

SAOIRSE



Irish Freedom

The voice of the Republican Movement   

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CABHAIR

Irish Republican
Prisoners Dependents
Fund

ANNUAL
TESTIMONIAL
DINNER
& REPUBLICAN
REUNION

Saturday, May 25, 2013
Dinner €30
Honorees:
Cecelia & Matt Conway
(Leinster)
Jimmy Scanlon
(Munster)



Bertie Moran
(Connacht)
Martin Corey, POW
(Ulster)
Brigid Brannigan Farrell
(USA)
For further
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Ard-Oifig
Dublin 00353-1-872 9747

Martin Corey: justice denied

MARTIN Corey, a Republican from Lurgan, now 62 years of age is in Maghaberry jail for the last three years.

Within those past three years, Martin has NEVER been questioned, never charged, or never sentenced. He has served what amounts to a SIX-YEAR sentence based on "secret evidence" withheld by various unelected British secretaries of state in the Occupied Six Counties. Martin's legal team is denied access to this secret evidence, and the prosecution claim it too is denied access to it.

This has to be untrue because all arms of the British state are working together to keep this man in jail without charge or trial, ensuring he never gets to know the reason why. Effectively a political hostage interned in a British prison on Irish soil, Martin is in a no-man's land.

In July 2012, a Belfast High Court judge, Judge Treacy -- well versed in human rights -- ordered Martin's immediate release, which was overturned within hours by the then Secretary of State, Owen Patterson. This decision was challenged in the High Court and the case concluded unsuccessfully in December 2012 with the three-man panel of judges upholding the directive of Owen Patterson. At that stage, an application was made to appeal the High Court's decision in the Supreme Court in London.

On Thursday, May 2, 2013, Martin received the news that the High Court had overruled the application to take Martin's case to the Supreme Court in London. This devastating news came without warning. According to one of his friends working hard on his behalf, Jim McIlmurray said: "Martin's legal team has spent months building his case with such strong conviction that I feel it would have ensured his immediate release under the European Convention on Human Rights.

"Our attendance at the Supreme Court in London would have given us the opportunity to expose many aspects of this case which I feel would not be found acceptable in any English court. The fact that the Secretary of State could hand out directives, dismissing decisions by High Court judges, would have been highlighted in the Supreme Court in London, exposing the fact that politicians in the north of Ireland rule the judiciary."

On May 3 Martin was told that the Parole Board denied him parole (this was after a wait of 19 months). This was again a body blow. However we will not let this deter us from continuing the fight for Martin's release. It is a setback, but that is all it is. We will continue the fight to get justice for Martin Corey.

The families of the victims of Bloody Sunday waited over 30 years for justice, the Hillsborough families waited 24 years. We cannot let this happen to Martin, ACT NOW.

Meanwhile, the Continuity IRA POWs have moved from Roe 3, Maghaberry to Roe 4.

— POW Department, Republican Sinn Féin

Smearing by proxy

IN A statement received by media outlets, including SAOIRSE, on May 3, the Irish Republican Publicity Bureau said:

"In its recent Easter Statement, the Leadership of the Republican Movement warned of the existence of a tiny splinter group based in Limerick which had for three years stolen the name of the Republican Movement and of the Continuity IRA.

"Journalists, police and politicians have been well aware of this grouping's existence and its absurd use of the names of Republican organisations to which it is not entitled. Yet all accept their preposterous claims because they can be used to blacken the good name of the Republican Movement and of Republicanism generally.

"Two events since Easter make the point. A week after the shooting dead of a man at Kennedy Way, Belfast a bogus claim was issued saying that the Continuity IRA was responsible. Denials published by that body are ignored thus fulfilling the splinter group's intention.

"Then the Irish people were treated to a disgusting display inside and outside the Special Non-Jury

Court in Dublin when the same splinter group claimed the shooting dead of an innocent man in Dublin. No apology was made to the family, rather did they glory in their base deed.

"The name of the Continuity IRA was again used falsely and the establishment accepted and assisted in this duplicity. The

**From the EASTER STATEMENT
FROM THE LEADERSHIP OF THE
REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT
read at monuments and graveside
throughout Ireland and abroad:**

We note that the title of Republican Sinn Féin has been misappropriated from it by a tiny splinter group in Limerick. Politicians and a hostile media have given credence to this action by highlighting its misdeeds and then placing the blame on the true Republican Movement.

'We take advantage of this occasion to clear the air and assert once more Republican Sinn Féin's integrity and good name.'

Republican Movement was again denigrated for something it did not do and this denial will again be ignored by journalists, police and politicians. So much for ethics, as long as



Republicanism is besmirched.

"This tiny body which has recently split again is indeed useful to the

establishment as they collaborate unscrupulously with individuals who have stolen other people's names. It is all an exercise in smearing by proxy.

"The use of Kitsonian 'counter-gangs' by the British is nothing new and we warn that such incidents may recur. It is the duty of all three categories of public persona to check out such matters. Otherwise they are simply assisting in a grave disservice to the Irish people and showing themselves to be unprincipled in the extreme.

"Signed, B Ó Ruairc"

**ANTI-IMPERIALIST FORUM
BELFAST
JUNE 14-15, 2013
More details to follow.
Republican Alternative
Fight back against the G8!**



WOLFE TONE COMMEMORATION

**Bodenstown, 2.30pm
SUNDAY, JUNE 16, Sallins, Co Kildare**

Bus: from Aston Quay, Dublin 12.45pm Táille: €10

Campaigners criticise Shell for failing to make incident public

ON Saturday, April 20 Shell E&P Ireland said it was conducting an internal investigation, following the inadvertent cutting of a gas pipe at the Corrib gas terminal earlier in the month.

The incident, which occurred during work on water pipes at the terminal site in north Mayo, resulted in nitrogen being released into the atmosphere. According to the company, as a precaution, all nitrogen was "vented off".

The Ballinaboy terminal, built to refine gas from the Corrib gas field, is not yet active, as work is continuing on the onshore pipeline, the last section of the project.

However, low pressure nitrogen has been pumped through pipes laid at the

by the campaign group Shell to Sea for failing to make the incident public after it occurred on April 8. It came to light when a resident alerted Midwest

The multinational told the radio station the incident posed "no danger to the environment", and said it was investigating the circumstances.

It said it occurred during ongoing work to replace water surface pipes at the site, and that a supervisor was alerted.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) told *The Irish Times* it had not been informed, but that there was no obligation on the company to do so as "licensable activities" had not actually started.

Shell to Sea spokeswoman Maura Harrington said "Shell, despite all their talk of being 'good neighbours', said nothing to anyone" until the radio station was alerted.



terminal to prevent corrosion. Radio. The company was criticised

OAP behind anti-property tax letter

THE pensioner behind a strongly-worded anti-property tax letter that went viral on Facebook earlier in April criticised the 'apathetic youth' who have left it to people his age to protest against austerity.

Billy Cleary said he was behind the letter which has a total of nearly 16,000 likes and nearly 10,000 shares on Facebook and now he wants to escalate the protest in a bid to grab even more worldwide attention.

The 73-year-old, from Mullingar in Westmeath, wants to let the world know "that the people of Ireland have finally woken up".

In a letter written on March 8, Cleary said that he would not be paying the tax adding that he has "f*** all more to give or to lose".

Speaking to *The Journal.ie* Billy Cleary said that people responsible for the financial crisis have been "getting away with murder" and said he had had enough of "the Paddy lying down".

"If I can get people motivated to get behind this we can do something about it," he said, explaining his plans to write another letter that he hopes will motivate people to oppose the property tax.

"This has got the attention of the world, it has gone viral as you well know," he said. "Now, let's let them know that the

people of Ireland have finally woken up."

The married father-of-five, who has nine grandchildren, hopes that this protest against the property tax will help swing the public opinion against the tax and get the government to reverse the measure.

He cited the impact of the "grey brigade", the thousands of old-age pensioners, who descended on Dublin in 2008 after the previous government introduced controversial changes to the medical card eligibility, changes which the Fianna Fáil-led coalition ended up reversing.

"I am disgusted at people not doing anything to get up... they'll do everything when they are sitting at a bar drinking pints, this is an apathetic

attitude. Why is it always left to us? The grey brigade as we're called. We're older and we're bolder."

Billy Cleary emigrated to Britain when he was 15 and said he came back to Ireland in 1969 and worked as a builder in addition to being involved in the Republican Movement during the Troubles up until 1994 and the IRA ceasefire.

He later worked with children affected by the Chernobyl nuclear accident in Belarus in 1986, organising holidays for children from the country, a project he stopped working for a few years ago.

"A lot can be done here without firing a shot," he added of his protest. "We can't wait for someone else."

'Seek right to be consulted over British nuclear plant'

LOCAL authority members around Ireland were asked on April 24 to table motions requiring the Minister for the Environment in the 26 Counties to allow consultations over the proposed new British nuclear plant at Hinkley Point in Somerset.

In a letter to councillors, the environmental lobby group Friends of the Irish Environment (FIE) explained: "The issue is that the British Government was required to



notify Ireland (*sic*) (and any other neighbouring countries that might be affected) if there could be any transboundary effects under a convention named for the Finnish town it was signed in in 1991 – the ESPOO Convention on transboundary environmental impact assessment.

"Ireland (*sic*) in turn is then required to 'provide an opportunity to the public in areas likely to be affected to participate in the relevant EIA procedures regarding proposed activities and shall ensure that the opportunity provided to the public of the affected Party is 'equivalent to that provided to the public of the Party of origin'."

FIE says that this has not happened.

"The issue here is not anti or pro nuclear – simply the right to be consulted," said Tony Lowes, a Director of Friends of the Irish Environment.

The group's own challenge to the consultation process failure on the proposed nuclear plant is to be heard before the Implementation Committee of the United Nations Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context [Espoo] in Geneva on 10 September, 2013.

The group is seeking the suspension of further development of the proposed plant until consultations are completed.

Gearrscéalta

Free State soldiers under British army command

IN A statement on May 5, Cumann Seán Costello / Martin Hurson, Sinn Féin Poblachtach, Átha Luain, Co. na h-Iar Mhí, said:

"On May, May 2 on the Al Jazeera news station troops of the European Union Training Mission in Mali 'under British Command' were filmed shouting orders at Malian troops.

"While this was being said it was clearly seen that the particular soldier shouting the orders was wearing the Irish Tricolour on the sleeve of his arm. Also very visible was the 26-County Army Beret badge which has written on it 'Óglaigh na h-Éireann' and was first used in 1914 by the Irish Volunteers.

"It must be noted that this is not a peacekeeping mission, so two questions must be asked. The first is: are the 26-County Army willing to kill once more under British Army Command? Second: are they willing to take their subservience to the European Superstate to a new level and kill on their behalf and in the name of the Irish people?"

"We in Sinn Féin Poblachtach abhor the use of national emblems such as the Tricolour and the Óglaigh na h-Éireann badge which many have given their life's in defence of by those who are nothing more than lackeys to international imperialism. We once more call on the people of Ireland to remain faithful and true to the cause of Irish freedom for the overall good of the nation and of all its parts and to reject this complete erosion of Irish neutrality."

www.rsfwestmeath.blogspot.com

Special Branch harass young member in Dublin

AT the end of April the Special Branch in Dublin called to the home of a member of Republican Sinn Féin on the pretext that they just wanted to confirm his address which they had taken earlier in the month at a protest.

They asked him if "he knew what he was getting myself involved in" to which he replied he did and he was standing up for what he believed in. He said he saw no harm in getting onto the streets protesting then.

They said "ok as long as you are not a soldier"! Then they asked him was it his first time at Deansgrange [Easter Commemoration] and would he be at Bodenstown. They asked him how did he get involved with Republican Sinn Féin and he replied that he could not tell them that.

The other one asked that if anybody ever asked him to do anything for them that he could leave a card with his number on it. He refused to take the number.

The young member told SAOIRSE: "They have been around the area a lot lately, they took all our stickers down and some of our posters. They probably see me as a soft target because I'm still very young, but they will not break my belief."

Boston College tapes to be handed to RUC/PSNI

TAPES containing testimony from Dolours Price, (who died earlier this year) are to be made available to the British colonial police after the US Supreme Court ruled against an appeal seeking to keep them private.

The court ruled on April 10 that the Boston College tapes, which contain interviews with members of the IRA and loyalist death squads, should be handed over.

The project director, Ed Moloney, and his researcher, Anthony McIntyre, resisted the attempts, and had hoped the Supreme Court would overturn a Boston federal court decision to hand the tapes over.

Jack Dunn, spokesman for Boston College, said that the tapes were made with an understanding that the interviews would only be released as the individuals died, within the boundaries of American law.

The tapes were part of the Belfast Project which was supposed to provide students and historians studying the Six-County 'Troubles'.

Results of Dublin raffle

APRIL Draw results were as follows: 1st prize ticket no 146; 2nd prize ticket no 658; 3rd prize 422; 4th prize 322; 5th prize 550; 6th prize 501; 7th prize 353; 8th prize 434.

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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

Easter commemoration in Liverpool, Connecticut

IRISH Republicans assembled on Easter Monday, April 1, at the Fenian Monument in Ford Cemetery, Liverpool to commemorate the Easter Rising of 1916.



• Some of those present at the Easter commemoration in Ford Cemetery, Liverpool on Easter Monday, April 1.

The event, which was well supported was organised by the John Whelan Cumann, Republican Sinn Féin, Liverpool. Pat McDonnell read the Easter Statement and Debbie Grew laid floral tributes at the foot of the monument. Donnadh Aghas then read the Easter Proclamation with his usual powerful delivery. The weather was bitterly cold but the mood of the commemoration was cheerful and positive. The group held a social get-together after the commemoration.

On April 20 the Monsignor Slocum Div 1, AOH, Waterbury CT, USA held their annual Easter commemoration to honour Ireland's patriot dead, and remember the men and women of 1916.

The programme began with the Starry Plough and Sunburst flags being placed, as bagpiper Greg O'Brian played in the background. Master of ceremonies Seosamh Ó Flatharta opened by inviting Michael Ó Coisdealbhach to read the Proclamation of the Irish Republic, Amhrán na bhFiann and the Star Spangled Banner were then sang by all in attendance.

WB Yeats famous poem 1916 was read by Dáithí Mac Gearailt, followed by Peadar Ó Cléirigh who gave a stirring rendition of PH Pearse's Oration at the grave of O'Donovan Rossa. A moment of silence was then observed.

Guest speaker Dónal Pádraig Ó Loingsigh gave a short talk on commemorating the centennial of 1916. The programme was concluded with a speech given by Seosamh Ó Flatharta highlighting the All-Ireland Republic of 1916 as a living entity, and encouraging true Republicans, the faithful, and true heirs of that Republic to remain steadfast in the fight for Ireland.

Martin Calligan remembered
REPUBLICAN Sinn Féin in West Clare April 13 marked the eighth anniversary of Martin Calligan's death by laying wreaths on his grave in Kilmurry McMahon.

Abairtí Gaeilge

Ná buail an capall ach déan é bladaráú leat.
Don't strike a horse – coax him.
Mar a chéile iad - dhá réul scilling.
Much of a muchness.
Níl aon chríoch air chun dada a dhéanamh.
He is in no way tidy to execute anything.
Tá go leor bídih aige agus a foirlionadh dighe.
He has enough food and its compliment of water.
Bhí a chluas ag liobarna leis.
His ear was hanging loose.
Tá sé mórán cosúil leis an tigh so.
It is similar to this house.
Ni bhfaighfeá a shárú de fhear in siúl lae.
His equal would not be found in a whole days travel.
Bhí tuairisc airgid ortha.
They had the name of money.
Comraí m'anama ar dhí, féach an aoirde atá ann.
God be praised, what a height he has grown t.o
Bhí buinne beag uisce ag brú amach idir na clocha.
There was a little squirt of water coming from between the stones.

Brian Shivers acquitted after DNA evidence questioned

ON May 3, 2013 Brian Shivers (47), previously convicted of killing two British soldiers, was acquitted at a retrial after a judge cited a series of crucial forensic errors in the prosecution case.

He was originally convicted in January 2012 of the murder of British Army soldiers, sapper Patrick Azimkar (21) and Mark Quinsey (23), who were shot dead during an alleged Real IRA gun attack on Massereene army barracks in Co Antrim in March 2009.

In January 2013 he was acquitted of the murders but was ordered to face a retrial.

However the DNA evidence which the prosecution had relied on to secure a murder conviction against Shivers at the original trial two years ago was brought into serious question at his retrial in March this year.

Brian Shivers admitted that the DNA on the matches and mobile phone found in the killers' getaway car were his, but said it must have been through an innocent explanation.

Rejecting the prosecution

mean that he was assisting the person who carried out this murder.

"It could have been a quite innocent touching. And of

of matches used by the person who did set fire to the vehicle on 7 March. But that contact with that object might have been an entirely innocent one."

Justice Deeny said that the presence of DNA on the items from up to five other individuals added a "further difficulty" for the prosecution case.

Afterwards, Brian Shivers' solicitor Niall Murphy said the police and public prosecution service have questions to answer about the decision to charge him.

"The scientific evidence in the first trial revealed that there was one contributor to the matches in question and the scientific evidence in the second revealed that there was more than one, so the fact that two scientists cannot even agree on what can only be described as a 50-50 question in circumstances where we are dealing with infinitesimal evidence is not safe and there needs to be a root and branch analysis of how that can occur."



