The death took place 69 years ago of the Republican priest Father Michael O'Flanagan.

**WED. AUGUST 11:** Three young Muslim men, protecting a Mosque, were killed in the Winston Green area of Birmingham when they were run over by a car during rioting.

British police were given permission to use water cannon and plastic bullets on rioters.

Authorities in Norway and Iceland will find it easier and quicker to repatriate suspected criminals under new legislation from the EU. European arrest warrants from all EU countries are currently valid in Ireland and, once the new legislation is enacted, warrants from Norway and Iceland will be valid also.

**WED. AUGUST 17:** Speaking at the Merriman Summer School in Co Clare, the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs in the 26 Counties Frances Fitzgerald said that the State must



• A family-owned furniture shop was completely burned out during rioting which began in London on August 6 and spread to other cities during that week.

legislate and provide social workers on the ground for families in need.

Christie's Auction House in London and New York is to sell 14 painting (many by Irish painters) seized by NAMA from property developer Derek Quinlan, a former tax inspector with the Revenue.

**SUN. AUGUST 14:** The Republican Sinn Féin e-mail was hacked and a bogus e-mail distributed to the media.

**MON. AUGUST 15:** Al Hutchinson, Police Ombudsman in the Occupied Six Counties, is under increased pressure to resign and criticism of his office continues.

A pipe bomb was found in the carpark of SuperValue in Ballynahinch, Co Down.

The current five employment rights bodies, the Labour Relations Commission, the Equality Tribunal, the National Employment Rights Authority, the Employment Appeals Tribunal and the Labour Court, are all to be scrapped and replaced by a single body.

Fears for 1,000 staff at Bank of America grew as the bank said it planned to pull out of its credit-card operations in Ireland and England.

Two men have appeared in court charged in connection with public order offences following an Apprentice Boys parade in Derry city on Saturday. Gerard Anthony Kelly, 35, from the Waterside and John Patrick Duffy, 36, from the city, face a number of charges. They were released on bail.

**THURS. AUGUST 18:** A 30-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of trying to kill members of the RUC/PSNI by ramming them with a hijacked bus during riots in Ballyclare, Co Antrim July 9. **FRI. AUGUST 19:** One villager was hit by rubber-coated steel bullet and dozens suffered from tear gas inhalation during the weekly demonstration against the illegal settlements and the Apartheid Wall in Bil'in, Palestine.

Concern was expressed by lawyers at the arrests in Derry of a 17-year-old boy and a 15-year-old girl under the Terrorism Act.

The Orange parade in Rasharkin was delayed for over two hours due to a hoax device at the Orange Hall and the RUC re-routed the parade. Over 40 loyalist band and 1,500 people attended the parade. The Parades Commission had imposed route and time restrictions but the residents' association was furious that it had not been banned from the village. Up to 200 demonstrators protested at the parade.

The *Irish Post*, the biggest selling Irish community newspaper ceased trading and went into liquidation with a loss of 12 full-time jobs.

**SAT. AUGUST 20:** A 55-year-old man was arrested in Newry, Co Down in connection with Republican activity.

**MON. AUGUST 22:** A bomb left in a bank in the centre of Newry, Co Down was "a viable device". Two masked men dropped a bag into the bank at around 9.40am and said it contained a bomb. They gave the staff at Santander in Margaret Square a 45-minute warning. Santander bank in Derry was targeted earlier in the year when a bomb was thrown into the bank.

Several houses were evacuated in Ballymoney, Co Antrim due to a bomb warning. **TUES. AUGUST 23:** Two men were arrested in connection with a van bomb find on the Dublin to Belfast road near Newry in April.

Cuts in staff at the Waterford based *Munster Express* could threaten the future of the paper, union officials warned.

Two men held in custody in Maghaberry jail, appeared heavily-bearded at Enniskillen magistrates court charged with the attempted murder of an RUC/PSNI student in November

2009 at Garrison, Co Fermanagh. Gerard Memanus, Co Cavan and Kevin Barry Nolan, Co Donegal were returned for trial.

Tenants charged in connection with rioting in London were written to warning them they face eviction from their homes if convicted.

**WED. AUGUST 24:** Paddy Dixon, Navan, Co Meath, who gave information to Gardaí about stolen vehicles used to transport Real IRA bombs, was slightly injured when a bomb went off as he opened his front door.

**THURS. AUGUST 25:** A pilot scheme to allow some low-risk prisoners early release is to begin in coming weeks in the 26-Counties. Measures would include the payment of fines by installments, an extension of community service, electronic tagging and a curfew. According to the 2010 report of the Irish Prison Service there were 17,179 committals to prison in 2010.

Fifteen people entered Barrett's quarry, just outside Bangor Erris in Co. Mayo and stopped work for the whole day. Barrett's is a subcontractor on the Corrib Gas Project, currently bringing truckloads of gravel and hardcore to Shell's site in Aughooose.

Former ChildLine Director and lay magistrate Delia Van der Landen, her husband Peter, a retired officer from the Dutch Navy, and her son Ciaran Cunningham were arrested on Monday and taken to the RUC barracks in Antrim (the RUC/PSNI serious crime suite, to give it its official name) and questioned about a tiger kidnapping and membership of the IRA. They were all later released unconditionally. Delia Van der Landen lodged a complaint about the RUC with the Royal Netherlands Embassy and Dutch Consulate. Ciaran Cunningham is a political activist and was arrested last week in connection with a protest at David Ford's office.

The Metropolitan Police in England warned that they had not finished arresting people for the rioting that took place over four days at the beginning of the month. 2,006 people have been arrested and of those 1,335 have been charged. Theresa May, British Home Secretary met with the police and executives from the social media networks to work out how they could prevent the networks being used for "criminal behaviour".

**FRI. AUGUST 26:** There has been a fall in the sales of Irish Sunday and daily newspapers according to figures from the Audit Bureau of Circulation (ABC).

Numbers are increasing at the protests against the controversial Shell refinery at Bellinaboy.

A 26-year-old man who made a hoax bomb from two tins of beans was jailed for three months at Derry's Magistrate's Court. James McAuley from Kavanagh Court threw the tins into his uncle's home in Ballachmore in the early hours 6 June. The cans had been taped together and had wires and a watch attached to them.

**SUN. AUGUST 28:** The Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) club in Townhill Road, Rasharkin, County Antrim was daubed with sectarian slogans in an overnight attack.

**MON. AUGUST 29:** Kadar Asmal's memoirs *Politics in my Blood* was launched. He died in June this year.

Repossession will continue to be a tool of last resort for the courts, according to revised protocols which come into effect on September 3 in the Occupied Six Counties. See [www.courtsni.gov.uk](http://www.courtsni.gov.uk).

The DUP are calling for the expulsion of Ballymoney councillor Ian Stevenson from the Orange Order after he made a seven-point statement with a Catholic priest, Fr John Murphy, ahead of the Orange parade in Rasharkin earlier

this month.

**TUES. AUGUST 30:** The Police Ombudsman in the Occupied Six Counties was accused of renegeing on a promise to publish a report into the murder of Seán Dalton and Sheila Lewis in August 1988. Relatives claim that the RUC knew about an IRA bomb in Derry but failed to act to protect the lives of their relatives just to protect an informer.

A man arrested for questioning in connection with the killing of RUC/PSNI member Ronan Kerr but released unconditionally was prevented from entering Australia, despite being granted a visa previously, when the RUC contacted the Australian embassy. Brian Campbell was in the USA when Ronan Kerr was killed.

Stena Line Ferries is suspending its service from Dun Laoghaire, Dublin to Holyhead in England from September 13. The route will operate on a seasonal basis only.

The case of two teenagers accused of hacking into websites, including that of Britain's Serious Organised Crime Agency, was heard in Southwark Crown Court. The youths were not in court for the hearing. They were arrested as part of the investigation into hacking groups LulzSec and Anonymous. They are to appear in court in January 2012.

Seven people were killed when Syrian State forces opened fire to disperse thousands of protesters in Daraa.

Human Rights watch and Amnesty International said that 26 people were killed in indiscriminate aerial bombing and 45 injured since June.

**THURS. SEPTEMBER 1:** Iamród Éireann unveiled plans for a Dart-Airport link in Dublin.

Paul Murphy, Dublin MEP, lodged a complaint with the Garda Ombudsman alleging an assault by the Gardaí at a protest against the Shell gas project in Bellinaboy, Co Mayo.

Finance Minister in the Dublin Administration said they will be no "free-for-all" for those in mortgage arrears.

Two young men were arrested for questioning in connection with the hacking of the Fine Gael website in January.

A 46-year-old man was charged with allowing property to be used for terrorism. He was arrested in Strabane, County Tyrone, by detectives investigating Republican activity.

**FRI. SEPTEMBER 2:** Tom Williams was hanged in Belfast jail 69 years ago. He was 19 years old.

Thomas Christopher Nash from Derry was sentenced to seven years for hiding guns and bullets for Republicans on 9 August 2010. He will serve half that sentence in custody and will be subject to licence for a further five years after a Belfast judge deemed him a danger.

A petrol bomb was thrown at a house in the Rathmore Gardens area of the Greystone estate in Antrim town. No damage was caused to the property and no-one was injured during the incident.

At Strabane magistrates court, James Edward McGettigan, Urney Road, was charged with allowing property on the Derry Road to be used for the purposes of terrorism on a date unknown in May last year.

**SAT. SEPTEMBER 3:** An elderly man swathed in bandages blew himself up in Baghdad's biggest Sunni mosque killing up to 29 people in a suicide attack blamed on al Qaeda.

Sixty people were arrested after far-right demonstrators clashed with police at protests in London. The group had told Scotland Yard it planned to lead a "static demonstration" in the wake of a 30-day ban by Home Secretary Theresa May on marching in six areas.

Turkey is preparing to challenge Israel's blockade on Gaza at the International Court of Justice. Foreign minister Ahmet Davutoglu made the announcement a day after Turkey expelled Israel's ambassador and severed military ties with the country over its refusal to apologise for last year's deadly raid on a Gaza-bound aid flotilla that killed nine pro-Palestinian activists.

**SUN. SEPTEMBER 4:** Sixty-five new jobs have been announced at Galway-based SalesSense International. The "sales outsourcing" firm is creating the new positions over the next three months throughout the country in counties Cork, Galway, Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim, Roscommon, Cavan, Monaghan and Louth.

A 40-year-old man was arrested in Coalisland, Co. Tyrone in connection with Republican activity.

The UN estimates some 2,200 people have been killed in Syria since March as protesters take to the streets every week, despite the near-certainty that they will face a barrage of bullets and sniper fire by state forces.

**News from the Occupied Six Counties...News from the Occupied Six Counties...News from the Occupied Six Counties...**

# Riot footage from journalists demanded by RUC/PSNI

**NEWS organisations must hand over to the RUC/PSNI all unseen footage of last month's rioting in Belfast. Judge Piers Grant ruled on August 3 that the unbroadcast and unedited material should be disclosed.**

Lawyers for broadcasters had opposed the RUC/PSNI application arguing it could heighten the risk to the safety of camera crews and reporters. They argued that journalists could be seen to be RUC/PSNI evidence gatherers and hamper their ability to do their job.

The RUC/PSNI had sought footage and photographs from broadcasters and news agencies of the riots in parts of north and west Belfast on July 11, 12 and 13.

Hijacked vehicles were set on fire and thousands of pounds worth of damage was caused to property during the rioting.

The case centred on competing claims between the public interest in convicting the rioters and the threat to the freedom of the press.

Ruling on the application,

Judge Grant rejected claims that it was just "a fishing expedition" by the British Colonial Police.

In July Judge Tom Burgess, Recorder for Belfast, decided the public interest in convicting those responsible for the serious sectarian violence in east Belfast in July outweighed the perceived danger for press representatives from releasing the unbroadcast or unpublished material.

On August 17 the main news organisations in the Six Counties claimed that journalists could be put at risk by increased British colonial police demands for access to media footage from riots.

After the courts ordered media groups to hand over images from recent riots in east Belfast, editors wrote to Chief Constable Matt Baggott expressing fears



**• A protester squares up to police as the return leg of the loyalist Orange Order parade passes through Ardoyne.**

over the dangers of police "fishing expeditions".

The letter from both print and broadcast media highlights the "genuine fear that terrorists (sic) and rioters will target the media whom they perceive to be evidence gatherers for the State" and expressed their concern "that

the increased use of indiscriminate applications for the production orders against media organisations under the Police and Criminal Evidence (NI) Order 1989 is endangering our staff and freelance professionals".

The latter also states that "in recent months the PSNI has been

relying with ever greater frequency on all encompassing requests and ultimately applications for untransmitted footage and pictures following civil disturbances...despite the PSNI deploying sophisticated CCTV, aerial film, vehicle-mounted cameras and having the benefit of the media's broadcast/published footage and pictures, as well as, presumably, having informer evidence."

It is understood that the RUC/PSNI had over 70 hours of its own video footage relating to the disturbances at the Short Strand and lower Newtownards Road, which had not been viewed.

Belfast Telegraph editor Mike Gilson and senior executives from Sky News, UTV, BBC Northern Ireland, the Irish News, News Letter and the Press Association have urged the RUC/PSNI to "implement a new policy" to review all its own material and only go to court for a production order as a "last resort".

The National Union of Journalists (NUJ) and the

Broadcasting Entertainment Cinema- tograph and Technicians Union (BECTU) have also aired their concerns about infringements on the freedom of the Press following the court ruling.

In Britain on August 11, the BBC and ITN responded to prime minister David Cameron's call for them immediately to hand over unused TV footage of rioters by arguing that the proper procedure of the police obtaining a court order must be followed.

The British prime minister told MPs that the media has a "responsibility" to release footage to help police track down and punish those responsible for four nights of rioting in cities across England.

Under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 an order must be obtained from a judge to obtain unpublished material such as film and pictures. The judge is supposed to weigh the interest of the police in obtaining evidence against the public interest in a free press.

## More arrested and charged in Belfast

### A Belfast Chronology

**Tuesday, August 2, 2011.** An 18-year-old youth appeared in court in connection with rioting in Ardoyne on July 12. He was charged with riotous assembly, throwing a petrol bomb and possession of an offensive weapon.