• Brian Shivers

assertion that the presence of Shivers' DNA on the matches and mobile phone proved that he was involved in helping the killers, Justice Deeny said:

"He may have done so [touched the items]]. But even if he did so it does not necessarily

course the transfer may have been secondary and not direct; shaking hands with someone who then handled the phone.

"In the same regard the DNA on the matches does not indicate contact with the box

Judge to be given Finucane documents

'SENSITIVE' British government documents are to be given to a High Court judge shortly for a decision on whether they should be disclosed to the family of murdered Belfast solicitor Pat Finucane, it was revealed on April 26.

Due to security issues, some of the material will have to be returned to the British government as soon as the judge has read it. Pat Finucane was shot dead by loyalists in front of his wife and children in February 1989.

His widow, Geraldine, wants full access to the minutes from British government cabinet meetings, and correspondence between Downing Street officials and MI5 and others, as part of her

legal challenge to David Cameron's refusal to order a public inquiry into her husband's murder.

The judge ruled that she had established a case for disclosure but said he wanted to examine the sensitive documents before deciding if they should be given to her legal team.

A lawyer for the British government suggested the handover of the documents could take place in the judge's chambers in Belfast.



• Geraldine Finucane

Justice Stephens insisted he be given the material in the courtroom. A lawyer for the British government said some of

the documents were at a level that they would have to be taken away when the judge had read them.

Property tax database to be used for new €180 levy

THE 26-County Administration is going to use the new property tax database to ensure that every family in the country pays the new broadcasting charge, according to a report on April 19.

It will replace the €160 television licence and will be issued to every household, even if they do not have a television.

The Department of Communications confirmed that all possible information sources will be used to track down households, including the property tax database, the ESB database of electricity connections and the An Post database of existing TV licence-holders.

The new "public broadcasting household charge will not be introduced until "late

2014" due to the need to build this database with every household address.

The new broadcasting charge is being introduced because many households are now watching RTE and TG4 programmes on their tablet computers and smartphones and do not need to own a TV.

It is expected that information from the state body which regulates the rental sector – the Private Residential Tenancies Board – will also be used.

APPEAL FOR FUNDS

REPUBLICAN Sinn Féin is at present spearheading a number of campaigns, including the holding of an alternative forum in Belfast on June 14 and 15 to the meeting of the G8 in Fermanagh. We will also mark some upcoming events this year, such as the 100th anniversary of the Lock-out and the founding of the Irish Volunteers in the lead-up to the centenary of the 1916 Rising.

Posters, leaflets etc are necessary for all these campaigns and events and printing is very expensive.

At a time when the opportunities for the growth of the organisation are opening up finance is all the more necessary. We must not allow finance to stand in the way of building a strong revolutionary Irish Republican political organisation and as at present our finances are in a very weakened state we appeal to our members and supporters to once again rally to our aid.

All donations, no matter how small, will be greatly welcomed and acknowledged.

We take this opportunity to thank you for your support in the past and look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

For The Record

TUES. APRIL 2: The homeowners on a ghost estate "have been to hell and back over the past seven years", according to Michelle Burke at a protest meeting in Killaloe, Co Clare. At the lunchtime protest demonstrators held up "Call in our Bond" and "We want our Services" in front of the locked gates of the unfinished Ard na Deirge estate in Killaloe. The married couple is paying almost €1,400 on a mortgage and rent every month after buying a house in the estate on September 7, 2006 – they have yet to move into their home.

A report into the development plans for the 1916 site by the Dublin City Council special committee recommended that the 26-County Administration refuse permission to proceed with proposed plans by Chartered Lands. The report calls for the formal establishment of a larger "historical site" incorporating the surrounding area.

Policies of the 26-County Administration are "creating a fractured society, a weak economy and persistently high unemployment", according to Social Justice Ireland in its annual socio-economic review. The 360-page document warns that Ireland (*sic*) has seen the single biggest transfer of resources in its history from low and middle-income people to the rich and powerful. The report, *What Would Real Recovery Look Like? Securing Economic Development, Social Equity and Sustainability*, calls for the tax bases to be broadened through a fairer taxation system. The document also highlights that 731,000 people or 16 per cent of the population live in poverty. On unemployment, the report says 193,000 people have been unemployed for more than a year, representing the highest level ever. It calls for a part-time jobs opportunities programme to be introduced to enable the unemployed to maintain skills.

FRI. APRIL 5: Plans for the redevelopment of Parnell Square area of Dublin and the provision of a Cultural Quarter were unveiled. It would include the city library and a cultural centre as well as upgrading the Georgian buildings in the area.

Over 31,000 Irish companies have directors registered in offshore jurisdictions like the British Virgin Islands and the Seychelles.

A 'tapestry' of the 1916 Lockout is in progress as members of various groups including the Irish Patchwork Society (IPS), the Irish Guild of Embroiderers (IGE), the Irish Countrywomen Association (ICA), Recovery through Art, Drama & Education (RADE), prison groups and community groups work to have it finished by August. It will be made up of 30 panels with each panel signifying an event of the time.

SUN. APRIL 7: Spanish youths held mass protests in cities across Spain and near the country's embassies around the world against high unemployment and poor working conditions in troubled eurozone nation. Thousands marched in central Madrid to highlight the issue which they say has forced many youth to go abroad to find work. Smaller protests were held in Barcelona and Zaragoza and in more than 30 other cities around the world - from Vancouver to Vienna, where young Spaniards have emigrated, in demonstrations organised by the grass-roots group Youth Without a Future. Ireland's unemployment rate is lower than expected at around 14.5 per cent mainly due to high levels of emigration.

MON. APRIL 8: The death took place of Margaret Thatcher, British Prime Minister from 1979 to 1990. News of her death sparked celebration in several cities and towns in Ireland, England, Scotland and Australia. She allowed ten Republicans to die on hunger strike in 1981 in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh, and allowed thousands of political prisoners to be brutalised by a prison system.

The proposals to build 2,300 wind turbines in the Irish midlands to serve the British market is proving contentious. Opponents are objecting on two main grounds, aesthetic and noise.

The Department of the Taoiseach [in the 26 Counties] incurred costs of over €22,000 for the use of the VIP facilities at Dublin Airport for former and current Taoisigh in the second half of last year.

TUES. APRIL 9: Former Provisional Sinn Féin councillor Jim McAllister, South Armagh, died following a short illness. McAllister (68) was elected to the 1982 Northern Ireland Assembly, left the Provos in the late 1990s claiming they had abandoned Republican principles. He led the campaign for justice for Paul Quinn, the young South Armagh man beaten to death in a barn in Co Monaghan by members of the Provisionals in 2007. In recent times he spoke out against smugglers and fuel-launders in South Armagh who had made



• *Some of the attendance at the Avondale Park, Co Wicklow on April 28 to protest at plans to sell the harvesting rights of the State forestry company Coillte.*

millions of pounds for themselves personally in the name of the IRA. [His son Turloch, a prisoner in Magilligan Prison, was granted leave to attend the funeral on April 11, but was denied compassionate parole to see his father before he died.]

THURS. APRIL 11: The High Court in Dublin appointed an interim examiner to the largest collector of domestic waste in the West of Ireland. Justice McGovern granted the protection of the court to Bruscar Bhearna Teoranta, and its subsidiary Joe McLoughlin Waste Disposal Ltd. Barna Waste, based in Carrowbrown Headford Road, Galway and Joe McLoughlin Waste Disposal, Ardcolm Drumshambo Co Leitrim have 30,000 wheelee bin customers in Counties Galway, Roscommon, Mayo, Leitrim and Sligo and employ 270 people.

FRI. APRIL 12: A short clip of a 'walk and talk' organised by member of group opposed to the property tax: *Firms enjoy tax haven in bankrupt Ireland*, Al Jazeera English should be watched by all.

Two men were arrested after a car was stopped on the Northland Road, Derry.

More than €110,000 has been spent so far by Councils in the Occupied Six Counties on training courses to teach politicians how to deal with media and use Facebook.

Brian Calvin and Brian Sheridan, both from Dugganong, Co Tyrone and Dominic Dynes from Castleblaney, Co Monaghan were each jailed for three years for possession of weapons. They were arrested near Keady, Co Armagh in 2011.

MON. APRIL 15: The High Court in Belfast refused to alter the conditions of bail already granted (but not accepted by Murney) for Stephen Murney, Newry. Murney, faces a spurious charge of 'collecting information likely to be of use to terrorists and possession of articles for use interior' had applied for changes in the bail conditions, including the removal of an electronic tag. He remains in Maghaberry Jail, Co Antrim.

The High Court in Dublin refused to extradite Brendan McGuigan, Omearth, Co Louth to Lithuania where he is wanted on firearms charges. Judge Edwards refused to order the extradition because of concerns over the prison conditions.

Three loyalists pleaded guilty in Belfast Crown court to €15,000 blackmail from two victims.

Two bombs exploded at the end of the Boston marathon killing at least two people and injuring more than 20.

Nathan Hastings from Derry appeared in court on charges in connection with the discovery and possession of guns, ammunition and a pipe bomb.

TUES. APRIL 16: A district judge in Derry's Magistrates Court said that "anyone who appeared in court, charged with an offence relating to an organised attack on the Fountain estate, would find it very difficult to get bail". Caoilan Hayden, Tirconnell Street, is charged with disorderly behaviour, unlawful assembly, discharging a firework, and with assaulting and resisting a member of the RUC/PSNI.

WED. APRIL 17: US President Barack Obama said the Senate's opposition to a bill that would have expanded background checks for gun buyers marked a "shameful day for Washington". He said a minority of senators decided "it wasn't worth it" to protect the nation's children. The plan to extend the background checks to online and gun-show sales failed on a 54-46 vote, six short of the 60-vote hurdle needed to clear the Senate.

Taxpayers in the Occupied Six Counties cover all libel costs incurred by MLAs. Stormont insurance covers the payment of libel damages awarded against MLAs.

The Dalai Lama flew into Derry for a short visit. **THURS. APRIL 18:** Two teenage boys, aged 14 and 15, were arrested and charged in Derry after 20 petrol bombs were found.

A former DUP election candidate, John Smith, Antrim was jailed for three years for a racist attack on the home of Polish family. The judge said the attack was motivated by "naked sectarianism". He was found guilty of a pipe bomb attack at his home in Antrim in 2011. He also admitted carrying out an attack on his own home earlier in 2011.

FRI. APRIL 19: Four men were arrested following a raid on a diesel laundering-plant in Co Armagh. The RUC/PSNI seized over 8,000 litres of fuel, a 20ft

lorry used for transporting materials, a number of cars and other equipment from the Jonesborough area. Four men questioned about the plant were released on bail.

One of the most senior members of An Garda Síochána (26-County police) was accused of making "outlandish" and "self-serving" claims about RUC/PSNI evidence to the Smithwick Tribunal ongoing in the 26 Counties. The hearing is investigating claims of Garda collusion in the killing of RUC members Chief Supt Harry Breen and Supt Bob Buchanan shortly after they left a meeting at Dundalk Garda station, allegedly by the IRA, in 1989. The head of the Garda's Security and Intelligence had demanded to see evidence alleging a senior IRA man was getting information from the Garda and the RUC/PSNI have refused to hand it over as "they need to protect their source".

SAT. APRIL 20: Contraband cigarettes worth €300,000 were seized in South Armagh along with around 66 bottles of contraband alcohol and €50,000 in cash.

SUN. APRIL 21: Tony Blair's former chief of staff, Jonathan Powell, has said that the government and the Stormont executive need to do more to help working-class Protestants trapped in their ghettos in the Occupied Six Counties. "No-one has provided an economic future for them, no-one has given them leadership, so they are trapped with those gangs the UVF and the UDA," he said.

Hundreds of athletes braved freezing rain to take part in Bethlehem's first-ever marathon which was won by a Palestinian runner from the West Bank town of Jericho. Some 500 runners took part in the different legs of the race. The full marathon was won by Abdel Nasser Awajneh, a Palestinian from Jericho. Around 100 competitors took part in the full 26 miles, while another 150 joined the half marathon. Some 250 joined either the six-mile or three-mile races. Another 26 runners from Gaza were denied permission by Israel to travel to Bethlehem to join the race.

WED. APRIL 22: Two Derrymen, William McDonnell and Paul McDonnell, were returned for trial on charges of possessing "items likely to be of use to terrorists".

THURS. APRIL 23: A loyalist Facebook page, The Castleberg Young Loyalist Flute band, called for Protestants to stop socialising with Catholics whom they call "Fenian bastards".

SUN. APRIL 28: A crowd of about 3,000 people, including actors, artists and politicians, gathered in Avondale Park, Co Wicklow, to protest at plans to sell the harvesting rights of the State forestry company Coillte. The march, organised by the Woodland League and the National Resources Protection Alliance, featured poetry readings and picnics and a tree was planted by actor Sinéad Cusack. Singer Christy Moore played at the protest.

The 26-County administration is interested in selling Bord Gais Energy. An information memorandum is to be circulated to prospective investors. Bord Gais said in February that it had begun the process to sell the company's electricity generating assets, including wind farms and the Whitegate power station in Cork, as well as the retail arm of the business that sells gas and electricity to 900,000 customers. Half of the cash will be used to pay off a share of the national debt and half is earmarked for job creation schemes.

MON. APRIL 29: The appeal against convictions for the murder of Constable Stephen Carroll in 2009 by Brendan McConville and John Paul Wootton, both from Lurgan, was adjourned until October after prosecutors claimed that new evidence has emerged in the case. Their appeal was due to open today.

An estimated 63,000 people left Ireland in 2012, the highest level of emigration in almost a decade. Preliminary CSO estimates indicated emigration went up 12% last year. A total of 19,700 emigrants moved to Australia and New Zealand last year compared to the 19,000 who moved to Britain. Emigrants to the US doubled in 2012 — up from 4,700 in 2011 to 8,600 last year. Another 15,800 emigrated to "other countries" such as Canada, Spain, France, and Germany. Figures show that the number of people emigrating has risen steadily since 2004, with numbers accelerating sharply since the start of the downturn in 2008, when 31,300 people left

Ireland.

WED. MAY 1: Maryland is the first state in the United States to abolish the death penalty.

THURS. MAY 2: Seán Donaghey will leave his €120,000 post as chief executive of the Northern Health and Social Care Trust after a major probe into the Trust, the results of which will be published later. He will take up another post in the health service with a similar salary.

The 26-County administration is considering dropping its plan to sell off the harvesting rights of State forestry company Coillte as part of a privatisation plan agreed with the EU-IMF.

FRI. MAY 3: A 44-year-old woman was arrested in connection with an attack in which a man was set on fire with a petrol bomb in Derry. The man sustained burns to 40% of his body after two youths broke a window of a house and threw the petrol bomb at him.

The Prison Officers' Association in the 26 Counties called for the establishment of a special prison to detain criminal gang members. It said the gangs force other prisoners to smuggle in drugs and mobile phones. The prison service admitted that there are at least seven criminal factions in Mountjoy Jail in Dublin.

Brian Shivers from Derry, originally convicted of the murders of two soldiers in 2009 was found not guilty in a retrial.

Serious concerns have been raised about the human rights record of the main holding centre for immigrant detainees in the Occupied Six Counties in Larne House, Co Antrim. A new report by the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission (NIHRC) states that detainees in short-term facilities like Larne House are not afforded the same rights as those in long-term facilities. The NIHRC report is due to be submitted to the United Nations 'Committee Against Torture' in Geneva next week. The commission will raise concerns about the length of stay for some detainees as well as the fact that there is no system to establish whether immigrants detained at Larne House bear signs of torture.

Many residents of care homes in the Occupied Six Counties have expressed "serious distress" over the closure of care homes. Three health trusts announced plans to close care homes in their areas. One 92-year-old woman in a care home in Cookstown, Co Tyrone, Jean Faulkner, was in tears after being told she must find alternative residence.

SAT. MAY 4: The NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) has said seven of its soldiers were killed. Seven members of the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) were killed in a roadside bomb attack in Kandahar in southern Afghanistan and in the Bala Buluk district of Farah. Twenty-one US military personnel have been killed in the past week.

Unemployment is expected to reach 11.1 per cent across Europe this year and rise to 12.2 per cent in the eurozone. It is expected to remain at those levels for much of 2014 according to figures just released. Some 19.2 million people were jobless in March, up 62,000 from the previous month. Almost two in three under-25s in Greece and Spain are unemployed, while unemployment overall in Greece is 27.2 per cent; Portugal was at 17.5 per cent in March and Cyprus 14.2 per cent. Spain is one of the worst hit. 6.2 million Spaniards are out of a job with youth unemployment at 57%. An additional 237,400 people registered as unemployed in the first quarter of 2013. **SUN. MAY 5:** Mahmoud Zahhar, a senior Hamas official said Arabs must unite against Israeli attacks on Syria and pointed out that Israel has attacked Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Palestine and is threatening to attack Iran.

Jewish settlers from the nearby Beit Hadassah settlement outpost attacked Palestinian citizens and shop owners in the Old City of Al-Khalil.

Israeli jets bombed a military research facility north of Damascus, the second Israeli attack on targets in Syria in recent days.