**Wednesday, August 3.** A 16-year-old teenager was charged in connection with the rioting in Ardoyne on July 12. He was charged with riotous assembly, attempted grievous bodily harm with intent and possession of an offensive weapon.

**Thursday, August 4, 2011.** Thomas Maguire, west Belfast, who was arrested on Tuesday was charged with possessing explosives with intent to endanger life, having firearms with intent and possessing articles for use in terrorism.

Róisín Walsh, partner of Brendan Lillis who is seriously ill in Maghaberry jail, called on David Ford to resign as minister for justice in the Stormont regime.

News organisations in the Occupied Six Counties were ordered to hand over unedited and unbroadcast footage of the rioting

in July in Belfast, by Judge Piers Grant.

Jane Barnes (50), east Belfast, was bailed on a curfew and banned from three interface areas when she appeared in court charged with riotous assembly and assisting offenders.

A 16-year-old youth was granted bail but banned from going within 500 metres of any parade or procession and was prohibited from having masks and gloves in a public place. He faces charges of riotous assembly, possessing an offensive weapon (a green laser pen) and attempting to cause grievous bodily harm in Ardoyne in June. He was further banned from being within a mile of Ardoyne shops and he cannot be with more than three people in public. He was electronically tagged and a night-time curfew was imposed.

A 21-year-old was arrested and charged with rioting in east Belfast on July 1.

**Monday, August 8, 2011.** A teenage girl and a woman were charged with riot offences in connection with serious disorder in Belfast over the Twelfth period.

They were linked to trouble in the North Queen's Street area on July 11. The pair are charged with rioting and assisting and encouraging others to riot, and are expected to appear before Belfast Magistrates Court on September 5.

There were renewed calls from campaigners for an independent international inquiry into the killing of 11 nationalists in Ballymurphy over the weekend of August 9-11 in 1971.

**Monday, August 15, 2011.** Raymond Wooten, north Belfast was refused bail in the High Court. He faces seven charges including possession of explosives and a gun use by a group in a murder bid and punishment shooting.

**Thursday, August 18, 2011.** Brendan Lillis was released from Maghaberry jail to the City Hospital in Belfast. He has been seriously ill for some time. His licence was revoked when charges of kidnapping were preferred against him, but he was not released when the charges were dropped 18 month ago.

**Friday, August 19, 2011.** The High Court in Belfast heard that new soil sample evidence,

supplied last month, will link Republican prisoner Colin Duffy to the killing of two British soldiers in Antrim in March 2009. Prosecutors claimed an expert examination of a Mercedes car belonging to his co-accused, Brian Shivers, established a further connection to the killings.

**Monday, August 22, 2011.** A 26-year-old man appeared in court in Belfast charged with criminal damage and rioting in the east of the city on July 1 at Alberbridge Road/Castlereagh Street after an Orange parade.

A 17-year-old youth was refused bail in the High Court after prosecution lawyers said he was one of the ringleaders of the rioting in July 10 and 12 in Belfast.

The DUP demanded an explanation from David Ford as to what advice his department was given in connection with the release of Brendan Lillis from Maghaberry jail.

**Tuesday, August 30, 2011.** Stephen James Fox was sentenced to a year in jail and a further 15 months on licence after being found guilty of attacking an RUC Land Rover on July 12 last year.

## Raids and arrests in Lurgan

**August 6:** An unmarked PSNI/RUC patrol car came under attack after intimidating young Republicans in the Drumbeag estate. The vehicle fled after being struck with a paint bomb.

**August 7:** A local man, waiting to go to work, was beaten and robbed by two unknown men at the Ardowen roundabout at Craigavon. The victim sustained cuts and bruising and was left badly shaken by the unprovoked attack.

A group of youngsters stumbled across a box of anti-psychoic tablets. Luckily enough they handed them over to their parents to be disposed of. The consequences could have been much worse if a child was swallow them Republican Sinn

Féin Lurgan call on people to properly dispose of medicines

**August 10:** A Republican Sinn Féin member was arrested in his home and brought to Lurgan barracks in connection with a so-called illegal parade. He was later released pending a report to the Public Prosecution Services (PPS).

Later that day, up to 20 Land Rovers entered the Meadowbrook/Drumbeag area to carry out a series of raids. During the raids a man was arrested. He appeared in Lisburn Magistrates Court on August 13 charged with possession of an AKM assault rifle, a Beretta pistol, a mechanism for an improvised grenade launcher and 46 bullets. He also faces a count of possessing a telescopic sight and a balaclava for a

terrorist purpose. Under cross examination from a defence solicitor, the detective confirmed that during interviews Joe Edwards gave an "explanation" for the telescopic sight, but denied any knowledge of the other items. No bail application was lodged and Judge White remanded him into custody to appear before Craigavon Magistrates Court by videolink in September.

**August 21:** Three members of Republican Sinn Féin were chased by an unmarked patrol car in the Tullygally area, Craigavon.

**August 25:** The PSNI/RUC arrested a Republican Sinn Féin member at his place of work regarding the participation in a so-called "illegal parade" on Easter Sunday and taken to

Lurgan barracks for questioning before being released pending a report to the PPS.

**August 29:** Military helicopter and military spotter plane in the vicinity of Lurgan/Craigavon area for most of the day.

**September 2:** At around 11:30 in the evening a couple of PSNI/RUC Land Rovers entered the Drumbeag and Meadowbrook estates. They put on their search lights on top of the vehicles and were shining them into peoples homes.

After residents started to come out to see what was going on PSNI/RUC left the areas. This once again this seems to have been a pathetic form of harassment on the nationalist people of the Occupied Six Counties

## Harassment of Republicans in Newry

**MEMBERS of the Joe Conway/ Brendan Watters Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Newry, Co Down took part in a white-line protest in Monaghan Street Newry on August 6.**

Members carried posters calling for an end to strip-searching in Maghaberry Prison and a return of political status for POWs. The protest which lasted an hour was well attended by about 100 people, and was enthusiastically supported by members of the general public.

True to form the RUC/PSNI harassed those attending as they left the protest. One person was not only stopped and searched at the nearby 'Kwik Fit' premises but was also forced to remove his shoes. Another stopped after the protest was Independent Republican Councillor Davy Hyland who together with his friends was stopped and grilled by the British colonial police.

The RUC/PSNI have stepped up their attempted intimidation of Republican Sinn Féin members in the Newry-Armagh area.

The latest incident saw one of our members kidnapped from his home in the early morning.

Despite the man's father asking where his son was taken to the usual response was "we don't know", yet once in the police car, our member was able to be informed that he was to be taken to Banbridge Police Station.

This is a direct continuation of the pattern of arrests of totally bogus charges of our members and is designed to intimidate Republican Sinn Féin members. It will of course be a total failure as we will continue to protest the treatment

of Republican prisoners, and the role of former Republicans in administering British rule in Ireland.

In this respect it is interesting to note that during their highly theatrical 'commemoration' in Camlough recently, Provo supporters also acted the role of Provo Police. High visibility clothing was worn by those purporting to control and direct traffic near the village while the nearest member of the RUC/PSNI was presumably relaxing in Ardmore Police station while their allies served their apprenticeships for the new 'Provo Police'.

Further intimidation was attempted as a bus full of Republican Sinn Féin members and supporters from Armagh city, Lurgan and Newry travelled to Bundoran for the National Hunger Strike commemoration on August 27.

Every person, including the bus driver was ordered off the bus, and searched, while the vehicle and every item on it was ransacked.

One of our members suffering from a heart condition was refused permission to re-board the bus and sarcastically, was offered the option of sitting on the grass or in the police car.

Despite detaining us for more than an hour-and-a-half and a further 'coincidental' diversion a few miles on, further delaying the party, all eventually reached our destination, and to rapturous applause, the colour party marched to the West End.

# Cork marks 30th anniversary of H-Block hunger strike

**CUMANN Mac Curtáin/Mac Suibhne, Corcaigh held a commemoration on Saturday, August 20, the date of Mickey Devine's death, to mark the 30th anniversary of the H-Block hunger strike of 1981.**

The National Monument on the Grand Parade was chosen because of its special significance to our dead patriots as a place of honour to commemorate all our dead hunger strikers from 1917 to 1981.

The event was chaired by Donal Varian who opened proceedings by welcoming all present including Italian, Basque, Spanish, German and American tourists who joined in the commemoration.

Donal compared the 1981 hunger strike to the 1916 leaders who were representative of different Republican and socialist organisations in putting aside their organisational barriers to unify as Republicans in the cause of Ireland against England and her imperialist army of occupation.

This was followed by the 1916 Proclamation read by Jean Horgan to the music of *Mise Éire*. The Chairperson then read the Roll of Honour and wreaths were laid at the National Monument, followed by the *Last Post* and *Reveille*.

Brian O'Leary then read an extract from Bobby Sands's *One Day in my Life*, accompanied on mandolin by Alfie McAvoy playing *Róisín Dubh*.

The chairman then introduced Republican Sinn Féin President Des Dalton who gave the oration, which was both inspiring and informative and was met with rousing applause.

Des said: "This year we mark the 30th anniversary of the deaths on hunger strike of ten young Irishmen in the H Blocks of Long Kesh. The heroism and idealism shown by these otherwise ordinary young Irishmen was anything but ordinary. It was of a magnitude few can match. Their deaths made the world sit up and see that here in Western Europe was a small nation still struggling under the yoke of colonialism and imperialism.

"The background to the 1981 Hunger Strike lies in the British Government's policy of criminalising Ireland's historic fight for freedom and the determination of Irish Republicans to resist.

"On September 25, 1917 Tomás Aghas became the first Irish Republican to die as a result of Hunger Strike whilst being forced fed in Mountjoy prison.

"In all 22 Irish Republicans have died on Hunger Strike in British and Free State prisons and internment camps in the years from 1917 to 1981. Each succeeding generation of Republican prisoners have asserted their status as political prisoners and in doing so asserted the political nature of the struggle they are engaged in.

"Cork City too saw its Lord Mayor place his body on the altar of freedom. Terence

MacSwiney endured a hunger strike of 74 days dying in Brixton Prison in London on October 25 1920. Like that of Bobby Sands 61 years later MacSwiney's sacrifice and death threw the spotlight of the world on Britain's occupation of Ireland.

"Four other sons of Co Cork would like MacSwiney use their bodies as the final weapon of resistance to British Rule. Michael Fitzgerald, Joseph Murphy, Denis Barry and Andy Sullivan.

"Each of the 22 who paid that ultimate sacrifice from Tomás Aghas to Mickey Devine – the 30th anniversary of whose death we remember today – did so not only to vindicate their right to political status but also to vindicate Ireland's right to take her place among the nations of the earth.

"In 1998 the Provisionals under the terms of the Stormont Agreement signed away the rights won on the back of the sacrifice of Bobby Sands, Mickey Devine and their comrades. As a result today young Irishmen in Maghaberry Prison are engaged in the same struggle against the same enemy for the same principle. Locked in their cells for 24 hours a day, these young Republican POWs are engaged in a 'dirty protest'. They are being denied the right to legal or family visits. Even their right to post letters has been denied them.

"In August of last year an Agreement – independently mediated – laid the basis for a just settlement. Despite this the Stormont Justice Minister and his regime reneged on this Agreement and have instead forced the Republican Prisoners to return to protest. We are calling on people to come out in support of their right to political status and rally behind their demand for an end to the dehumanising practice of strip-searching and controlled movement.

"We welcome the release of veteran Republican Brendan Lillis on August 18. But we also point out that he should never have been imprisoned in the first place. He was held in appalling conditions in Maghaberry Prison for no other reason than the vindictiveness of the British Government and the Stormont Regime. His interment without trial was a gross violation of his most basic human rights.

"We repeat our demand for the immediate release of Martin Corey – another veteran Republican – who has been interned without trial since April 2010. Martin Corey served 19 years in Long Kesh making him the longest serving prisoner there. Despite this he is in Maghaberry today simply because he refuses to compromise with the occupier of his country.

"The Six-County State can



• Des Dalton, with Cathaoirleach Donal Varian, speaking at the hunger strike commemoration in Cork on August 20.



• A section of the crowd marching to the National Monument in Cork on August 20.

never be either normal or democratic. It is inherently sectarian and a stumbling block to a New Ireland.

"If we wish to truly honour Bobby Sands and his comrades we can only do so when we remove the last vestiges of British Rule from Ireland along with the new imperialism of the EU/ECB and the IMF who seek to enslave our people politically as well as economically. A New Ireland based on the federal

proposals set out in *Eire Nua* can make the All-Ireland Republic of 1916 a reality for all of the Irish people. "Irish Republicans are the true revolutionaries capable of fanning the flame of freedom and in the words of Terence MacSwiney: 'scorching up hypocrisy, deceit, meanness, and lighting all brave hearts to high hope and achievement'."

Alfie McAvoy, an ex-internee in Long Kesh, gave a



• Alfie McAvoy and Donal Varian at the Cork commemoration.

rendering on guitar of *Joe McDonnell* and *Back Home in Derry*, written by Bobby Sands. Mary Perry recited Bobby Sands poem *The Rhythm of Time*, accompanied by John Reid on uilleann pipes playing *An Cúilín*. John Reid then gave a recital on the uilleann pipes.

The Chairperson Donal Varian gave his closing remarks.

Cork's National Monument was unveiled on St Patrick's Day, 1906. The monument commemorates Irish patriots particularly those who died in the 1798 and 1803 Rebellions – the United Irishmen and Robert Emmet, the Young Irelanders of 1848 and the Fenians of 1867.

Fr Kavanagh OSF unveiled the monument. The statues at the four corners of the monument are: Wolfe Tone (1798); Peter O'Neill-Crowley (Fenians); Thomas Davis (Young Irelanders) and Michael Dwyer (1798). Diarmuid O'Donovan Rossa also spoke at the unveiling. The huge crowd at

the unveiling gave rousing cheers to Fr Kavanagh's speech, in the course of which he said:

"By the creation of this monument we commemorate the long line of Ireland's patriots, from the first to the last. From the days of Brian Boru to those of John Mitchell and down to our own day – to the men of '98; to the men of '48; to the men of '67; to all the patriot sons of Ireland; to all who have suffered or died for her and to those who withered for her sake in the gloom of the dungeon or crimsoned with their blood the gory scaffold or preferred poverty or exile to the glittering prizes offered by her betrayer."

A commemorative booklet containing the Readings, the Roll of Honour and the oration by Des Dalton, Uachtarán, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, was distributed on the day. It also contained pen pictures of the ten hunger strike martyrs and reprint photographs.

## IMEACHTAÍ

### 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF H-BLOCK HUNGER STRIKE

#### LIST OF EVENTS

#### HUNGER STRIKE SEMINAR

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 12.30PM -5PM  
WYNN'S HOTEL, MIDDLE ABBEY STREET, DUBLIN  
Speakers: Ruairí Ó Brádaigh and Richard O'Rawe  
Songs, poems and readings of the 1981 Hunger Strike  
\*\*\*\*

#### EVE OF ALL-IRELAND RALLY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Assemble GPO

Dublin, 2pm  
\*\*\*\*

#### LIBERTY HALL, DUBLIN

SEPTEMBER 17, 1pm-8pm.

TRADITIONAL PALESTINIAN NIGHT OF MUSIC, DANCING AND SINGING, FILM SCREENINGS, PHOTOGRAPHIC AND HANDICRAFT EXHIBITIONS, COOKERY DEMONSTRATIONS AND CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES.

CROSS CULTURAL FINALE CONCERT AT 6pm  
\*\*\*\*

#### 1798 REMEMBRANCE DAY

FORDTOWN MEMORIAL SITE, CO MEATH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Assemble Fordstown, 3pm

Organised by Republican Sinn Féin, Co Meath

Contact: 086-732 6922  
\*\*\*\*

#### JOIN NA FIANNA ÉIREANN

IRELAND'S REPUBLICAN

YOUTH MOVEMENT

223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1

## TEAGMHALACHA

Anyone wishing to join Republican Sinn Féin should contact:

**Cork:** Mac Curtáin/Mac Swiney Cumann:

086-3352006 or rsfcork@gmail.com

**Kerry:** 087-097 0835

**Dublin:** 01-8729747 or e-mail saoirse@iol.ie

**Meath:** Niall Fagan/Thomas Allen Cumann: 086-

7326922

**Wexford:** contact Mick at 0876150484

**Kildare:** desdalton@eircom.net, 086-329 1809,

www.rsfc-kildare.ie

**Longford:** 087-2240061 or 086-3384017

**Westmeath:** 086 124 3265;

email: rsfwmeth@gmail.com

**Ennisclorthy:** 086-0608382 or 087 6284338

**Belfast:** rsfbelfast@googlemail.com

**Donegal:** rsfdonegal@googlemail.com

**Newry:** Brendan Watters/Joe Conway Cumann:

rsfnewry@aol.com

**Roscommon:** Kevin Coen Cumann: Joe Murphy, 086

1281 861

**Mayo:** McNeela/Gaughan/Stagg Cumann: 087 0926420

**Galway:** Cumann an hAthair Ó Griofa: Tomás,

087 2933 782; Seán at 091 525 977, text: 0871496885;

rsfgaillimh@live.ie

**Leitrim:** Micheál at 071 9641 804 or John at 086

4061454

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0044-7926357676; londoncumann@gmail.com

**Glasgow:** Francis Hughes Cumann,

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**Dumbarton:** John Torley/Séamus McElwaine Cumann

dumbartonrsf@live.co.uk

**RSF Germany/Austria:** www.irish-solidarity.net

irish-solidarity@gmx.net, 0664 170 02 92

**RSF Italy:** rsf-roma@email.it

# Thousands of signatures collected for POWs

**THE Republican POWs in Maghaberry jail are continuing with their protest against the British government's policy of criminalisation aided and abetted by Stormont MLAs.**

The refusal by the British to grant them political status ensures that the men must continue to endure the hardship of a dirty protest – living in such conditions is not a choice anyone would make lightly.

The POWs in Maghaberry began a 48-hour fast on Tuesday, August 9 to draw attention to their plight.

The men are locked down for 23-hours per day, with no education facilities, recreation or association.

Their determination and morale is such that, agree with them or not, one must admire their bravery in the face of such adversity.

Pickets and protests are continuing around the country calling for their three demands to be met:

An end to strip searching with the use instead of the BOSS chair

- Free association and
- An end to controlled movement.

At all functions and commemorations they are remembered and thousands of leaflets have been distributed. Thousands of signatures have been collected calling for the three demands to be implemented immediately and an end to the brutal stand of the British government and the Stormont regime, (the petitions are held by the POW Department in Head office).

We must fight for them on the outside and not let them do all the fighting on the inside.

We ask people to support the POWs by writing to the papers highlighting their case, attending pickets and protests, putting pressure on David Ford, Martin McGuinness church leaders etc and in any way possible.



• **Members of the Brendan Watters/Joe Conway Cumann Republican Sinn Féin, Newry took part in a white-line protest in Monaghan Street, Newry on August 6.**

For further information on how you can help please contact 223, Parnell Street, Dublin, phone 00353-1-8739747 or 229 Falls Road, Belfast, phone 90-319004.

The Brendan Watters/Joe Conway Cumann Republican Sinn Féin, Newry on August 5 September applauded the refusal of Newry and Mourne District Council workers to remove from a field a hoarding supporting the protest against strip-searching in Maghaberry

prison. The order to remove it was given by a sitting Provo Councillor, himself a former POW, and a private firm subsequently carried out the removal of the printed support.

However, later the same night Newry Republicans repainted the hoarding, located in a field outside Derrybeg Park, which can be seen from quite a distance.

The action of the Council workers stands in stark contrast

to that of former Republicans, who hypocritically pay lip-service to the heroic hunger strikers of 1981, but meanwhile try to deny the struggle of those who today continue the same struggle as '81.

Members of the Cumann took part in a white-line protest in Monaghan Street, Newry on August 6.

They carried posters calling for an end to strip-searching in Maghaberry Prison and a return of political status for POWs. The protest which lasted an hour was well attended by about 100 people, and was enthusiastically supported by members of the general public.

In a statement on September 1, Kay Davidson, PRO, McKelvey/Steele Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Belfast called on David Ford to fully implement the August 2010 Agreement. The date set for this was the end of January 2011.

"Republican prisoners have been subjected to beatings,

strip-searching, and long periods of lock up; all of this has been designed to break the moral of the prisoners. As a result the Republican POWs have been forced back on a dirty protest.

"This can be simply resolved by the prison service using the BOSS chair as was agreed in the August 2010 agreement. The chair, installed at great expense is already in place. Why is it not being used?"

"We in Republican Sinn Féin call on all statutory bodies and also the Catholic Church to demand answers from David Ford and the prison service as to the reason why this Agreement has never been implemented.

"Why is it necessary to keep these men in conditions one would not expect animals to live in? Write letters, attend protests, join in white-line pickets, ask questions and break the wall of silence which surrounds the reason why the Brit's reneged on this agreement."

# Brendan Lillis released from custody

**REPUBLICAN Sinn Féin welcomed the release of Republican prisoner Brendan Lillis, by the Parole Commissioners, on August 18, 2011. Brendan was moved from Maghaberry jail in Co Antrim to Belfast City Hospital in a very weak state a few days prior to his release.**

The 59-year-old from west Belfast, who remains seriously ill in City Hospital, Belfast, suffers from the arthritic condition ankylosing spondylitis, and had been confined to bed in the prison's hospital wing for 18 months.

His partner Róisín Lynch said that "There's no stipulations, no probation, nothing. He's just back on the licence that he had from 1974."

Brendan Lillis was

sentenced to life in 1977 on explosives charges, but was released on licence in 1993. It was revoked in 2009 after he was arrested on robbery/kidnapping charges which were later dropped due, the hospital said, to his being "unfit to stand trial". While Republicans have welcomed the decision to release Brendan Lillis, Unionist politicians have severely criticised the decision to release him and are

demanding the Parole Commissioners "justify" the



• **Brendan Lillis**

release. On August 15, Sinn Féin Poblachtach International Bureau demanded the

immediate release of Brendan Lillis, and said that the continued "ill-treatment of Irish people like Marian Price, Martin Corey and Brendan Lillis by the British occupation forces is nothing else than the re-introduction of internment without trial after 40 years. Their ill-treatment just that the face of British occupation in Ireland has not changed".

The statement concluded by calling on all democratic organisations, NGOs and individuals "to demand basic human rights for Irish Republican POWs" and for all people in Continental Europe "who want to defend human rights and the right to live a decent life to put pressure on the

British administration. Thirty years ago the British administration let ten Irish citizens die in British jails. Don't let history repeat itself".

On August 18 a spokesperson for the POW Department Republican Sinn Féin welcomed the release of Brendan Lillis.

"It is not before time that Brendan Lillis was released from Maghaberry. It has been obvious to the British Government and the Stormont ministers for some time that Brendan Lillis was a very ill man and keeping him in jail was purely a vindictive act as he faced no charges.

"Martin Corey also had his

licence revoked, after almost 18 years, and faced no charges, yet he is still held in Maghaberry Jail. Marian Price had her licence revoked after 30 years on a made-up charge and is currently held in Maghaberry jail – the only woman there.

"Other Republican POWs, those sentenced and on remand, are on protest in Maghaberry for the reinstatement of political status. They live in dreadful conditions and we must now step up the campaign on the outside to highlight their plight.

"We call on the extended families and supporters to join in the protests to being about an end to the living hell that is Maghaberry Jail 2011."

# Hunger strikers remembered in Wexford

**ON Friday, August 19 nine men and one woman undertook a 24-hour fast in aid of CABHAIR (Irish Republican Prisoners Dependants Fund).**

On Saturday afternoon, August 20 Republicans from Wexford, Enniscorthy, Waterford, Kilkenny, Kildare and Arklow held a successful picket for the POWs. They then formed up behind a colour party and marched from Wexford's historic Bullring to the Garden of Remembrance at the Old Jail to attend a commemoration for the hunger strikers.

Former Long Kesh and Portlaoise POW Jimmy Kavanagh chaired the events. Cian Kehoe of the Michael Dwyer Cumann, Arklow laid a wreath on behalf of the Republican Movement and Séamus Mac Suain, who himself spent 42 days on hunger strike in Portlaoise, laid a

wreath on behalf of the Wexford Republican Graves Association. Nicky Barnes then read the 1916 Proclamation and Mick Hunt read the Roll of Honour of Hunger Strikers 1917-1981.

Jimmy then introduced Matt Conway, Kildare Ard Chomhairle member, who gave the oration. He said:

"I knew some of the men of '81 and looking around here today I see some faces who knew some of them too. Here in Wexford today we stand with pride in commemoration of ten young Irishmen who by their sacrifice and heroism captured the imagination of Ireland and the world, reminding one and all that 'Ireland unfreeze shall never be at peace', using their



• **Members of Wexford Republican Sinn Féin who took part in 24-hour a sponsored fast in aid of CABHAIR, beginning on August 19.**

bodies as weapons of last resort with which to strike at British occupation.

"In 1998 the Provos under the terms of the Stormont Agreement, sold their souls and signed away the rights won on

the back of the sacrifice of Bobby Sands and his comrades. As a result, today young Irishmen in Maghaberry prison are engaged in the same enemy for the same principle. An independently-mediated

agreement in August 2010 has been completely ignored by Stormont justice minister David Ford, forcing the POWs back on a dirty protest.

"The actions of the British State over the past few months has exposed the reality of British rule in Ireland despite the lies and spin of the Provos and their apologists. The arrest of Republican Sinn Féin President Des Dalton and Vice-President Fergal Moore and the attempt to deny them bail was an obvious attempt to intern them. When loyalists attacked the Short Strand in June, the response of the RUC/PSNI was to arrest two nationalists while Stormont First Minister Peter Robinson negotiated with the UVF, who carried out the attacks. It is clear that the undiluted message of revolutionary Irish

Republicanism delivered by Republican Sinn Féin is feared by Westminster, Stormont and Leinster House.

"The Six-County State is a gerrymandered remnant of British rule; it can never be a platform from which to build a new Ireland. Bobby Sands, Francis Hughes, Ray McCreesh, Martin Hursion, Joe McDonnell, Kevin Lynch, Patsy O'Hara, Francis Hughes, Tom McElwee and Mickey Devine all laid down their young lives so that the Irish nation might live. Their faith was a Fenian faith, which would brook no compromise with the invader. To keep faith with the ideals for which they died is our solemn duty."

A minute's silence was held with the dipping of the flags.

# Large turnout commem

**ON Saturday, August 27 the 30th anniversary of the 1981 hunger strikes were commemorated in Bundoran, Co Donegal. The large attendance included people from throughout Ireland, Europe and the US.**

The parade assembled at the East End of the town and was led by a Colour Party from Dublin. A colour party from Co Armagh was delayed for over two hours when the bus they were travelling in was stopped in Co Tyrone by the RUC/PSNI. All those on board, including the bus driver, were taken off and searched on the side of the road and the bus was ransacked. It was stopped again at another checkpoint and arrived as the rally was taking place in Bundoran. They assembled near the West End and marched to where the rally was taking place, to rapturous applause by those assembled.

Seán Doyle, the piper from the Glens of Antrim marched at the front of the parade and three bands were in attendance, the Kevin Lynch Memorial Band from Dungiven, the McNally Band, Magherafelt, Co Derry, the Pride of Erin Tunnel band, Portadown, Co Armagh.

The parade marched to the Republican Garden of Remembrance where it paused for some minutes to allow Don Hurley and Bob Loughman to unveil a plaque to the Emerald Society Police before returning to the West End where proceedings were chaired by Life Vice-President of Republican Sinn Féin Joe O'Neill. Also on the platform were representatives from several of the hunger strike families and others sent message of support to the rally. Mary Ward, widow of Pat, was also on the platform.

The Bundoran Hunger Strike Commemoration Committee had Belfast Crystal vases for the families of the hunger strikers and also for the families of Pat Ward, Michael Gaughan and Frank Stagg.

Kay Davidson, Belfast, read a statement on behalf of the Magheraberry POW Support Group, in the course of which she said:

"At present Prisoners of War are engaged in a protest against the brutal regime in Magheraberry concentration camp, Co Antrim.

"Our prisoners like so many Irish Republicans locked in British jails before them have been forced to take action for basic human rights, for political status and free association.