Human rights campaigners called on the 26-County Administration to state when it will ratify a United Nations treaty to protect people's rights to housing, health and education. Amnesty International called on the coalition to use its position as EU President to get other European nations to sign up the protocol.

Libya's parliament passed a law banning anyone who held a senior position during Muammar Gaddafi's 42-year rule from working for the new administration, a move that could force the prime minister to step down.

A petition launched by Guantanamo's former chief military prosecutor Colonel Morris Davis and signed by more than 137,400 people by late today, calls on US President Barack Obama to "bring some kind of closure to the fate of the detainees" at the US prison of Guantanamo. Lawyers for the men claim that up to 100 of the 166 detainees are on hunger strike some since February. 23 are being forced fed.

A suicide bomber rammed an explosive-laden car into a convoy carrying Qatari officials through the centre of Somalia's capital Mogadishu today, killing at least eight Somalis, officials said.

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

Loyalists march at 100th anniversary of UVF foundation

A Belfast Chronology

Thursday, April 11, 2013: The father of the three Maguire children, killed in 1976 when a car crashed into the family as they walked in the street, said he is not satisfied with the report of the Historical Enquiries Team (HET) into the deaths of his children. He disagreed with the conclusion that the inquiry was as independent as could be in the circumstances as none of the soldiers involved in the shooting dead of Danny Lennon, the driver of the car who was shot dead moments before the dreadful accident were charged. Two mobile fuel-laundering plants were discovered in Co Louth.

In 2012 there were 172 attacks on fire crew across the Occupied Six Counties; Belfast recorded the highest number of attacks with Derry second.

Senior loyalist Darren Moore, Belfast had both arms and legs shattered in an attack by his former UVF associates.

The cost of policing the flag protests across the Occupied Six Counties since December 2012 has so far reached £22million.

Willie Frazer, founder of Fair, was cautioned for alleged harassment of Anne Dorbie, chairwoman of the Victims and Survivors Service, a British government appointee.

Monday, April 15, 2013: A rail gate has replaced the steel structure that was a so-called peace wall at North Howard Street in west Belfast.

A court in the US agreed that the tapes recordings of Dolours Price with Anthony McIntyre and Ed Moloney for the Boston College Project, can be handed over to the RUC/PSNI.

A man was arrested in west

Belfast and taken to Antrim barracks charges for questioning about Republican activity.

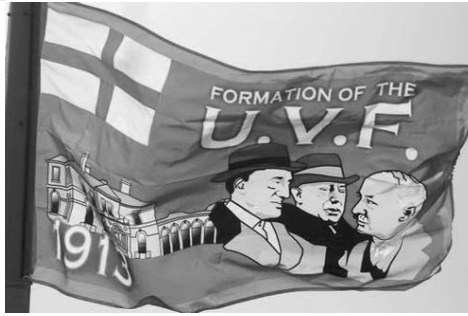
Stones were thrown at members of the RUC/PSNI at the Short Strand interface in east Belfast.

Saturday, April 20, 2013: Up to 10,000 loyalists took part in a parade through Belfast to mark the centenary of the formation of the Ulster Volunteer Force. As many as 40 bands were involved. Marchers wore period costumes and some carried replica weapons. The event stayed clear of sectarian flashpoints. However there had been controversy in the lead up to the parade when hundreds of UVF flags were erected along the route last weekend.

Sunday, April 21, 2013: Flags depicting historic images of the Ulster Volunteer Force erected in east Belfast ahead of the march on April 20 were still flying despite an assurance they would be removed immediately after the march. In the run-up to the parade men in balaclavas closed roads and used cherry pickers to erect the flags. Some journalists were prevented from reporting on the march commemorating the centenary of the organisation. Men and women in period costume carried replica weapons. Senior members of the east Belfast UVF and reporters were approached and told not to film or record speeches.

The Linen Hall Library in Belfast celebrated its 225th Anniversary.

Tuesday, April 23, 2013: The kerbstones outside the Holy Cross Girls Catholic primary school in nationalist Ardoyne were painted red, white and blue.



• **Flags depicting images of the UVF were erected in east Belfast and were not removed following the parade on April 20 despite an assurance that they would be.**

It was announced that Willie Frazer, one of the loyalist organisers of the flag protests in Belfast since the beginning of December 2012, is to launch a new political party called Protestant Coalition.

Nationalist residents in north Belfast walked out of a meeting the Parades Commission in a row over a counter-protest at a loyalist parade. It called the Commission "condescending".

A High Court judge will examine British government meeting notes before deciding whether it can be given to the family of murdered Belfast solicitor Pat Finucane.

Friday, May 3, 2013: Barbara Muldoon, an anti-racism campaigner appeared in court in Belfast. She is to appear again on May 10 when her legal team will plead an abuse of process. She is facing criminal charges for taking part in what the RUC claim was an unnotified parade in 2009 in Belfast. The protest, numbering about 200, took place outside the BBC offices where BNP leader Nick Griffin was

this sends out a clear message to campaigners who oppose racism, trade unionists who defend jobs, opponents of austerity including against the unjustifiable welfare cuts, activists who protest against the G8 etc. The message is that the police and the Courts will criminalise those who are involved in public protests surrounding these issues. I am asking people to sign this petition. I am also asking people to distribute it on Facebook and by email to others to sign it. Defending our right to protest is defending our right to raise our voices against injustice and oppression in an increasing unfair world... It is one of the most important rights that we have. <http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/drop-the-charges-against-barbara/>.

A group of loyalists staged a protest in south Belfast ahead of the Irish Football Association final on Saturday, expressing anger over the decision not to play *God Save the Queen*. Last week, the IFA confirmed that there would be no anthem before the showpiece clash between Cliftonville and Glentoran at Windsor Park saying they wanted to ensure that there is a "politically neutral" environment.

Two Belfast men, Michael Gorman and Thomas McWilliams, face trial on charges of possession of a weapon in suspicious circumstances. The charges relate to shots being fired during rioting following a contentious July 12 Orange parade through Ardoyne last year.

RUC/PSNI chief Matt Baggott finally admitted that the placing of flags in areas where they are not wanted "is sectarian. It is not acceptable...it

may not be criminal but it is most certainly wrong."

Saturday, May 4, 2013: A number of houses were evacuated following the discovery of a suspicious object at Iverna Close, just off Roden Street.

High Court judges have potentially paved the way for some people who spent time in prison for not paying fines to claim for damages. It is possible anyone sent straight to prison without going before a judge could claim for damages from the RUC/PSNI or Northern Ireland Courts Service. Until recently, if someone did not pay a fine within a certain time an arrest warrant or money warrant was automatically issued for their detention. The size of the fine dictated how long they spent in prison. The practice was recently found to be unlawful as no-one was given the chance to explain in front of a judge why they could not pay their fine. Now, if someone does not pay their fine, they will appear before a judge.

Sunday, May 5, 2013: The 32nd anniversary of death of Bobby Sands on hunger strike in Long Kesh. At 8.30am RUC/PSNI members stood at the top of the Mountain Loney with a loud speaker demanding that Gael Force Artists "should get off the Mountain as they are illegally protesting". We can assure them that we are not going away, you know. See Gael Force art on Facebook.

Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) leader Mike Nesbitt repeated his call for the health minister to resign over the handling of NHS care home closures. It follows a U-turn by Edwin Poots, when he told health trusts to drop their plans to shut all their homes.

Crown Forces harassment continues in Co Armagh

April 10: At around 9am five military Land Rovers and dozens of RUC/PSNI vehicles, acid by carloads of CID, the Tullygally, Meadowbrook, Drumbrag and Aldervale areas. They cordoned off the Tullygally area while in Aldervale they searched the area accompanied by people from the Electric Board. Two people were charged with tampering with their electric supply. Meanwhile in the Tullygally area the British army bomb disposal unit was called in with sniffer dogs. This went on all day and a local primary school was evacuated. People noticed that the British army was playing with their dogs in a local play-park. It emerged as the day went on that "they had found something" and the local news reported that "guns, ammunition and other things were found".

Republican Sinn Féin is very sceptical of this so-called find and believes nothing was found. They had caused so much disruption that they had to justify being there. Republican Sinn Féin believes this is part of the MIS/RUC/PSNI dirty tricks which have been used against the nationalist/Republican

community for years and which is very much alive today.

April 13: RUC/PSNI patrol cars harassed the people of Tullygally/Aldervale flats, running the engines up at early hours in the morning, stopping and following cars that came anyway near the area.

April 14-18: A lot of activity in Craigavon – the Drumbrag, Meadowbrook, Aldervale and Lurgan areas. The helicopter was up every night along with the British army spotter plane and checkpoints set up all over. A member of Republican Sinn Féin was virtually under house arrest in Lauretstown. An RUC/PSNI patrol car sat outside his front door throughout the day and when he did leave home, he was stopped and searched and verbally abused.

April 19: An RUC/PSNI Land Rover was in the Drumbrag estate revving the engine, trying to antagonise young people. When a crowd gathered, they quickly pulled out.

April 20: Heavily-armed RUC/PSNI patrols came into Drumbrag and Meadowbrook from 6am to 12 noon. They were carrying high-powered rifles and



• **The nationalist people of Lurgan and Craigavon, Co Armagh are constantly under surveillance and endure harassment from British Crown Forces.**

stopped a nephew of a POW who is constantly harassed by these thugs and searched his vehicle and himself. His sister went to protest and was told to "**** off".

April 21: Kilwilkie estate was swamped by RUC/PSNI, harassing Republicans, driving past their houses and stopping and searching them. The noticeable British police presence has been stepped up tenfold in the last couple of

months.

The mother of a South Armagh member of Republican Sinn Féin was stopped as she drove her car to get it serviced. She was stopped by the Tactical Support Group (TSG) of the RUC/PSNI. When they stopped her they wanted to know who owned the car. She replied "Sure you know who owns the car". They then went away for 10-15 minutes. This lady is 64 years old. They came back and asked

her to step out of the car to be breathalised, even though she is a pioneer all her life. They kept this lady standing for 40 minutes in the freezing morning before they allowed her to go on. Republican Sinn Féin condemns the harassment of our members' families, especially of a 64-year-old lady made to go endure the treatment meted out to her by the British police.

April 24: In the early hours the Kilwilkie estate in Lurgan was swamped by RUC/PSNI Land Rovers and marked and unmarked cars. They searched empty houses and were following people to other houses and sitting outside their doors, writing down addresses. They remained there most of the day. Once again Republican Sinn Féin condemns the harassment of the Republican and nationalist people of the area.

April 25: At 6am dozens of British army Land Rovers and British army bomb disposal units saturated Craigavon and started searching on waste ground beside the Drumbrag/Meadowbrook estates while RUC/PSNI snipers took up positions on hills in the waste ground known as Rathmore

overlooking the Drumbrag and Meadowbrook areas. The British army was seen digging in the wasteland along with the RUC/PSNI. Manhole covers were checked and dozens of holes were dug all over the area. Sniffer dogs were also used.

When that was going on the RUC/PSNI saturated the Drumbrag/Meadowbrook estates taunting young Republicans, which was met with resistance from the Republican youth of the area. Land Rovers were damaged; one had its front window broken and the RUC made a hasty retreat. The helicopter was then called in and remained in the air for a few hours. They eventually left the area at 6pm, nothing having been found. More harassment of the Republican/nationalist people of the area.

April 27: Young people having a drink in the Rathmore waste ground lit a camp-fire and were quickly surrounded by the RUC/PSNI, including a helicopter hovering above them. The young people were not doing any harm or causing trouble to anyone and were away from public view.

Black Prop, the Irish media, and the IRA

IT'S been all over the news recently that fifty-year-old "assassin" Rose Lynch shot and killed 39-year-old father of two David Darcy in Dublin in the name of the Continuity Irish Republican Army on behalf of the revolutionary Republican movement.

Media have been reporting that her and her father, Joe, are also members of Republican Sinn Féin out in Limerick.

The problem with these reports, however, is that they aren't true.

Rose cannot be said to be a volunteer for the IRA nor can Joe be said to be a member of Republican Sinn Féin. Much of the misreporting on Rose, and in general the dissident revolutionary Republican movement, can be chalked up to the general state of sordid and poor reporting in the mainstream media in England and Ireland and can also be traced historically to the start of the Irish fight for

independence back in 1916.

For example: back in the war of independence in the early 1920s the British media propagated a "blood oath" from the IRA that had been completely fabricated to scare the British public and the Scots-Irish in Ireland. This exact same blood oath was propagated by a popular British tabloid at one point during the early 1970s. Other instances of black prop was when British-backed underground militias bombed a water pipeline in Northern Ireland for the purpose of blaming the Provisional IRA. MI5 would also involve itself with criminal gangs within

Northern Ireland (*sic*) by using guns and money and then style their criminal actions as actual actions of the IRA.

Part of the black prop being spun by the military started early off during the Troubles in the Lisburn press office in Ulster where Lt Col. Tugwell headed a covert propaganda/media unit which relied on their own spin and on the IRD (an MI6 operation that originally started in 1948 to ferment fake anti-communist black prop).

One concrete example of their work was when a UVF paramilitary bombing of an Irish pub was spun by their covert office in order to put the blame on [the] Provisional IRA.

These are but just a few examples.

Rose and Joe have no actual connections to any legitimate revolutionary

Republican movement but the media keeps propagating this criminal drug-running gang from Limerick who style themselves as the "IRA." Numerous times the media have connected the actions of a small criminal gang with the actions of the IRA and of Republican Sinn Féin despite numerous instances of Republican Sinn Féin trying to correct the narrative.

During the 1916 Easter commemorations Republican Sinn Féin stated:

"We note that the title of *Republican Sinn Féin* has been misappropriated from it by a tiny splinter group in Limerick. Politicians and a hostile media have given credence to this action by highlighting its misdeeds and then placing the blame on the true Republican Movement. We take advantage of this occasion to clear the air and

assert once more *Republican Sinn Féin's* integrity and good name."

Back in October 2012 they also stated:

"Over the past two years *Republican Sinn Féin* have been directs targets of such activity. A Limerick-led group have attempted to steal our identity and good name in order to cloak their criminal activities. This particular gang meet the criteria of the classic black operations or 'black ops' engaged by the State forces whereby a shadow grouping is set up which is a perversion of everything that the legitimate revolutionary movement represents. The purpose of these bogus groupings is to sow confusion, lower moral and discredit the genuine revolutionary movement."

And, most recently, in

response to the media that continues to ignore the realities on the ground and who continue to spout the black prop of the government, Republican Sinn Féin made their point clear:

"Some of today's newspapers (April 10) carried reports that Joe Lynch, Limerick, father of Rose Lynch, is a member of *Republican Sinn Féin*.

"Neither Joe Lynch or his daughter are members of *Republican Sinn Féin*, nor have they been since April 2010 when they were expelled. He is part of a group usurping the name of *Republican Sinn Féin* to cover their nefarious activities."

— Reprinted from:

<http://mustardseedblog.com/2013/04/11/black-prop-the-irish-media-and-the-ira/>, Thursday, April 11, 2013

Blacklisting investigation to ignore Irish allegations

ALLEGATIONS that Irish construction workers were subjected to 'organised victimisation' involving the British state are likely to be ignored, according to the *Irish Post* on May 3.

The Scottish Affairs Committee, which is investigating the black-listing scandal, said the suggestion that Irish workers were kept out of work because members of the police or security services shared intelligence

data about them is 'not one for us'.

The revelation has led a senior politician to call for a full public inquiry into blacklisting that could address the allegation.

Earlier in the year, *The*

Irish Post revealed that at least one-in-ten of the people on a secret industry blacklist used to keep thousands out of work were Irish. The actual number is expected to be significantly larger.

In early 2009, the Information Commissioner's Office raided The Consulting Association and discovered a 3,000-person database used by over 40 construction

companies – including Robert McAlpine – to vet construction workers. Many were blacklisted for being active in a trade union or for raising health and safety concerns.

The Scottish Affairs Committee's interim report, released in April 2013, omitted the claim made to it by David Clancy, Investigations Manager at the Information Commissioner's Office that he

believes a blacklist file of an Irish national contains information supplied by the police or security services.

The revelation has led a senior Labour politician to renew his call for a Government-led investigation into blacklisting.

Labour backbencher John McDonnell MP, who helped to establish the Blacklist Support Group, said: "People's lives

were devastated by blacklisting as many workers lost their jobs and their families suffered real hardship.

"We want the truth about how Irish workers were targeted and who in the state authorised or turned a blind eye to this organised victimisation."

View blacklist map on:

IMEACHTAÍ

FREE DERRY ASSEMBLY

SATURDAY, MAY 11

GUILDHALL SQUARE, DERRY, 2pm
Organised by Republican Sinn Féin
Bring *Republican Sinn Féin* banners.

Derry is an Irish city!

SEÁN Mac DIARMADA COMMEMORATION

KILTYCLOGHER, CO LEITRIM

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 3pm

COMMANDANT NEIL 'PLUNKETT' O'BOYLE

90th ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION
KNOCKNADRUCHE, CO WICKLOW, SUNDAY,
MAY 12, 3pm Assemble Hollywood, 2.30pm.