"Part of their protest involves a no-wash/dirty protest. The conditions these men are living in can only be described as deplorable and we, the Republican people of Ireland, must now join with them on the outside once again with our own form of protests.

"The barbaric strip searches our prisoners have to endure are nothing short of sadistic and yet all this could stop with the use of the BOSS chair the Brits had agreed to install - and of course true to form they reneged on the Agreement that was signed in 2010.

"We, the POW steering committee, ask you once again to renew your support; everyone can play a part in securing the prisoners demands. Until their demands have been met

further protests organised all of which will be advertised in SAOIRSE.

The ongoing internment of prisoners Martin Corey and Marian Price must also be at the forefront of our protest. At any time former POWs can be ripped

like to send solidarity greeting to all Irish Republican prisoners held in British, Irish and international jails.

Victory to the POWs."  
Matt Conway read a statement from the Republican Prisoners, Portlaoise jail. Bob Loughman of the Emerald Society, New York said he was very pleased to be in Bundoran again this year and gave a powerful oration.

Some months ago a bronze plaque was presented to the Bundoran Hunger Strike Committee by a group from Brittany, Combat Breton, which was also unveiled at the entrance to the Garden of Remembrance. The group sent solidarity greetings to the POWs in Magheraberry jail and to Republican Sinn Féin and read the following statement in both French and English: "Our working-class delegation from Brittany is honoured for being your guests today at Bundoran's Garden of Memories, on August 27, 2011. We are with you today in loving memory of Bobby Sands and his mates, who died from hunger strike; and also, to all those men and women who gave their lives for freedom and Irish reunification.

"According to them, just like according to us, there are no two Irelands; one with 26 Counties and one with Six Counties; there is only ONE Éire which is made of 32 Counties as a whole country.

"In this very special occasion, I want to greet your struggle, and I want to condemn the English colonisation policy, its Orange Fascism and all its provocation.

"I know and we know that you will definitely win this struggle for independence in spite of politics and its difficulties.

"Please, accept from our delegation from Brittany all our wishes of success in this aim. "We will always be and stand by your side to let all of our friends and people from Brittany know that your cause and that your fight is fair."

Richard Behal, Kilkenny and Killarney, read a very moving unpublished poem by Bobby Sands which we carry in SAOIRSE (page 14). The poem was written circa 1980.

The principal speaker was Republican Sinn Féin Vice-President Fergal Moore, Monaghan, who said:

"Is mór an onóir dom a bheith anseo inniu i measc na Poblachtaigh dílis chun cuimhneamh ar na laochra a thug a mbeatha do saoirse na hÉireann tríocha bliain ó shin. Bhí an t-am an Stailc Ocras laethanta dorchá d'Éirinn ach cuimhnigh linn dóibh le mórtas.

"It is hard to believe that it is thirty years since the great Hunger Strike, an Stailc Ocras, in Long Kesh. We, who are old enough to remember that time, recall with pride how a handful of men, clad in blankets, stood against the might of the British Empire armed only with their own indomitable will. Younger generations have been inspired by their great sacrifice. Their names and their deeds live on in poetry and song so that they shall never be forgotten.

"Irish Republicans have engaged in Hunger Strikes since 1917. Thomas Ashe, Kerryman and commander of the Fingal Battalion of the Irish Volunteers in 1916, began a hunger strike in



• Cathaoirleach Joe O'Neill with the speaker from Combat Breton.



• Bob Loughman



• The parade, led by the Colour Party from Dublin, marching through Bundoran.



• The Colour Party from Lurgan, Co Armagh who were delayed by the RUC/PSNI on the way to the parade, got a huge reception when they arrived.

Republican Sinn Féin will be protesting in various forms. We ask you to join us in the fight, we ask you to contact the media, write letters to your local papers, join us on white-line pickets and show the POWs your support in any way you can.

"Republican Sinn Féin has organised a protest outside Magheraberry on September 11 and we ask you all to attend make some noise There will be

from their homes and families and locked up on the whim of the British Secretary of State.

Martin Corey has been incarcerated for nearly 18 months, no reason was given except a trumped up accusation of being "a threat to the state". It is clear now that Martin is a political hostage held ONLY for being an Irish Republican.

The POW steering committee would



• The Kevin Lynch Memorial Band, hunger strike commemoration in Bu



• The Pride of Erin Band, The Tun



• The Phoenix Band, Magherafelt,



• Part of the large crowd who took

September 1917 demanding prisoner of

# for Bundoran memorial



from Dungiven, Co Derry, who take part in the Bundoran parade each year.



in Portadown, Co Armagh, at the parade.



in Co Derry.



part in the commemoration.

was killed in Mountjoy Jail. He died in the Mater Hospital after being

force fed by his captors. In all 22 Irish Republicans have died in this terrible manner.

"The Hunger Strike of 1981 had a long slow build up to it. For five years previously the prisoners in Long Kesh had been "on the blanket" - ever since Kieran Nugent had told the screws they'd have to nail the prison uniform to his back to get him to wear it. For Republicans the prison uniform is a symbol of a criminal and a convict. We have always refused to allow the Brits and our other enemies to label our just fight for Irish freedom a criminal act. It is the continued occupation of our country by a hostile, imperialist power that is a criminal act and it is our duty as Irish men and women to defeat that occupation just as it was the duty of the Hunger Strikers and the Blanket men to refuse to be criminalised.

"Bobby Sands said "We refuse to lie here in dishonour! We are not criminals, but Irishmen! This is the crime of which we stand accused." After the Blanket protest a "no-wash" protest started that came to be known as the "dirty protest". And still the prisoners did not lose heart. After two years of living in such inhuman conditions things came to a head when a Hunger Strike was begun in 1980. As we all know this strike failed in its objective of ending the British policy of criminalisation and restoring POW status. The great Hunger Strike that was begun on the first of March 1981 was entered into only after the prisoners had exhausted every avenue they could.

"While the prisoners were suffering inside, we, on the outside, were taking to the streets. It is reported that the RUC fired nearly 30,000 plastic bullets in 1981 alone. Despite this level of repression 100,000 people were at the funeral of Bobby Sands. And when the Strike was eventually ended we Republicans could truly say that we had given our all, that we did all that we could to support the prisoners and their noble cause.

"In Maghaberry Jail today Irish Republican prisoners are being denied the political status that was so hard won 30 years ago. They have no freedom of association, their movement is strictly controlled and they are subject to regular, brutal strip searching. Since the Stormont Agreement of 1998 the Brits and their allies try to tell us that there are no more political prisoners. Worse than that, they once more label anyone who takes up arms against their occupation as criminals. Sickeningly the Brits servants up in Stormont, many of whom made their political names on the backs of the Hunger Strikers, parrot their weasel words and so once more we have the leaders of so called "Nationalist Ireland" siding with the Brits against true patriots.

"In 2010 the Republican prisoners in Maghaberry began a protest against the conditions there that lasted almost five months. The protest ended only after a negotiated



A section of the parade.



Mary Ward, Don Hurley and Richard Behal on the platform.



Some members of the hunger striker's families, including Peggy O'Hara, mother of Patsy O'Hara, at the parade.

authorities but it became apparent that the screws had no intention of honouring the agreement, they just wanted to end the protest as quickly as possible. In the face of this intransigence the Prisoners felt that they had no option but to return to protest. In July the protest was escalated to a full "dirty protest." The prisoners are confined to their cells and are being forced once more to smear their waste on their cell walls just as the Blanket men of Long Kesh had to.

"The forces against us are legion and the repression we must endure is growing all the time. Former life sentence prisoners especially are being targeted simply because they do not conform to British rule in Ireland. Marian Price, who herself

endured Hunger Strike and forced feeding in England, languishes in prison while one of her old comrades in arms in the '70s receives a ministerial pay cheque from the British Government. Of course the difference between the two is that Marian has not changed her politics to support British Rule.

"Brendan Lillis was only released after a lengthy campaign and as his medical condition became critical. We wish Brendan all the best and hope that he can recover as best as possible at home with his partner Róisín at his side.

"Another life sentence prisoner to have his release revoked is Martin Corey from Lurgan. Martin was released from Long Kesh in 1992 and had been living a normal life in Lurgan up until his arrest in April



Fergal Moore



Kay Davidson

2010. No reason has been given to Martin for his arrest and he is being held at the whim of the British Secretary for State. All during the prison protest of 2010 Martin asked that all our efforts must be put into the POW campaign rather than for him. However Martin's plight affects many others and we must try to highlight it. In January this year a protest march on Martin's behalf was held in Lurgan, Martin's hometown. It was well attended and garnered much needed publicity. Consequently the Brits were stung into action and 15 people, one of whom is the President of Republican Sinn Féin, will appear in court in September charged with taking part in this peaceful protest against a gross injustice.

"We will not let this repression get us down. We will not be disheartened. We have come through this type of thing before and we have prevailed. We will prevail again. Thirty years ago ten brave young men gave their lives for Irish Freedom in the hell of Long Kesh. Their sacrifice strengthens us and gives us inspiration. We remember them with pride and sadness and we can do no more than struggle on in the same spirit that they struggled. Until the final victory comrades.

"An Phoblacht Abú!"  
Don Hurley and Bob Loughman unveiled a plaque at the Bundoran Garden of Remembrance Emerald Society Police and the plaque donated by Combat Breton was unveiled by one of their delegation.

After the parade a meal was laid on upstairs in the Emerald Bar and the Flight of the Earls Band from Strabane in Co Tyrone provided wonderful music for the occasion.

## MI6 'worked with Gaddafi regime'

EVIDENCE has emerged of close cooperation between British intelligence and the former Gaddafi regime, according to published reports on September 3.

Papers discovered in Tripoli apparently show that MI6 gave Muammar Gaddafi's security service information on Libyan 'dissidents' living in Britain.

The documents, discovered in the Tripoli offices of former head of Libyan intelligence Musa Kusa, also show how the CIA worked with the Gaddafi regime on the rendition of 'terrorist suspects'.

The British Ministry of Defence disclosed that British forces have so far hit more than 900 targets in the campaign to "protect Libyan civilians from the Gaddafi regime".

The latest strikes came during armed reconnaissance patrols on September 2 against buildings in Bani Walid which had been used by Gaddafi's forces as a military vehicle depot.

At least 910 targets have been damaged or destroyed since operations began in March, the MoD said.

## Syrian violence 'intensified despite Ramadan'

AT least 473 Syrians were killed during protests against the President Bashar al-Assad's regime during the past Muslim holy month of Ramadan [August], human rights campaigners said on August 31.

The death toll of 360 civilians included 25 children and 14 women, said the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. It said 113 government forces were also killed.

More than 2,200 Syrians have been killed since the start of a brutal crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in March by President Bashar al-Assad, whose family has ruled the country for 40 years.

The latest figures were disclosed as troops, backed by tanks, raided houses and made arrests while looking for anti-government protesters in central Syria.

Homes were raided in Homs and Hama, two activists' houses were torched and at least 16 people were reportedly seized in Houla, despite growing international condemnation of Damascus.

Regime forces also threatened relatives with arrests unless activists in their families turned themselves in. Dozens of Syrians have been killed in custody since protests began.

## British law extended to prisons and police cells

POLICE forces, prisons and youth detention centres in Britain face prosecution for corporate homicide from September if an individual dies in their custody, according to a report in the *Guardian* Newspaper on August 28, 2011.

In the 10 years between 1999 and 2009, 333 people died in or following police custody, according to the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC). Ministry of Justice figures show that last year there were 58 [allegedly] self-inflicted deaths among prisoners in England and Wales.

Until now, the prison service, police forces and immigration units have not been subject to the new Corporate Manslaughter and Homicide Act, and there have been no successful prosecutions of police or prison officers, individually or at a senior management level, for institutional failures that have contributed to a death in custody. But from September 1, a clause in the Corporate Homicide Act 2007 will come into place extending the law to cover all deaths in police custody suites, prison cells, mental health detention facilities, young offenders institutions and immigration suites. It will also cover Ministry of Defence institutions.

Deaths of people being transported to and from immigration detention centres will also be covered by the Corporate Homicide Act. Campaigners for the families of those who die in custody believe the new law will provide extra protection for vulnerable individuals and at last inject some accountability into the system.

## Husnu Yildiz ends death fast

ON August 14, 2011, Husnu Yildiz ended his hunger strike in Turkey after 66 days. He was demanding the return of the bodies of the "disappeared" including that of his brother Ali Yildiz. He ended the fast because his demand for the excavation of the graves had been accepted and carried out.

On August 12 and 13, excavations were carried out at mass graves in Cemisgezek, Dersim in eastern Turkey. Fifteen sets of human remains and items of clothing were discovered at three sites. Traces of gunshot and shrapnel injuries were found on some of the remains. One of the dead was a woman.

The remains were sent to the Forensic Medical Institute in Istanbul. At a press conference on August 14, lawyer Taylan Tanay, said that: "At the moment the IHD (Human Rights Association) reckons that there are more than 100 mass graves [in Turkey] and these hold the remains of more than 2,000 people".

Husnu Yildiz also spoke and said: "Everything happened under our supervision. The comrades of Ali shovelled the earth with their own hands, they collected the bones with their own hands. And I think we were successful in applying standards to [the] opening [of] mass graves. Even if my brother's body were not to be among the 15, they are all my brothers."

During the hunger strike the TAYAD prisoners' rights group demanded "that all mass graves be revealed and that the murderers responsible for them be punished". The statement continued: "Mass

# WORLD NEWS



• On August 14 Husnu Yildiz ended his hunger strike in Turkey after 66 days because his demand for the excavation of the bodies of the "disappeared" including that of his brother Ali Yildiz had been accepted and carried out.

graves, executions, murders and disappearances in police custody have long been a matter of state policy in Turkey. Today our country is full of mass graves, from Dersim to Bitlis. The image of Turkey, which is ruled through 114 mass graves and 1,469 deaths, is the true face of the oligarchy.

"In periods in which the struggle for rights and freedoms is stronger, the state resorts to intimidating the population, in order to neutralise the struggle. The main reason for these methods of intimidation is the fears that the ruling class itself harbours. Other reasons are the attempt to intimidate the people and interrupt the struggle. The message the mass graves send is 'if I kill you, you will not even have a grave'. They seek to cause fear by producing a feeling of uncertainty.

"The 'disappearances' and mass graves are a policy of attack developed by imperialism and fascism...in Latin America, Asia and Africa, mass graves and disappearances are a means of attack for imperialism.

"Therefore the indefinite hunger strike we have started in Dersim for the return of the dead bodies to us is not independent of the struggle for rights and freedoms.

"It is not independent of the struggle for democracy and revolution. For this struggle is a struggle for humanity. We represent all the values of this world that have remained clean. "These values are the values of revolutionaries. And that means that we take a stand for our fallen and look for our graves.

"With these sentiments, we greet your struggle and your hunger strike action and wish it success".

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## Iran sentences US hikers to eight years for spying

TWO Americans, Shane Bauer and Josh Fattal, held in Iran for more than two years have been convicted as spies and sentenced to eight years' jail, Iranian TV reported on Saturday August 20.

Shane Bauer and Josh Fattal were arrested on July 31, 2009 near Iran's border with Iraq, along with a third American, Sarah Shourd, who was freed on \$500,000 bail in September 2010 and returned home.

The trio, in their late 20s and early 30s, say they were hiking in the mountains of northern Iraq and, if they crossed the unmarked border into Iran, it was by mistake.

"In connection with illegal entry into Iranian territory each was given three years in jail and in connection with the charge of cooperating with American intelligence service, each was given five years in jail," a state TV website said, quoting what it called an informed judiciary source.

US President Barack Obama has denied that the Americans, who were working in the Middle East when they decided to hike in the scenic mountains of Iraq, had any link to US intelligence.

Bauer and Fattal, who share a cell in Tehran's notorious Evin jail, pleaded not guilty at a closed-door court hearing on February 6 and had been awaiting a verdict following another trial hearing on July 31.

## IOF kills child in central Gaza

ON August 16, 2011 the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) killed a Palestinian child from al-Nussairat refugee camp, who was 400 meters from the border between the Gaza Strip and Israel, east of Deir al-Balah in the central Gaza Strip. The victim was in an area that had not been explicitly declared as prohibited.

According to investigations conducted by Aid Workers, on August 16 Israeli soldiers stationed at the border northeast of Deir al-Balah opened fire at a Palestinian. As a result he was wounded by 10 bullets in his head and chest. He was left wounded without being offered any first aid. After coordination was made with IOF, medical crews were able to retrieve the body hours later, which was then transferred to al-

Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir al-Balah. After four hours the child was identified as Sa'd Abdul Rahim Mahmoud al-Majdalwai, 17, from al-Nussairat refugee camp.

The Israeli radio reported that IOF observed a person approaching the security fence, and shot him. This version of events confirms that IOF could have arrested or used less than lethal force against him, especially as he was wearing civilian clothes and there was nothing to indicate that he was a non-civilian.

## Call for investigation into Israeli jails

A PALESTINIAN rights centre called on August 30 for an investigation into the high incidence of illness and disease among Palestinian detainees in Israeli jails. A significant number die very soon after leaving prison, it is claimed.

The Palestinian Centre for Defending Detainees stated that hundreds of detainees develop serious and chronic diseases, such as heart disease, diabetes, pleurisy, kidney failure, back pain, persistent headaches and ulcers while in Israeli prisons. These are all exacerbated by the apparently deliberate Israeli policy of medical neglect and lack of adequate treatment.

Thamir Sabaana, a researcher specialising in Palestinian prisoners' affairs, pointed to "the growing phenomenon of cancer among released prisoners", which requires humanitarian and international organisations to research into the reasons behind such cases.

Sabaana also spoke of the complaints made by prisoners over medical neglect, as they aren't transferred to hospitals even though they require surgery, tests and treatment. "The Israeli Prison Service postpones the provision of medical services over several years deliberately," added Sabaana, "until diseases have taken hold and are too advanced to treat effectively."

## 'Freedom of opinion should not be restricted'

THE United Nations Human Rights Committee issued a new authoritative commentary setting tough rules limiting the extent to which states can restrict freedom of opinion and expression.

The committee released a document by a panel of 18 jurists on July 28, 2011, which stated that 'freedom of opinion and by extension religion, should not be restricted under any circumstances'.

The jurists set out their stance in a "general comment" on how parts of International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) - a basic UN accord that outlines individuals' civil and political rights, and functions as one of the fundamentals in international human rights law - should be interpreted and applied.

Michael O'Flaherty, the committee's vice chairman, said on July 28 at a press conference in Geneva, that the 15-page document strongly reaffirms "the central importance for all human rights of the freedom of expression and sets out the very strict parameters within which the right can be restricted by states."

The comment interprets two paragraphs of the 1976 ICCPR, hitting at anti-terror laws, monopoly media, anti-blasphemy statutes and prosecution of maverick historians. It also extends protection for freedom of expression to new media actors, including bloggers.

It also states that blasphemy laws are incompatible with the multinational treaty, except under very specific circumstances subject to strict requirements set out in the ICCPR.

"States parties should put in place effective measures to protect against attacks aimed at silencing those exercising their right to freedom of expression."

## Anti-nuclear protest 30th anniversary

THE Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is preparing to mark the 30th anniversary of the arrival of the first activists at the then US Air Force base of Greenham Common, Berkshire, England.

This event heralded the start of one of the most iconic anti-nuclear protests of the Cold War and was a defining experience for a whole generation of political campaigners.

In September 1981 a group of women opposed to the decision to base US nuclear-tipped Cruise Missiles at Greenham Common and Molesworth, arrived at the end of a 120 mile march from Cardiff. Under the title 'Women for Life on Earth', the 36 women, together with male supporters, delivered a letter to the Base Commander requesting a discussion on the expected arrival of the missiles.

When that was not forthcoming the group decided to remain at the base as a peace camp.

The peace camp, which became women-only in 1982 saw thousands live in very basic conditions in all weathers with the constant threat of eviction, often brutally executed and ongoing harassment from police, military or vigilantes. The camp organised ongoing peaceful protests against the base and Cruise missiles, ranging from decorating and cutting the perimeter fence through to blocking the roads and infiltrating the base and disabling the missile convoy vehicles.

Other protests grew from the camp, such as when around 30,000 women "embraced the base" on 12th December 1982 or when four miles of fence were simultaneously taken down on October 29, 1983. CND coordinated other actions with the camp such as during Easter 1983 when around 70,000 campaigners formed a 14 mile long human chain linking the nuclear warhead factories at Aldermaston and Burghfield to Greenham Common.

# Beware false prophets

**A TIME of economic crisis provides a moment in time when the revolutionary can more readily get the ear of the people. At such times people are open to the possibility of radical change.**

It is of such a juncture that Lenin wrote: "A revolution is impossible without a revolutionary situation" however he also warned "not every revolutionary situation leads to revolution".

A climate of economic crisis not only opens up possibilities for the genuine revolutionary but also for the false prophet of racism and fascism. Germany in the 1920s and early 30s is an oft-quoted example of the kind of conditions that breed such hateful ideology. The pattern is the same the world over however: find a scapegoat for joblessness, poverty, cuts in social spending etc. Such a scapegoat will usually differ from the majority in skin

colour, religion, language, culture, nationality or gender. These false prophets then go to work on increasing paranoia and bigotry among the majority against the minority based on the false premise that salvation of the majority lies in the destruction of those that differ from the rest. The purpose is always the same to climb to a position of political power and hold it by creating fear among the population towards each other thereby ensuring their control by the state.

All of this is anathema to the very ethos and philosophy of Irish Republicanism. When Wolfe Tone, Thomas Russell, Samuel Neilson and others came together to found the

Society of United Irishmen they were explicit as to what its purpose was to be: "This Society is likely to be a means the most powerful for the promotion of a great end. What end? The Rights of Man in Ireland. The greatest happiness of the greatest number in this island, the inherent and indefeasible claims of every free nation to rest in this nation. . . The greatest happiness of the greatest number – on the rock of this principle let this Society rest; by this let it judge and determine every political question, and whatever is necessary for this end let it not be accounted hazardous, but rather our interest, our duty, our glory and our common religion. The Rights of Man are the Rights of God, and to vindicate the one is to maintain the other. We must be free in order to serve Him whose service is perfect freedom." This is why it is all the more



• Des Dalton

reprehensible when those who masquerade under the banner of Irish Republicanism attempt to hide their hideous mantra of hate, bigotry and intolerance under such a noble standard. People should be awake to

those who attempt this sleight of hand and treat them with the same contempt and suspicion one would any impostor or confidence trickster. Indeed I would argue even more so for such characters are worse than any fraudster because by their words and deeds they besmirch the very name of Irish Republicanism.

Irish Republicanism is no narrow insular dogma – it is an international philosophy of freedom and democracy drawing on the best and noblest instincts of human nature rather than the lowest. Our cause is the cause of humanity. Again we are back to Tone: "Let the nations go abreast. Let the interchange of sentiments among mankind concerning the Rights of Man be as immediate as possible". It is a philosophy which invites people into the brightness of enlightenment and progress rather than the shadows of fear and intolerance.

— Des Dalton  
thesingingflame  
desdalton.blogspot.com

## WHAT THEY SAID

...the metal door to his room remains permanently unlocked for quick access by staff in case of emergency.

The cell curtains remain

permanently closed, the prisoner's eyes sensitive to light. He cannot read because of failing eyesight and apart from his weekly hour-long visits has no outside contact apart from prison service staff.

— Alison Morris, writing in the Irish News on August 3, 2011, on a visit to Brendan Lillis, in Maghaberry jail.

Pictures have been released in recent weeks showing him in an emaciated state.

The reality is much more shocking.

With his spine fused, he has been lying still in the same position for months, his only

view a cell door.

His prison medical treatment appears to be confined to pain management rather than treatment.

— Alison Morris.

He is unable to be moved and all treatment takes place in the small cell – including tooth extraction carried out as he lay in the same twisted position in which his spine has now fused.

Six feet tall, Lillis is existing on a diet of tinned creamed rice, of which he can digest only a few small mouthfuls a day.

— Alison Morris.

The prison-issue starched

cotton bedsheets and pillow case are heavily soiled. It takes three staff to change the bed and Lillis is in such pain every time he is moved it is a process only carried out around once a week.

His partner says he has not been bathed or showered in more than a year.

— Alison Morris.

The banks have cost the exchequer €63 billion so far, but it is far from clear how much of that we will get back. €63 billion. That is the running total cost to the exchequer of the bank bailout. And we won't get too much of it back. There

will be pluses and minuses in the years ahead but, in terms of actually recapitalising the banking system, we are probably somewhere close to the final figure, in terms of the cost to the state.

Around €43 billion of the money to rescue the banks went straight from the exchequer, while the remaining €20 billion was from the National Pension Reserve Fund, built up to fund further pension liabilities but now left holding just a few billion after being raided to prop up the banks.

However, there are also

risks that the bank bailout bill could rise for other reasons – two in particular. One relates to Nama. The exchequer has to pay the ongoing costs of Nama, which are considerable but, more crucially, there will be a final reckoning in, say, five to seven years' time, when we will know whether Nama overpaid, or underpaid, for the assets it took on.

Nama has paid just over €30 billion for the bad loans so far and says it expects to get all the money back.

— Cliff Taylor, Sunday Business Post, September 5, 2011.

# Goss and Gaughran commemorated in Dundalk

ON August 7 Republicans from Dundalk, Newry, Meath, Kildare, Belfast and Dublin assembled at the Lisdoon Arms, Dundalk, Co Louth and, preceded by a colour party from Dublin and Seán Doyle, the piper from the Glens of Antrim, marched to the Republican Plot in St Patrick's Cemetery to remember Richard Goss, executed by Free State forces in Portlaoise prison on August 9, 1941 and Liam Gaughran, who died following his release from imprisonment on the Isle of Wight in 1946.

Proceedings were chaired by Frank Hanratty of the Willie Stewart Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Dundalk. Paddy White of the Joe Conway/Brendan Watters Cumann, Newry, Co Down was Chief Marshal. A decade of the Rosary was recited as Gaeilge by Dara Sloane, Willie Stewart Cumann and the wreath was laid by Seán Collins, Willie Stewart

Cumann. In attendance were Rosemary Doran, sister of Richard Goss and her husband, Veteran Republican Tom Doran as well as the President of Republican Sinn Féin Des Dalton.

The main oration was delivered by Geraldine Taylor, Belfast, Vice-President, Republican Sinn Féin who outlined the circumstances



• Rosemary Doran, sister of Richard Goss and her husband, Tom, at the commemoration on August 7.

that led to the execution of Richard Goss.

She went on: "We honour also today the memory of Willie Gaughran, friend and comrade of Richard Goss. Captured on the English

inspired Richard Goss to dedicate and ultimately sacrifice his life, a free and independent Ireland remains unfulfilled. The new Stormont regime with former comrades on board is setting about the normalisation of British rule, administering it, policing it and enforcing the British writ on the ground. Arrests and charges of Republicans for taking to the streets to protest against the conditions of Republican POWs in Maghaberry are the order of the day.

"Republican prisoners have been subjected to beatings, strip-searching, and long periods of lock up; all of this has been designed to break the moral of the prisoners. As a result the Republican POWs have been forced back on a dirty protest. This can be simply resolved

by the prison service using the BOSS chair as was agreed in the August 2010 agreement. The chair, installed at great expense is already in place. Why is it not being used?"

"Why is it necessary to keep these men in conditions one would not expect animals to live in? Write letters, attend protests, join in white-line pickets, ask questions and break the wall of silence which surrounds the reason why did the Brit's renege on this agreement."

Tom Doran then thanked all those who attended the commemoration each year and recalled the conditions in which he and the POWs of the 1940s were held.

The chairperson then brought proceedings to a halt with the playing of Amhrán na bhFiann.

# Republican Sinn Féin member visits Cuba

IN July the Secretary of Comhairle Ceantair Átha Cliath, Diarmuid Mac Dubhghlais was part of the International Brigade to Cuba for three weeks.

Their days are divided up with work, lectures, tours, attending functions, meeting with local farmers etc.

On July 13 Diarmuid, along with overseas supporters of the Irish struggle for freedom, laid a floral wreath at the memorial to the hunger strikers in Habana to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the deaths of the 10 volunteers who died in the struggle for political status in 1981.

During his trip Diarmuid also met Che Guevara's daughter Dr Aleida Guevara.