WOLFE TONE COMMEMORATION

SUNDAY, JUNE 16

Assemble: Sallins Village, 2pm

JOIN NA FIANNA ÉIREANN

IRELAND'S REPUBLICAN
YOUTH MOVEMENT
223 Parnell Street, Dublin 1

TEAGMHÁLACHA/CONTACTS

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Tipperary: *Nenagh* 087-2927404
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South Tipperary: 086-394 2997

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Anti-Imperialist and Prisoner Isolation Symposium

AN Anti-Imperialist and Prisoner Isolation Symposium was held in Istanbul, Turkey from April 14-20, 2013.

It was attended by delegates from 18 different nations: Turkey, Honduras, Columbia, French Guyana (Martinique and the Guadeloupe), Iran, Syria, Senegal, Germany, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Hindustan and Ireland was represented by Diarmuid Mac Dubhghlais, Cisteoir Náisiúnta, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

There were many different view points within the delegates. People were peasant advocates, representatives of anti-war movements, revolutionaries, communists, socialists, opposition parties and representatives of governments. All were given a chance to explain who they were and what/who they represented.

While there were differences of tactics between the delegates, the one commonality amongst them was that no matter the tactic, they opposed corrupt, selfish and illegitimate regimes, and supported those who suffer discrimination, torture, imprisonment and death.

Our hosts told us that 150 of their activists, mainly young people were arrested in the weeks leading up to the symposium. However everything ran smoothly considering the obstacles put in their path by the establishment in Turkey.

As each representative stood to explain their position, they all mentioned their political prisoners, the suffering and torture they the prisoners and their families suffer.

Diarmuid outlined the origins of Sinn Féin explaining it was established in 1905 but "claim lineage of those who have resisted the invaders of Ireland throughout the centuries. We are looking for a United 32-County Socialist Democratic Federal Ireland, where the wealth and resources of the whole country are used to benefit all who live in Ireland. As a revolutionary movement

we advocate the use of controlled and disciplined resistance to the British army and governmental control of part of our land."

As some people were unsure of the difference between ourselves and the Provisionals Diarmuid explained that "we are not the party of Gerry Adams or Martin McGuinness, we consider them and their party as traitors to Ireland, and they have sold out the Republic for personal wealth and the appearance of power".

As a cautionary tale it was also stated that, "the Provisionals are now working as international counter-revolutionaries, they encourage other revolutionary/resistance groups to lay down arms and engage in dialogue as this method has 'not solved Ireland's problems' according to the *status quo*. But the opposite is the truth. History has shown us that as long as there is occupation there will be resistance to that occupation, irrespective of the country."

On the first day of the Symposium everyone assembled outside the French embassy in Istanbul to protest at the continued illegal detention of a Lebanese man, Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, who is now on hunger strike due to his continued unlawful detention

Georges was granted parole on November 21, 2012, but the prosecution appealed the decision, and France has come under mounting pressure from the US and Israel to block his release. Abdallah was sentenced to twenty years to life over his alleged involvement in the murder of two diplomats, an assistant to an American military and an Israeli in 1982. The court was not able to present concrete evidence against him, and he was imprisoned for passport fraud.

The similarities between Georges's detention and that of our own Martin Corey is



• The platform party listening to Diarmuid Mac Dubhghlais speaking on the POWs in Maghaberry jail.



• Diarmuid MacDubhghlais presenting some prisoner art from Maghaberry jail to a member of Tayad, the political prisoner group in Turkey

obvious for all to see. It seems that governments can do as they please when it comes to political detainees.

In the afternoon delegates met to discuss the current global financial crises and who was to blame. Diarmuid said that "during the Celtic Tiger years vast sums of money were made by a small amount of people, workers were betrayed by a weak and greedy union leadership, who themselves became beholden to the bosses and government. The profits made during the good years were privatised while the losses

incurred were in turn socialised. We now have a situation where the poorest people in Ireland are paying money to the richest people in the world."

Delegates from Greece told similar stories of hardworking citizens being forced to endure lower wages, poorer working conditions and decreasing living standards because of the excesses of a minority of mega rich people around the globe.

Almost a whole day was spent talking about the aggression and interference of the United States, Britain, France and other western

nations in the Arab world and how they have organised the changing of different regimes within this whole area.

The representatives from the Arab world said that sectarian hatred and tribal differences were being fostered so as to destabilise the different countries and change the leaderships one at a time.

Lebanon's delegate said that Israel has been allowed to attack civilians and infrastructure within its borders for years with only mild condemnation from western governments. The country's infrastructure has been decimated on many occasions, thus stifling its ability to prosper.

The delegate from Palestine told of a story we all knew only too well; state murders, land grabs, dispossessions and imprisonment of those who resist, irrespective of age or gender.

A full day was also spent talking of Political Prisoners, Prisoners of War. Harrowing tales from all over the world, of these prisoners being tortured, maimed, killed and disappeared were relayed to all. All stories had the same truths, food being tampered, denial of medical attention, show trials or no trials, families having to travel long distances just to be denied a visit.

The delegate from French Guyana said that he was imprisoned for demanding his country be recognised as an independent nation and not a colony of France.

From Honduras we heard there are tens of thousands of political prisoners. Many of whom have been framed on drug charges so as to avoid being seen internationally as politically oppressed opposition representatives.

From Iraq we heard that many of the prisoners are routinely burnt with cigarettes. From our hosts we were told of people being arrested/imprisoned for simply selling their political magazines or papers. In the past year one of the paper sellers was shot in the

back and crippled while selling the paper and another was arrested and was tortured to death while in custody.

Speaking on Ireland and the POWs in Irish and British jails Diarmuid outlined the occupation of his country from more than 800 years by the British and quoted Maggie Thatcher's friend Paul Johnson who said that "In Ireland we [the British government] have tried every possible formula; direct rule, indirect rule, genocide, apartheid, puppet parliaments, real parliaments, martial law, civil law, colonisation, land reform and partition. Nothing has worked. The only solution we have not tried is absolute and unconditional withdrawal."

"In the Occupied Six Counties of Ireland the British have always stoked the flames of sectarian hatred; they encourage ordinary people to distrust their neighbours who are of a different religion."

Diarmuid spoke of the H-Blocks and the deaths of the hunger strikers in 1981 and the continuity of the prison struggle today in Maghaberry jail in Co Antrim. He gave a detailed account of life inside Maghaberry and the reasons for the ongoing protests. He spoke of Martin Corey and of a young POW given an indeterminate sentence.

Diarmuid concluded "Day by day the resistance to this occupation in the increase whether it is the armed resistance or just the everyday defiance of the British Crown forces. The foreign police force will never be acceptable to Irish Republicans, they are as unwelcome today as they were when they first invaded my country."

"Comrades, rest assured, we in the Republican Movement will never rest until the day the enemy leave our shores for good and we established a 32-County Democratic Socialist Republic."

(Pressure of space does not allow for a more comprehensive report).

Thatcher on the Irish: 'They're all liars'

FORMER British supremo in the Six Occupied Counties Peter Mandelson said on April 17 that the only thing he remembers Margaret Thatcher telling him was that the Irish were "all liars" and could not to be trusted.

He revealed details of the 1999 exchange as he explained why he did not want to attend the former Prime Minister's funeral.

Mandelson – who served as Tony Blair's Northern Ireland (*sic*) secretary between 1999 and 2001 – told the BBC: "Although I helped to organise the Labour Party's opposition to her policies throughout the 1980s, I only ever met her once. It was the day I was appointed Northern Ireland secretary and our paths crossed," he said.

"She came up to me and she said, 'I've got one thing to say

to you, my boy... you can't trust the Irish, they are all liars,' she said, 'liars, and that's what you have to remember, so just don't forget it'.

"With that she waltzed off and that was my only personal exposure to her."

Despite this however many politicians from Ireland attended her funeral on April 17.

On April 12 the Pat Finucane Centre in Derry issued the following statement:

"As Margaret Thatcher is laid to rest we thought it appropriate to publish two



• Graffiti in Derry at the iconic Free Derry Wall following Margaret Thatcher's death.

documents we found in the British National Archives. Both have been published before in the chapter we contributed to a book on loyalist infiltration of the UDR.

"The first document contains the minutes of a meeting between the then head of the Conservative opposition in 1975 (Margaret Thatcher) and the then Prime Minister, Harold

Wilson, just weeks after the Miami Showband Massacre involving members of the UDR. At page three the following admission is made: the Secretary of State said:

"Unfortunately there were certain elements in the police who were very close to the UVF, and who were prepared to hand over information, for example, to Mr Paisley. The Army's judgement was that the UDR was heavily infiltrated by extremist Protestants and that in a crisis situation they could not be relied on to be loyal."

"Let no-one claim that the levels of collusion between the RUC, UDR and loyalist paramilitaries was not known at the highest levels of the British Government and opposition.

"The second document also concerns the UVF, only by this

stage, 1979, Thatcher is the Prime Minister. In a handwritten note she urged mention of the 'Volunteer Ulster Defence Regiment (? Is that the name)'. Her officials clearly had difficulty reading her handwriting and the typed version of her comment reads:

"(viii) The Prime Minister would also like to see some reference to the valiant work being carried by the Ulster Volunteer Force.

"Apparently neither she nor her officials were fully cognisant of the difference between the UDR, (? Is that the name) the largest Regiment in the British army, and the UVF, a loyalist paramilitary group. On this point at least she found herself in agreement with the nationalist/ Republican community

Re-dedication of the Cull/Tymon Memorial, Arigna

ON May 5 the Cull/Tymon Cumann of Sinn Féin Poblachtach presided over the re-dedication of the Séamus Cull/Patrick Tymon /Michael Cull memorial in Arigna, Co Leitrim.

A great turnout of all age groups assembled at Tullynaha in Arigna near the old Cull home place behind an impressive colour party and the Raheen Pipe Band. The ceremony was chaired by Paddy McNama who called on Doctor Seán Maguire to unveil the monument.

A decade of the Rosary was read by Joseph Doherty. Wreaths were laid by Tommy Cull on behalf of the Cull family and Finbarr Tymon on behalf of the Tymon family. A wreath was laid on behalf of today's Republican prisoners of war by Seán Scott, a man who had fought alongside Seán South and Fergal O'Hanlon in Brookeborough in 1957. Indeed Seán had to spend three years in hospital after being badly injured upon escape. Tomás Lavin then laid a wreath on behalf of the Cull/Tymon Cumann and Michael McDonagh laid a wreath on behalf Roscommon Comhairle Ceantair. The 1916 Proclamation of Independence was read by Darren Reynolds and the Roll of Honour was read by Pat McNamus.

The oration was delivered by Dan Hoban, Co Mayo. During the course of his oration he outlined the history of the Republican Movement throughout the last century, covering all the betrayals and sell-outs which only led to a strengthening of British rule and the

to you, you can use every means at your disposal to get rid of British troops out of Ireland, and that will always be the case and you will have the blessing of the Republicans of this country when



• The colour party at the rededication of the Cull/Tymon Memorial in Arigna on May 5.

fragmentation of the Republican Cause.

"In talking here today and in particular to the youth of Ireland I have just one message for Gerry Adams, Martin McGuinness, Enda Kenny and all their lackeys. Today we say to the youth of Ireland, we are not going to say to you what these other people have said to you, we are not going to say to you the war is over, we are going to say

you do that.

"We are calling on the people of Ireland to make one last ditch stand to drive the British forever from our shores and to hell with the lackeys who are licking up to them, we don't want them, they are not part of us, they are not part of the Republican Movement, they have stolen the name of Republicanism but they are only



• The memorial which was unveiled by Dr Seán Maguire, son of the late Comdt-General Tom Maguire of Mayo.

lackeys for Britain."

Paddy then brought proceedings to a close and called on Patsy Hough who sounded the Last Post followed by the playing of Amhrán na bhFiann. There was music afterwards in Flynns where

refreshments were provided, a raffle was held and music was played by John O'Dowd.

The full oration and parade including the monument can be viewed at 'republicans' on You Tube.

International Affairs section of the Seven Signatories Manifesto

"TO subvert the tyranny of our execrable government, to break the connection with England, the never-failing source of all our political evils and to assert the independence of my country — these were my objectives. To unite the whole people of Ireland, to abolish the memory of all past dissensions, and to substitute the common name of Irishman in place of the denominations of Protestant, Catholic and Dissenter — these were my means."

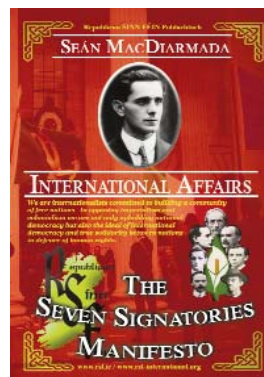
This fundamental of Irish Republicanism can be traced back to the leader of the Society of the United Irishmen and victim of the 1798 Rising, Theobald Wolfe Tone. He declared this position when stating his objectives and this philosophy was further defined in terms of modern Irish Republicanism in the 1916 Proclamation of Independence when it rightly declared "We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible."

These fundamentals of our Republican heritage run deep in our outlook as revolutionary Republicans and indeed we view the right of all people within their respective nations to the sovereign governance of their nation. This internationalism has

been a hall mark of revolutionary Republicanism from the very beginning. Not because Ireland cannot alone defeat the enemies it faces with the strength of its own arms but because Republicanism has always been about humanity and defeating the oppressor, it is natural and only sincere to support the oppressed of a foreign land as oft times the oppressor is a common enemy.

General Lazare Hoche of the Revolutionary French Army declared "We present ourselves as sincere friends to all who will embrace the cause of liberty and we thirst after nothing but breaking your fetters and chastising your tyrants."

Indeed the strongest of solidarity was shown when General Jean Joseph Humbert brandished his sword and gave the order as Gaeilge, "Éirinn go Brách" as the drums sounded



"pas de charge" before the combined revolutionary Irish and French forces drove the English out of Castlebar, Co. Mayo in 1798.

So throughout the ages the connection between progressive anti-imperialist forces has always been there and always intertwined for the common good of a mutual cause of "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity". But the methods colonialism used to rule and ruin small nations have changed and Republicans must be prepared to devise ways of challenging that change

effectively or else face certain defeat. In 2009 the then President and current Patron of Sinn Féin Poblachtach Ruairí Ó Brádaigh stated "There has been a multiplicity of change and a lot of it has been in the anti-colonial struggle, it is surely for the benefit of mankind generally that this has happened and the important thing is that as imperialism changes its methods that this change is analysed and that means are devised to counter such change by those who seek to dominate others for their own private profit."

Sinn Féin Poblachtach believes that all small nations have a right to be free. That nation's have a right to co-exist without one dominating over the affairs and bullying into submission the other for the sake of selfish, strategic or economic interests.

Taking on board the current circumstances in our society, the general lack of real political awareness and discussion among the population

and the upcoming centenary of the 1916 Rising and all the pro-imperialist mass media misrepresentation connected to it, Republican Sinn Féin, seizing the opportunity and determined to get the real alternative to the people, ÉIRE NUA and SAOL NUA, launched over the Easter period of 2013 the **Seven Signatories Manifesto**.

Overall the manifesto will consist of eight publications; the first was a breakdown of the seven areas to come and was launched at Easter. The first area of policy then that we shall cover in more detail is the International Affairs Policy of Sinn Féin Poblachtach.

The reasoning behind this and the timing of this launch is to co-inside with the Irish Anti-Imperialist Forum to be held in Belfast on June 14 and 15. This policy will set out the position of Republican Sinn Féin in lay-mans terms on each of the following areas;

- Internationalist and Anti-Imperialist
- We would withdraw from the European Union
- We support the creation of a Celtic League; we support Irish neutrality regarding imperialist military alliances such as NATO and the EU

battle groups

- We support the rights of all small nations struggling against colonialism and neo-liberalism.

"While Irish Republicanism is a national liberation movement we acknowledge our place in history. Only the united and international struggle, hand-in-hand with our international comrades will ultimately defeat imperialism. Together we can and will defeat imperialism."

We call on all opposed to the current curse of capitalist policy and imperialist domination in Ireland to support the Irish Anti-Imperialist Forum and to make their voices heard in a militant fashion in Fermanagh to let the world know that the people of Ireland are opposed to the war crimes committed by the imperial elite that will be gather in luxury at Lough Erne on June 17 and 18.

We must let the world know the Irish too are still victims of imperialism and are struggling in their own fight for freedom, true peace and justice and we put forward an opportunity for struggling people worldwide to build a network of solidarity in opposing imperialism.

It's time now we gave the Irish people the opportunity to see there is an alternative

IN Dublin on May 4, 2013, Sinn Féin Poblachtach held its annual rally to remember the ten men who gave their lives in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh in 1981. Led by Bobby Sands, the nine men followed him to the grave: Francis Hughes, Raymond McCreesh, Patsy O'Hara, Joe McDonnell, Martin Hurson, Kevin Lynch, Kieran Doherty, Thomas McIlwee and Mickey Devine.

The rally assembled in the island in O'Connell Street and the Colour Party faced the GPO. John Horan, PRO, Atha Cliath, set up the podium and people stopped to ask questions and were given information by John. Old copies of SAOIRSE were distributed as new copies were sold.

Chaired by Diarmuid MacDúghlais, Cisteoir Náisiúnta, he called for a playing of a lament by piper Seán Doyle from the Glen of Antrim while a minute's silence was observed and the flags were dipped, in remembrance of all who died in the continuing fight for Irish independence.