At the closing ceremony Diarmuid read the closing statement

drawn up by the Brigadistas:

"We, the Brigadistas of the 40th Contingent of the José Martí European Brigade, after a vast programme and meetings with genuine representatives of the Cuban people express:

• Our total condemnation of the unjust and unilateral blockade that different US administrations have imposed upon the Cuban Revolution for more than five decades, as we demand total and unconditional lifting of this blockade.

• Our support for the right of the Cuban people to self-



• Diarmuid Mac Dubhghlais with Che Guevara's daughter Dr Aleida Guevara.

determination, sovereignty and

decision to move forward in the construction of a socialist society based on social justice and integrated and sustainable development.

• Our demand on the total and unconditional lifting of the Common Stand of the European Union.

• Our condemnation of the illegal occupation of a part of the Cuban territory for more than a century, used by the United States as a naval Military base in Guantanamo, turned into one of the most repugnant centers of human rights violations throughout the world.

• Our denunciation of the double standards of the US Administration regarding international terrorism and demand

that the international terrorist Posada Carriles be judged for his crimes.

• Our demand for the immediate release of the % Cuban Heroes, unfairly incarcerated in US jails for more than 13 years, who along with their families have suffered violations of their basic human rights.

• Our firm commitment so that a larger number of friends in the world could be made aware of the Cuban reality, the cause of the Cuban 5 in order to strengthen solidarity with the Cuban revolution.

• Our commitment to continue with the promotion of the International Work Brigades and solidarity with Cuba, specifically the European, Nordic and May Day Brigades as well as the Colloquiums

for the release of the Cuban 5 and against media terrorism, aware that these opportunities are vital to enable more people in the world to experience the reality of Cuba first hand and get involved in solidarity with the Cuban Revolution.

• Our commitment to disseminate and put into practice the Declaration for the Cuban five adopted on July 5 at the Julio Antonio Mella International Camp.

• Our conviction and commitment to continue working for strengthening the solidarity movement with Cuba in our own countries and the need for greater communication and exchange of views among these countries.

Julio Antonio Mella International camp, 22 July, 2011.

## Setting The Record Straight

A chara

I am writing in regard to the July, 2011 issue of Saoirse ("Fenian Notes", Peadar Mac Fhínn. Saoirse July 2011). While the article was, I believe, intended to be complimentary to me personally for the time, work and effort(s) I put forward while serving as AOH National Historian and Liaison to the Irish National Caucus (INC) there are a couple of quotes attributed to me that are factually wrong and need of correction.

In the first instance I am quoted as having said "the INC would not in any way support the trip because Congressman Hamilton Fish was involved and McManus considered him pro-British". I have absolutely no memory of having said such a thing. As a matter of "fact", at that point in time, Fr McManus, Fred Burns-O'Brien and I had every reason to believe Congressman Fish would be nothing short of supportive. How am I sure of this? During a previous meeting with the Congressman in his Washington, DC Office, Fr McManus, O'Brien and I had cause to discuss (humorously) how the Congressman's grandfather had signed the arrest warrants for the Fenians who had taken part in the 1866 Fenian Invasion of Canada, which had included my own great-grand father and great-grand uncle. A meeting at which the Congressman stated his strong support for the work the INC was doing. That support was again articulated to me personally by the Congressman when he and I travelled together to Pittsburgh, PA to attend and speak at a meeting of the INC Chapter there. I would have to disagree with the assertion Fr Sean "had never met Fish", as I was there when we (Fr. McManus, O'Brien and I) met with him.

The second quote that is factually wrong deals with the possible Peace Forum we had

worked long and hard to bring about. The article reads... "a lot of work was done for the Forum which if successful would have saved many Irish lives. Those opposed to it have all that blood on their hands...With his support for the British Partition process, John Hume, Gerry Adams and the British, "Bateman and O'Brien ask the question: was McManus somehow involved in the sabotage?" Simply put, I never asked such a question. While there were certainly those apposed to the idea of the Forum, including Hume, Adams, the British and the Free State Government at the time; but to suggest, imply, or state that Fr McManus was "somehow involved" is just not operating from the facts. Personally, I have always questioned how Gerry Adams, and others within Sinn Féin in Belfast, could have actively worked in opposition to a "Peace Forum" in 1978 only to get actively involved in the "Peace Process" in 1998; a process he/they had condemned twenty years earlier!?!

Having been personally named in the article is one thing but to be personally named and misquoted/misrepresented is something else all together.

If there is something in Fr McManus' book with which I do not agree, based on "fact", I'll discuss that with Fr. Seán personally. If there is one "FACT" from our Irish Republican History we should all remember, and look to avoid, is that there have been way too many "splits."

As a past-AOH National Historian and one deeply aware, proud and sensitive of my family's Republican Heritage (the "Fenian Faith") I could not permit the misrepresentations noted go uncorrected or allowing it to appear that the great-grand nephew of Captain Timothy Deasy and the brother of Patrick McManus were feuding with one another. We are not!

OD SAVE IRELAND.

BOB BATEMAN  
Past-National Historian,  
Ancient Order of

Hibernians in America  
Past AOH Liaison to the  
Irish National Caucus



• Haydée Tamara Bunke Bider, better known as Tania, who played a prominent role in the Cuban government after the Cuban Revolution (see letter on right).

## Take a Chill Pill Robocops

A chara

On receipt of a 'request by the MET Police', the RUC/PSNI were found reluctant to hand over more than 'a few Land Rovers' as opposed to the usually print on demand style Robocops as a contribution towards reinforcements 'needed to be deployed in the riots which were spreading through England'.

Manchester Police vans had to be deployed to London (while Salford Manchester was hit by further rioting!). The riots are a clear result of people neglected and failed by the British establishment/ruling class and were possibly triggered by the fatal shooting of a young man shot dead by a specialist firearms police officer in London and whose own weapon is strongly alleged not to have been open fired on police.

It is an alarming thought, the amount of people that this (global) neglect affects, and how many members of rubber bullet gangs/Crown Forces and their allies may be needed to attempt control over such situation, for what if the riots spread to and through Ireland? Well that's a lot of people again to attempt to (wrongly/inhumanely) 'control' jail and kill or 'cope' with especially when you include those with a cause and those without.

'There's an inner thing in every man... That thought that says, "I'm right".' (Bobby Sands TD)

Victory to the POWs.

CORK READER

## Hold Governments Accountable

A chara

A movie currently in theatres titled "The Whistleblower" exposes the role of UN peacekeepers who were directly involved in the international sex trade in Bosnia in the late 1990s. Kathryn Bolkovac, a US national who exposed official complicity in human trafficking, and is the main character in the film, was fired from her job as a UN peacekeeper in Bosnia.

It is important that governments are held accountable for the acts of their soldiers deployed as peacekeepers. The populations that peacekeepers are entrusted with protecting are highly vulnerable since all support systems around them have crumbled. Women and girls among these populations are even more at risk, especially since sexual violence in conflict and in the aftermath of natural disasters is seen as a given right

to men.

In such situations, there is a strong danger of abuse of power, especially when it is perceived that one will not be held to account. While over the years much attention has been paid to sexual abuse and exploitation of women and girls by UN peacekeepers, there has been little accountability for such crimes since home countries often do not take such charges seriously, and all the UN can do is discharge the accused peacekeeper.

However, the possibility of women coming forward and suing these countries for abuse suffered at the hands of their peacekeepers may motivate them to take action on such cases. All states have an absolute duty to investigate and prosecute crimes under international law, including genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and torture.

MICHAEL ROONEY  
Mayo

## Women In Struggle

A chara

The role of women in the struggle has for too long been ignored or having their part portrayed as sex objects and other forms of having their names belittled by the governments, media and willing followers. It is time that history wrote the truth about women in the struggle. One such woman was Tania.

Haydée Tamara Bunke

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Please note that all material for publication, articles, features, news reports, combhbróin, congratulations and good wishes greetings, etc must be accompanied by a name, address, signature and telephone number for verification.

# Boston College tapes request 'politically motivated'

**BOSTON College has claimed that the latest subpoenas issued in the US seeking interviews conducted with former IRA members lends support to the assumption that the demand is politically motivated.**

It comes after prosecutors in the US issued a second set of subpoenas seeking the contents of a secret archive from Boston College of oral histories about the war in the Occupied Six Counties.

The first legal bid was initiated in May by the RUC/PSNI and the Six-County Public Prosecutions Service but led by the US Attorney's Office in Boston and related to Brendan 'The Dark' Hughes and Dolores Price.

The new court application makes it clear that the focus of

the investigation by British authorities is the 1972 disappearance and murder of Jean McConville, according to reports on August 25, 2011. Federal prosecutors want the contents of 26 interviews given by former members of the IRA, specifically demanding "any and all interviews containing information about the abduction and death of Mrs Jean McConville".

Assistant US attorney John McNeil made it clear that there "is no academic privilege" and said that "the college had no

authority to grant confidentiality to those interviewed".

Boston College turned over to US prosecutors its interviews with Brendan Hughes, saying its promise of confidentiality ended with his death in 2008, but the college refused to turn over its interviews with Dolores Price.

In a statement to the BBC, a spokesperson for the college said: "From the beginning, Boston College has opposed the subpoenas on the grounds that the premature release of the tapes would threaten the safety of the participants, the enterprise of oral history and the ongoing peace and reconciliation process in Northern Ireland (sic).

"The US District Court's

latest subpoena request for Boston College to turn over all of the IRA interviews - while ignoring the tapes of the UVF members - lends support to the assumption held by many that the sealed request from UK authorities is politically motivated."

At the end of August the two journalists and authors, Ed Moloney and Anthony McIntyre, who organised and conducted the interviews of former IRA members, filed a suit in a US District court in Boston against US attorney general Eric Holder.

In their suit they frame the attempts by the US and UK governments to gain access to the oral history project as the type of politically motivated

prosecution of politically motivated crimes that was specifically excluded under the terms of the US-brokered Belfast Agreement of April, 10 1998.

The latest effort to get access to some of the confidential oral testimony involves the US attorney in Boston acting for as yet unidentified authorities associated with the British government. The initial order for the subpoenas remains sealed, making it unclear exactly who sought the information and why.

US district court judge Joseph Tauro is due to schedule a hearing for arguments in the case soon.

Former US Army JAG

Bider, better known as Tania, was an Argentine-born East German communist revolutionary who played a prominent role in the Cuban government after the Cuban Revolution. She was the only woman to fight alongside Marxist guerrillas under Ché Guevara during the Bolivian Insurgency where she was killed in an ambush by CIA-assisted Bolivian Army Rangers.

On August 31, 1967, Bunke's guerrilla column was ambushed while crossing the Rio Grande river at Vado del Yeso. Tania was waist-deep in the water, with her rifle held above her head, when she was shot through the arm and the lung and killed along with eight of her fellow insurgents in quick succession. Her body was then carried downstream and only recovered by the Bolivian army several days later on September 6th.

When her corpse was presented to Barrientos, the plan was to dump her body in unmarked graves with the rest of the guerrillas. However, the local campesino women demanded that as a woman, she be given a proper Christian burial.

On the 44th anniversary of her death, let us remember with honour a great international woman, who believed in people being free. A woman who gave her life that others might live. May her memory live on with the other revolutionaries who continue the struggle today.

A CONNACHT  
FEMINIST

# Irish Freedom Press



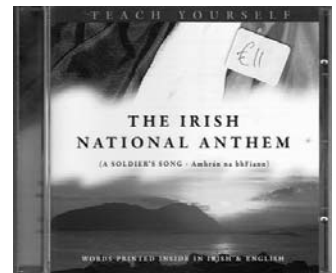
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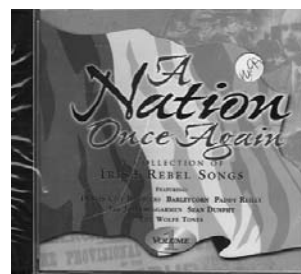
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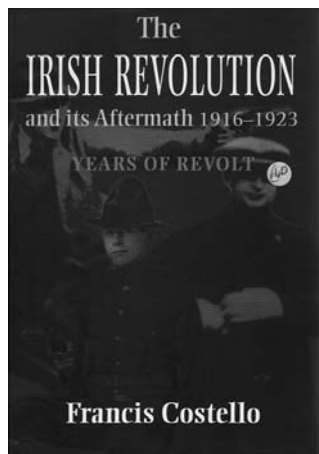
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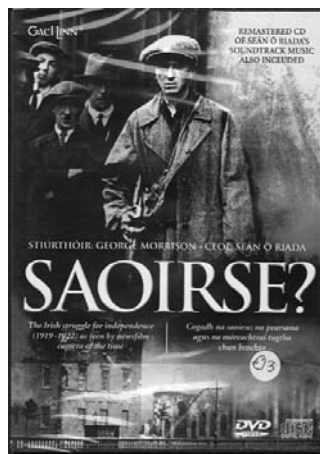
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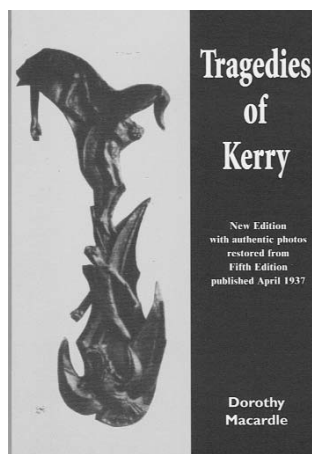
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## The Greatest Hell — Bobby Sands

There's gaol, there's gaol, where wretched souls have been took and locked away  
 These 8 by 8 tombs (concrete graves) where you barely see the light of day  
 Where in the winter, the long dark winter, the body knows the piercing bite of cold,  
 And the wind (not draughts) chills the heartiest man and tries both brave and bold.  
 Where a man is forced to lie upon a mattress damp and dirty upon the freezing concrete floor,  
 Naked except for some filthy rags (the heart cries out) the body asks 'Dearest God How much more?'  
 But there's more in abundance, for I've seen sleet and snow come through the window bars and water turn to ice.  
 And men in their dozens collapse with chills and let me tell you when they fell, the cock crowed more than trice!  
 For I've given more than passing thought to those who sit upon opportunity (like vultures watching, watching me).  
 And I know if it were politically expedient, before the cock could crow again, they'd scream "set those poor men free".  
 Sleepless nights precedes sleepless nights' and dreamless sleep precedes endless, endless nightmares;  
 For day and night are perpetually wrought with hell and there's torture, pain and torment everywhere.  
 And time comes and times goes, but it really hasn't went at all, it's trapped in here with me.  
 And if there were comfort to be found in these dirty, mutilated, scarred and filthy walls, I'd find lots of sympathy.  
 But all there is are contrasts, all evil and cowards, cringing cowards beat men to pulp,  
 While prison doctors sat "self-inflicted" ('lick your wounds my men'). Well dare you call upon them to consult.



• Bobby Sands

They shear our heads and beards and with disinfectant and the heavy brush, they wash out every crack.  
 Then they try to scrub the POW from your mind and imprint the tag criminal upon your back.  
 Doctors, governors, chiefs and screws, there's no God's amount of hypocrites to be founds.  
 They who go to church on Sundays saying "Lord I Love Thee Lord" as they kneel upon the ground,  
 And they celebrate the consecration of wine into his precious blood, within that sacred cup.  
 Then they throw it right back in his face (when only doing their job) they beat the naked up.  
 Summer, two have gone and three more may well be born and come to be.  
 But the sun will never bronze the ghostly skins of the ghosts in this eternity  
 But the tombs will turn to ovens and a stifling stench will cut the air.  
 From the decaying waste and urine, from the

putrefying rubbish that lies strewn everywhere.  
 Then they'll come, the pests and germs and crawling things to squat amongst the stinking mess  
 Creeping into your beard and hair, into the very filthy rags that you possess.  
 And flies, mice and maggots breed like flies from flies that have already bred.  
 (Stand up those who have woken up in the morning with a hundred maggots in their bed.)  
 The grave I've heard men say 'would be more preferable' (and perhaps that may be true)  
 For in this Hell your buried alive and there's nothing you can do.  
 Will these legs ever run again? Will these eyes ever again feast upon delight?  
 Do lovers still walk hand in hand? Or do the stars still sparkle high up in the sky each night?  
 Is the foliage green or brown? Does the texture of a leaf still feel the same?  
 Are there children in the morning? Will I see these things again?  
 Perhaps! Yes perhaps my eyes, my mind and heart may live again to see.  
 But only when I leave this panoramic view of darkness for the golden dream of Liberty.  
 But do not misconstrue this, when I say "Sometimes I care not what may be?"  
 For torture is the devil I have faced and faced and I care no more just what they do to me.  
 And yes, there's gaol, there's gaol and there's an eternity and a hell that burns the very soul and flesh  
 But stand up those men who live in the Greatest Hell!  
 The H-Blocks of Long Kesh!!!

— Marcella POW [Bobby Sands]

(Poem by Bobby Sands read by Richard Behal in at the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hunger Strike commemoration in Bundoran August 27, 2011. The poem was written circa 1980. Previously unpublished.)

## Secret documents reveal loyalist infiltration of UDR

**NEW documents uncovered by the Pat Finucane Centre reveal that Derry SDLP representative Michael Canavan was at the forefront of moves to expose the collusion between the British Army's Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) and loyalist paramilitaries in the 1970s.**

In August 1977 Michael Canavan, then SDLP spokesman for law and order, wrote to the British under Secretary of State for the British army highlighting what he described as "the latest disgraceful episode concerning serving members of the UDR". He also pointed out "the scathing remarks of yet another High Court judge" about the notorious regiment. Just over a month later he again wrote

slamming the vetting techniques used by the UDR and calling for the immediate 're-vetting' of all serving UDR personnel as he was convinced 'loyalist paramilitary infiltration' was continuing.

He said that the use of the UDR "could not possibly make any contribution to stability" and added that "the ever-lengthening list of convictions of former UDR men very often with loyalist paramilitary

association is clear evidence of serious infiltration".

The official response from the British government was to dismiss Michael Canavan's allegations and to claim that 'only a tiny proportion have been convicted of crimes committed while serving'.

An assistant private secretary to the British Ministry of Defence also wrote to him and pointed out that none of the investigations made as a result of his letters "have revealed evidence of loyalist paramilitary infiltration into the UDR".

However documents marked 'Top Secret UK eyes' tell a very different story.

One document referred to

the fact that initial investigations had revealed "about 200 men who were thought to have connections with extremist organisations" and "it was then believed that not more than 20 of these were actively involved with the UVF, together with a small number who were members of other organisations such as the UDA".

In another internal document a damning indictment of the UDR states: "There are some very nasty cases, and there are a number of intelligence traces of these men as being members of the UDA, UVF or RHC (Red Hand Commando)."

Correspondence also shows that the British army were aware

that the UDR, based in Belfast, had been heavily infiltrated by the UVF.

These documents show that British Army chiefs feared that 70 soldiers in one UDR unit were linked to the UVF in west Belfast, including one member of the notorious Shankill Butcher gang. They also revealed that one UDR unit was suspected of siphoning-off £47,000 to the UVF while UDR equipment was regularly stolen from another unit to support the loyalist death squads.

It was further revealed that UVF members were regularly allowed to socialise at the UDR's Girdwood barracks

social club and that army chiefs considered secretly test-firing UDR soldiers' weapons to check whether they had been used in sectarian murders.

However, this collusion investigation was then suspended after a senior UDR officer claimed it was damaging morale within the regiment.

Paul O'Connor of the Pat Finucane Centre said: "These documents reveal all too clearly the sectarian nature of the UDR, something that has been denied by the powers-that-be.

"They also show that Michael Canavan was 100% right in his attempts to expose the true nature of this regiment".

## Internees launch a legal challenge over internment

**SIX former internees launched a legal challenge against the British government over its brutal and disastrous policy of internment.**

On Tuesday August 9, the 40th anniversary of the morning the internment raids began on August 9, 1971, six former internees handed over letters of claim at Stormont as they, and others, prepare to sue the British Government for interning them without trial.

Legal proceedings against the British MoD, the RUC, the administrator of the estate of the late Brian Faulkner MP, as Prime Minister of the old Stormont government, and the

British Secretary of State will commence shortly if there is no response to the letters.

At a press conference on August 9, the ex-internees spoke of systematic beatings, physical and verbal abuse, torture and being held behind barbed wire by jailers who showed no mercy during the four years of internment without trial.

Kevin Donnelly, who was just 15 years old when he was interned for a year-and-a-half, told how CR gas was used on

him and how he, as a terrified teenager, had to walk the terrifying gauntlet between two rows of British soldiers with dogs.

Evelyn Gilroy spoke about how she had to sign her children over to the care of Social Services.

Joe Curley, who while he was interned was hooded and thrown out of a helicopter hovering just a few feet above the ground, said he has asked the British in the past why they did this to him but has never received a reply.

All the internees said they want an acknowledgement from

the British that internment was wrong and they want an official apology.

"Between 1971 and 1975, over 2,000 people – men, women and children – were interned," said Jim McVeigh.

"Despite 40 years having passed, nobody has been held to account. Six survivors of internment are here today. They want to know why the British government has made no apology, offered no support and no redress for this traumatic experience."

The legal team is now working on the main thrusts of the challenge – that internment

was illegal and prejudiced.

"The legality of internment of persons brought under both the Special Powers Act of 1922 and the Detention of Terrorists Order 1972 has been brought into fresh focus by the recent release of official papers under the 30-year rule," said solicitor for the internees, Pádraig Ó Muirigh. "These papers demonstrate not only the existence of a discriminatory policy against the nationalist community, but also the indiscriminate nature of the arrests by the [British] army."

"As a consequence I believe there is fresh evidence to lay

before a court that the arbitrary implementation of statutory powers under the 1922 Act and the 1972 Order by those public authorities charged with the exercise of arrest and detention constituted misfeasance in public office. These applicants are suing on the grounds of trespass to the person, wrongful arrest and unlawful detention and misfeasance in public office.

Six letters of claim have been served today. If we do not get a response within 14 days, legal proceedings will start," he added.

# Fenian Notes

## From our Washington Correspondent

**T**HE American Revolution was the model for many revolutions. It was the people confronting the established ruling elite with what is the rising of the general mass of people disgruntled by the treatment they receive without their proper input into government. It was an exertion of rights.

The British colonies in America were ruled from London with some local input, but still no matter what, London called the shots. Americans tried to do the right thing by petitioning the British for their redress of grievances, along with demonstrations and rallies in the streets of Boston, New York and Philadelphia.

Nothing the American colonists did moved the British to give them significant local power. It was determined that the only way to freedom was to resist. The first thing the Americans did was to gather and store arms.

The Americans got arms in Europe brought over in foreign ships from France and Holland and other nations. They also robbed British store houses of arms. When the British were warned of impending rebellion, they set out to seize the known American store house of weapons at Concord, Massachusetts.

The British Redcoats proceeded to march from Boston to Concord via Lexington to seize the arms and hopefully end the threat to the Crown. American loyalists had sent the British intelligence on movement of arms and acted as a network of spies.

The Americans had formed a Committee of Safety and The Sons of Liberty as self-defence groups to resist the British. The Committee were the political wing of the Movement and the Sons were considered terrorists by the British. Does any of this sound familiar?

The Sons had been quite active. As the situation deteriorated, physical force was used to make a statement that the Americans were not going to accept administration from England. The Sons recruited some sympathetic

British soldiers who were disgusted by the British government and decided to cast their lot with the Colonies.

### USEFUL INFORMATION

These soldiers tipped off the Americans to British military movements and they warned the Americans of the march to seize arms. In addition, prominent businessmen and saloon-keepers got useful information in their endeavours. Saloon-keepers were particularly useful because the Redcoats liked to drink and they had loose tongues as they became intoxicated.

American lookouts followed the British army as they made their way to the arms dump and we are all familiar with the ride of Paul Revere who with two others warned the Americans of the British march. No one knew what was to come because to date there were only minor incidents.

The Sons had raided British ships in Boston harbour, stole what might be useful and destroyed commercial goods which anger British businessmen. The most famous incident was the Boston Tea party where British tea was dumped into Boston harbour.

Another incident was the Boston Massacre where British soldiers fired into a crowd of unarmed demonstrators, killing five. Loyalists had told the British of the demonstration against the government. The Committee met and authorised covert actions against loyalists who were cooperating with the British.

When a loyalist warned the British of activity of the Committee, the Sons would retaliate. The homes of loyalists were burned to the ground, loyalists were beaten and some tarred and feathered. The Sons meant business.

Boston became a tinderbox of activity and if the fight was to start the Sons believed it should start there. The Sons would later be renamed the Minutemen. The name came from the ability to be ready to fight the British in a moment's notice.

When the British approached



Lexington, the Minutemen met them at Lexington Green and the Redcoats with superior forces ordered them to disperse. They refused. The British opened fire and the first blood was drawn. Americans died in front of their homes. The British then marched to Concord, but here the Americans were ready and met the British from behind walls and hidden in trees. A guerrilla army was born.

The most successful part of the fight was after the battle. The British retreated to Boston and along the entire way Minutemen hid behind bus and stone walls and shot the soldiers as they marched past. There were many more casualties on the march back to Boston than there were in the battle. The Americans were developing a new strategy of war.

**A**FTER Lexington, Concord and the Boston Road fights, the Committee met and talked war strategy and how best to fight the British who would not come down hard on the entire colonies after Boston had shown the way, they would need a standing army which they realised would not be a match for the British, but with an irregular army to snipe away at the British, instilling terror, the odds would follow.

At this time, armies fought battles standing in rows firing and being replaced by another row while the first reloaded. The Americans did not and would not fight in the open. The first test was at Bunker's Hill in the Charlestown section of Boston. This section was filled with many Irishmen who needed no incentive to fight their ancient enemy.

The Hill was the high ground and the British needed to hold it to control Boston so they marched on it to remove colonial resistors. The Americans waited at the top behind barricades and others were hidden all over the hill and some were looking

out of their own homes with rifles ready to shoot the British as they passed.

Bunker's Hill involved an attack by standing British army marching in formation up the Hill with their Redcoats inviting and easy targets. The first two waves failed but as the British took tremendous casualties from the well-hidden Americans. The third wave reached the top with more dead and wounded and the British declared victory. Was it a victory?

The British found no Americans at the top. They had gone to their homes on the Hill, just fading away. The reason they left was they ran out of bullets because they shot so many British soldiers. Who really won?

The British realised they could not hold Boston against the American snipers who were shooting soldiers daily from hidden places. Guerrilla warfare was the order in Boston and the British did not know how to counter it.

Americans were considered 'terrorists'. The British tried to go home to house to root out the 'scum' and 'rabble' who dared to counter His Majesty's army. They found little and each time they went out on their raids of homes more soldiers were shot. The 'rabble' was in control.

Loyalists were rooted out and the British had to arrange for their transport to Canada. The American way of war spread over the 13 colonies and the British soldier could not venture out alone or in small numbers because the Americans would kill them.

### SHOOT-TO-KILL POLICY

The Committee ordered a shoot-to-kill policy on any soldier or cooperating loyalist. The Americans would get a standing army under George Washington, but the real damage would be done by the irregulars, the 'terrorists'. Throughout the American Revolution, the guerrillas would be the trump card until the French sent in an army to assist the Americans, but this was not until later in the fight.

The Sons of Liberty were the model for the modern Irish Republican Army which Americans now criticise as too violent. The IRA were altar boys compared to the Sons. The Sons never issued any warnings before they struck.

As an example, when a British

officer was housed by a loyalist family, the home and those in it were considered legitimate targets as were pro-British businessmen and local administrators of the Crown. British power and military superiority were met by American cunning and covert tactics. Any soldier who could be isolated was killed. The average soldier was terrorised and never knew when the guerrilla would strike.

The Americans were oblivious to what the British thought of them. They were called 'terrorists', 'scum', 'rabble', 'God's accursed' and so on. The Americans stayed focused and destroyed British commerce and British soldiers and sympathisers were killed. No prisoners were taken.

We have heard these terms in reference to the IRA in 1916 and today. As the celebration of 1916 approached, we should be aware of its meaning. It was opposing British oppression by any means necessary and it was the necessary use of physical force just like the American example.

America was founded on a violent revolution and it was intended by its founders to be a continuing one whereby America was obligated to support other peoples who were trying to do what America had done especially those who were fighting against the British Empire.