Diarmuid introduced Josephine Hayden, Ard Rúnaí. who spoke mainly about the political internee in Maghaberry jail Martin Corey.

Josephine mentioned first the 22 hunger strikers and continued

"We also remember the many thousands of Republican Prisoners of War who have suffered at the hands of the British and Irish Free States. Thousands of men and women who lost their liberty in defence of their country, many incarcerated for a long number of years; from the miserable hovels which housed the Fenian POWs, to the brutal regime in Portlaoise and the H-Blocks. Political status was hard won when it was won

"When Bobby Sands led the second hunger strike in the H-Blocks and he and nine POWs died before the hunger strike ended, little did we think that in 2013 – 32 years later – we would still have Republican prisoners in British-run jails in Ireland fighting once more for political status; a recognition of Republican prisoners as just that, Republican political prisoners, in jail for their political belief that Ireland should be united and free from the centre to the sea".

(See page 1 for update on Martin Corey).

Josephine called for the release of Martin Corey and also Marian Price and welcomed home Brian Shivers, having been found not guilty by the courts after an appeal.

John Horan then read the list of all 22 hunger strikes who died since 1917 in defence of the Republic with a brief outline of the conditions which led to the reasons for the hunger strikes in the jails.

Cáit Trainor from Armagh and Vice-President of Sinn Féin Poblachtach spoke next. She began by outlining how 32 years ago the ongoing criminalisation policy against Republicans led the ten men to undertake a hunger strike, a step they did not take lightly and which ultimately led to their deaths.

"Much has been said in recent years of the hunger strikes, it has been claimed and backed up by British-released documents that a deal was offered mid-way through the hunger strike to people who are now key figures within the Provisional movement, a deal which could possibly have saved the lives of six of the men.

"If true this would endorse what we already know about the Provisionals, that they are self-serving careerists, with little interest in Ireland or its people and would ultimately be prepared to sacrifice anything or anyone in the pursuit of power. I'm not here today to Provo bash as they call it, but I believe we must call a spade a spade; where they peddle their lies and try to fool people we must stand on the truth and expose their hypocrisy and corruption.

"One such disgrace that the Provos have been involved in has been the naming of the historic city of Derry as 'UK' City of Culture. The title of 'UK' City of Culture was awarded after much lobbying by Provisional Sinn Féin, and supporters of this insult include the [Gaelic Athletic Association] GAA and Comhaltas [Ceoltóirí Éireann]. Derry, which is world renowned for its resistance to British rule, Free Derry has now been bartered for grants and other financial incentives.

"It is sad indeed to see attending the meeting that sealed the dreadful deal was the chief of police of the RUC from

the Derry area. I for one will not be countries throughout the world. The throughout Ireland and abroad to



• The colour party and some of those attending the annual Bobby Sands commemoration on the island opposite the GPO in Dublin on May 4.



• The Republican Sinn Féin banner at the commemoration.

attending the All-Ireland Fleadh this year, and I feel others should not take part in this sham that downgrades Irish music and culture to nothing more than a regional folk festival for the British.

"On Saturday, May 11, Republican Sinn Féin will be in Derry at 2pm at the Guildhall to proclaim once more that Derry is an IRISH city and no amount of money, intimidation or coercion will change that.

"We will be strenuously opposing the disgusting title and throughout 2013 will be organising events in Derry to show the world that Free Derry lives on and we ask you to join us."

Cáit then spoke of the situation for Republican POWs and the work that has been done throughout the year to highlight the brutal regime in Maghaberry Jail.

"The international day of protest for POWs in November saw protests in 14

prisoners at the moment are thankfully no longer on protest.

"However not a lot has changed in regards to prison conditions for Republican Prisoners and the announcement that the Prison Regime would not be going forward with the installation of body scanners comes as a blow for us all, but was not surprising.

"This year will also see the G8 Summit hosted in Fermanagh, The G8 members represent only big business and greedy bankers. The choice of Fermanagh as a location is an attempt to further rubber stamp British rule in Ireland.

"Republican Sinn Féin in response have organised an alternative to this meeting of world imperialists and crooks. The Anti-Imperialist Forum will take place in Belfast on June 14 and 15. It is intended as a forum for political and community activists from

discuss the various political, social and economic aspects of imperialism from both an Irish as well as an international perspective.

"Occupation has always been Irelands biggest issue, this issue has not gone away and indeed we can say that no part of Ireland is truly free. The Occupied Six Counties are under direct British rule and the 26 Counties is under a new kind of imperialism from the EU and IMF. The Free State administration protects the wealthy and exposes the poor, cutting essential benefits for those who most need them. They are pro-imperialist and their treachery towards the Irish people must not be forgotten or forgiven.

"Republican Sinn Féin has in ÉIRE NUA the only viable alternative to the failed politics of Stormont and Leinster House. ÉIRE NUA is a real blueprint for the future of Ireland, united and independent.

"The occupiers have tried it all — oppression, coercion, murder, intimidation, treaties, partition and power-sharing; none have worked, none have pacified the people of Ireland to be content with British rule. ÉIRE NUA provides for a peaceful independent Ireland, taking into consideration all of the Irish people from all backgrounds and traditions. It is not enough for us to talk about ÉIRE NUA at commemorations and internal meetings. It is time now we gave the Irish people the opportunity to see how there is an alternative. It is a document that we can all proudly stand over.

"Let it be known that we are serious about the Republic and we will not cease in our activities until the Republic is achieved."

Celtic chieftain's graveyard discovered in France

AN Iron Age graveyard was uncovered in France that experts believe will provide a fascinating insight into the life of the Celts.

French reports on the find, carried on the Irish website *The Journal.ie* on April 21, 2013, outlined how a muddy field located between a motorway and a meander of the Seine southeast of Paris is a graveyard.

Archaeologists believe the Celtic Age find will shed light on the great yet enigmatic civilisation of Gaul and that it will provide the key to many unanswered questions about

how this Celtic civilisation actually lived, worked and played.

The site was earmarked for a warehouse project on the outskirts of Troyes.

It contains a stunning array of finds including five Celtic warriors whose weapons and adornments attest to membership of a powerful, but long-lost, elite.

Archaeologist Emilie Millet



• One of the skeletons found recently in the excavation at Troyes, France.

spoke to reporters at one of 14 uncovered in recent weeks after burial sites that have been a nine-year excavation of the

650-acre site.

Remains of a tall warrior, complete with a 28-inch iron sword still in its scabbard were placed at her side.

As she gazed at a metal-framed shield whose wood-and-leather core has long rotted away, she admitted: "I have never seen anything like it."

Several women are buried next to the warriors. Their jewellery, including twisted-metal necklaces known as torcs, and large bronze brooches decorated with precious coral,

also hint at their high status.

A woman was buried next to a man in one grave, separated by a layer of soil, which the report says speaks of a close but as yet unfathomable bond.

A spokesman for the National Institute for Preventive Archaeological Research said: "This graveyard is exceptional in more ways than one."

The report says the jewellery suggests that the dead were buried between 325 and 260 BC, in a period known as La Tène.

Call to support Bangladesh's workers rights

GERALDINE McNamara, National PRO for Republican Sinn Féin, on April 29 called on all workers to express solidarity and sympathy with the workers at the garment factory in Savar, Bangladesh.

"This terrible tragedy in which over 400 workers were killed is a sad indictment on the capitalist western world that uses and exploits those in the world's poorest countries to avail of cheap mass-produced garments.

"It was the worst tragedy to hit Bangladesh's massive garment industry, and focused attention on the poor working conditions of the employees who toil for \$38 a month to produce clothing for top international brands.

"While it is good to see people in the Third World working and producing goods for the world market we must ensure their basic human rights. No worker should have to work for a wage which keeps them living below the poverty line and in conditions that are detrimental to their health and well-being."

Geraldine called on all workers to be mindful of these conditions when purchasing goods from retail outlets here. We should demand a fair-trade agreement between countries and we should not expect workers in Bangladesh to endure long working hours in hazardous conditions just so that we can have cheaply-produced items.

The employers in Third World countries are making vast profits, as are the retailers in Ireland and it is grossly unfair that the workers, many of whom are only children, are living and working in deplorable conditions.

Bangladesh's garment industry is the third largest in the world, after China and Italy, having grown rapidly in the past decade. The country's minimum wage is the equivalent of about \$38 a month.

Among the garment makers in the building were Phantom Apparels, Phantom Tac, Ether Tex, New Wave Style and New Wave Bottoms. Altogether, they produced several million shirts, pants and other garments a year.

The New Wave companies, according to their website, make clothing for several major North American and European retailers.

Britain's Primark/Penneys Ireland acknowledged it was using a factory in Rana Plaza, but many other retailers distanced themselves from the disaster, saying they were not involved with the factories at the time of the collapse or had not recently ordered garments from them.

Geraldine said that last year a fire in a factory in Bangladesh killed 111 workers and although there were pledges to improve working conditions nothing was done. If the people in the western world don't speak out and say "not in my name" to these companies nothing will be done and the deplorable working conditions will continue.

"Speak out now and let your retailers know that all workers have the right to be respected and should have human dignity and decent working conditions."

Thousands of workers paraded through central Dhaka on May Day to demand safety at work and the death penalty for the owner of the garment factory building that collapsed last week in the country's worst industrial disaster, killing at least 402 people and injuring 2,500.

Fight against strip-searches in French jail

A TURKISH political prisoner is on hunger strike in a French jail since March 13, 2013, to protest against the inhumane practice of strip-searches against political prisoners in France.

On April 20 Republican Sinn Féin sent greetings of solidarity to him and urged the French government to immediately cease the practice of strip searches.

Nezif Eski is a Turkish political prisoner who said he was forced to go on hunger strike to demand the immediate ending of strip-searches against political prisoners. The Administrative Court of Melun, Seine-et-Marne, on Friday, March 29, suspended the full-body search for prisoners which was established by the prison authorities in at Fresnes jail where Nezif Eski is held, though the prison authorities in Fresnes still don't accept his demands. No statement has been made from their side.

Like the political prisoners in Maghaberry jail in Co Antrim, Nezif Eski is strip-searched before and after all visits. This is 'a fundamental attack' on his freedom and 'an illegal practice' according to the Human Rights Convention.

In a statement Republican Sinn Féin International spokesperson Dieter Blumenfeld said: "I want to express our solidarity with comrade Nezif on behalf of everyone in Republican Sinn Féin. We demand an immediate end of the degrading, inhumane and illegal practice of strip-searches by the prison authorities in France. We urge the French government to stop this practice.

"Furthermore I want to use the opportunity to once more urge the English government and the prison authorities in the Occupied Six Counties to end the same inhumane practice against Irish Republican prisoners. Nezif Eski is not alone. The fight against strip-searches is as the same fight being waged by the Republican prisoners in Maghaberry.

"Republican Sinn Féin urges all supporters in France and internationally to support our comrade Nezif Eski and make his case known. Together we will win the fight for the rights of the political prisoners held in Fresnes and Ireland."

Republican Sinn Féin supports Dutch Republicans

IN A statement on May 1 on the coronation of Willem-Alexander in the Netherlands, Dutch Republicans said:

"The members and supporters of Republican Sinn Féin in the Netherlands want to use the coronation of Willem-Alexander as King of the Netherlands to stress their opposition to the Orange monarchy and pledge their support for a Dutch Republic.

WORLD NEWS



• The eight Basque activists sentenced to six years and to six-and-a-half years in prison by a Madrid court on March 8 for being members of the banned organisation Segi.

"Republicanism has a long and vital tradition both in Ireland and the Netherlands. We as Dutch Republicans and supporters of the Irish Republican Movement are Internationalists. While supporting the Irish struggle for independence and an All-Ireland Republic we are also staunch Dutch Republicans.

"We believe in full democracy. What we seek to establish is a pluralist participative democracy with appropriate structures at every level in society. The future which we propose is designed to embrace and include all the people on the basis of "cherishing all the children of the nation equally".

"The Orange monarchy in its very nature is opposed to full and direct democracy for all people. Full democracy can only be established in a Republic. Hence we not just support a free and united Irish Republic; we support the establishment of Republics in all states currently ruled by monarchy and undemocratic parliaments. Only a Dutch Republic will provide the framework for the people of the Netherlands to decide on their future themselves.

"Aware that economic democracy and political democracy are two sides of the one coin Republican Sinn Féin have also formulated a programme which would provide for economic democracy. While social equality is not achievable within a monarchy, this social equality will not automatically be followed by the destruction of the Orange monarchy and the birth of the Republic. Therefore we support a democratic-socialist Republic of the Netherlands.

"There are many calling themselves Republicans who would be perfectly satisfied with the name of a Republic while leaving the present social, economic and cultural system unchanged – or worse still, integrating it with the rampant capitalism of EU imperialism. They are deluding themselves and deluding others. The EU, the Orange monarchy and the political elites serve the interests, above all, of big business and the super-rich. Both EU and Orange monarchy are undemocratic in their institutions and it is over-centralising; in this they run counter to the Republican aims of increasing the democratic power of citizens and decentralising decision-making to manageable units where all citizens can participate in a meaningful way.

"We as activists of Republican Sinn Féin and Dutch Republicans want to use the coronation of Willem-Alexander as King of the Netherlands to call on all Dutch Republicans to renew their fight for the Republic. We as Republican Sinn Féin will support all these initiatives as we have done it over the past years. While we welcome all support for the struggle in Ireland, we say to you: The most effective way to support the Irish Republic is fighting for your own Dutch Republic!"

Basque political prisoner dies in hospital

BASQUE political prisoner Xabier Lopez Peña (54) died on March 30 in a Paris hospital to which he had been taken after suffering a heart attack. His relatives complained that they only learned of his death when coming to visit him.

Xabier Lopez-Peña was arrested in Bordeaux (France) in 2008 along with other three ETA volunteers and was accused of being part of ETA's leadership. According to some sources he would have been part of the ETA's negotiation team which entered talks with the Spanish government between 2005-2007.

The death of Xabier Lopez Peña puts in perspective the fatal consequences of a penitentiary policy that violates elemental all rights.

March, 2013 has shown the irreversible consequences of the penitentiary policy. The deaths of Xabier Lopez Peña and Angel Figuero, as a consequence of serious health problems; the accident suffered by two friends of the prisoner Jabí Martínez Izaguirre when they returned from a visit to Jaen or the aggressions suffered by Xabier Aranburu, Oskar Barreras and Arkaitz Bellon are a brutal proof of that.

There are currently 603 male and female prisoners recognised as Basque political prisoners by Etxerat, the word means Homeward, the organisation of prisoners' relatives and friends (there are also some other political prisoners who are not part of the collective); 15 of whom are suffering serious illness.

Elsewhere in the Basque Country police infiltrated the 'People's Wall' built by Basque solidarity activists in the town of Donostia (San Sebastian) on April 19 and arrested six of eight youths, sentenced to six-and-a-half years in prison by a Madrid court on March 8 for being

members of banned organisation Segi. The group, which advocates for Basque independence, was classified as a "terrorist" group by the Spanish National Court in 2002, and disbanded in 2012.

The call for a "people's wall" attracted some 1,200 supporters on the previous day who gathered in the Aske Guenea camp to prevent the arrest of the young activists. One journalist was also arrested.

The eight Basques denounced the final court verdict, saying that they have been unjustly tried for their political work. There are another 200 Basque people in Spain who are also awaiting trial for affiliation with controversial political organisations.

Mistrial declared in Jewu Richardson case

AFTER nine days of arguments and three days of jury deliberation, the judge in the case of Jewu Richardson in New Haven Connecticut, USA on April 12 declared a mistrial after the six-person jury could not come to consensus on any of the charges against Richardson.

Richardson faced charges of assaulting a police officer after being shot by the police. He claims the charges were the police's way of justifying shooting him. The police and the state prepared their case well, making sure to destroy the car - the alleged assault weapon - and repeatedly viewing all videos available to create a believable story. But since their story was full of holes, it started falling apart as cop after cop went on the stand, lied and was exposed.

An accident re-enactment specialist testified that, based on the evidence available, it was highly unlikely Jewu committed the assault. One of the most powerful testimonies, unexpectedly, came from a witness called by the prosecutor.

The civilian, who happened to witness Jewu being shot, refused to lie about what he saw. "The cop jumped on the hood of the car and shot at the driver," he said. "I remember thinking, does that cop think he's Superman or something?"

At a press conference after the court case Richardson said: "I don't know what's going to happen tomorrow, but today, justice has been served. The only reason why I took this case to trial – the main reason – is because there's so many other people like Malik Jones that died, like Sean Bell that died, like Ramarley Graham that died, that weren't here to speak about the injustice that they received by the police department, and I felt like I had an obligation to go forward with my case."

'We are fighting for all Palestinians'

IN A statement carried in the Guardian newspaper on March 3, Palestinian hunger striker Samer Issawi, imprisoned in an Israeli jail, said that "in jail, my fellow hunger strikers and I are doing battle against the Israeli occupation that humiliates our people.

"My story is no different from that of many other Palestinian young people who were born and have lived their whole lives under Israeli occupation. At 17, I was arrested for the first time, and jailed for two years. I was arrested again in my early 20s, at the height of the second intifada in Ramallah, during an Israeli invasion of numerous cities in the West Bank – what Israel called Operation Defensive Shield. I was sentenced to 30 years in prison on charges relating to my resistance to the occupation.

"I am not the first member of my family to be jailed on my people's long march towards freedom. My grandfather, a founding member of the PLO, was sentenced to death by the British Mandate authorities, whose laws are used by Israel to this day to oppress my people; he escaped hours before he was due to be executed.

"My brother, Fadi, was killed in 1994 ...Medhat, another brother, has served 19 years in prison. My other brothers, Firas, Ra'afat and Shadi were each imprisoned ...my sister, Shireen, has been arrested numerous times and has served a year in prison. My mother's water and electricity have been cut off.

"After almost 10 years in prison, I was released in the Egypt-sponsored deal between Israel and Hamas to release the Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit in exchange for Palestinian prisoners. However, on July 7, 2012, I was arrested again near Hizma. Accordingly, I began a hunger strike on August 1 to protest against my illegal imprisonment and Israel's violation of the agreement.

"My battle is not just for my own freedom. My fellow hunger strikers, Ayman, Tarik and Ja'afar, and I are fighting a battle for all Palestinians against the Israeli occupation and its prisons. What I endure is little compared to the sacrifice of Palestinians in Gaza, where thousands have died or been injured as a result of brutal Israeli attacks and an unprecedented and inhuman siege."

On April 23, the news broke that Samer Issawi agreed to end his eight-month hunger strike in exchange for additional time served and his release. As part of the agreement reached between Israel Prison Services and Issawi's lawyers, he will serve another eight months before being released to Jerusalem. According to Addameer's most recent numbers, there are 4,812 Palestinians currently imprisoned or classified as administrative detainees. Of them, 178 are classified as "administrative detainees", who are detained without being charged or tried. Often, these prisoners are academics, activists, intellectuals, journalists and other representatives of civil society who are simply seen as a threat to colonial designs on the fortified remnants of Palestine.

Israel has stepped up the repression in recent months, launching mass arrest campaigns across the occupied West Bank as well as injuring and killing a number of unarmed protesters. In response, the Palestinian street has joined their imprisoned compatriots in what has come to be known as the "Prisoner's Intifada".

In February, detainee Arafat Jaradat died in the hands of Israeli secret service, prompting widespread accusations that he had been tortured to death. The following day, Israel Prison Services estimated that 4,500 prisoners engaged in a mass one-day solidarity hunger strike, and his funeral was turned into a 25,000-strong protest that drew the participation of every party across the Palestinian political geography.

WHAT THEY SAID

Thatcher locked horns with the republican movement. "A crime is a crime," she intoned, refusing to negotiate on the demand for political status to be restored to IRA prisoners, while her army colluded almost openly with loyalist paramilitary murder gangs.

How she loved to wear a military beret and stroke a tank. She was oblivious to the price paid for her rigidity in terms of death and destruction.

The lady was not for turning.

— Sunday Independent, April 10, 2013, Susan McKay, article entitled "Thatcher was oblivious to the price paid for her rigidity — death and destruction followed".

Living in Belfast in the 1980s, I saw Thatcher exult as she destroyed Britain, her police on horseback batoning the miners, her jubilation when the *Belgrano* was sunk, her welcome for Pinochet.

She broke the trade union movement, sabotaged traditional British industries and wiped out whole communities that depended on them.

— Sunday Independent, April 10, Susan McKay.

Her policies caused hardship and despair in Britain's poorest communities. They also hardened attitudes of indifference among those who were doing fine.

A man who still had to take the bus in his twenties was a failure, she declared.

Only post-Thatcher could Tony Blair have presented himself as a socialist.

— Sunday Independent, April 10, Susan McKay.

Margaret Thatcher once horrified her advisers when she suggested shipping Catholics from Northern Ireland to the Republic as solution to the Troubles. The Iron Lady made the bizarre proposal in 1985, just a year after she was nearly killed in the IRA's Brighton bomb. In late-night talks with her advisers, the Baroness said the Oliver Cromwell-style approach would not only solve the Troubles but content nationalists who "wanted to be" in the south.

The divisive recommendation was revealed by British diplomat Sir David Goodall, then adviser to Prime Minister Thatcher.

— Belfast Telegraph, April 15, 2013.

In 2001 he told a BBC documentary: "She said, if the northern [Catholic] population want to be in the south, well why don't they move over there?"

"After all, there was a big movement of population in Ireland, wasn't there?"

Sir David added: "Nobody could think what it was. So

finally I said, are you talking about Cromwell, prime minister? She said, that's right, Cromwell."

Cromwell — dubbed the Butcher of Ireland — was responsible for the slaughter of tens of thousands in the 1640s and 1650s. His forces hounded virtually all Catholic landowners from Ulster through parliamentary invasion.

— Belfast Telegraph, April 15.

She also called for the province's (*sic*) border with the Republic to be redrawn because it was too difficult to patrol.

Sir Charles Powell, her then private secretary, also told the programme: "She thought that if we had a straight-line border, not one with all those kinks and wiggles in it, it would be easier to defend."

Despite being told of the folly of her idea, Thatcher refused to abandon it and called for a "security zone" on both sides of the border to help the British Army and RUC prevent IRA terrorists slipping over the border after attacks.

— Belfast Telegraph, April 15.

Gerry Adams is quick to condemn Mrs Thatcher and appears very knowledgeable as to the "harm she did Ireland", especially regarding the hunger strikes.

State papers tell us there was quite a good deal of communication between her and Gerry's outfit during this time and suggestions are that if Adams *et al* had not ignored valid proposals to end the strikes at least six of these lives could have been saved.

— Irish News, April 15, 2013, letter from Robert Sullivan, Bantry, Co Cork.

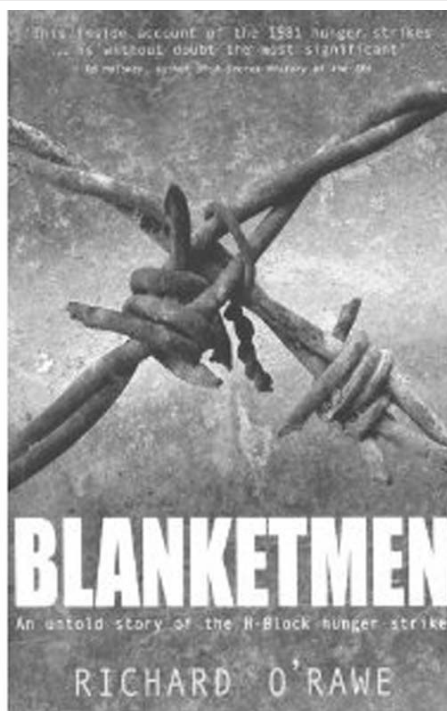
The men inside were not informed. Read Richard O'Rawe's book *Blanketmen* and be amazed at the direction Sinn Féin was taking outside the H-Blocks.

Political expediency dictated great electoral strides could be taken eventually at the expense of dead young men. Mr O'Rawe has been demonised by erstwhile comrades because he told the truth of it.

I marched in many H-Block demonstrations in 1981 not knowing of the political shenanigans of those whose own self-interest was paramount.

— Irish News, April 15, letter from Robert Sullivan. The vast majority of Sinn Féin members who took part in countless H-Block/Armagh demonstrations during that period were also unaware of what a few people around Gerry Adams had in mind.

So, like Churchill before her, Thatcher's legacy draws the comfortable folds of the national myth around her mortal remains, which with all nations is a sanitised place politicians exploit and historians poke at their risk. For example, the British national myth about its pivotal role in World War II, largely manufactured by Churchill, himself a historian, has become unquestioned



national orthodoxy.

— Sunday Business Post, April 21, 2013, article by Tom McGurk entitled "The power of a national myth".

How Britain stood alone in the darkest hours to protect freedom and how she then defeated Nazi Germany is, quite simply, a remarkable piece of historical aggrandisement. For the record, the principal players in that war were Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union.

— Sunday Business Post, April 21, Tom McGurk.

Between Dunkirk in 1940 and D-Day in June 1944, there wasn't a single British soldier on continental Europe and, whereas British casualties in the conflict reached 450,000, total Soviet casualties surpassed 27 million. Strange to think that it was probably Stalin who saved Europe for democracy.

— Sunday Business Post, April 21, Tom McGurk.

The US has had the same problem. This weekend, film director Oliver Stone's new ten-part TV documentary series (and book) attacking many of the US's national myths began on Sky Atlantic. Stone's series, "The Untold History of the United States", sets out to challenge the version of its history that the US has consoled itself with since the end of World War II. The series seeks to ask questions and examine many of the US's more comfortable historical myths. Among the issues he looks at are: how the US can justify the claim it won the war in Europe and saved democracy when it faced ten German divisions compared to the Soviets facing 600.

— Sunday Business Post, April 21, Tom McGurk.

Closer to home and ever since the North exploded in 1968, Ireland has had a complex and continuing struggle with its own national

myths. Up to then, the official historical narrative, greatly enhanced by the 1966 celebrations, was simple — the heroic armed struggle of republicans had driven the British out of Ireland — or most of it. As Fianna Fáil governments supplied the history books, this version faithfully served the 26-County political establishment until, like Banquo's ghost, the old question turned up.

— Sunday Business Post, April 21, Tom McGurk.

For example, our new National Commemoration Day remembers all the Irish who died in any uniform and seemingly refuses to distinguish between any cause they might have died for. For a post-colonial country, this is either a hugely magnanimous gesture or a massive cop-out.

— Sunday Business Post, April 21, Tom McGurk.

There was also controversy over the fact that sections of the media — including RTÉ and BBC reporters — were refused access to Craigavon House, where speakers including PUP leader Billy Hutchinson addressed the crowd.

— Irish Times, April 22, 2013, report by Una Bradley on UVF pageant held in Belfast on April 20, to mark the founding of the UVF.

...a minute's silence as held at Saturday's event for UVF volunteers from the past 100 years". One of the organisers, Jamie Bryson, was barred from attending as he is on bail for charges relating to the union flag protests.

— Irish Times, April 22.

The British government as far back as 1981 believed there were elements in the leadership of the provisional republican movement who were prepared to countenance an end to the IRA campaign of violence.

Papers released this week by the Thatcher

Foundation relating to the hunger strikes in which 10 Republicans died disclose a "secret" official minute in July 1981 that the then northern secretary, Humphrey Atkins, sent to the British prime minister, Margaret Thatcher.

It referred to "Provisionals" who were prepared to "consider an end of the current terrorist campaign".

The papers indicate that 13 years before the first 1994 IRA ceasefire there was an opportunity to end the violence.

— Irish Times, April 27, 2013, article by Gerry Moriarty.

Mr Atkins in a minute to Mrs Thatcher said there were "some" in the IRA leadership who wished "to consider an end of the current terrorist campaign". The papers also disclose that the British government held this view for some time.

There is also a memo from the then British cabinet secretary Sir Robert Armstrong to another senior official, the "gist" of which was conveyed to Mrs Thatcher, which also adverts to an IRA desire to end its campaign.

— Irish Times, April 27, Gerry Moriarty.

It was written on April 13, 1981 just four days after hunger striker Bobby Sands was elected as MP for Fermanagh-South Tyrone. He died on May 5th.

"There is reason to believe that the PIRA have been thinking seriously about an end to the campaign of violence, but feel they need a success, an avenue to pursue their aims politically, and something more on the prison regime," Sir Robert wrote.

"The Fermanagh by-election has given them the success, and a political opening, which there is reason to think they hope to follow up in the local government elections," he added.

— Irish Times, April 27, Gerry Moriarty.

This new information is likely to lead to speculation about how the British government had this belief and whether it was gained through MI5, MI6, agents, informers or some other form of communication or contact. It also raises question about why the IRA did not end its violent campaign earlier.

The British government from these official papers carried the conviction that there were influential IRA leaders who were considering a ceasefire. This was at a time when republicans such as Daithí Ó Conaill and Ruairí Ó Brádaigh, viewed as being predominantly militarist, appeared to be in the ascendant within the broad movement although they were under pressure from Northern republicans led by Mr Adams, Mr Morrison and the [Provisional] Sinn Féin Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness.

— Irish Times, April 27, Gerry Moriarty.

These papers also reinforce the point that while the British prime minister Margaret Thatcher was

insisting there could be no dealings with Provisional Republicans during the hunger strikes that she was in fact allowing official contact to take place through a mediator — and was prepared up to a point to allow a settlement.

— Irish Times, April 27, Gerry Moriarty.

Hunger strikes by Republicans and the policy of executions during the Civil War (1922-23) are also given much attention. The author shares the view that the bishops' public silence about these developments was, as Conn Murphy described at the time, "an appalling cowardly silence".

— Irish Times, April 27, 2013, Book Review by Diarmaid Ferriter of *For God and Ireland: the Fight for Moral Superiority in Ireland 1922-23* by MP McCabe.

Although the Archbishop of Dublin, Edward Byrne, objected in private, seeing the executions as "entirely unjustifiable from the moral point of view", McCabe argues that the general episcopal silence was a simple succumbing to the advantages of real-politick.

— Review of book by Diarmaid Ferriter: *For God and Ireland: the Fight for Moral Superiority in Ireland 1922-23* by MP McCabe.

"Sixty-four per cent of the budget allocated for Traveller accommodation was spent, leaving 36% unspent (and presumably handed back to the Dept of Finance).

"Worrying reports are already coming through on the negative consequences for Travellers at school."

— Irish Times, April 29, 2013, Kitty Holland reporting.

Director Ken Loach is to make a film about Jim Gralton, the only Irishman to have been deported from Ireland. Loach was in Gralton's native Co Leitrim last week scouting for locations with a view to shooting the film *Jimmy's Hall* in the last summer. He also met anti-fracking campaigners.

— Irish Times, April 29, 2013, Ronan McGreevy.

Gralton was deported to the US by the [Free State] de Valera government in August 1933 because he was perceived to have communist sympathies. He was never tried and died in 1945 without returning to Ireland.

Loach's previous Irish film *The Wind that Shakes the Barley* won the Palme d'Or at Cannes and was his most commercially successful film to date

— Irish Times, April 29, Ronan McGreevy report.

[Stormont] First Minister Peter Robinson has described the decision to limit the flying of the British Union [Jack] flag at Belfast City Hall as disastrous.

At the [Provo] Ard-Fheis earlier this month McGuinness said, "Ministers are in government with [Provos] only because they have to be."

— Irish Times, April 29, 2013, Gerry Moriarty, Northern Editor.

Support for British Withdrawal In Newry

A chara

On Wednesday, April 17 [the day of the funeral of Margaret Thatcher] Republican Sinn Féin members took part in a party in the Sandy Hill area of the Republican Derrybeg estate in Newry, Co Down to honour the 10 brave heroic hunger strikers of 1981 and all those murdered, tortured and imprisoned under the tyrant Thatcher's years as British prime minister.

Fireworks were set off continuously for an hour while the Butcher's Apron was set alight to rapturous applause from all those who braved the inclement weather.

Both young and old came out on the night not only to remember all those who have suffered under Thatcher but also to show their support for a full British disengagement from Ireland and the release of all political prisoners including Martin Corey, Marion Price and local man Stephen Murney.

NEWRY READER

Support Hunger Strike In French Jail

A chara

This is another short message and appeal to send protest letters to the prison administration of Fresnes.

The health situation of Nezif

Eski, political prisoner with Arab roots from Turkey, becomes serious, after continuing a hunger strike from March 13, 2013.

The prison authorities in FRESNES still don't accept his demands, no statement has been made from their side. This is why the life of Nezif Eski is still in big danger.

We ask you to send urgently faxes to the prison of Fresnes and ask immediate end of degrading body searches to successfully end the hunger strike of Nezif Eski.

We ask in particular the French MEP's to act in order to grant fundamental rights in the prisons of your country and to avoid further human tragedies, as serious health problems and even deaths in the prisons. Just to mention, recently a Basque political prisoner lost his life for health reasons at French prison.

In the past years several other prisoners lost their lives for the same reason. And Lebanese political prisoner Georges Ibrahim Abdallah is still denied freedom after 29 years of severe isolation and health problems.

Thanks for your efforts.
INTERNATIONAL
PLATFORM AGAINST
ISOLATION

Money For arms But not For Children

A chara

Malaria kills a child somewhere in the world every minute. It infects approximately



• On April 17, the day of Maggie Thatcher's funeral, a party took place in the Derrybeg estate, Newry, Co Down at which the Union Jack was burned (see letter on left).

219 million people each year, with an estimated 660,000 deaths, mostly children in Africa. Ninety per cent of malaria deaths occur in Africa, where malaria accounts for about one in six of all childhood deaths. The disease also contributes greatly to anaemia among children, a major cause of poor growth and development.

Malaria infection during pregnancy is associated with severe anaemia and other illness in the mother and contributes to low birth weight among newborn infants — one of the leading risk factors for infant mortality and sub-optimal growth and development. Malaria has serious economic impacts in Africa, slowing economic growth and development and perpetuating the vicious cycle of poverty.

development and perpetuating the vicious cycle of poverty.

Malaria is truly a disease of poverty, afflicting primarily the poor who tend to live in malaria-prone rural areas in poorly-constructed dwellings that offer few, if any, barriers against mosquitoes.