**T**HOMAS Jefferson and his comrades believed in the good fight and set the standard for others. When I hear that Dublin wants to tone down the celebration to exclude the celebration of physical force, then they have missed the point. It is all about a cover-up of the truth. True Republicans know that the fight was necessary and without it there would be no progress.

The job is not yet done and the Six Counties must be taken back. The men and women of 1916 would not say this has to be done by peaceful means. They would say once again to use any means necessary and so would the Americans of 1776.

The Dublin government and the ex-Republican Provos will try to cover up the truth but we know the truth and will honour those who fight and who still fight. Dublin showed its true colours when it slobbered over their British Queen, a sight the 1916 warriors would condemn and so should we.

— Peadar Mac Fhínn

## James Toner

**REPUBLICANS were saddened to hear of the death in July of James Toner of Donegal and Westmeath. He was aged 93 and was predeceased by his wife Margaret.**

His funeral took place in Letterkenny, Co Donegal on July 30. A Republican Guard of Honour escorted the Tricolour-draped coffin through part of the town, pausing for a minute's silence at James's family home. A piper led the cortege to the funeral in Conwall Cemetery.

The funeral oration was delivered by Seosamh Ó Maoileoin, Iar Mhi. Seosamh referred to James's school days in Letterkenny, where he was greatly influenced by teachers who instilled in him a spirit of Republicanism.

James joined Na Fianna Éireann in 1933. Seán Mac Cumhaill (after whom a GAA pitch was named in Ballybofey, Co Donegal) was in charge of the unit. From then on for 70 years James was an active Republican serving all branches of the Republican Movement.

He was interned in the 1940s

and again in the 1980s. During the latter period in the Curragh Concentration Camp one of the internees, Ruairi Ó Brádaigh, described James as a very popular character amongst over 200 internees. Ó Brádaigh remembers James always wore a cap, lying back with his pipe in his mouth pouring smoke into the elements.

In September 1957 James was charged at Donegal Circuit Court with possession of gelignite at Ardnarav, Ballybofey. He refused to plead and offered no defence but cross-examined State witnesses. His speech from the dock was applauded by people in the public gallery. In the course of his address he said:

"I believe in peace, but peace must be based on justice. It cannot be imposed by occupation forces because that way inevitably brings resistance...My only crime is attempting and helping to win freedom for you and I."



• James Toner

James was held in high esteem in Letterkenny and even more so in the countryside. Following the court case, the story around the town was that, after arresting the Republicans, a garda said to James: "You seem very calm about all this." "Aye," James replied, "If the Gardaí are happy to sit in a car with 10 stone of primed explosives, I'll take my chances as well." The gardai ran and that was how the other lads escaped.

Although the judge told the

jury that if was a juror he would have no difficulty in finding James guilty the jury disagreed and James was remanded to the next sitting of the court.

James was employed by the New Ireland Assurance Company from 1946-82. Seosamh Ó Maoileoin, paying tribute to James's wife Margaret said she stood firmly behind her husband. When James was interned she took over his work with the blessing of the New Ireland Assurance Company. This company was founded by the Ó Nualláin Brothers who were interned in Frongoch in 1916 and was always sympathetic to Republicans and Republican prisoners.

James worked tirelessly for CABHAIR (Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund). He regularly collected for the organisation most especially at the annual Wolfe Tone commemorations in Bodenstown.

In recent years James came to live in Westmeath. He attended Republican commemorations every Easter always reciting a decade of the Rosary as Gaeilge and on occasions laying a wreath.

Bhí suim an mhór ag Séamus in Gaeilge agus bhí sé breá sásta i

a inthonn pé seans in bhí aige. Rinne an cainteoir Gaeilge ar an searmanais. Cinnte andúirt sé go bhfuil Séamus an-sásta le sin.

James wished to see his country as Pádraig Mac Piarais said – not merely free but Gaelic as well, not merely Gaelic but free as well.

During the lean years James kept the spirit of Republicanism alive in his home county of Donegal and was an inspiration to others.

Seosamh concluded by describing James Toner as one never to seek the limelight but in his own quiet way did what he could for his country. He was loyal to the Republic proclaimed in 1916 and stood for nothing less. "Let us hope that one day soon James Toner's wish for a united Ireland will come to pass. That Ireland (in the words of James Fintan Lalor) be free from the centre to the sea.

Go ndéana Dia trácaire ar a anam uasal.

The Republican Movement in Westmeath was represented by Martin Maher.

Deepest sympathy is extended to James's daughter, sons, grandchildren, relatives, and friends.

## Comhbhrón

**HEAPHY.** Deepest sympathy is extended to Liam Heaphy on the recent death of his brother Michael. From Comhairle na Mumhan and the Mac Curtáin/Mac Suibhne Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Corcaigh.

**MACCARTHY.** Deepest sympathy is extended to Donal McCarthy on the recent death of his son Turlogh. From Comhairle na Mumhan and the Mac Curtáin/Mac Suibhne Cumann, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Corcaigh.

**MCGREGOR.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Gerry McGregor, Scotland. From Michael Logan, Republican Sinn Féin, Lincoln, England.

**McMAHON.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Larry McMahon, Clare and Monaghan. From Comhairle na Mumhan and Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Clare.

**McMANUS.** Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Mannix McManus on his recent passing. From Cumann Pádraig Ó Pearail, Loch Garman.

## I gCiumhne

**MCKEOWN** — 37th Anniversary. In proud and loving memory of Volunteer Patrick McKeown, Oglai na hÉireann, South Down / South Armagh Battalion Irish Republican Army who died in action on August 27, 1974. Remembered always by his brother, Eddie. "Ireland unfree shall never be at peace."

# Adams disappears as Boston Tea Party continues

*(Or Laurel and Hardy and the Keystone Cops Ride Again – and again!)*

THE *Irish News* in its publications during the first week of September stated that it found it impossible to track down Gerry Adams to get a comment on the on-going Boston legal case about the release of interview notes gathered by journalists Ed Moloney and Anthony McIntyre.

Among those Republican volunteers “in good standing” who were interviewed by the two journalists were Brendan Hughes and Dolours Price. Both Republican activists, it is alleged, stated that Gerry Adams ordered

the death and subsequent 30-year disappearance of Jean McConville of Belfast.

This case has been testing out the validity of agreements made between Adams and a British administration led by Tony Blair and overseen by American President Clinton.

Adams (who denies ever having been a member of the IRA) may be quite right to disappear for a while. It is true that the Belfast Agreement states that “no one should be extradited” to the Northern Jurisdiction. However it also contains a rider (as all British documents between them and the ‘natives’ do). The relevant “Catch 22” clause relates to disclosure of crimes. It seems a number of people have knelt down, pleaded guilty to being bad

boys and were promptly granted a “Queen’s Pardon” (some 45 it is believed) while others have “confessed” to their sins and been included in the British government’s “magnanimity”.

It is possible that those who thought they were being extra clever may in fact have outsmarted themselves. If the Boston court orders the disclosure of archived interview notes which implicates people who have not owned up to their “heinous crimes” then they may be open to some form of legal proceedings.

Of course if the court rules otherwise Gerry Adams and his alleged “accomplices” are quite safe – unless one of the interviewees decides to turn supergrass or unless the International Court of Human

Rights issues a warrant or if someone, somewhere decides to take a civil prosecution *et al*, Shankill Road Bombing Justice Group etc.

ENTER the loyalist supergrass trial upon which the “clever guys” like Adams and his side-kick Martin McGuinness have remained quiet. Of course they believe those tactics will never be used against them or are they so sure anymore?

Didn’t Adams and his LIGs interpret the agreement to mean that only “Republicans in good standing” would be run to ground? Didn’t the so-called “loyalist” leadership who assassinated their opposition and are now on trial also think they were being good little British boys and doing the work of their

masters?

Enter the precedent of those who were eventually found innocent (and who were framed) for the Omagh bombing and the subsequent civil action against them which Gerry’s friends and fellow parliamentarians paid for. Again Adams believed these trials were only for the proletariat or “plebeians” and that he and the other “patricians” would be excluded.

Well time will tell. Maybe Gerry is “incommunicado” because he is in Libya with his old erstwhile friend Gaddafi discussing British duplicity and how soon the mighty can become fallen. Or maybe (and much more likely) he is discussing who among the LIGs’ organisation is capable of representing that group

in the up-coming “presidential” elections in the 26-County Statelet? Now there is an interesting subject and one worthy of contemplation.

A State that is morally and financially bankrupt. A State that has lost the sovereignty which was gained by the blood sacrifices of its warriors. A land being led and directed – being bled dry – from abroad by alleged rapists and fraudsters who are figures of shame in their own lands. Actually, I can’t think of a single one of Gerry Adams’ high-ranking LIG friends who could not fill that vacancy and represent such a State up in the Phoenix Park. That’s another fine mess you got us into, Gerry and Martin...

— Mac Cool

## Six-County State is an obstacle to a New Ireland

**ON Saturday, August 6 Dungiven, Co Derry remembered the hunger strikers of 1981 at a commemoration organised by Republican Sinn Féin Derry.**

The proceedings at the church were chaired by Micky McGonigle, Dungiven; the Proclamation was read by Pat Barry, Donegal and Nuala Moore read the Roll of Honour and recited a decade of the rosary.

Ger Lynch, brother of Kevin Lynch laid a wreath on behalf of the Republican Movement and Micky McGonigle read the statement from the POWs in Maghaberry Jail. Members of the Kevin Lynch and Patsy O’Hara families were in attendance.

Micky then introduced the President of Republican Sinn Féin Des Dalton who in the course of his oration said:

“Here in Dungiven in North Derry we stand with pride in commemoration of Kevin Lynch. One of ten young Irish men who by their sacrifice and heroism captured the imagination of Ireland and the world, reminding one and all that ‘Ireland unfree shall never be at peace.’ Along with Kevin we also remember his fellow Derry men, Patsy O’Hara, Thomas McElwee, Francis Hughes and Micky Devine. Like Co Cork, Derry saw five of her sons endure the long and lonely path of the hunger strike. Using

their bodies as weapon of last resort at which to strike at British occupation.

“Kevin Lynch was born in the village of Park on May 25, 1956. He was the youngest in a family of eight. In his teens he moved to Dungiven or Dun Gheimhin (Given’s Fort) with his family. He had a passion for all things Irish and this was reflected in his love of Gaelic games and particularly hurling. He played right half-back with St Patrick’s Hurling Club in the inaugural Feile na nGael held in Thurles Co Tipperary in 1971. Despite only having had his appendix removed ten days prior to the competition Kevin was instrumental in his club winning their division over the two days. He captained Derry to an All-Ireland U16 title in 1972.

“The fact the local hurling club was named in his honour reflects the esteem with which the Gaels of Dungiven held and still hold Kevin. Living in such a strongly nationalist community he quickly came face to face with the harsh reality of British rule as experienced by the nationalist people of the Six Counties. This included a beating he and nine other young men suffered at the



• Des Dalton, Peggy O’Hara and Mickey McGonigle at the hunger strike commemoration in Dungiven, Co Derry on August 6.

hands of the British Army as they returned home from a dance.

“His keen sense of justice and principle soon led him to become active in the struggle to end British interference in Ireland when he joined the INLA. Kevin was active with his local unit in acquiring arms right up to his arrest on December 2, 1976. Following his arrest Kevin suffered a severe beating in the infamous Castlereagh interrogation centre following which he was charged with possession of weapons. After a year on remand in Crumlin Road Jail a Diplock non-jury court sentenced him to 10 years. He at once took his place in the ranks of the ‘Blanket Men’ in the H-Blocks

of Long Kesh. “Kevin Lynch like his comrades was determined that the British machine would not break them or criminalise the struggle for Irish Freedom. During a visit with his parents he told them: ‘If they took everything else away they’d never take my principles.’

“On May 23 Kevin began his long hunger for justice. During the 26-County Elections in June of that year he contested the Waterford constituency where he won more than 3,753 votes as an H-Block candidate. Towards the end of his hunger strike Kevin Lynch declared that what he and his comrades were engaged in was an extension of the war against

British rule that was being waged outside: ‘I am a soldier. We’re all soldiers. We’re fighting a war – and our war is in here’. Kevin Lynch died on August 1, 1981 following 71 days on hunger strike.

“Today young Irishmen in Maghaberry Prison are engaged in the same struggle against the same enemy for the same principle. They are engaged in a ‘Dirty Protest’, denied the right to legal or family visits. In August 2010 an independently mediated Agreement laid the basis for a just settlement. Despite this the Stormont Justice Minister David Ford and his regime reneged on this Agreement and have instead forced the Republican Prisoners to return to protest.

“The actions of the British State over past months have exposed the reality of British rule in Ireland despite the lies and spin of the Provos and their apologists. The arrest and charging of the President and Vice President of Republican Sinn Féin on July 6 in relation to a march for Republican veteran Martin Corey held in Lurgan on January 23, is part of a deliberate targeting of Republican Sinn Féin by both the British and 26-County States. The opposition of both the Six-County Public Prosecution Service (PPS) and the RUC/PSNI to bail for both Des Dalton and Fergal Moore shows the clear intention to intern

both the President and Vice President of Republican Sinn Féin.

“In May two members of Republican Sinn Féin were arrested and charged in relation to an interview they gave to Channel Four News in September of last year. Other members are also being charged with participating in the Lurgan march while the RUC/PSNI have issued warning letters regarding the Easter 1916 commemorations in Lurgan and Armagh.

“It is evident that the undiluted message of revolutionary Irish Republicanism delivered by Republican Sinn Féin is feared by Westminster, Stormont and Leinster House. It is a message and a cause whose roots lie deep within the hearts of Irish people. The age-old tactic of locking up and silencing the very idea of Irish freedom has failed in the past and history teaches us will fail again today and in the future.

“When Loyalists attacked nationalist homes in Belfast’s Short Strand in June the immediate response of the RUC/PSNI was to arrest two nationalists while within days Stormont First Minister Peter Robinson was negotiating with the UVF who carried out the attacks”.

Des called for the immediate release from Maghaberry Jail of Martin Corey interned without trial since April 2010”

### Join Republican Sinn Féin

I would like to join Republican Sinn Féin  
Ba Mhaith Liom bheith i mo bhall de Sinn Féin Poblachtach

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