The UN health authority makes it clear that malaria is a preventable illness and can be prevented cheaply. Yet this has not been implemented; while monies are been spent on projects to kill people. Brussels, Washington and Moscow are willing to spend money on weapons projects that will ensure that shareholders can access cheap oil but are not willing to help a child in need.

This lack of care for children by governments must

be considered to be child abuse at its highest form.

MICHAEL ROONEY
Mayo

Support Diversity

A chara

In post-9/11 society, Islamophobia remains one of the few acceptable prejudices. All too often our media, leaders, and communities project an image of Muslim women that is distorted, negative, and one-dimensional. When we deny the diversity and potential of Muslim women, we deny our world of ideas, imagination, and solutions.

Men are often to blame for oppressing women; but people must come to realise it is not only men that oppress women, it is the whole of society. However the question is, who made this society; only men? The answer is doubtlessly no. Women; mothers, sisters, and daughters

play a certain role in society. They have given to men without question the rights to oppress women; not just Muslim women but women of all race and creed.

The fact is that Muslim women are educated just like the women of the western world, there are professional women in all places of the Muslim world. We in the western world only get to see the very few minority of the Muslim world. The vast majority of Muslim women just want to live in peace with their families and their faith and dignity that is the birth right of every woman of every race and every creed.

We must support the efforts of Muslim women and others worldwide who are leading the movement for a more just, equitable, and inclusive world, and speak out against negative stereotypes about Muslim women and encourage others to truly listen to their voices.

MARY FEENEY
Mayo

Letters to the Editor should be as short, as possible and written or typed in double-spacing on one side of the page.

Name and address must be included, but on request will not be published.

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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.

British army lobbied British Attorney-General not to prosecute soldiers

THE online news outlet *The Detail* reported on April 15 that the Director of Public Prosecutions in the Six Occupied Counties could be asked to reopen hundreds of cases involving killings from the 1970s following the discovery of statements in newly-declassified papers which suggest British soldiers were allowed to escape prosecution.

The declassified British Ministry of Defence papers from the 1970s reveal an agreement that repeated attempts were made by the army's most senior soldier in the Six Counties, Lieutenant General Frank King, to prevent soldiers from being prosecuted by the courts, for a range of offences, including murder.

The *Detail* revealed that DPP in the Six Counties Barra McGrory has already been asked to reopen the investigation of an unarmed IRA man shot dead by troops in 1972, after references from an army officer in the declassified documents suggested that the decision not to prosecute the soldiers who fired the fatal shots had been "borderline to say the least".

The revelations, uncovered by researchers from the Pat Finucane Centre include:

- The Attorney General was "always ready to receive representations" from army officers to prevent soldiers being

charged with serious crimes.

- Less than 10% of all cases submitted to the DPP, regarding shootings or assault incidents involving soldiers, resulted in prosecutions.

- MoD officials were assured that the Attorney General and DPP were all ex-army and by "no means unsympathetic" to the plight of soldiers.

- The British army's most senior soldier warned that any decision to convict soldiers would force the British army to review its entire operation in the Six Counties.

- By January 1975 the British government had made 410 out of court settlements in cases in which it expected soldiers to be found guilty in court and convicted of unlawful shootings and assaults on civilians and by July 1976 the British Ministry of Defence had paid £806,827 in settlements, the equivalent of £5.7m in 2013.

The documents reveal assurances given to army chiefs by



• The British army on the streets of Belfast in the 1970s.

then Attorney-General, Sir Peter Rawlinson, that his officials were not "unsympathetic" to the plight of soldiers in the Six Counties and would do all in their powers to avoid prosecutions.

In a letter to his Adjutant General Cecil Black in January 1974, General King wrote:

"He [Sir Peter] assured me in the plainest terms that not only he himself but also the DPP and senior members of his staff, having been army officers themselves, having seen active service and knowing at firsthand about the difficulties and dangers faced by soldiers, were by no means unsympathetic or lacking in

understanding in their approach to soldier prosecutions in Northern Ireland (sic).

"Rather the reverse, since directions not to prosecute had been given in more than a few cases where the evidence, to say the least, had been borderline.

"The case of the shooting of Joseph McCann, a well-known [Official] IRA leader, in April 1972 was cited as an example."

General King said he had been assured by Sir Peter that no soldier was ever prosecuted in these cases unless there was evidence the soldier had "substantially" overstepped the

mark.

In a letter to Samuel Silkin QC, who had replaced Sir Peter as Attorney General in April 1974, General King warned that any decision to try and convict soldiers through civilian courts would force the British army to review its entire operation in the Six Counties.

"My apprehension is that if a series of prosecutions of soldiers in the civil courts, arising out of operational incidents, were to result in several soldiers being convicted and sent to prison, the effect on operational efficiency and morale of the army in Northern Ireland (sic) would be extremely serious.

"It would not be over-stating the position to say that the whole method of the army in the province would need careful reappraisal. The public interest considerations in such event are clear."

The papers also reveal the secret arrangement in which senior army officers were allowed to personally lobby the Attorney General not to prosecute soldiers, in his January 1974 letter, King wrote:

"I believe that the presentation of our worries to the Attorney General was an extremely valuable exercise. He was left in

no doubt about the nature and extent of our anxieties; and the assurances which he gave me in return are as specific as they are strong. Furthermore, he made it clear that he is always ready to receive representations from me about any particular case and he undertook to give any such representations the most careful consideration."

Dr Huw Bennett, a lecturer in International Politics and Intelligence Studies at Aberystwyth University has written extensively on the role of the British army in the Occupied Six Counties in Ireland.

In his 2012 academic paper "Smoke Without Fire", Dr Bennett argues that the criminal courts exercised a "weak restraint" on the army, often giving soldiers the benefit of the doubt.

"The Attorney General and the DPP... were willing to cooperate and bend the rules in a manner hardly consistent with the demands of an impartial justice system blind to the identity of the accused."

He concluded: "Overt bias would not be tolerated by the legal authorities. They were, however, willing to err in the army's favour on 'borderline' cases — including alleged murders."

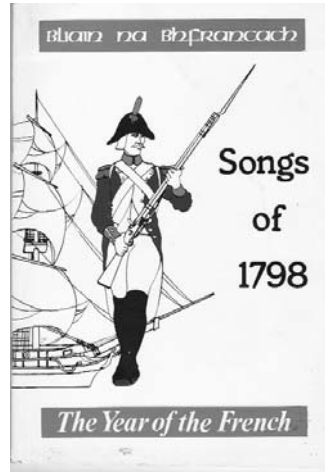
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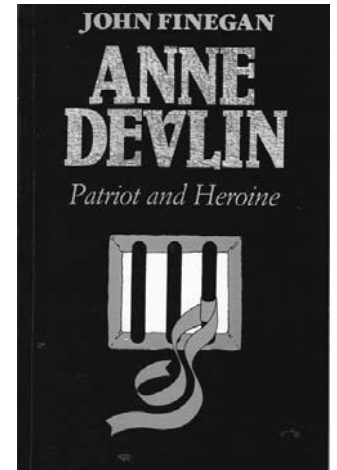
• *Irish Republican Women in America. Lecture Tours, 1916-1925.* Joanne Mooney Eichacker. Forward by Micheline Sheehy Skeffington. €12. Five women undertook lecture tours in the USA from 1916-1925: Hannah Sheehy Skeffington, Mary McSwiney, Muriel McSwiney, Constance Markievicz and Margaret Pearse.



• *Songs of Resistance*, fourth edition. €6.35.



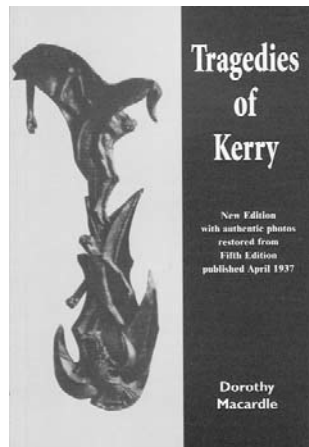
• *Bliain na bhFrancach, The Year of the French, Songs of 1798.* €6.35.



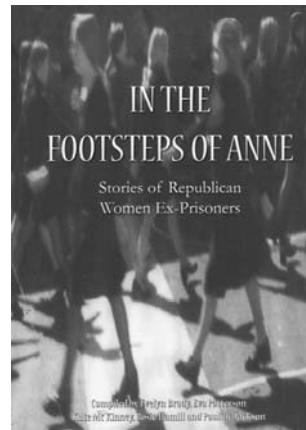
• *Anne Devlin. Patriot and Heroine.* John Finegan. €5.



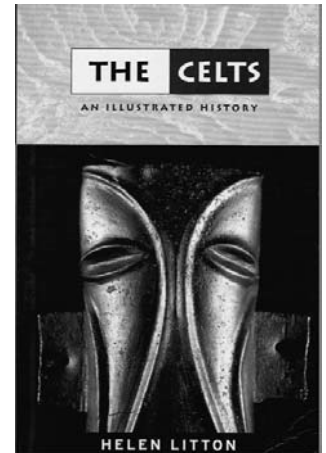
• *Charlie Kerins, 50th Anniversary Commemorative booklet* on the execution of Charlie Kerins. €5.



• *Tragedies of Kerry* by Dorothy Macardle. €5.



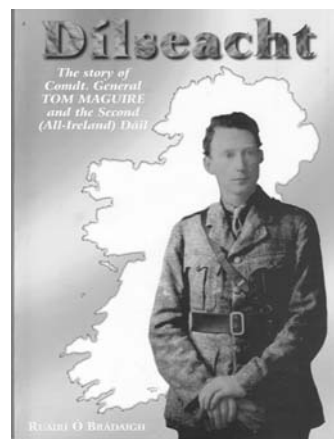
• *In the Footsteps of Anne. Stories of Republican Women Ex-Prisoners.* Compiled by Evelyn Brady, Eva Patterson, Kate McKinney, Rosie Hamill and Pauline Jackson. €12.50.



• *The Celts. An Illustrated History* (1997). Helen Litton. €8.90.



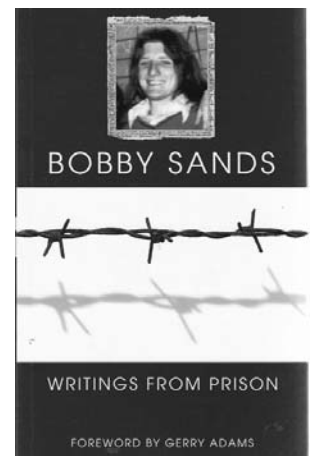
• *The Four Martyrs: Never Forget.* Compiled by Seán Dolan and Fergal Moore for the 90th anniversary of the execution of Rory O'Connor, Liam Mellows, Dick Barrett and Joe McKelvey. €5.



• *Dilseacht, the story of Comdt-General Tom Maguire and the Second All-Ireland Dáil.* Ruairi Ó Brádaigh €6.29.



• *IRISH BULLETIN*, a full reprint of the official newspaper of Dáil Éireann giving news and war reports. Volume 1. 12th July, 1919 - 1st May, 1920. Aubane Historical Society. h/b €50, p/b €35.



• *Bobby Sands Writings from Prison.* €15.

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1913: THE ROAD TO REVOLUTION

IN November 1913 Pádraig Mac Piarais wrote in *The Coming Revolution* that the national movement in Ireland had reached a similar juncture to that reached by the Repeal Movement in the mid-1840s.

He said that just as the Young Ireland Movement had provided the impetus to advance the national cause so in 1913 the point had not only been reached but had been passed when as Pearse put it: "I propose that we leave Conciliation Hall behind us and go into the Irish Confederation."

He continued by declaring that the time had come for an armed movement capable of pressing home Ireland's demand for national independence: "A thing that stands demonstrable is that nationhood is not achieved otherwise than in arms: in one or two instances there may have been no actual bloodshed, but the arms were there and the ability to use them."

He concluded that: "Ireland unarmed will attain just as much as it is convenient for England to give her; Ireland armed will attain ultimately just as much freedom as she wants." Thus Pearse articulated the revolutionary spirit coursing through the nation which was inspiring a radicalisation of politics within Ireland throughout 1913 setting the nation on a road which would lead to the 1916 Rising.

A momentous year, the events of 1913 laid the basis for the advance towards the 1916 Rising. The 1913 Lock-out politicised and radicalised a new generation and with it came the formation of the Irish Citizen Army. RM Fox sets the context from which the Irish Citizen Army emerged:

"Not only had the Dublin workers the example of Carson arming his volunteers before their eyes but they had the outstanding experience of Bloody Sunday to teach them the wisdom of relying on their own strength. There is nothing more forceful than a policeman's club for driving a simple idea into any head that gets in the way. On Sunday August 31, 1913 — the day of the



• *The scene in Dublin's O'Connell Street (Sackville Street as it was called then) on August 31, 1913 when protesters were charged by the British police, causing at least 50 civilian casualties.*

proclaimed meeting — it is calculated that there were at least 500 civilian casualties, that is, 500 arguments for a strong Citizen Army which would not leave Labour defenceless in face of attack."

James Connolly grasped the importance of the very act of defiance would have on the psyche of an oppressed people: "If the value of a city is to be found in the development of self-respect and high conception of social responsibilities among a people, then the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union found Dublin the poorest city in these countries by reason of its lack of these qualities. And by imbuing the workers with them, it has made Dublin the richest city in Europe today, rich by all that counts for greatness in the history of nations."

On November 25, 1913 Irish Republicans and

nationalists gathered at the Rotunda in Dublin to form the Irish Volunteers. On Easter Monday April 24, 1916 both the Citizen Army and the Volunteers would merge to form the army of the All-Ireland Republic; the Irish Republican Army so it could be said that this year marks the centenary of the IRA.

While ostensibly the Volunteers were directed by the so-called constitutional nationalists such as Eoin MacNeill the reality was the driving force came from revolutionary Irish Republicans and in particular the IRB.

The historian Kevin B Nowlan acknowledged this writing: "...but it was the men of the IRB who were largely responsible for the actual launching of the movement and they were, of course, very strongly represented on the

provisional committee set up to organise the Volunteers."

Three of the leading members of this IRB group were Pearse, Seán Mac Diarmada and Éamonn Ceannt. The first six months of the Volunteer's existence would see a battle for control between the IRB and the Irish Parliamentary Party led by John Redmond. However when Redmond sought to use the Volunteer Movement as a recruitment tool for the British army on the outbreak of the First World War a decisive move was made to finally wrest control from the reformists. This led to the reformist abandoning the Volunteer Movement and leaving behind the most progressive and advanced elements to build the nucleus of Ireland's revolutionary army.

Looking back to the events of that momentous year we are conscious also that to many it appeared that the moment for an Irish Revolution had passed. The poet WB Yeats would lament: "Romantic Ireland's dead and gone; it's with O'Leary in the grave."

Yet as we have seen on the ground there were significant stirrings. As Pearse observed: "There will be in the Ireland of the next few years a multitudinous activity of Freedom Clubs, Young Republican Parties, Labour Organisations, Socialist Groups, and what not; bewildering enterprises undertaken by sane persons and insane persons, by good men and bad men, many of them seemingly contradictory, some mutually destructive, yet all tending towards a common objective, and that objective: the Irish Revolution."

These were prophetic words and from the revolutionary threads of advanced Labour, revolutionary Irish Republicanism and the advanced elements of the Irish cultural revival were stitched together the fabric of the National Movement that would make the All-Ireland Republic a living reality within six years.

— *Deasúin Ó Daltuin, Uachtarán, Sinn Féin Poblachtach.*

James Connolly: For the Citizen Army, (1915)

THE Irish Citizen Army was founded during the great Dublin Lock-Out of 1913-14, for the purpose of protecting the working-class, and of preserving its right of public meeting and free association. The streets of Dublin had been covered by the bodies of helpless men, women, boys and girls brutally bated by the uniformed bullies of the British Government.

Three men had been killed, and one young Irish girl murdered by a scab, and nothing was done to bring the assassins to justice. So since justice did not exist for us, since the law instead of protecting the rights of the workers was an open enemy, and since the armed forces of the Crown were unreservedly at the disposal of the enemies of labour, it was resolved to create our own army to secure our rights, to protect our members, and to be a guarantee of our own free progress.

The Irish Citizen Army was the first publicly organised armed citizen force south of the Boyne. Its constitution pledged and still pledges its members to work for an Irish Republic, and for the emancipation of labour. It has ever been foremost in all national work, and whilst never neglecting its own special function has always been at the disposal of the forces of Irish nationality for the ends common to all.

Its influence and presence has kept the peace at all labour

meetings since its foundation, and the knowledge of its existence and of the spirit of its members has contributed to prevent the employers and the government from proceeding to extremes against the fighting unions. It has in a true and real sense added many shillings per week to the pay of the union members, since it and it alone has prevented the Government doing in Dublin what it has done in Barry, namely, send soldiers in to do dockers' work during a strike. Nationally it has done much more.

When the great betrayal was perpetrated on Ireland, and John Redmond and his followers, aided by all the capitalist press of the country, joined in a conspiracy to rush the young men of Ireland into the ranks of the British Army, the first stirring blow struck against that betrayal was the historic meeting in Stephen's Green on the night of Redmond's Mansion House fiasco.

Who took the field that night in spite of the massed battalions of the British army,



• *Members of the Irish Citizen Army in uniform.*

waiting the word in every barrack square in Dublin? It was the Irish Citizen Army sprang into the gap, and by its fearless presence gave new heart and hope to the dismayed and betrayed people of Ireland.

When the first deportation order was issued to the first victim, Captain Robert Monteith, who leaped to arms and invited the people of Dublin to hurl their defiance in the teeth of the Government? Who rallied to the meeting despite torrents of rain, and in face of the open demonstration of armed force by the Dublin garrison? Again it

was the Irish Citizen Army.

Who on every occasion on which the enemy has struck his blow at those who stood for freedom has ever hastened to the side of the victims declaring their cause to be its own? THE IRISH CITIZEN ARMY!

Who, when the protest meeting was held in the Phoenix Park under directions of the Volunteer Committee, were the only armed body to attend and declare their adhesion to the cause of their imprisoned brothers in arms? THE IRISH CITIZEN ARMY!

An armed organisation of



• *James Connolly*

the Irish working-class is a phenomenon in Ireland. Hitherto the workers of Ireland have fought as parts of the armies led by their masters, never as members of an army officered, trained, and inspired by men of their own class. Now, with arms in their hands, they propose to steer their own course, to carve their own future.

Neither Home Rule, nor the lack of Home Rule, will make them lay down their arms.

However it may be for others, for us of the Citizen Army there is but one ideal — an Ireland ruled, and owned, by Irish men and women, sovereign and independent from the centre to the sea, and flying its own flag outward over all the oceans.

We cannot be swerved from our course by honeyed words, lulled into carelessness by freedom to parade and strut in uniforms, nor betrayed by high-sounding phrases.

The Irish Citizen Army will only co-operate in a forward movement. The moment that forward movement ceases it reserves to itself the right to step out of the alignment, and advance by itself if needs be, in an effort to plant the banner of freedom one reach further towards its goal.

— **James Connolly,**
Workers' Republic,
October 30, 1915.
Transcribed by *The James Connolly Society*
in 1997.

Fenian Notes

From our Washington Correspondent

THE Irish community in the United States has been involved in affairs in Ireland for over a hundred years. At present the community is divided into two groups, those supporting the Unionist and British "peace" process and those still engaged in the Republican struggle to drive British out of Ireland.

The United States supports the Unionist/British position as do many Irish organisations that have accepted peace at any price and have deserted Irish Republicanism. True Republicans continue the struggle in Ireland and so do their supporters in the United States.

Groups and individuals pledged themselves never to accept less than Irish freedom and unity and the British leaving Ireland. Many have broken that pledge and accepted surrender to the British and continued Unionism by participating in the British Administration at Stormont.

The United States in successive administrations have denied visas to spokesmen and women from Ireland to offer an alternative to British rule and the *status quo*. This despite Official Hearings in Ireland in 1978 affirming there was absolutely no reason to keep them out.

The United States has made it difficult for anyone opposed to the official position of the US on Ireland to put forth their case. There is the threat to prosecute anyone who gives material support to "terrorists" as defined by the Department of State.

The US government monitors every phone call, email or any other means of communication between Irish Americans and contacts in Ireland, then passes them on to the British. They have lumped opponents of the British and Unionist "peace" process with Al Qaeda and other threats to the United States.

MONITOR

We need to monitor the

government by monitoring the activities of the police at all levels; local, state and federal. The technology is there and we must use it. The people have the right to monitor and record the activities of law enforcement who step over the line and that is often.

Law enforcement thinks if they declare activity a threat to national security, then they can do just about anything and the government has their backs. We need to watch our backs.

There are many test cases in the courts now that look favourable toward citizens being able to record law enforcement officers. This would protect anyone who is questioned about Irish activities.

Most of the discussion in legal civil liberties circles revolves around the question of whether there is a First Amendment right to record police officers in public. In a case recently, *GILK v CUNNIFFE*, Mr Gilk, a passerby, saw three police officers arresting a man. Someone was shouting that the officers were hurting the man, Mr Gilk turned on his cell-phone and caught all of it on video.

The police objected to being recorded because they were using undue force and arrested Gilk and charged him with violating the State's wiretap law by recording them without their consent and seized his camera and memory chip in the process as evidence.

Now, this is quite a stretch, saying Gilk was doing an illegal wiretap. The First Circuit Court held there is a right to record police officers in public and is clearly part of the First Amendment's protection and therefore the officers were not entitled to any kind of immunity.

The issue has not reached the United States Supreme Court but is expected to in the future. The case for First Amendment protection concerning photographs and video of



law enforcement officers in public is very strong and it is in the process of being resolved.

There is more to it than a First Amendment right. There is also due process right to record the actions of law enforcement and this right applies even when the incidents take place in private and not public places.

The issue of due process right to record police has not been given the attention as the First Amendment argument and there have not been the court challenges that public recording has, but the accessibility of inexpensive recording equipment and its inclusion in do-called smart phones practically guarantees that more attention and litigation are sure to be on the cards.

RECORDINGS make practical sense to guarantee a better manifestation of the truth. It will protect the officer and the civilian under question. For citizens speaking with federal investigators, and many of us have had this experience, a possible False Statement Act statement makes self-defensive recording even more important.

The ACT (18USC 1001) holds that whoever, in any matter within the jurisdiction of the executive, legislative or judicial branch of the United States Government, knowingly and willfully:

- (1) Falsifies, conceals or covers up by any trick, scheme, or device a material fact.
- (2) Makes any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation, or
- (3) Makes or uses any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or content or entry

- Shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than five years or, if the offence involves international or domestic terrorism, imprisoned not more than eight years or both.

An officer can allege anything and set you up, unless you can refute the allegation, which makes recordings essential for justice. In the absence of a recording, it is the citizen's word against the investigators' regarding precisely what is said and due process might not extend to requiring the investigator to record a conversation, it certainly seems to extend to allow citizens to do so.

An investigator would rather have no recording so he can manipulate what you say so a recording is insurance and if the investigator steps over the line, you have proof. So for citizens, recording interactions with police serves two important functions regardless of whether those interactions are public or private.

First, it provides a record of potential police misbehaviour and second, it provides a record of the citizen's conduct in circumstances where it would be the citizen's word against the officer's. This due process step preserves potential evidence for the benefit of criminal defendants.

Unlike a duty to preserve evidence, a right to record interactions with the police imposes no burdens on the police at all, they are asked not to act, but to refrain from acting.

Given that photography and recording are activities to which a liberty interest attaches, this makes a due process right to record police rather easy to analyse under the Supreme Court's standard framework as presented in *MATHEWS v ELDRIDGE*.

In the context of recording the police, the analysis is straightforward. First, the private interest here is considerable. For the average citizen every interaction with the police is significant.

Statements they make may give rise to criminal liability and the police may even use force, perhaps including deadly force, as part of the encounter.

ARREST

An arrest as a result of comments made or of refusal to answer questions, even if charges are later dropped may lead to a significant deprivation of liberty that is unlikely to be compensated.

In this post 9/11 world, suspicion is taken for truth. There is conspiracy everywhere and we need every protection.

In an age of constant recording, citizens have been schooled to expect that virtually anything they do outside of their home may be recorded by someone. Look at the large cities.

They record your cars while they go through intersections. They record you walking the streets. There is no expectation of privacy.

Recording the police is self-protection. If they will not submit and threaten arrest, then go and demand a lawyer who will record conversations. We are only trying to level the playing-field and exert our rights.

Recordings reduce the risk of error and provide a better record of events and also encourages better behaviour on the part of the police. Police are going to think twice if they think they are being recorded. This helps the over all justice system and that should be what it is all about.

Our hope that the police state activities started by George W Bush would be curtailed by Barack Obama has been crushed. He has increased surveillance domestically as well as internationally.

The Irish Republican Community in the United States is considered suspect because we see a US ally, Britain, as an enemy. Britain is part of the US international spying contingent and Obama is not going to permit activity that hurts the British. We are watched. We need to watch back and be careful.

If you want to see what the US really thinks about the Irish, look at the tributes given the Butcher of Benchley, Maggie Thatcher. She deserves to be seen as a war criminal but US leaders praise her. She was a cruel and vicious torturer and murderer.

— Peadar Mac Fhínn

Tommy Campbell

THE death took place recently of Tommy Campbell at the age of 93.

Tommy was born in Beagh parish near Shanaglish, Gort, Co Galway on December 15, 1920 to Andrew and Mary.

It was less than a fortnight after the Loughnane Brothers, Patrick and Henry, were arrested at home, tortured, sorry-trailed, murdered and their bodies burnt and thrown into a swamp by British auxiliaries. These events were a talking point locally for years and were a big influence on the young Tommy Campbell.

Hugh Loughnane, the surviving brother, was a neighbour and a frequent visitor to the Campbell household. In 1939, Tommy joined the local unit of the Irish Republican Army in the Tubar area of South Galway which is on the border of Co Clare. He was immediately engaged in military training. With the

reorganisation of the late 1940s and early 1950s, Tommy Campbell was attached to Clare Number 2 unit under Liam Hanley of Clarecastle as OC.

Others in the unit included Liam's brother John, Mick McGrath of Feacle parish and PJ Kearney, also of Beagh. When Martin stood for Sinn Féin in the 1954 General Election in Clare Tommy was extremely active.

He was one of the few with a motor car. Tommy was active again in the 1957-1958 campaign and when the Workers' Party split from the movement 1969-1970, Tommy remained firm.

In 1986, it was the same. When the Provos split, Tommy remained loyal to Republican Sinn Féin. Tommy spent his



• Tommy Campbell

life with the Republican Movement because he was always nationally-minded. Tommy was a quiet and reasonable man but he believed that if force was required to remove British Occupation from our Six Counties, what had to be done was done.

Tommy was the Connacht Honouree at the annual

testimonial dinner of CABHAIR in the year of 2001, at the West County Hotel, Chapelizod, County Dublin for his 62 years doing his duties as a Republican activist.

Tommy was a great friend of the late Mick Brody of Killeneena, Co Clare who served a term of imprisonment in Portlaoise in the 1970s. His untimely death was, Tommy felt, due to his 47-day hunger strike there for political status. Tommy believed there would be no lasting peace in the Six Counties while the British government remained there.

Tommy was very active in the Loughnane Brothers Memorial Committee. He also was involved in the Shanaglish Athletic Club. He was a great lover of wildlife and animals, especially his dogs. Tommy worked with CIE as a railway man on the Ennis-Sligo line which passed by his house, from 1942 until it closed down in 1978. He

worked his way up to a foreman position. Tommy spent two years, from 1955 to 1957 in hospital suffering from TB. He made a full recovery and had very good health up to approximately six years ago.

Tommy was a single man living on his own and no longer able to cope, he moved to the Little Flower Nursing Home in Labane where he got excellent care and attention and was always praising the owners and the staff.

Tommy passed away in the Little Flower Nursing Home on March 21, 2013. He is survived by his cousins, the O'Brien, Egan and Gardiner families. Tommy was removed from Monaghan's funeral home in Gort, his coffin draped with the Tricolour and a guard of honour by his Republican comrades to St. Anne's Church, Shanaglish. He was laid to rest on Sunday morning after 10 o'clock Mass.

The funeral was attended by a large crowd of relations,

neighbours and friends, comrades from Sligo, Roscommon, Mayo, Clare and Galway including Pat Hynes MCC, TC, long-time friend of Tommy and Tomás Ó Curraoin MCC, Republican Sinn Féin, a great friend and comrade.

A graveside oration was given by Brendan Madden from Tynagh, a member of the Ard Chomhairle, Republican Sinn Féin, followed by Amhráin na bhFiann.

I measc na laochra na nGael go raibh sé.

Comhbhrón

CAMPBELL, Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Tommy Campbell, Gort, Co Galway who died recently. From the Ard Chomhairle, Republican Sinn Féin, Comhairle Chonnacht and Galway Chomhairle Ceantar.

LYNAGH, Deepest sympathy is expressed with the Lynagh family, Monaghan on the recent death of Carmel Lynagh. From Comhairle Uladh, Republican Sinn Féin.

Banksters and gangsters and the grooming of Ireland

QUESTIONED on Irish radio Gerry Adams was given a hard time about the killing of Prison Officer Stack. The same Officer has become an “icon” and “example” to a new generation of Prison Officers.

A statue has been erected in honour of the same said officer and the media is at present in the process of “re-habilitating” his good character. Never speak ill of the dead is a very good maxim.

The establishment wait ‘til a man is dead and then since he cannot sue for libel they destroy his character (unless he is a banker or a gangster)

Well, it is not my intention to dwell on the past. Let it suffice to say that those decent Prison Officers as represented at their conference by Officer McEvoy (while Stack and a few

of his bully buddies were on the rampage) said more than I could ever. Their representative Mr McEvoy (if memory serves me) said and I paraphrase “If Hitler was alive and well he would have good helpers among certain members of the Prison Officers in Portlaoise.”

Just who he had in mind will be well known by those who served prison sentences under the dubious care of Mr Stack and four or five of his closest buddies.

What is amazing is that while Mr Adams is calling for a truth commission he shirks every opportunity to tell the truth about how things were unless it suits the present whims of the Dublin 4 liberal classes. In the case of Mr Stack Adams could have at least used it to highlight the decent human

beings who, in difficult times and with their careers on the line tried as best they could to stand against the excesses of Cosgrave’s government of that time.

TALKING of Liberal Classes. The recent interview with Mr Adams on RTÉ Radio was an enlightening experience for those listening.

While an (admittedly very competent) radio presenter (or is it programmer?) hunted down Adams as some of “the lads” hunted down his opponents the thrust was always on the past.

Now, call me an old fool but isn’t the new Abortion Legislation important and Adams’ stance on it more interesting to a population, many of whom were not born when Gerry was “observing”

the conflict from his high ethical, moral and intellection height? Isn’t the stalled hunt for those who shot Garda Donohue (embarrassing as it is for Shatter and the Gilmore/Kenny government) of some passing interest to the populace since Adams’ buddies attended the funeral and called for “help”.

Isn’t Adams stance on cut-backs in health and education up in the wee six and his contradiction on meeting “budgetary targets” in the Leinster House domain more interesting than a past which the dogs on the street now know to be as fabricated as Labour’s “bonfire of the bondholders”. (There’s an Opera there somewhere — somebody should tell Phil Coulter — ots of vain people to take part).

As the gloves come off

(why pay a man twice when the job is done), as the Boston Papers see the light of day. As the media sense that they have been given free reign (but only to explore the negative past), Gerry and his old mates may be coming to realise that when they tried to throw Republicans on the fire of public ridicule they forgot that even the most morally destitute Irishman is still Irish. As the knives slip slowly and irrevocably into their backs the realisation will also slowly dawn, you can’t teach a fox to suck eggs.

NOW that is also something people ie, banksters, gangsters and Clo-Media (a disease contracted by people who try to screw you) should think of when they invite British Royalty to lay wreaths at the graves of dead Irish soldiers and so attempt to link their

meaningless deaths with those founding fathers of Republicanism.

Even very stupid people know that this is an attempt to “groom” our population so that those who screwed them in the past can get away with it again in the near future!

If anyone is naive enough to think that our population is dumb enough to believe that there is any similarity between Republican freedom fighters and the poor wretches who died fighting in England’s armies then they forget what makes Ireland “different” to it’s European neighbours and someone needs to teach them to suck eggs. That’s what happens when people try to suck up to their enemies — they forget the fundamentals!

— Mac Cool

NIFC replies to the Dalai Lama

ON April 26 Cumann na Saoirse Náisiúnta/the National Irish Freedom Committee (NIFC) responded to the Dalai Lama’s comment that there is no alternative to the current, so-called “peace process” for Ireland.

“On a recent visit to Derry, in Occupied Ireland, the Tibetan Buddhist leader urged the people in the North of Ireland to stick with the peace process. ‘There is no other alternative to the peace process, there is no other choice,’ he said.

“The NIFC views the GFA as merely a restatement of previous British-imposed ‘agreements’. Specifically, it is but the latest fruit of the poison tree — the (British) Government of Ireland Act of 1920, for which no Irishman, Green or Orange, voted, and which established the so-called Northern Ireland statelet, a gerrymandered sub-set of the Irish province of Ulster. This latest agreement allows the London government to retain sovereign control over a devolved six-county Northern Ireland (*sic*), and requires the Dublin

“The NIFC promotes an alternative peace plan called ÉIRE NUA (New Ireland) as a better way to achieve Irish national unity and justice within the framework of a sovereign, independent

constitutional convention, convened without foreign let or hindrance — analogous to the Constitutional Convention convened in Philadelphia in 1787.

“In brief, the ÉIRE NUA programme proposes a decentralised, four province, federal government, with devolved, self-governing parliaments in each province, and with a maximum devolution of power to the local level, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity. The intention is to redress the economic and political imbalances of the current, foreign-imposed, structures.

“For the Dalai Lama’s edification, the NIFC has mailed him a copy of its new book, **Éire Nua: A New Beginning**, that incorporates the NIFC’s input to the original ÉIRE NUA document

authored by Ruairí Ó Brádaigh and Daithí Ó Conaill in 1972.

“For further information about ÉIRE NUA, see www.irishfreedom.net.”



• The Dalai Llama in Derry.

government (the 26-County Irish state), to relinquish its constitutional claim to these six Irish counties.

Irish Republic. It is intended that the ÉIRE NUA plan be offered for consideration by an all Ireland



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